

Final Script - 6.6.83
EPISODE 4

ROBIN HOOD

SEVEN POOR KNIGHTS FROM ACRE

by

RICHARD CARPENTER

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GOLDCREST
November 1981

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Episode 4 - SEVEN POOR KNIGHTS FROM ACRE

CASE

SIWARD (one-eyed thief)

REYNALD DE VILLARET (leader of Knights Templar)

HEINRICH VON ERLICHSHAUSEN (largest of Knights Templar)

5 KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

ROBIN

MARION

MUCH THE MILLER'S SON

LITTLE JOHN

TUCK

JAMES

MARTIN

WILL SCARLET

GUY OF GISBURNE

SHERIFF

POTTER

FAT MERCHANT

2 SOLDIERS IN NOTTINGHAM STREET

NASIR

Non-speaking Parts/Extras:

2 Foresters (horseback)

Villagers

Men at Arms

Monk

2 Dungeon Guards

6 Prisoners

4 Guards at Castle Gate

Blacksmith

FADE IN

TITLE SEQUENCE

FADE OUT.

FADE IN

D.1 EXT. FOREST NIGHT D.1

LONG SHOT

A ragged young outlaw - SIWARD - is hurrying down a forest path.

CUT TO:

MID SHOT

He has a rough pack on his back and carries a staff. Somewhere a hunting owl screams and SIWARD glances round with a scared look. We see his face for the first time. He wears a dirty patch over one eye.

CUT TO:

RESUME FORMER ANGLE

SIWARD hurries onward. He is nervous.

D.2 EXT. VICINITY OF FOREST PATH NIGHT D.2

SIWARD pushes his way through some bushes and then stares in bewilderment.

D.3 EXT. FOREST PATH NIGHT D.3

Coming down the forest path in single file are six KNIGHTS TEMPLAR on horseback. They too are helmeted and wear similar mantles which are draped back over the horses rather like the cloaks of the Household Cavalry.

D.4 EXT. CLEARING NIGHT D.4

The KNIGHTS ride slowly past.

SUPER EPISODE TITLE:

SEVEN POOR KNIGHTS FROM ACRE

D.5 EXT. CAVE ENTRANCE NIGHT D.5

The KNIGHT by the entrance to the tent raises his sword in salute. The leader of the KNIGHTS - REYNALD DE VILLARET - takes up a position to one side whilst the remaining five form a cavalry line.

DE VILLARET
Demontez!

The five KNIGHTS dismount with military precision and each ties his horse to a row of stakes in front of them. Then DE VILLARET dismounts and removes his helmet.

CUT TO:

CLOSE UP DE VILLARET

He is a cropped-haired, bearded, sun-burnt fanatic in his thirties.

CUT TO:

RESUME PREVIOUS ANGLE

The KNIGHTS remove their helmets - again as if performing a drill routine. They hold their helmets in their right hands tucked against their chests in military fashion. The KNIGHT who has been guarding the tent sheathes his sword - again as if performing a drill routine and steps to one side. DE VILLARET ties up his horse and marches into the cave, followed by the KNIGHTS. The guard KNIGHT then removes his helmet and joins the others in the cave.

D.6 EXT. VICINITY OF CLEARING NIGHT D.6

SIWARD moves cautiously across to the cave mouth. As he moves closer the sound of the seven KNIGHTS at prayer can be heard.

KNIGHTS (O.V.)

Exaudi Deus orationem meam et ne despexeris deprecationem meam - intende mihi, et exaudi me contristatussum in exercitatione mea -et conturbatus sum a voce inimici - et a tribulatione peccatoris -

SIWARD reaches the cave mouth and creeps inside.

D.7 INT. TEMPLARS CAVE NIGHT D.7

The KNIGHTS are kneeling in a circle - their hands raised in prayer - their eyes closed.

KNIGHTS

- quoniam declinaverunt in me iniquitates, et in ira molesti erant mihi. Amen.

In the centre of the circle of KNIGHTS stands the black and silver gonafion - the standard of the Order. It is surmounted with a golden crest.

DE VILLARET

O Domine Jesu Christe ut vulnera tua sint remedium animae meae.

KNIGHTS

Amen.

