Read Ebook {PDF EPUB} The Hound and the Hawk The Art of Medieval Hunting by John G. Cummins

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re-apprentice Before you can take your falconry exam, you will need to study. The problem lies in taking a test which has its own set of "correct" answers. The point of studying for any standardized test you intend to pass is only to score as well as possible, and this means giving the answers that the proctors consider correct. After you have passed your test then read more and more contradictory opinions. But to just prepare for the exam, study only that material which the state currently recognizes as correct. The single best source for exam preparation is the Apprentice Study Guide from the California Hawking Club. Separate from that is the New York study guide available from the state of New York.


oung Adult My Side of the Mountain by Jean Craighead George There's an Owl in the Shower by Jean Craighead George On the Far Side of the Mountain by Jean Craighead George Frifittel's Mountain by Jean Craighead George.


The Medieverse: Tim's Realistic "medieval" FANTASY Blog.

Debunking medieval misconceptions in fantasy to get people excited about the real Middle Ages.

Meval Hawking & Falconry: Hunting with Peregrines in the Middle Ages.


In a time before accurate guns, hawking and falconry were the best means of catching avian prey besides the odd "lucky bows-shot" or trapping, and falconers put many delicacies on the tables of aristocratic families (Almond 20). But because of the cost of equipment and the vast amounts of...
time needed to train predatory birds for hunting, hawking was deemed an “upper-class sport” (Almond 20). The female falcon was favored over the male hawk or tiercel because they were larger and fiercer (Almond 20). The kinds of quarry peregrines would catch were partridges, pheasants, cocks, ducks, bustards, geese, herons, snipes, cranes, mallards and larger falcons would even hunt rodents such as hares (Almond 20, 21). Also, smaller predatory birds like the merlin were useful for hunting smaller birds like larks, and the lark tongue was a delicacy among nobles and wealthier townsfolk (Almond 21).

the medieval falconer.

Because of the nature of training birds of prey, hawking was much more difficult overall than hunting deer (Almond 21). However, hawking was also more leisurely, safe, solitary and peaceful than the mounted chase with hounds and spears, which is why the mounted chase was a useful exercise for military training while hawking wasn’t, and why hawking was a sport enjoyed more by elderly and feminine hunters (Almond 39, 40). One major drawback of hawking, however, is that hawks molt once per annum between May and August, unlike hounds which can hunt year-round (Almond 40). With this said, though, a trained hawk was still more valuable than a single hound and high-bred birds of prey were often given as gifts to kings and used to pay hefty ransoms, as the trained peregrine was the falconers most treasured possession and one of the merchant’s most costly trade goods (Almond 40).

hunting with predatory birds.

The Forest Charter of 1215 in Norman ruled England allowed every free man to have an eyrie in his woods where he could lawfully take nestlings to train for the hunt, whereas before it was a crime punishable by blinding for a commoner to take a nestling from an eyrie without permission, as hawking was a sport reserved for the elite (Almond 41).

Because trained peregrines were so highly regarded, they went with their owners everywhere they went, even to church and on long-distance travel (Almond 42). A fabulous story to illustrate this is King Henry II’s jaunt at Clares’ Pembroke Castle in Wales. Henry II brought with him a high-born Norway hawk and for sport he set it against a wild falcon perched on a crag (Gies 129, 130). Surprisingly, the wild falcon became the assailant and Henry II watched his royal bird land dead at his feet (Gies 130). From then on the king made sure to regularly send for the young falcons bred at those same cliffs in South Wales (Gies 130).

the medieval bird of prey.

There were many different birds of prey used for hunting, and the famous Boke of Saint Albans written in 1486 catalogues and assigns each bird to a specific social status (Almond 43). The most notable hunting birds were the peregrine, gyrfalcon, saker, lanner, alphanet, merlin, hobby, goshawk and sparrowhawk (Cummins 191-194). The training of these birds, as mentioned, was difficult, expensive and time-consuming, which is why the falconer was a life-long career and almost every aristocratic household had one in their employ (Cummins 200). “Eyasses” were baby hawks taken from nests for training, and they were put into a hack house where they lived (Cummins 200). A falconer’s tools for training and hunting included jesses, creances, leashes, bells, ornate leather hoods to cover the birds’ eyes, artificial lures to recall the birds, a talent for making bird calls and, of course, the perch and glove (Cummins 200-202).

medieval hawking as a sport.

Sometimes birds and dogs, typically the greyhound, assisted each other on the hunt for ground quarry and they were fed together to promote their comradery (Gies 133). Either the dog would chase rabbits out of the bush and into open plains for the birds to catch them or the bird would circle above the prey when the dog lost its scent (Gies 133).

