

CLASSICS
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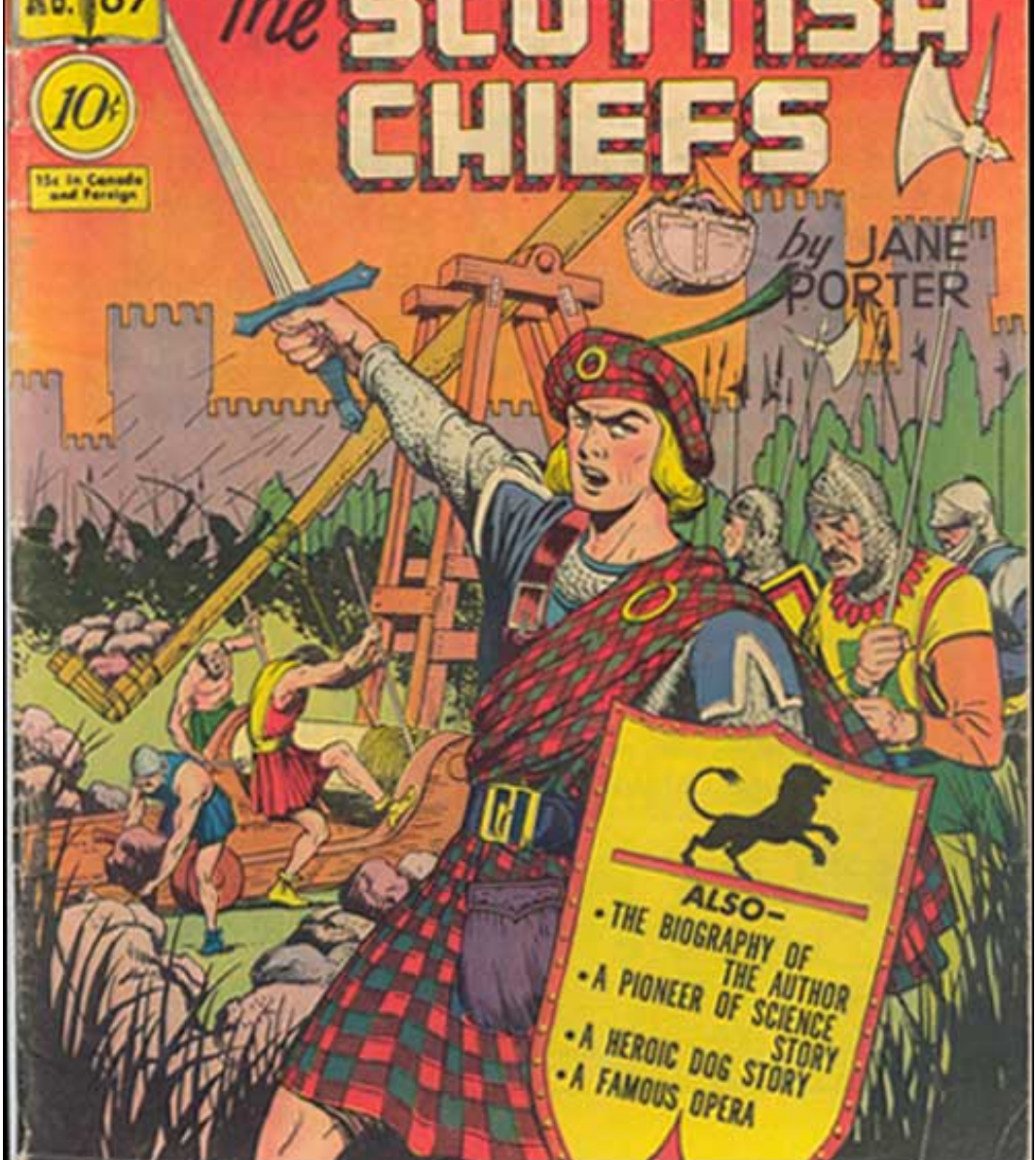
No. 67

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The SCOTTISH CHIEFS

by JANE
PORTER



- ALSO-**
- THE BIOGRAPHY OF THE AUTHOR
 - A PIONEER OF SCIENCE STORY
 - A HEROIC DOG STORY
 - A FAMOUS OPERA

THE SCOTTISH CHIEFS

By Jane Porter



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LOOK, we have a visitor!

It is Sir John Monteith!

MONTEITH URGED WALLACE TO ACCOMPANY HIM TO HIS CASTLE...



I have a secret to disclose to you which cannot be divulged on any other spot.

Let us be off, then.

THE PRESENCE OF ENGLISH SOLDIERS GUARDING THE CASTLE DISCOURAGED WALLACE FROM ENTERING...



I am offended by the presence of these invaders.

Endure them for the sake of your country.



Ah, Scotland, what evil has come to you!

THE SCOTTISH CHIEFS

MONTEITH TOLD WALLACE THAT KING BALIOL, WHO WRESTED THE SCOTTISH THRONE FROM BRUCE, RIGHTFUL RULER, WAS THE PRISONER OF EDWARD I.

This box has come to me by messenger from King Baliol.

What does it contain?

I know not. I have been cautioned that it will be at the peril of his soul who dares to open it, till Scotland again be free!

Why do you tell me these things?



THEY THEN LEFT THE CASTLE...

Because I'm in peril. Tomorrow, the castle will be searched. I have been told to commit the box to the worthiest Scot I know.

I will take the box to Elderslie.

I fear they have seen the box beneath your plaid!

I pledge myself to keep the contents secret!



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NEARING HIS HOME, WALLACE DISCOVERED TWO COUNTRYMEN BEING ATTACKED BY ENGLISH SOLDIERS.



DRAWING HIS SWORD AND THROWING AWAY HIS SCABBARD, WALLACE LEAPED TO THE AID OF HIS COUNTRYMEN...



AMID THE CONFUSION, WALLACE LED HIS WOUNDED COUNTRYMAN TO ELDERSLIE WHERE THE STRANGER'S WOUNDS WERE TREATED...



SUDDENLY, A SERVANT ENTERED...



THE SCOTTISH CHIEFS



Fly!
Fly!

Is this a moment to leave you and our wounded guest? I must meet them.

Not now. They are numerous. If you have pity for your wife, delay not a moment!

WALLACE LED HIS SERVANTS AND LORD MAR TO A WELL IN THE GARDEN...

Lower Lord Mar into the well with the black pox. I will hide in the tree.

Hurry! The soldiers are coming!



AT THAT MOMENT, THE SOLDIERS BROKE INTO THE HALL...

I am sent in quest of Sir William Wallace who, by a mortal attack on Governor Heselrigge's nephew, has forfeited his life. The scabbard of his sword found lying beside the dead Heselrigge is undeniable proof of his guilt.

I am his wife. By what authority do you seek him thus?

By order of the laws, madam, which he has violated.

What laws? Sir William acknowledges none but those of God and his country. Neither of these has he broken!



Had I a wife lovely as yourself, and were I in like circumstances, I hope she would defend my life and honor in like manner.

THE HOUSE AND GROUNDS WERE THOROUGHLY SEARCHED. HAVING FOUND NO TRACE OF WALLACE, THE ENGLISH DEPARTED WITH THE WARNING THAT ANOTHER DETACHMENT WOULD RETURN IN THE MORNING.

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AS SOON AS THE SOLDIERS WERE OUT OF SIGHT WALLACE DESCENDED FROM THE TREE TO SAY GOODBYE TO MARIAN...

Courage, my Marion. I go to the hills. My faithful servant, Halbert, will know where to find me.

Forewell! May angels guard thee!