CUT TO:

CLOSE UP SIWARD

ROBIN and MARION who are scouting ahead of the main party suddenly stop and crouch down. MARION turns back and waves to MUCH to stop.

CUT TO:

ROBIN and MARION's P.O.V.

TWO RIDERS (FORESTERS) can be seen in the distance.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

ROBIN and MARION run back to the main party.

ROBIN
Foresters!

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE (FORESTERS P.O.V.)

The FORESTERS come in sight of the cart. They ride up to it. MARION sits sideways on the horse and MUCH continues to lead it. The FORESTERS look at what is now an innocent enough pair of travellers. They are big tough-looking men and both wear the SHERRIF's badge on their jerkins and hunting whips. The FORESTERS slow down as they reach the cart, but MARION gives them a smile as she and MUCH pass by.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

From their cover each side of the path, the OUTLAWS watch the FORESTERS ride by.

CUT TO:

CLOSE ON SCARLET

SCARLET watches the FORESTERS backs as they ride on and quickly fits an arrow to his bow. Holding it horizontally, he aims a shot at the FORESTERS while JAMES and MARTIN watch him tensely. But it's all a joke and SCARLET eases the bow string and winks at them.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

The OUTLAWS watch the FORESTERS disappear and then come out of their concealment and hurry back to join MUCH and MARION who have stopped the cart some way further on.

CUT TO:

THE CART

As TUCK and LITTLE JOHN reach the cart, SCARLET, JAMES and MARTIN beat them to it and pile into the cart.

SCARLET
Our turn!

LITTLE JOHN shrugs, TUCK sighs. ROBIN and MARION watch the changeover with amusement. MUCH moves the horse forward again.

CUT TO:

LONG SHOT

The OUTLAWS moving through the forest.

D.9 EXT. COUNTRYSIDE DAY D.9

The OUTLAWS are now moving through more open country. The track leads down through the undergrowth towards a stream.

D.10 EXT. CLEARING BY STREAM DAY D.10

In FOREGROUND is an ancient stone pillar about six feet high. Stuck in two holes on top of this stone are antlers white with age. Through the antlers we see ROBIN and the OUTLAWS approaching.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

ROBIN and the OUTLAWS reach the stone and from this angle - their P.O.V. we see that the top of the stone is just recognisable as a crude representation of a human head. MARION comes forward. At the stones base is a smaller stone and on this are some wild flowers which are dying. MARION takes a flower from her hair and adds it to the others. Then she turns to ROBIN.

MARION
Here?

ROBIN nods looking at the antlers.

D.11 EXT. CLEARING BY STREAM DAY D.11

LONG SHOT. PAN from the OUTLAWS huddled together round a dying fire to where ROBIN and MARION are sitting under a tree a little apart from the rest. A nightingale is singing in the forest. The scene is played very tenderly. The dark forest is all around the two lovers. They are listening to the nightingale. The whole dialogue is played in whispers.

MARION
What does he sing about, d'you think?

ROBIN holds her tenderly.

ROBIN
Nothing. He just sings.

MARION
Maybe he's in love.

ROBIN
Maybe he's a she.

MARION
Are you in love?

ROBIN
Should I be?

ROBIN kisses her. The nightingale stops.

MARION
He's stopped.

After a moment Marion looks away.

ROBIN
Marion?

MARION
I wonder what will happen to us?

ROBIN
All of us?

She looks up at him.

MARION
You and me.

ROBIN
We'll live to be a hundred.

MARION
Would you want to?

ROBIN shakes his head.

ROBIN
The older you get the colder the wind
blows.

A moments silence. Then the strange cry of the night-jar. They listen, suddenly apprehensive.

MARION
A lytchfowl...Bad luck...

ROBIN
(melodramatically whisper)
A cry from the dead!

But MARION takes it seriously.

MARION
Hold me!

ROBIN
Then I'll get bigger boots!

ROBIN attacks.

D.13 EXT. CLEARING BY STREAM NIGHT D.13

The OUTLAWS are eating. They are in a rough circle. Behind them is the pillar-shaped stone with the antlers. ROBIN is showing them exactly where they are. We see the faces of the OUTLAWS as ROBIN talks to them.

ROBIN
Three roads. The one North from Nottingham. One going to Newark and one across to Lincoln. All within reach. We can attack and vanish. And if they come after us, they'll have to fight us our way. In the forest.