An in depth reading of the sources could give the reader much more detail into the art of medieval hawking and falconry. But it’s already splendid to imagine, now knowing the prevalence of this aristocratic pastime, how often we might have seen highly trained hunting birds accompanying travelers on the road. Wouldn’t it be amazing if it was common for us to keep trained falcons with us at all times today?

Works Cited.


The Hound and The Hawk: The Art of Medieval Hunting by John Cummins – A Review.

I have three or four books on medieval hunting and, after reading The Hound and the Hawk , I know that I won’t have to buy another one. It goes into such detail, that I could probably go out and hunt something in the medieval style myself.

Cummins uses primary sources from across Europe, mostly from the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, although a few are from the early Renaissance.

As its title suggests, the book is divided into two. The first part covers hunting with hounds and the second hunting with hawks. The first section tackles the huntsman’s prey in order of nobility, starting with the stag and ending with the badger. Cummins also looks at the symbolism of hunting in a chapter on the unicorn.

Two chapters look at the duties and lives of the huntsmen before the book moves on to the hawks. It covers their breeding grounds, their capture,
their training, their feeding, their prey and their illnesses. There’s also a chapter about what they symbolise in literature.

It’s for this latter section that I bought the book. Hunting was something that everyone did in the Middle Ages and I want my novels to reflect that fact. My heroes might be able to hunt stags, though, but my heroines can’t. If I want the two of them to spend time together on a hunt, they have to be using hawks. I’ve learned more from this book than I can use in my novels, but that’s a good thing.

Despite its length and its detail, it’s an easy book to read. Cummins knows what he’s talking about and he communicates it well. He even made me laugh, which wasn’t something I expected from a book about hunting. The laughter was often at the expense of the best-known hunter of the Middle Ages, the Frenchman Gaston Phoebus, who thought some English hunting practices were less than ideal.

If you only read one book about medieval hunting, this is the one you should read.

April Munday is the author of the Soldiers of Fortune and Regency Spies series of novels, as well as standalone novels set in the fourteenth century.

The Middle Ages - Medieval History 7: Research Topics.

Your name is Daniel of Cloyes. In 1212 AD you embarked on the fifth crusade to “capture” Jerusalem but ended up in Egypt. It was also known as the Children’s Crusade. Out of 30,000 crusading children, you were one of the few who returned home. All of your relatives and neighbors have gathered to hear your adventures. You must tell them the truth as you witnessed it. Describe your reasons for joining the Crusade, your observations and experiences on the crusade, and the results of the crusade.

2. Anna Comnena.

Most histories of the Crusades tend to focus on the Crusaders themselves without thought of the people whose lands were invaded and cities destroyed. Anna Comnena (also called Anna Komnene) was the daughter of the Byzantine Emperor and was living in Constantinople when the First Crusade came through the city. She wrote a book entitled The Alexiad, which described her father’s reign that detailed her reactions to the Crusaders. Describe Anna to your classmates based on her opinions and writings, focusing on her thoughts and observations of the Crusades and the crusaders.

4. Apprenticeship.

The son of a very progressive man, you have been given a choice that many medieval youth do not receive. You have been allowed to decide which trade you would like to pursue and must decide to whom you will apprentice. You narrowed your options down to becoming a mason, a fuller, a shoemaker, or a baker. Investigate the process of medieval apprenticeship, the life and duties of an apprentice, and the role of guilds in medieval society. Research the trades you are considering and chose which one you wish to pursue.

Present your findings and your final decision to your father (and the class).

5. Universities.

Your Uncle Bartholomew has offered to pay for you to attend a university. Write your kind uncle four or more letters that keep him informed about the following topics:

The culture and reputation of your university. Have there been any riots? Is it considered “party school”? The subject/curriculum you are studying Your typical day as a student Some of the more famous scholars and their publications in law, medicine, mathematics and philosophy that you are studying. Be sure to include some Muslim and Jewish scholars like Avicenna, Averroes, and Maimonides.


As a child you were fascinated by the art of medicine because it combined elements of faith and the physical aspects of healing. You have decided to attend medical school in Salerno, Italy because they practice the latest advances in Arab medicine. After your first semester, you pay a visit to your family. Everyone is interested to know about the latest developments for healing people. In your conversations with your parents, be sure to tell them about the following:

the theory of the humors the importance of Muslim scholarship and medical advances examples of treatments for a few diseases.