WALLACE HAD SCARCELY TAKEN HIS LEAVE WHEN A TROOP OF ENGLISH SOLDIERS ENTERED ELDERSLIE WITH GOK. HESELRISGE AT THEIR HEAD.



Woman! I am the governor of Lanark. As the representative of the great King Edward, I command you to answer three questions.

What questions?



Where is Sir William Wallace? Who is that old Scot for whom my nephew was slain? Where is that box of treasure your husband stole from Monteith's castle? Answer on your life!

LADY WALLACE REMAINED SILENT...



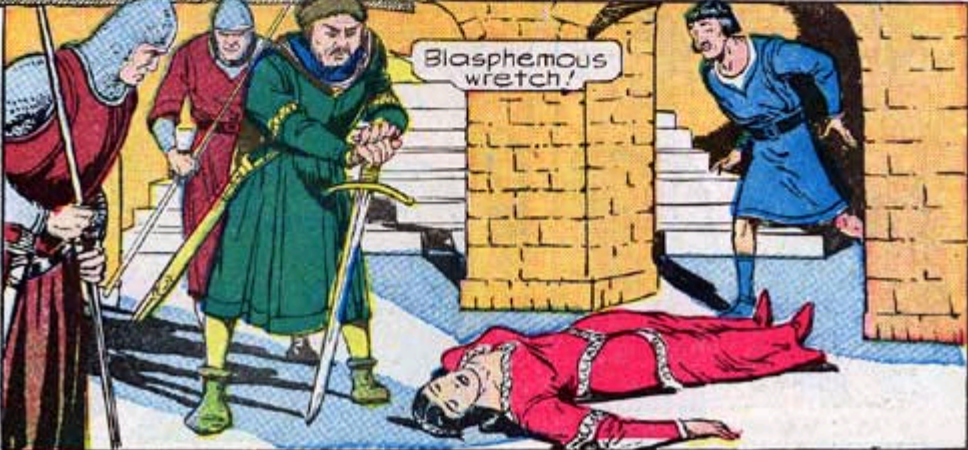
Speak, woman! I can reward as well as avenge. If you refuse to answer my questions, you die!



THE SCOTTISH CHIEFS



AT THIS ANSWER, THE MAD TYRANT DROVE HIS SWORD INTO MARION...



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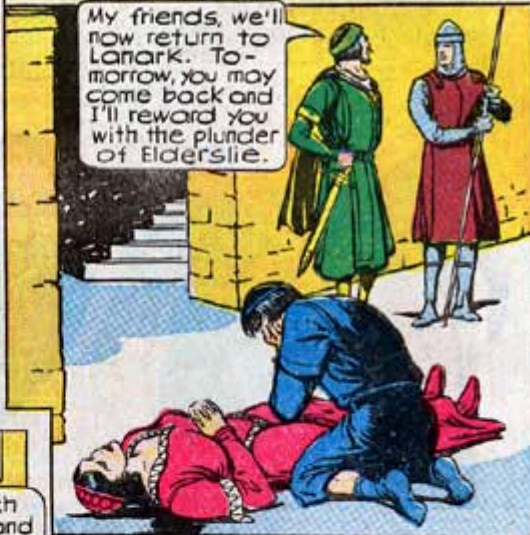
WALBERT RAN OVER TO WHERE HIS MISTRESS LAY...



My Wallace-- to God!

WITH THESE WORDS, MARION DIED.

HESSELRIGGE, AFRAID OF WHAT REACTION HIS MEN MIGHT HAVE TO HIS FOUL DEED, TRIED TO PACIFY THEM WITH PROMISES OF LOOT...



My friends, we'll now return to Lanark. Tomorrow, you may come back and I'll reward you with the plunder of Elderslie.

AS THE SOLDIERS FILED OUT, ONE REMAINED MOTIONLESS...



Grimsby, why stand you there? Follow me!

Never! I march at your command no more! I should disgrace my manhood.



Villain! You shall die for this!

The royal Edward would acquit a soldier for refusing obedience to the murderer of an innocent woman.



Vile traitor!

WITH A SWIFT MOTION, GRIMSBY RELIEVED HESSELRIGGE OF THE DAGGER...



Mercy, I pray thee!

Monster! I would not pollute my honest hands with such unnatural blood.

THE SCOTTISH CHIEFS



Accursed Heselrigge, thy fate must come!

We must both hasten away! If I fall into his power, death is the best I could expect at his hands.

Let me assist you to put this poor lady's remains into some decent place, and then, my honest Scot, we must separate!

Oh, my widowed Wallace, what will comfort thee?



HAVING PLACED THE BODY OF LADY MARION IN THE CHAPEL, HALBERT AND GRIMSBY WERE STARTLED BY A MOAN FROM THE WELL.



There is someone in extremity hidden in the well!

THEY QUICKLY HELPED LORD MAR FROM THE WELL!



Who art thou?

An Englishman, but one who does not, like the monster Heselrigge, disgrace the name.

I would assist you, noble Wallace, to fly this spot!

You mistake me, I am not Sir William Wallace.



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HALBERT TOLD LORD MAR OF LADY MARION'S MURDER...



What! Lady Wallace murdered?

Yes. But no time must be lost. We must leave at once!



Give this golden bugle to your master. Tell him that, by whatever hands he sends it, the sight of it will always command the services of Donald Mar.

I pray that you and this honest soldier may be blessed!

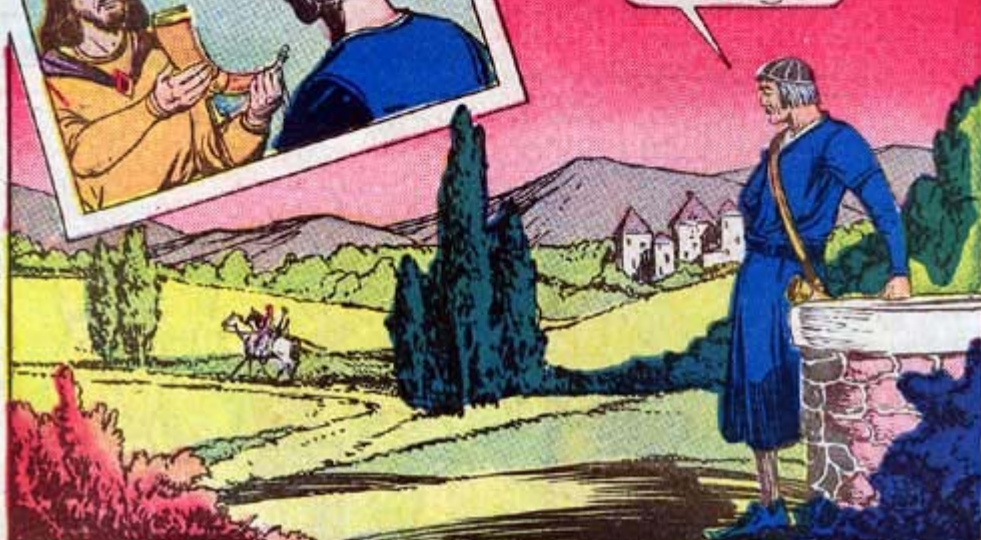
TAKING GRIMSBY'S ADVICE, HALBERT GOT TWO HORSES, AND GAVE THE BLACK BOX INTO LORD MAR'S CARE.



I will hide in the hills. Take you this box and guard it with your life. Sir William says none may search into it.

Fatal box! That was the leading cause which brought Heselrigge to Eiderslie.

Now I am alone in this once happy spot. Not a voice. Not a sound. O Wallace! Thy house is left desolate, and I am to be thy fatal messenger!