D.14 EXT. STREAM DAY D.14

MARTIN hits the water with a splash. WIDEN to see TUCK standing on a log across the stream. He uses his quarter staff to balance.

TUCK
Come on then. Who's next?

MARION comes forward and jumps on the log. Cheers from the others. She also carries a quarter-staff. She is urged forward by ROBIN and the other OUTLAWS. They both, she and TUCK, feint several blows, neither making a real attack. Then MARION attacks unexpectedly to TUCK's head. He ducks and the impetus of her blow makes her lose balance and she goes into the stream. Howls of disappointment from the other OUTLAWS. ROBIN jumps onto the log hauls her from the stream laughing.

TUCK
Another one for a ducking!

ROBIN attacks fast and TUCK has to defend himself weathering a storm of blows. ROBIN pauses. TUCK looks up. It is the merest glance but ROBIN's eyes follow it. TUCK sweeps his legs from under him and ROBIN also tumbles into the stream. LITTLE JOHN strides up with his staff.

TUCK
You're wasting your time.

LITTLE JOHN
You reckon?

LITTLE JOHN doesn't get on the log. Instead he bends down and picks it up. TUCK goes into the stream. EVERYONE collapses.

A target rather like a punch-bag is swinging pendulum fashion. We see the OUTLAWS shooting at it. Scarlet steps up and misses. Cat-calls from the others - particularly LITTLE JOHN. LITTLE JOHN takes aim and as he is about to let fly, TUCK sneezes. LITTLE JOHN shoots but has been put off his aim and misses. More cat-calls. He turns angrily to TUCK who looks totally innocent. LITTLE JOHN swings at TUCK and misses. MARION shoots and hits the target. ROBIN shoots and cuts the rope. The target falls to the ground.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

SIWARD sudently appears, running towards them. He stops, surprised and disconcerted to have come across them. He approaches, warily. The OUTLAWS watch him - equally wary.

SIWARD
Er - good day friends.

Nobody replies. SIWARD has a shifty appearance. He grins at them revealing blackened teeth. He is out of breath and glances behind.

SIWARD
Lost my way.

SCARLET
Where are you making for?

SIWARD
Nottingham.

LITTLE JOHN
And where are you from?

SIWARD
Grimston

TUCK
What's your name?

SIWARD
Siward. Look, I -

ROBIN
What d'you do, Siward?

SIWARD
Do? I'm a pedlar.

The OUTLAWS look at each other and decide that SIWARD is harmless.

ROBIN
The Nottingham road's that way -a
couple of miles.

TUCK
So peddle off.

D.16 EXT. VICINITY OF ENCAMPMENT. DAY D.16

The same scene from DE VILLARET'S P.O.V. The SEVEN KNIGHTS come into shot and look at the OUTLAWS camp. SIWARD is seen talking with ROBIN.

D.17 EXT. CLEARING BY STREAM DAY D.17

ROBIN
If you're stopped, you've seen nobody -

SIWARD
Nobody. I've not seen nobody.

Suddenly there is a thudding of hooves and SIWARD looks in terror. ROBIN turns sharply.

CUT TO:

ROBIN'S P.O.V.

The SEVEN KNIGHTS - wearing their helmets - (the flat-topped helms of the late twelfth century - are racing in a tight group towards the OUTLAWS. They carry shields and fighting lances - not to be confused with the huge tilting lances of the Tournament. They also wear long swords at their sides.

(The following sequence is only a guide but is meant to demonstrate the sheer ferocity of a TEMPLAR attack and their superb organisation as a battle unit, their mobility and manoeuvrability and the fact that their shields are protection against the OUTLAWS arrows. In a sense the seven knights are as expert as a team of polo-players.)

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

As they bear down with frightening speed - the KNIGHTS are racing flat out - the tight group around SIWARD breaks up. From this point the action becomes fragmentary with quick shots interspersing masters to depict the violence of the charge.

CUT TO:

MARION putting an arrow to her bow.

CUT TO:

SCARLET drawing back his bow-string.

CUT TO:

TUCK shooting.

CUT TO:

ROBIN shooting.

CUT TO:

LITTLE JOHN drawing his bowstring and shooting.