7. The Black Death.

During the years of the Black Death, one quarter to one third of the entire European population perished. Villages turned into ghost towns. The whole fabric of society was altered. Create a documentary film about the impact of the plague on Medieval society. In your film, you should explore: the cause and spread of the plague, the disease’s major symptoms and any possible treatments or preventative measures used, and the wider effects of the plague on society.


You have been hired to design costumes for the new movie Quest set in the England of 1250. Your job is to create original, accurate costumes for the main characters including: Eleanor, the young and beautiful noblewoman; William, the nobleman to whom she is betrothed; Stephen, the crusader secretly in love with Eleanor; Hilda, the middle class gossip; and Rufus, the elderly serf. You must then present sketches of your designs
to the producers (your classmates), offering background information on clothing in the Middle Ages and explanations defending the historical accuracy of your costumes. Your costume plans should include hairstyles and hats or headpieces for each character.


After many years as Lord Falconer, the King has given you an assistant to help you prepare for an upcoming hawking festival. Unfortunately, your assistant is unacquainted with falconry. Explain the process, equipment, and skills involved in training a falcon to hunt and the historical significance of falconry.


You’re a wandering minstrel from the 13th century who has been traveled through time to modern-day England. Even though the world is now a strange and confusing place, you just can’t give up your minstrel ways. But new advances in technology now allow your music to reach a large audience without having to hike all across the country by foot. You’re going to create a podcast to share your music. In your broadcast, you want to be sure to include samples of all the different kinds of music (plainchant, polyphonic and monophonic) from the Middle Ages.

You might also discuss:

- the importance of this music to your former culture,
- the difference between music heard in churches and the type of music you sing,
- the difference between a jongleur, a minstrel, a bard and a troubadour like yourself?
- the difference between your music and the music of today.


In your role of head gardener, you have been told to plan a new garden for the lord of the manor’s house. The lord has asked that you include some medicinal plants to help with his aches and pains and his wife wishes you to include culinary herbs. Draw up a design to present to the lord and explain why you have chosen the plants you did. Include images of at least two plants you have chosen to grow in the lord’s new garden in your presentation.

12. Feasts.

Feasts in the Middle Ages were a celebratory time for all, but they could also prove to be a lot of work! As the Chief Cook of the castle, you are responsible for preparing feasts for various holidays. Choose one of these important feast days: Twelfth Night, St. Valentine’s Day, or St. John’s Day, often called Mid-Summer’s Eve. Give a brief background of the holiday and create an annotated menu for a party. Present your feast proposal along with a taste of one of the dishes for the class.
Choose an interesting book from the «Novels» section. Read and learn German it online or download it for free in PDF, FB2, EPub, DOC and TXT formats and read it on any device. Author Jack London. Reading time 23 hours. Genres Novels, Drama, Psychological, Realism, Social, Philosophical, Psychological novel, Realistic novel, Philosophical novel, Social novel. Read. The Red Lily. 4. Author Anatole France. Reading time 14 hours 45 minutes. Genres Novels, Love, Love story. Read. The Three Musketeers. 4.6. Author Alexandre Dumas père. Hunting, the sport of kings, served as training for battle, a rite of manhood, and a powerful ritualistic pastime. In vivid and engrossing detail, here are all the appropriate methods for hunting deer, boar, wolves, foxes, bears, otters, birds, hares...even unicorns! The following chapters on the beasts and fowl hunted by hound, hawk and other methods are very good reads. At times the olde English which accounts for about one quarter of the book really are difficult as 1400 English is not modern English, but in saying that there is a definite charm to it being included and it is a thankful reality. John Cummins unlike most modern historians is superb in easily telling a story when he needs to do his vocation and then sits back and allows the original texts to tell the story. the art of medieval hunting. by John G. Cummins. 0 Want to read. 0 Currently reading. 0 Have read. This edition was published in 1988 by St. Martin's Press in New York. Written in English. 306 pages. the art of medieval hunting. This edition was published in 1988 by St. Martin's Press in New York. Edition Notes. PDF | He would talk of nothing but art. Holmes had the impersonal joy of the true artist in his better work. Art in the blood is liable to take the | Find, read and cite all the research you need on ResearchGate. his talk about analytic reasoning and the scientiï¬c use of the imagination constitutes a repression of the artistic imagination that is the real. source of his success as a detective. Â The first explicit link between Holmes and art comes at the begin-. ning of chapter ve, with Watsonâ€™s description of him â€œentirely absorbed. in the pictures of the modern Belgian masters. He would talk of noth-. ing but art, of which he had the crudest ideas, from our leaving the. gallery until we found ourselves at the Northumberland Hotel.â€16 This.