THE SCOTTISH CHIEFS

WALBERT SET OFF AT ONCE TO WHERE WALLACE WAS HIDING AND AS GENTLY AS POSSIBLE, TOLD WALLACE OF LADY MARION'S MURDER...

Her last breath was spent in prayer for you.

Almighty Judge, let me avenge this angel's blood.



AFTER SEEING HALBERT OFF SAFELY TO THE CASTLE OF LORD MAR, WALLACE WENT OUT INTO AN OPEN FIELD AND ON HIS BUGLE BLEW THE TRADITIONAL SCOTTISH CALL-TO-ARMS. AT THE SOUND, THE HILLS TEEMED WITH LIFE AND BEFORE LONG, A HUGE THROUNG WAS BEFORE HIM...

Scotsmen, last night, Heselrigge, the English tyrant of Lanark, broke into my house and murdered my wife.



I come to call you to vengeance and to break the tyrant's yoke!

We follow you, Wallace!

"Death and Lady Marion" will be our cry!

Death to the tyrant!



WALLACE SOON FOUND HESEL-RIGGE'S CHAMBER AND FOUND THE TYRANT COWERING IN BED, WASTING NO TIME AT ALL...

So fall the enemies of Scotland!

THAT VERY NIGHT, WALLACE AND HIS FOLLOWERS MADE THEIR FIRST STROKE FOR FREEDOM... AGAINST THE GOVERNOR. WITH A SHOUT OF DEATH, THEY STORMED THE GATES OF HESELRIGGE'S CASTLE...

Death and Lady Marion!



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BEFORE THE TERROR-STRICKEN ENGLISH COULD RECOVER FROM THEIR INITIAL SHOCK, THE SCOTS RE-ASSEMBLED, LEFT THE CASTLE AND TOOK TO THE HILLS. THE NEWS OF WALLACE'S BLOW AGAINST THE CONQUEROR RENEWED HOPES OF FREEDOM AMONG MANY SCOTS, AND THEY FLOWED TO HIS BANNER... PEASANTS AND NOBLEMEN ALIKE ...

WALLACE WAS HAPPY TO LEARN THAT THE CLANS WERE SENDING HIM REINFORCEMENTS. The Frasers, of Oliver Castle, have given two hundred men, and Sir Alexander has brought fifty.



What do you hear of the Earl of Mar?

WALLACE SORROWFULLY LEARNED THAT THE EARL OF MAR, WHOSE LIFE HE HAD SAVED, HAD BEEN IMPRISONED IN DUMBARTON CASTLE ...



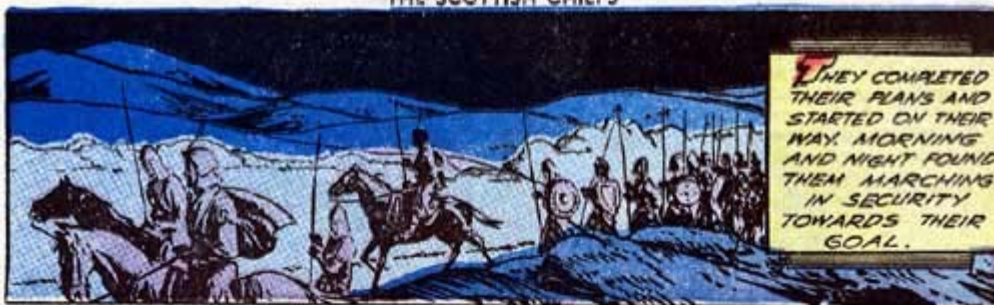
His liberation must be our first enterprise.

It will be a difficult task. Aymer de Valence, who holds the earl and his family, has fortified the castle against any assault.



When we make the attack, it must be in the night, for I propose taking it by storm.

THE SCOTTISH CHIEFS



THEY COMPLETED THEIR PLANS AND STARTED ON THEIR WAY. MORNING AND NIGHT FOUND THEM MARCHING IN SECURITY TOWARDS THEIR GOAL.



FINALLY, THEY CAME WITHIN SIGHT OF DUMBARTON CASTLE...

That citadel holds the chains of Scotland; and if we break them there, every minor link will easily give way.



THEY MADE CAMP AND WAITED FOR THE PROPER MOMENT TO ATTACK...

They look abroad for evils and prepare not for those at their door.

That beacon fire shall lead us to their chambers.

We will make our attack at dawn.



WHILE WALLACE AND HIS MEN SLEPT, ONE OF HIS SOLDIERS MADE HIS WAY OUT OF THE CAMP.

Ah, my Wallace! Edwin shall be the first to spring those ramparts. God be my speed!

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THE YOUNG LIEUTENANT DARINGLY APPROACHED THE CASTLE TO LEARN ITS SECRETS. LUCKILY, HE OVERHEARD ONE GUARD GIVING THE PASSWORD TO ANOTHER...



What is the password?

Pembroke!

MAKING HIS WAY INSIDE THE CASTLE, EDWIN WAS SUDDENLY CHALLENGED..



Who are you? Why are you not at rest?

Love, my brave comrade. I go on a message from a young ensign to one of the Scottish damsels.

WHILE HIS FOLLOWERS SLEPT, WALLACE STUDIED THE CASTLE TO DETERMINE WHICH POINT WOULD BE MOST ASSAILABLE. WHILE HIS MIND WAS THUS ENGAGED, HE SAW THE SOLDIER APPROACH.



The password is Pembroke.

Go along and good luck to you, my lad!



What has disturbed you, Edwin, that you do not sleep?

I have just penetrated the castle to learn where we might make our attack.



And yet by that side you propose we ascend?

Lord Mar and his lady are kept in a square tower, guarded by turrets full of armed men.

THE SCOTTISH CHIEFS

Yes. On the West, we have to ascend in file. On the south, we must cut through the whole garrison. On the east side is the greatest danger.



Then we'll attack on the north side as you suggest when the lord of battles puts that fortress into our hands, you shall receive the knighthood you deserve before our whole army.

IN THE PRE-DAWN DARKNESS, THE ATTACK BEGAN.



SWIFTLY AND SILENTLY, WALLACE'S SOLDIERS BEGAN TO SCALE THE CASTLE'S PROTECTING WALLS.



THE FIRST WARNING CRY TO THE GARRISON CAME TOO LATE.



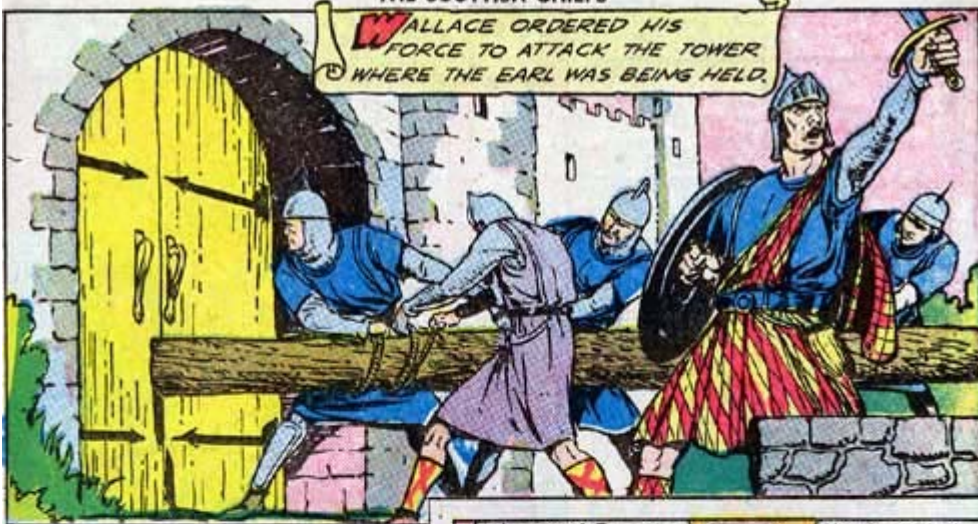
Liberty and Lord Mar!