CUT TO:

Arrows being deflected off a shield.

CUT TO:

A KNIGHT swerving in his saddle to avoid arrows which hum past harmlessly.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

The KNIGHTS charge through the scattering OUTLAWS. There is a concerted cry from them.

KNIGHTS
Beau Seant!

CUT TO:

MARION dives out of the path of an on-coming KNIGHT.

CUT TO:

ROBIN looks across and swerves as he runs from a KNIGHT who tries to stab at him with his lance. Another KNIGHT crosses the action.

CUT TO:

MUCH crouches down.

CUT TO:

KNIGHTS P.O.V.

The lance jabs downwards as MUCH glances up terrified and twists out of range.

CUT TO:

SIWARD making off amid the confusion.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

The KNIGHTS reforming and turning quickly to charge back the way they came.

KNIGHTS
Beau Seant!

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

Some of the OUTLAWS are getting to their feet half-stunned by the attack. Others are running for cover. One is motionless.

CUT TO:

SCARLET drawing his sword as he dives out of the path of the KNIGHTS who fan out as they charge.

CUT TO:

MARTIN pulls MUCH to his feet as a KNIGHT charges down on them.

CUT TO:

A KNIGHT reining his horse and looking round as he prepares to charge yet again.

CUT TO:

ROBIN shooting an arrow as a KNIGHT wheels his horse to attack JAMES as he runs for cover.

CUT TO:

LITTLE JOHN diving out of the way as a lance jabs down.

CUT TO:

TUCK - grim faced - drawing his sword. A KNIGHT rears his horse above him.

CUT TO:

MARION getting to her feet. She looks up in fear.

CUT TO:

MARION'S P.O.V. A KNIGHT's lance jabs towards her.

CUT TO:

SCARLET running, sword in hand, across the path of a charging KNIGHT.

CUT TO:

TWO KNIGHTS turning together - their lances raised high.

CUT TO:

MARION avoiding the lance as the KNIGHT leans out of the saddle to spear her. She hits the ground hard.

CUT TO:

SCARLET falling - his image suddenly blotted out by a KNIGHT crossing frame in foreground.

CUT TO:

MUCH running for safety following MARTIN.

CUT TO:

ROBIN cuts at a KNIGHT ith his sword as the KNIGHT charges past.

CUT TO:

LITTLE JOHN scrambling to his feet. He is enraged.

CUT TO:

LITTLE JOHN's P.O.V.

A KNIGHT charges towards him.

CUT TO:

ROBIN running towards MARION. He reaches her and pulls her up.

CUT TO:

LITTLE JOHN waits as the lance seems to rush towards him like the horns of a fighting bull.

CUT TO:

LOW ANGLE

SCARLET watches as the KNIGHT attacks LITTLE JOHN.

C.U. LITTLE JOHN.

He roars his defiance.

CUT TO:

LITTLE JOHN twists under the lance and hurls himself at horse and rider, pulling at the reins.

CUT TO:

The KNIGHT rises in his stirrups.

CUT TO:

LITTLE JOHN pulls horse and KNIGHT to the ground. They crash down. The KNIGHT is stunned.

CUT TO:

ROBIN and MARION dive right and left as they are charged by a KNIGHT.

CUT TO:

LITTLE JOHN drags the KNIGHT to his feet. He picks him up and hurls him at the ancient altar.

CUT TO:

The KNIGHT's head and shoulders crashing against the stone with tremendous force. He lies still.

CUT TO:

The KNIGHTS form up again and charge the OUTLAWS.

KNIGHTS
Beau Seant!

CUT TO:

CLOSE UP ROBIN

ROBIN
Get to the trees!

CUT TO:

The KNIGHTS fan out.

CUT TO:

The OUTLAWS making for the trees.

CUT TO:

The KNIGHTS divide into two groups and out-flank the running OUTLAWS. They turn inwards so that their victims are caught between them. Both groups charge simultaneously in a pincer movement which reverses their positions and sets them up another charge.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

The OUTLAWS trapped between the two groups of charging KNIGHTS.

CUT TO:

CLOSE UP ROBIN

He looks left and right.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

The KNIGHTS close with the OUTLAWS in a moment of jabbing lances and desperate defence.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

The KNIGHTS pass each other and the impetus of their charge carries both groups some distance each side of the fleeing OUTLAWS.

