

Dhympna's additional materials for *Spoils of War* review.

I am wearing myself out going into in-depth explanation, here is a small list of some of the other errors I found—I honestly got tired of listing them in my notebook and I won't even talk about all of the problematic character names:

- • Halberds (high/late medieval. They are not an early medieval weapon)
- • *Skald* is an incorrect term for a bard in this area, and a Roman would not have yelled "Skald! Sing me a tale!" (p. 69)
- • Gambeson (10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> century)
- • Ermine (High Middle Ages around the 13<sup>th</sup> century)
- • Heraldry (High Middle Ages)
- • Castles (High Middle Ages, in particular after the Norman Invasion)
- • Great Schism (Leo mentions it, but it happened in 1054)
- • Houppelande/houpland (a garment characteristic of the late Middle Ages)
- • Welsh and Patrise (I know the Welsh started to identify themselves as such but it was a long and drawn out process that started with Roman withdrawal and would not have occurred quickly. Also, last I checked, Patrise was an English name.)

While this list is by no means complete, it is evidence that little attention was paid to historicism and that the entire work is anachronistic. I had to wonder if the author had used movies as a source. If you are interested in a basic history of England, please see C. Warren Hollister's *The Making of England*.

### References:

Ariès, Philippe. *Images of Man and Death*, translated by Janet Lloyd. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1985

Brown, Peter. "The Decline of the Empire of God: Amnesty, Penance, and the Afterlife from Late Antiquity to the Middle Ages." In [\*Last Things: Death and the Apocalypse in the Middle Ages\*](#), edited by Caroline Walker Bynum and Paul Freedman. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2000.

Geary, Patrick. [\*The Myth of Nations: The Medieval Origins of Europe\*](#). Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2002.

Hollister, C. Warren. *The Making of England: 55 BC to 1399* (7<sup>th</sup> edition). Lexington: D. C. Heath and Company, 1996

**Primary documents for high medieval and late medieval Arthurian legend (which is by no means complete):**

Geoffrey of Monmouth, [\*History of the Kings of Britain\*](#)

Chrétien de Troyes, [\*Erec and Enide\*](#)

Chrétien de Troyes, [\*Lancelot the Knight and the Cart\*](#)

Chrétien de Troyes, [\*Percival, The Story of the Grail\*](#)

Chrétien de Troyes, [\*Yvain, The Knight and the Lion\*](#)

Chrétien de Troyes, [\*Cligès\*](#)

Sir Thomas Malory, [\*Le Morte D'Arthur\*](#)

Author Unknown, [\*Sir Gawain and the Green Knight\*](#)

Author Unknown, [\*The Quest of the Holy Grail\*](#)