THE SCOTTISH CHIEFS

WALLACE ORDERED HIS FORCE TO ATTACK THE TOWER WHERE THE EARL WAS BEING HELD.



WITH THE CASTLE TAKEN, WALLACE CAME UPON HIS LIEUTENANT, SIR KIRKPATRICK, BESET BY TWO ENEMIES



The man has asked for mercy.

Our safety lies in his destruction!



THE TREACHEROUS DE VALENCE SUDDENLY STABBED HIS BENEFACOR AND ESCAPED...

Fiend, I will find you and take vengeance!



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FORTUNATELY, THE WOUND WAS NOT A SERIOUS ONE.

You treated De Valence as a man, but you found him a treacherous dog.

Let us not waste our time discouraging on a coward. He is gone! The fortress is ours, and we must guard it from surprise.



WALLACE DID NOT FORGET HIS PROMISE TO KNIGHT EDWIN FOR HIS BRAVERY IN LEARNING THE CASTLE'S WEAK POINT.

Brave youth, receive that knighthood which derives luster from your virtues.



WALLACE THEN MADE HIS WAY TO THE TOWER AND RELEASED LORD MAR, HIS WIFE AND DAUGHTER...

Wallace, ever my deliverer!

This is the man who will humble King Edward!



THE SCOTTISH CHIEFS



THE FAME OF WALLACE'S VICTORIES SPREAD AND BROUGHT THOUSANDS OF RECRUITS TO HIS ARMY. THE NOBLES WHO FOLLOWED HIM THOUGHT HE SHOULD BE KING...

The rights of the crown lie with the man who knows how to defend them!

Baliol and Bruce have deserted the throne!

Wallace, you are our lawful King!

Were I, a man of lowly birth, to accept this honor, I would not bring Scotland that peace for which I contend. It would be felt as an insult by every royal house, friends and foes alike would arm against us. As I have no joy in titles, let my reign be only in your hearts.



AT THAT MOMENT, A BISHOP AND HIS ESCORT APPROACHED WALLACE.



We come, Sir William Wallace, from the King of England with a message for your private ear.

WALLACE TOOK THEM INTO HIS TENT...



My lord, the King sends you these jewels.

And to these, he will add a more efficient crown if you will acknowledge the supremacy of England over this country.



Speak but the word and the Bishop of Durham will anoint you King of Scotland; that done, Edward will support you in your throne against every man who may dispute your authority.

I thank your King for his compliment but I have sworn to maintain the independence of Scotland.

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Weigh well, sir, your answer. Edward will march hither himself, and when he falls upon any country, its cities are no more!

Better so for a brave people, than to live in dishonor.

Forget your hatred, Wallace, and you must see that in accepting Edward's terms, you give your country peace.

In the moment that people bring themselves to the command of a usurper, they become unworthy of the name of men.

Rebellious man! Expect the vengeance of your liege lord!

Is he a god greater than Jehovah that I should fear him?

Supreme

THE KING'S EMISSARIES WERE DISAPPOINTED AT THE FAILURE OF THEIR MISSION.

I have seen homage of the body, but here I see that of the soul. Were I a King, I should envy Sir William Wallace.

THE SCOTTISH CHIEFS



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THIRTY THOUSAND MEN WERE GATHERED BEHIND WALLACE AS HE MARCHED TO MEET EDWARD.

This signal will prepare Annandale for our approach.

Sir Roger will strike a signal fire when he sees this one.



WALLACE'S SIGNAL WAS SOON ANSWERED...

There is the signal from Sir Wallace, Sir Roger.

Arouse the men at an early hour, and send the signal forward.



SHORTLY AFTER WALLACE FIRED THE FIRST SIGNAL, A HUNDRED ANSWERING BEACONS BURNED ON THE HORIZON AS THE CLANS MOBILIZED.

Behold that hill of fire!

THE SCOTTISH CHIEFS

CHOOSING THE GROUND TO MEET EDWARD WHERE IT WAS MOST STRATEGIC FOR HIS OWN FORCES, WALLACE GAVE A BRIEF SPEECH TO HIS SOLDIERS.

Dishonor not your fathers and your trust in God by relying on any one human arm, or doubting that from Heaven.

Should I be killed, fight as stoutly over my grave as by my side, or, before the year expires, you will again be the slaves of Edward.



WALLACE BEGAN THE TASK OF OVERCOMING THE TREMENDOUS ODDS AGAINST HIM. PROMPTLY, HE CAUSED HIS SOLDIERS TO DIG DEEP PITS TO ENTRAP THE CAVALRY, FOR HE WAS TOLD BY HIS SPIES THAT CAVALRY WOULD BE THE CHIEF STRENGTH OF EDWARD'S ARMY. THE DEEP PITS WERE COVERED LIGHTLY WITH TWIGS AND LOOSE GRASS.



THE SCOTTISH CHIEFS

S COTTISH STRATEGY DICTATED THAT THE ENGLISH KING BE GOADED INTO THE ATTACK.

We must force him to cross the river and attack us here.

Aye, but how?

We will offer him peace by this herald if he will withdraw his forces. Edward will consider our offer an insult.

A CCORDING TO CUSTOM, SIR WILLIAM'S HERALD WAS ADMITTED TO THE PRESENCE OF THE KING. EDWARD SUPPOSED HE WAS THERE TO BEG FOR TERMS OF PEACE.

Speak, herald!

Thus saith Sir William Wallace: We demand that you retract those claims on our monarchy which never had existence till ambition begot them. Grant this and we shall consider Edward of England as a friend and ally.

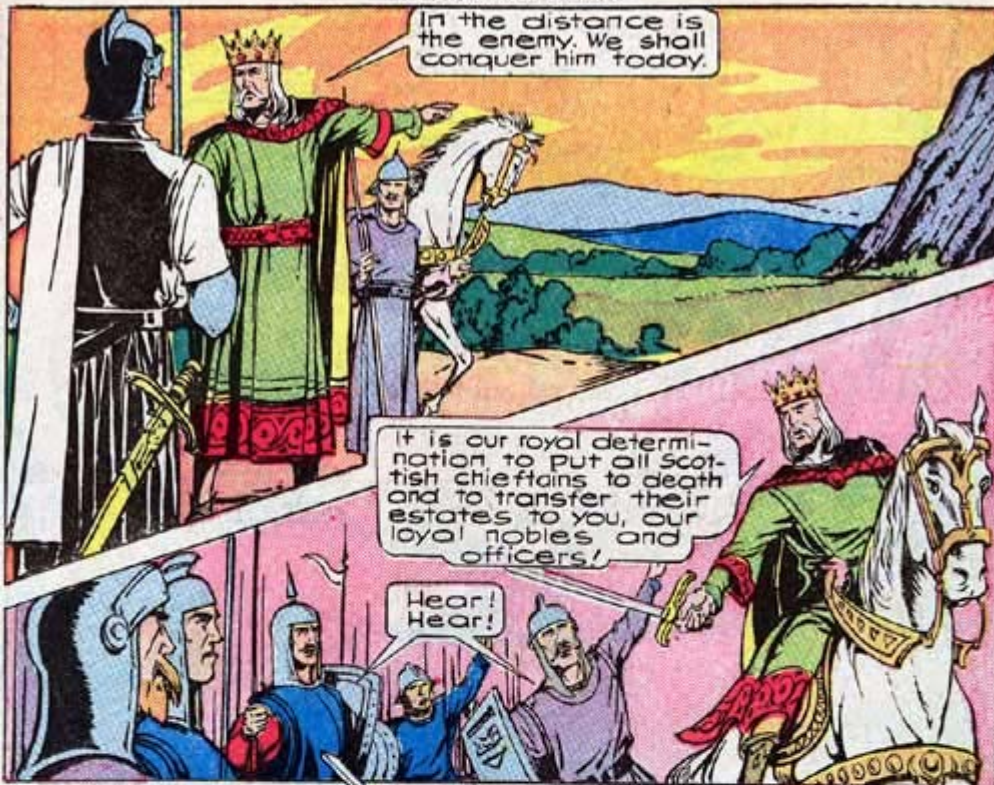
We are not so weak as to hear argument from a rebel. I come to assert my supremacy over Scotland, and it shall acknowledge its liege lord or be left a desert.