CUT TO:

MARTIN has blood pouring from his scalp.

CUT TO:

An OUTLAW lies dead.

CUT TO:

TUCK, who has been crouching down has a ripped sleeve from which a trickle of blood is beginning.

CUT TO:

The OUTLAWS head for the trees.

CUT TO:

MUCH stumbles and falls.

CUT TO:

The rest of th OUTLAWS reach the safety of the trees.

CUT TO:

The KNIGHTS bear down on MUCH.

CUT TO:

CLOSE UP MARION

She glances back in horror.

CUT TO:

MUCH gets to his feet and makes for the trees but he has twisted his ankle and is limping

CUT TO:

The KNIGHTS group together and charge for the trees.

CUT TO:

CLOSE UP. SCARLET

CUT TO:

CLOSE UP LITTLE JOHN.

CUT TO:

CLOSE UP ROBIN.

CUT TO:

CLOSE UP TUCK.

CUT TO:

THE OUTLAWS P.O.V.

The KNIGHTS close round MUCH and one of them scoops him up across his horses neck. Then the whole group comes to a halt. They turn their horses as if on a parade ground and trot down the hill towards the encampment.

CUT TO:

CLOSE SHOT MARION, ROBIN AND LITTLE JOHN.

MARION
Much!

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

The OUTLAWS prepare to counter-attack. ROBIN stops them.

ROBIN
No! That's what they want!

Everyone checks.

CUT TO:

THE OUTLAWS P.O.V.

The KNIGHTS returning to the encampment.

CUT TO:

RESUME ON OUTLAWS

There is a long silence. They are shattered by the experience.

ROBIN
We'll get him back.

SCARLET shakes his head.

SCARLET
They'll kill him.

ROBIN
They'd have killed him in front of us.
He's a hostage.

LITTLE JOHN
Who are they?

MARION
Templars.

ROBIN looks at her questioningly.

ROBIN
Templars?

TUCK
(nods)
Poor Knights of the Temple of Solomon.

SCARLET
Poor? What are the good ones like?

TUCK

They're monks. They take an oath of poverty.

LITTLE JOHN

Fighting monks?

SCARLET
(to TUCK)

I thought you were the only one.

TUCK

I've heard some right tales about them. I can tell you.

MARION

(with a shudder)

So have I.

TUCK.

Things they've done in the Holy Land. That lot fight to the death - Put whole towns to the sword - whole towns. -Jews as well as Saracens. They're not particular. Killing for Christ they call it.

The OUTLAWS watch as the KNIGHTS head away from the encampment.

ROBIN

They're heading North. We'd better get moving.

END OF PART ONE

FADE IN

PART TWO

D.18 EXT. BYSTEAD VILLAGE DAY D.18

The VILLAGERS gather as the KNIGHTS ride in. The KNIGHT killed by LITTLE JOHN is across his horses saddle. The VILLAGERS watch in silence. They are cowed by the KNIGHTS who in their turn treat them with great arrogance. MUCH has ben tied up and is over the neck of one of the KNIGHTS horses.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

DE VILLARET takes up a commanding position.

DE VILLARET
Demontez!

The KNIGHTS dismount. One of them comes to the leader DE VILLARET and takes his shield and lance. DE VILLARET dismounts.

DE VILLARET
Occupez-vous des chevaux! See to the horses!

Half a dozen VILLAGERS come forward. A KNIGHT pulls MUCH to the ground without ceremony. The remaining KNIGHTS begin lifting the body of their dead comrade from his horse.

D.19 EXT. TEMPLARS CAVE DAY D.19

DE VILLARET is standing in the hut. There is no sign of the standard. DE VILLARET now wears the long white mantle of the Order. MUCH - still with his hands tied behind him is dragged into the tent by several of the KNIGHTS and thrown down in front of DE VILLARET. He scrambles to his feet. He is very frightened and grinning nervously. DE VILLARET looks at him intently.

DE VILLARET
Confreere Heinrich -

One of the KNIGHTS comes forward. This is Heinrich von Erlichshauser the hardest man of the seven. He is a big man thick set built like a tank.