Depart! This is my answer to you; your leader shall receive his at the point of my lance!

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THE SCOTTISH CHIEFS



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TERRIFIC WAS THE HAVOC AMONG THE ENGLISH AS THEY RODE INTO THE TRAP PREPARED FOR THEM BY WALLACE.



THE SCOTTISH CHIEFS



KING EDWARD GAVE THE SIGNAL FOR RETREAT, THE FIRST HE HAD EVER GIVEN IN HIS LIFE.



DRAWING HIS TROOPS AROUND HIM, EDWARD FELL BACK BEYOND THE CONFINES OF HIS CAMP.



IN WALLACE'S QUARTERS...

Our men are anxious to pursue the enemy.

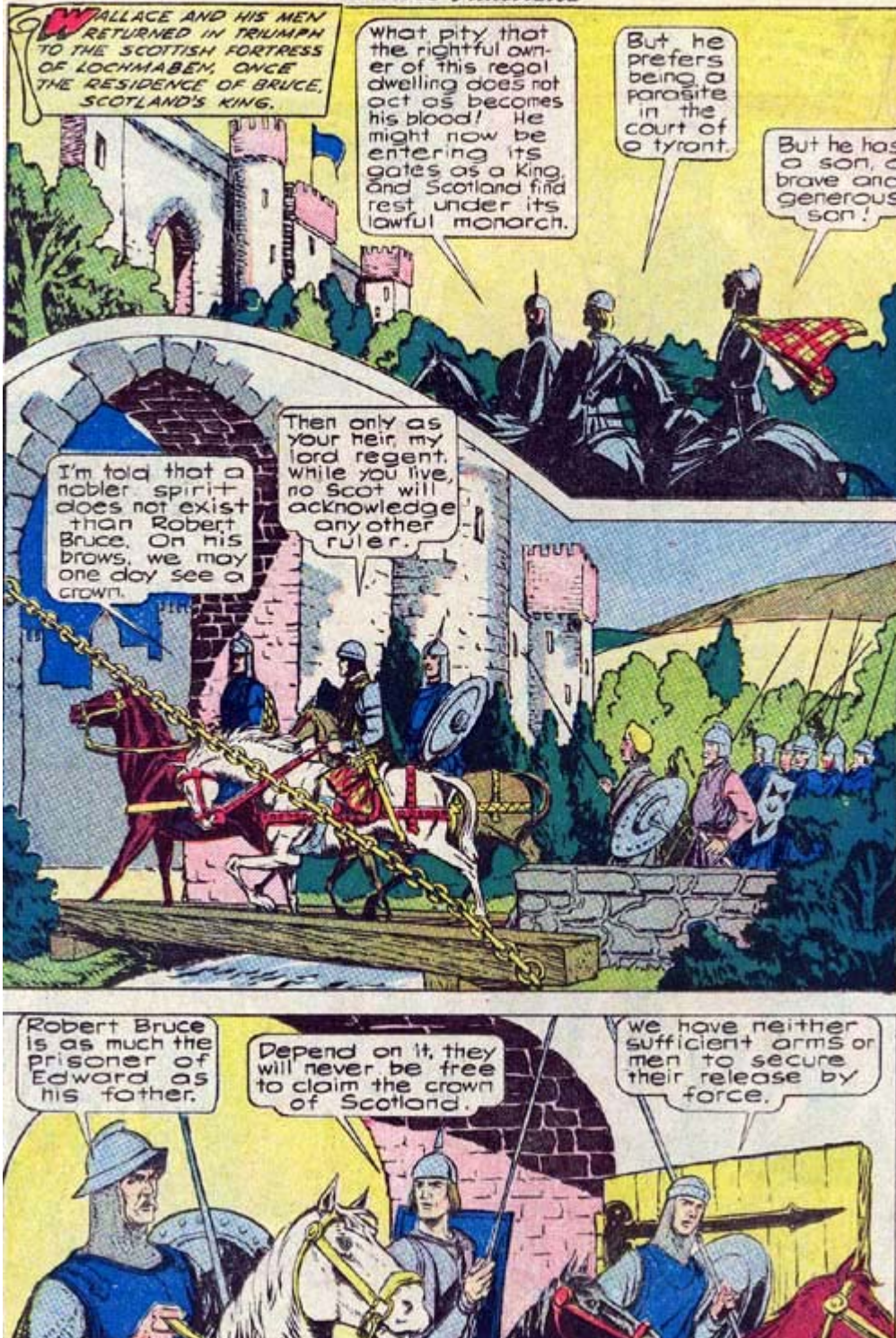
Let us not hunt the lion till he stand at bay. He will retire far enough away from the Scottish borders without our leaving this vantage-ground to drive him.



EDWARD'S CAMP WAS SEIZED BY THE TRIUMPHANT SCOTS.

Our borders are clear of the invaders. All those which remain are dead.

CLASSICS Illustrated



THE SCOTTISH CHIEFS



LORD MAR AND HIS LADY WERE AMONG THOSE WHO HEARTILY WELCOMED WALLACE TO THE CASTLE.

Everyone rejoices at the news of your great victory. Scotland will be free!

Minstrels everywhere are singing your praises!



I am still guarding the black box you entrusted to me. Its contents are still a secret.

The contents must remain a secret until Scotland is free!

The black box contained the royal crown and cape of Scotland.

IN A PASSION, LADY MAR TOLD WALLACE OF HER LOVE FOR HIM, BUT HE WAS UNMOVED.



LORD MAR LEFT THE ROOM TO RETURN THE BOX TO ITS HIDING PLACE.

I love this man far above my husband.



Cruel Wallace! Your heart is steeled or it would understand mine!

Your husband, Lady Mar, is my friend. I am lost to all warmer affections than friendship.

But were it otherwise!
Only tell me that had
I not been bound with
chains which my kins-
men forced upon me;
had I not been made
the property of a man
who, however estimable,
was of too paternal
years for me to love...



... Ah, tell me
if these tears
should now
flow in vain?

I know
not what
to say.

I never loved man be-
fore--and now to be
scorned! Oh, Kill me,
Wallace, but tell me
not that you never
could have loved me.



Lady Mar, I
am incapable
of saying
anything to
you that is
not in keep-
ing with your
duty to your
husband.



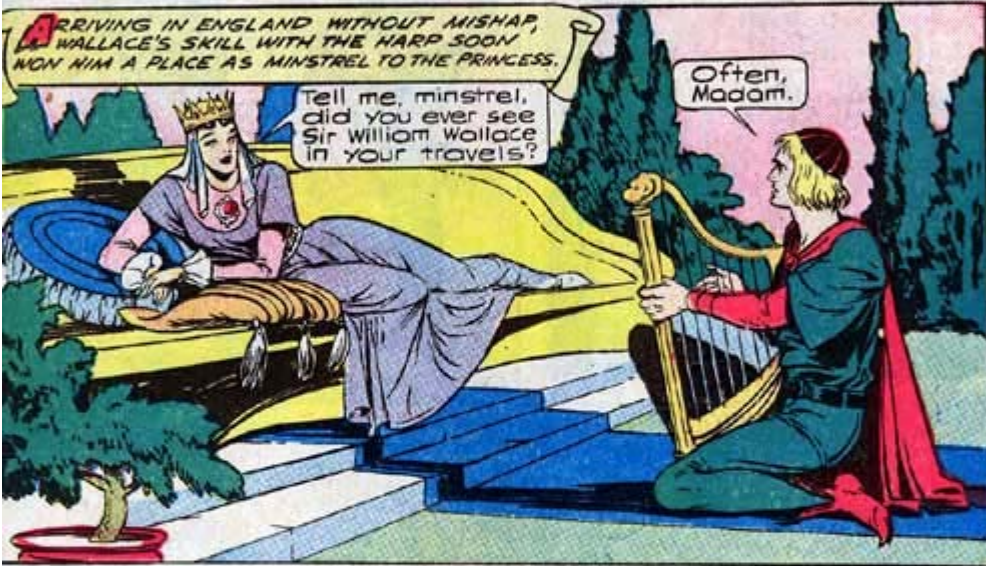
SCORNED BY WALLACE, LADY MAR
DETERMINED TO EXACT VENGEANCE BY
BETRAYING HIM WHEN THE OPPORTUNITY
CAME.

I will
have your
head for
this, Sir
William
Wallace!

THE SCOTTISH CHIEFS



SOON AFTER, WALLACE DECIDED TO LEAVE THE CASTLE AND MAKE HIS WAY TO ENGLAND, DISGUISED AS A MINSTREL, IN ORDER THAT HE MIGHT CONTACT BRUCE.



ARRIVING IN ENGLAND WITHOUT MISHAP, WALLACE'S SKILL WITH THE HARP SOON WON HIM A PLACE AS MINSTREL TO THE PRINCESS.

Tell me, minstrel, did you ever see Sir William Wallace in your travels?

Often, Madam.



Pray, tell me what is he like?

I have never seen him so distinctly as to be enabled to give any opinion.

I was in hopes that the King would have brought Wallace to have supped with me here; but, for once, rebellion overcame its master.



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IN HIS GUISE OF MINSTREL, WALLACE MANAGED TO MAKE HIS WAY TO THE APARTMENT OF BRUCE, THE HEIR TO THE SCOTTISH THRONE WAS UNDER ARREST.

Let not your heart burn too brightly against the king for your arrest, Robert Bruce.

His noble nature will acquit you. Good night.



AFTER THE OTHERS HAD GONE, WALLACE REVEALED HIMSELF TO THE IMPRISONED BRUCE.

My prince, do you not know me?

Wallace!



I have known misery in all its forms, but I have not the power to name my griefs while trembling at the peril to which you have exposed yourself by seeking me.

I'm surrounded by spies! Should you be discovered, Robert Bruce will then have the curses of his country falling on his head.

You must be delivered from Edward's grasp!



THE SCOTTISH CHIEFS



THE EARL OF GLOUCESTER, THE KING'S SON-IN-LAW BUT ALSO BRUCE'S FAITHFUL FRIEND, SUDDENLY ENTERED THE APARTMENT.





THE SCOTTISH CHIEFS

WALLACE MADE HIS ESCAPE THROUGH THE CEMETERY.



MEETING NO OPPOSITION, WALLACE MADE HIS WAY BACK TO SCOTLAND. HIS ARMY REJOICED AS THEIR COMMANDER RETURNED TO THEM.

I have high hopes that Robert Bruce will soon assume his rightful place as King of Scotland.



SOON AFTER, EDWARD ONCE AGAIN INVADDED SCOTLAND. WALLACE'S ONSLAUGHT AGAINST THE ENGLISH TROOPS CARRIED ALL BEFORE HIM FROM THE GRAMPIAN TO THE CHEVIOT HILLS.



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MANY WERE THE SUCCESSFUL BATTLES THAT WALLACE AND HIS FOLLOWERS FOUGHT. BEFORE LONG, ALL SCOTLAND WAS CLEARED OF THE ENGLISH INVADERS. BUT THE VICTORY WAS A COSTLY ONE. THE MOST FAITHFUL SCOTS... LORD MAR, EARL OF BOTHWELL AND SIR JOHN GRAHAM AMONG OTHERS... WERE SLAIN. AND SOON, THE LESS NOBLE SCOTS, JEALOUS OF WALLACE'S POWER, BEGAN PLANNING HIS DOWNFALL...



ONE DAY, WHILE WALLACE WAS RESTING IN THE FIELD, A MYSTERIOUS KNIGHT WAS GRANTED PRIVATE AUDIENCE WITH HIM...

I am here to unite myself forever to your destiny, or you behold me this night for the last time.

Speak your name.



I dread to raise this visor to show you who I am, although I would have died at any moment to save you any wound.

Your language confounds me, noble knight.



THE STRANGE KNIGHT THEN RAISED THE VISOR...

Lady Mar! Widow of my best friend!



I have put on this steel; I have braved the dangers of many a hard-fought day to convince you of a love unexampled in woman. I have risked love and honor for you.

Lady Mar, you see before you a man bankrupt in love. I can never love anyone other than my dead Marion.



I've been a fool to love you. I go now to yield you to the hands of justice! When on the scaffold, remember it was I who laid thy matchless head upon the block!

THE SCOTTISH CHIEFS

DISTURBED BY WHAT HAD JUST HAPPENED, WALLACE LEFT HIS TENT TO WALK IN THE NIGHT AND RECOMPOSE HIMSELF...



WHILE WALKING, HE CAME UPON A MOURNFUL, GRAY-BEARDED PROPHET...



Have you come, doomed of Heaven, to hear your sad future?

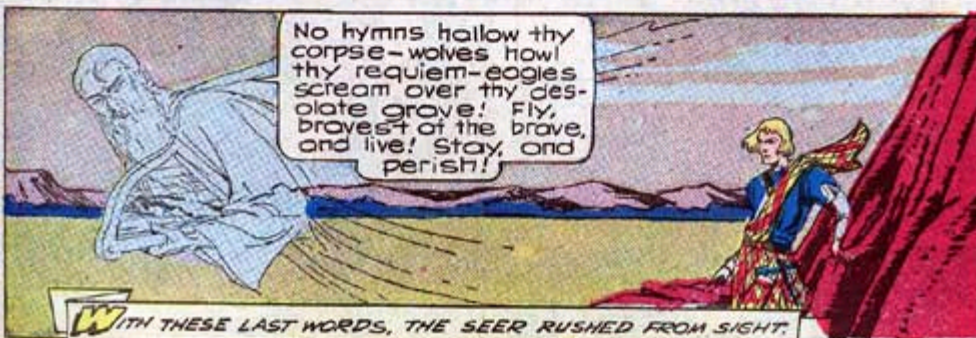
You undoubtedly mistake me, O Prophet, for some other warrior.



Can I be blind to Sir William Wallace? Fly, chieftain, fly! The bugle of death is alone heard, and your torn breast heaves in vain against the hooves of opposing squadrons.



They charge! Scotland falls! Sold by thine enemies - betrayed by thy friends!



No hymns hallow thy corpse-wolves howl thy requiem-eagles scream over thy desolate grave! Fly, bravest of the brave, and live! Stay, and perish!

WITH THESE LAST WORDS, THE SEER RUSHED FROM SIGHT.

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FOR A FEW MINUTES, WALLACE STOOD IN PROFOUND SILENCE...



He prophesies the destruction of Scotland and my own death unless I flee from here.