VON ERLICHSHAUSEN
Ja komtur.

DE VILLARET

(Shakes his had)

Ce n'est pas lui! Le voleur que nous cherchons n'a qu'un oeil. (He gestures to his eye) Il etait la. Je l'ai vu. Il etait avec eux!

(This is not the one! The thief we seek has only one eye. He was there. I saw him! He was with them!)

VON ERLICHSHAUSEN

Was sollen wir mit diesem. Junge tun, komptur? Soll ich das kleine Schwein toten?

(What shall we do with this one, commander? Shall I despatch the little pig?)

DE VILLARET

Non, pas encore. Les autres scelerats viendrant peut-etre le chercher. Il pourrait nous etre utile dans ce cas. Freres en Jesus Christ - nous regagnerons Beau Seant. Dieu se bat a notre cote. Vous sommes ses guerriers, n'est ce pas?

(No - not yet. Perhaps the other villains will come looking for him. He could be useful then. Brothers in Christ - we shall recover Beau Seant. God fights with us. Are we not his soldiers?)

KNIGHTS

Dieu se bat a notre cote!

(God fights with us!)

DE VILLARET

(To MUCH - in English)

You stink! Mettez le dehors! (Take him out)

MUCH is dragged out.

D.20 EXT. WOODS OVERLOOKING THE VILLAGE DAY D.20

ROBIN, MARION, TUCK, SCARLET and LITTLE JOHN followed by the other OUTLAWS make their way silently through the trees over-looking the village.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

They reach a vantage point and look towards the village.

CUT TO:

OUTLAWS P.O.V.

The TEMPLARS tent can be seen. The VILLAGERS are building a funeral pyre for the man LITTLE JOHN has killed. The Templars have brought MUCH out and he is being tied up to a post.

CUT TO:

RESUME ON THE OUTLAWS

They see MUCH being tied up

ROBIN
I'm going to get him.

LITTLE JOHN
We all -

ROBIN
I'm closer to MUCH than any of you.
I've known him since he was born. And
one mans more chance of not being seen.

MARION comes to him and they hold each other briefly. ROBIN is moving off towards the village when he stops. LITTLE JOHN comes to him.

LITTLE JOHN
What is it?

ROBIN
Look!

CUT TO:

ROBIN'S P.O.V.

Through the trees - riding slowly towards the village - can be seen GUY of GISBURNE - the SHERRIF OF NOTTINGHAM and a party of MEN AT ARMS with spears and cross-bows.

CUT TO:

LITTLE JOHN
Guy of Gisburne!

ROBIN
Yes. And see who's with him!

MARION
The Sherrif!

The SHERRIF, GISBURNE and a party of MEN at ARMS are proceeding slowly towards the village. The SHERRIF is in a chatty mood and GISBURNE listens with respect. TRACK.

SHERRIF
It's a very curious country, Gisburne. Seems to absorb people like a sponge. I mean what are we - English or Norman?

GISBURNE
Norman, my lord.

SHERRIF
(dryly)
Yes - that's what I thought you'd say. (a pause) Such a bore having to trot round the Shire every year but we won't help fill the Exchequer by sitting in Nottingham will we?

GISBURNE
Cattle have to be driven.

SHERRIF
Driven hard, Gisburne.

GISBURNE has spotted the TEMPLAR'S tent. He reins his horse.

GISBURNE
What the devil's that?

CUT TO:

GISBURNE'S P.O.V.

Among the village huts, the TEMPLAR'S flag can be seen.

CUT TO:

RESUME ON GISBURNE AND THE SHERRIF

They look at each other, puzzled and then resume their advance into the village.

DE VILLARENT
I trust that -

GISBURNE
I'm telling you to move on.

DE VILLARENT again looks at GISBURNE and then turns back to the SHERRIF.

DE VILLARENT
We shall continue our journey soon.

GISBURNE
You'll continue it now.

DE VILLARENT
Who's this clown?

GISBURNE dismounts in a flash. He draws his sword. Although DE VILLARET ignores him, GISBURNE'S action is the signal for the FIVE KNIGHTS to draw their swords.

D.24 EXT. WOODS OVERLOOKING THE VILLAGE DAY D.24

ROBIN and the OUTLAWS watching the scene in the village. They react as the swords come out.

LITTLE JOHN
(bewildered)
What's going on?

SCARLET
I don't know. But my money's on the
Templars.

D.25 EXT. THE VILLAGE DAY D.25

GISBURNE stands with his drawn sword, facing DE VILLARET who remains completely unmoved. The FIVE KNIGHTS wait for the order from him.

DE VILLARENT
Your servant does you no credit, my
lord.

SHERRIF
Put your sword away, Gisburne.

GISBURN
But my lord - !

SHERRIF
Do it Gisburne!

GISBURNE reluctantly sheathes his sword. After a moment DE VILLARET makes the merest gesture of his hand and instantly the KNIGHTS sheathe their swords. The SHERRIF relaxes and the MEN AT ARMS do likewise. GISBURNE is furious.

SHERRIF

Now, Frere Reynald. You were about to tell me what you're doing here.

DE VILLARET

(angrily lapsing into French).
Je crois que non.

SHERRIF

Oh, and why not?

DE VILLARET

Because I don't choose to. An outrage has been committed against our Order.

SHERRIF

An outrage? Really? How very intriguing. What sort of an outrage?

DE VILLARET

That's our concern.

SHERRIF

Yes, but surely -

GISBURNE suddenly catches sight of MUCH tied up behind the KNIGHTS.

GISBURNE

I know that boy!

GISBURNE takes a step forward.

DE VILLARET

Stay where you are!

GISBURNE is very excited; he turns back to the SHERRIF pointing toward MUCH.

GISBURNE

The half-wit my lord! The half-wit!

SHERRIF

(looking straight at GISBURNE)
Which one?

This remark makes GISBURNE even more excited.

GISBURNE
There, my lord - there! The miller's son!
The miller who fostered Robin Hood!
His name's Much!

GISBURNE goes right up to DE VILLARET who remains unmoved.

GISBURNE
That villain's mine! I want him!

DE VILLARET
Vous ne l'aurez pas - c'est mon
prisonnier.

GISBURNE turns back to the SHERRIF.

GISBURNE
My lord are you going to - ?

SHERRIF
Be quiet, man. (To DE VILLARET)
So Robin Hood has - er - crossed you, has
he, de Villaret?

DE VILLARET
Robin Hood?

SHERRIF
Of course - you've been away, haven't
you? The so-called King of Sherwood. A
dangerous rebel.

DE VILLARET
Does a girl fight with him?

SHERRIF
(casual)
Yes - I believe so.

DE VILLARET
And a friar - a fat friar?

GISBURNE
That renegade was the Sherrif's chaplain!

The SHERRIF gives GISBURNE a withering look.

DE VILLARET
They'll all die. All of them. We've
sworn it.

SHERRIF
Have you now? (the SHERRIF pauses -
thinking a moment and then makes up his
mind). Then you have my blessing, de
Villaret.

The SHERRIF begins turning his horse.

SHERRIF
Come along, Gisburne. It's time we left
the brothers to their...devotions.

GISBURNE
My lord, I must protest -

SHERRIF
I'd rather you didn't.
(quietly) Just get back on your horse and
stop making an exhibition of yourself.

GISBURNE glares at the SHERRIF for a moment. Then he glares at DE VILLARET. But he
obeys his master and remounts.

SHERRIF
Good hunting, de Villaret.

The SHERRIF leads the way out of the village. After a moment GISBURNE gestures to the
MEN at ARMS who turn and follow him as he canters to rejoin the SHERRIF. DE VILLARET
watches them go quite impassively.

D.26 EXT. WOODS OVERLOOKING THE VILLAGE DAY D.26

ANGLE FAVOURING MARION

MARION
Why are they leaving?

ROBIN
The Sherrif's backed down.

TUCK
Very wise

D.27 EXT. VICINITY OF THE VILLAGE DAY D.27

The SHERRIF is obviously furious - with DE VILLARET but also with GISBURNE.

SHERRIF
Did you have to tell him that?

GISBURNE
What my lord?

SHERRIF
That Tuck was my chaplain. Oh, never
mind - it isn't important.

GISBURNE
They defied you, my lord! I was
dishonoured.