I do not doubt this voice of midnight. The choice is mine-- to live in dishonor or die a glorious death.

RECOVERING FROM THE FIRST SHOCK OF HAVING HIS DOOM PRONOUNCED BY A PROPHET HE DID NOT DOUBT, HE MADE HIS CHOICE...



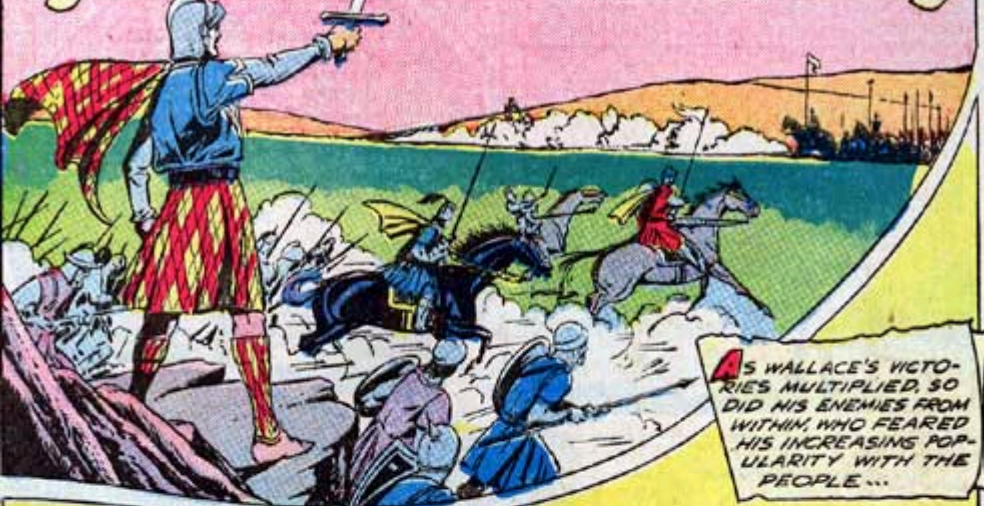
O, Scotland! Our fates shall be the same! My fall from thee shall be into my grave!



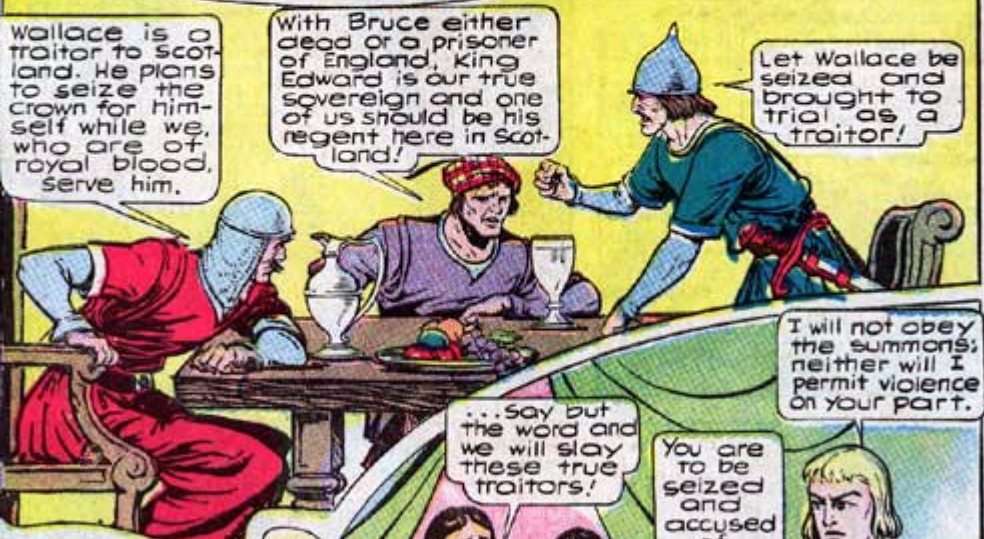
O, Father of Mercies, grant me permission a little longer to oppose my heart between my country and her fearful doom!

THE SCOTTISH CHIEFS

SOON AFTER, WITH THE AID OF SEVERAL TRAITOROUS SCOTS AND THE VENGEFUL LADY MAR, THE FORCES OF EDWARD I AGAIN INVADED SCOTLAND. AWED, BUT NOT INTIMIDATED BY THE PROPHECY OF THE SEER, WALLACE LED THE ONSLAUGHT AGAINST THE ENGLISH...



AS WALLACE'S VICTORIES MULTIPLIED, SO DID HIS ENEMIES FROM WITHIN, WHO FEARED HIS INCREASING POPULARITY WITH THE PEOPLE...



Wallace is a traitor to Scotland. He plans to seize the crown for himself while we, who are of royal blood, serve him.

With Bruce either dead or a prisoner of England, King Edward is our true sovereign and one of us should be his regent here in Scotland!

Let Wallace be seized and brought to trial as a traitor!

I will not obey the summons; neither will I permit violence on your part.

...Say but the word and we will slay these true traitors!

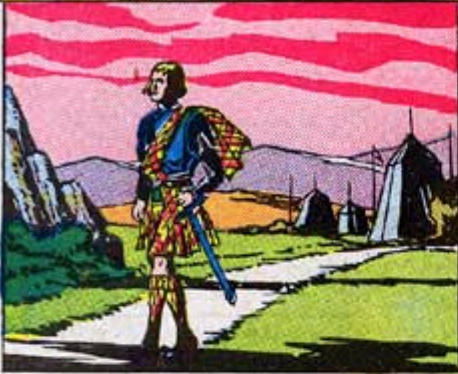
You are to be seized and accused of treason!

WALLACE WAS SUMMONED TO STIRLING CASTLE TO BE TRIED BY HIS ENEMIES... HIS LOYAL FRIENDS QUICKLY RALLIED TO HIS SIDE...

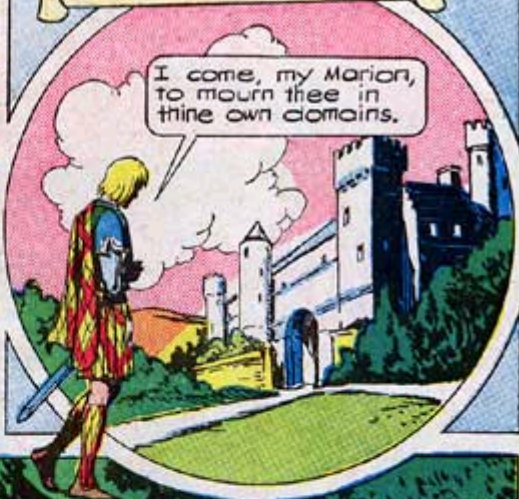


CLASSICS Illustrated

UNTIL BRUCE ASSUMED HIS RIGHTFUL PLACE ON THE THRONE OF SCOTLAND, WALLACE DETERMINED TO GIVE UP HIS COMMAND IN ORDER TO AVOID CIVIL WAR. HE PLANNED TO GO TO FRANCE AND THERE TAKE UP HIS LIFE IN A MONASTERY.



BEFORE LEAVING SCOTLAND, WALLACE PURPOSELY RETURNED TO ELDESLIE..



MONTEITH, A TRAITOR SINCE HE FIRST GAVE THE SECRET BLACK BOX TO WALLACE, HAD BEEN BRIBED TO BETRAY THE SCOTTISH CHIEF.



THE SCOTTISH CHIEFS



BATTLE-AXES, SWORDS AND RATTLING CHAINS FLASHED BEFORE THE EYES OF WALLACE WHO GAVE A NOBLE ACCOUNT OF HIMSELF BEFORE OVERWHELMING ODDS.

THE INVINCIBLE PROWESS OF WALLACE'S ARM WAS AT LAST OVERCOME ... BY TREACHERY.

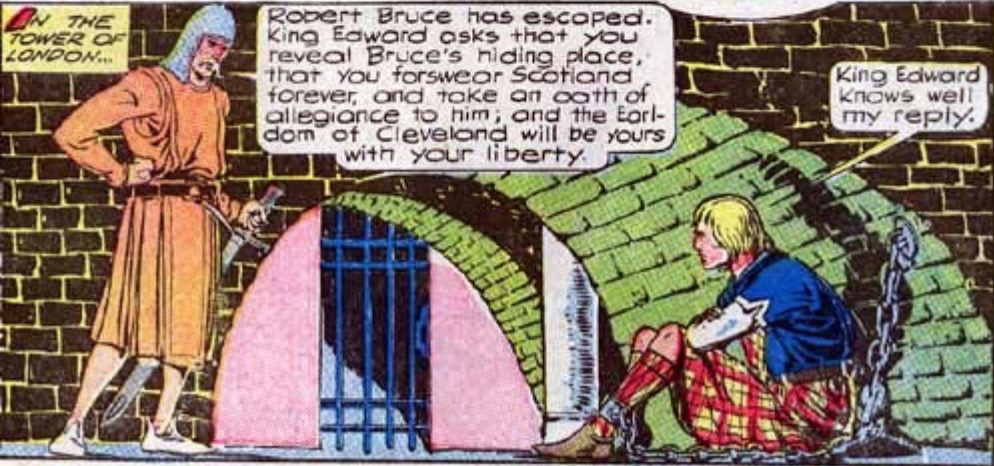
WALLACE WAS CHAINED IN IRONS, AND CARRIED ABOARD A VESSEL BOUND FOR LONDON.

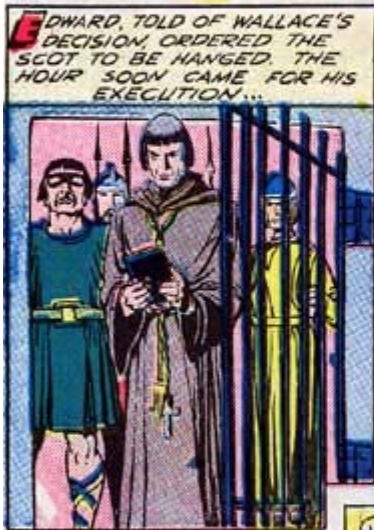
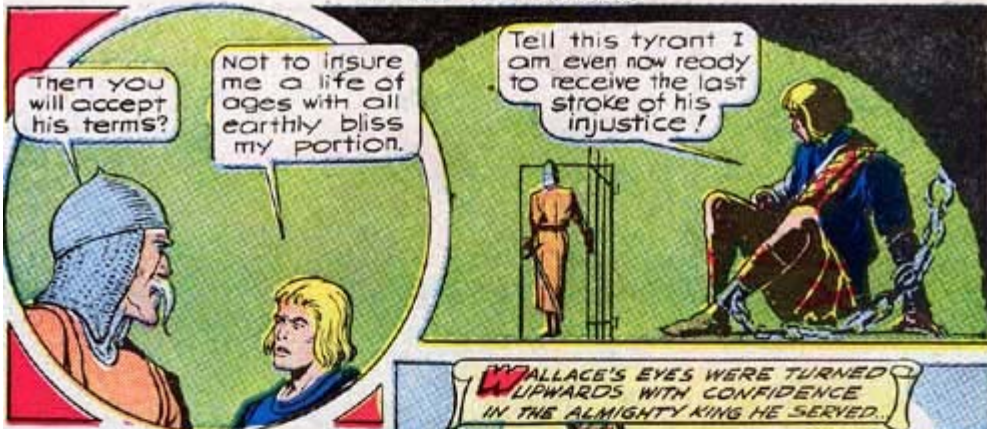


IN THE TOWER OF LONDON...

Robert Bruce has escaped. King Edward asks that you reveal Bruce's hiding place, that you forswear Scotland forever, and take an oath of allegiance to him; and the Earldom of Cleveland will be yours with your liberty.

King Edward knows well my reply.





ROBERT BRUCE MADE HIS ESCAPE TO SCOTLAND WHERE HE GATHERED TOGETHER THOSE SCOTS WHO HAD REMAINED FAITHFUL TO WALLACE. WITH THEM, HE AVENGED THAT CHIEFTAIN'S DEATH BY DESTROYING HIS BETRAYERS AND THEN ONCE MORE DROVE THE ENGLISH INVADERS FROM THE SHORES OF SCOTLAND. BRUCE THEN ASCENDED THE THRONE WHICH WALLACE HAD SO GAL-LANTLY GIVEN HIS VERY LIFE TO PRESERVE AND PEACE RULED SCOTLAND ONCE AGAIN.

THE END

Biography of Jane Porter



Jane Porter (1776 -1850)

WE ARE TOLD that Jane Porter was less than six years old when lullabies of "Wallace Wight" were sung to her in her Edinburgh nursery; while in the great hall the old serving-man told wondrous tales of the Battles of Bannockburn and Cambuskenneth. Is it any wonder then, that an imaginative child grown into a talented woman should create "Scottish Chiefs"?

If, as it is charged, Miss Porter's descriptions of Wallace's achievements are exaggerated, it is no exaggeration to say that her book has become an acknowledged masterpiece of English literature.

Generation upon generation has succumbed to the noble bearing and teachings of "the noblest Scot of all" who led the fight against King Edward's invaders.

Miss Porter devoted a good portion of her early life to research for her story which deals with the period of 1296 to 1305 in the histories of England and Scotland. She took the cold facts of history and warmed them with the flame of her genius to a warm, throbbing story describing the intimate lives of her characters.

Carefully sheltered in the green garden of her cottage in Thames-Ditton, Miss Porter was unconscious of her future glory as she wrote the story of medieval war-engines, clashing armies, and besieged castles. Little did she know, in 1809, that her book was to be translated into every language of the continent; that it would be read by kings, queens and princes, and finally invoke the censorship of the great Napoleon himself!

In her precise Mid Victorian manner, Miss Porter expressed polite gratification for the wide acceptance of her "Scottish Chiefs." She wrote of her "grateful sense of the candor with which so adventurous a work from a female pen has been generally received, particularly among the people of her hero's nation-the country in which she first drew the elements of her intellectual life."

Petite, gentle and shy, Jane Porter wrote of war and battle strategy with the genius of a field marshal. She raises the towers of castles and invests them with men of armor with a sure, certain knowledge of medieval history. Again in 1840, after many thousands of copies of her book had come from the press, she wrote a "Retrospective Preface" when an illustrated edition was given to the public. It was in this second preface that Miss Porter told of how the central figures of her novel first appeared before her imagination. Her chief instructress in the Scottish legends was a pious old woman who lived near her home,

So deeply etched in her young mind were the tales of Wallace and his heroic followers that young Jane began her research at a very early age and it was with a great deal of courage that she took her quill in hand to write "Scottish Chiefs." Only Jane Porter's genius made it possible for the skeptical public of her time to accept the work of a "female" writer; only the rich masterpiece of storytelling which "Scottish Chiefs" proved itself to be, has kept this breathless romantic thriller as popular today as it was more than a century ago.

Jane Porter, whose story of the Scottish fight for independence was to make her name a byword in the English speaking world, was born in the year that the American colonies struck for their independence also - 1776. The little girl whose daydreams were of knights and battles when other children played with dolls lived to see her dreams entertain the world. Jane Porter died May 24, 1850.