SHERRIF
Listen, Gisburne. They're six of the
most highly trained fighting men in the
Christian world. Answerable to no one
but the Pope. And there are two
hundred more of them in Lincoln. D'you
want a Crusade in Nottingham?

GISBURNE
But they insulted -

WHERRIF
Whatever outrage Robin Hood's
responsible for - they'll avenge it. They
will you know. I've seen them at work.
They won't stop until he and the rest of
them are dead. Tuck, Marion, the lot.
Which saves you time, money and
soldiers. Surely that's worth a little
dishonour?

The SHERRIF continues to ride forward with GISBURNE thinking about it.

D.28 EXT. THE VILLAGE DAY D.28

A funeral pyre has been built by the VILLAGERS. The dead TEMPLAR lies on it dressed in his mantle. The KNIGHTS stand with their swords drawn whilst the VILLAGERS watch with awe. The scene is barbaric and more reminiscent of Viking ritual than Christianity. DE VILLARET carries a torch. In back of shot MUCH can be seen - tied to a tree.

DE VILARET
Nous consignons notre Frere au feu
purifiant et assainissant.

DE VILLARET lights the pyre.

DE VILARET
Il est mort en bataille! (fiercely) Se
battant contre les enemis de Jesus
Christ! Une morte pleine de gloire, mes
Freres!

D.29 EXT. APPROACH TO THE VILLAGE DAY D.29

ROBIN is hurrying towards the village using what cover is available.

Flames are enveloping the funeral pyre. DE VILLARET and the KNIGHTS are now kneeling holding their swords in front of them pointing skyward.

DE VILLARET

Inclina Domine aurem tuam et exaudi
me; quoniam inops et pauper sum ego,
custodi animum meum.

(Bend thine ear O Lord and hearken unto me because I am helpless and unfortunate, protect my soul)

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

ROBIN has reached the village and is moving between the huts. The KNIGHTS can be heard in the background.

KNIGHTS (O.V.)

Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie
eleison.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

ROBIN edges his way round the huts. From his vantage point he can see the ceremony taking place.

DE VILLARET

Te deprecor ut vulnera tua sint
remedium animae meae.

(I beseech you that thy wounds may bring redemption to my soul).

KNIGHTS

Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie
eleison.

ROBIN sees MUCH tied up. The boy is some way from the funeral pyre and the KNIGHTS.

DE VILLARET

Agnus Dei qui tollis peccata mundi dona
eis requiem.

KNIGHTS

Agnus Dei qui tollis peccata mundi dona
eis sempiternam.

During this, ROBIN joins the VILLAGERS watching the ceremony. One or two of them look at him curiously and then turn apprehensively among themselves.

DE VILLARET

Agnus Dei qui tollis peccata mundi
suscipe deprecationem nostram.

KNIGHTS

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi
misere nobis.

DE VILLARET

Agnus Dei qui tollis peccata mundi dona
nobis pacem.

KNIGHTS

Agnus Dei qui tollis peccata mundi dona
nobis pacem.

During this, ROBIN works his way through and round the back of the watching VILLAGERS until he is within striking distance of MUCH.

CUT TO:

MUCH'S P.O.V.

MUCH suddenly sees ROBIN among the VILLAGERS nearest to him. ROBIN gestures warningly. MUCH nods.

CUT TO:

CLOSE UP DE VILLARET

DE VILLARET has seen MUCH's nod.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

DE VILLARET

Gloria Patri Gloria Filio. Gloria et spir -

During this ROBIN springs to MUCH. He is about to cut his bonds when DE VILLARET sees him. DE VILLARET gets to his feet, followed by the rest of the KNIGHTS and charges at ROBIN who has no time to free MUCH.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

ROBIN stands his ground as DE VILLARET comes for him. The VILLAGERS scatter, women scream and pick up their children. MUCH struggles to free himself but to no avail.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

DE VILLARET attacks ROBIN who has drawn his sword and who defends him self well. The other KNIGHTS pause as their leader continues his attack. DE VILLARET is surprised to find an OUTLAW using a sword with such skill. ROBIN counter-attacks and succeeds in driving DE VILLARET back. But he is up against a very tough man and as the KNIGHTS surround the two fighters - cutting off ROBIN's retreat - DE VILLARET disarms him. ROBIN looks round. He is in a ring of swords.

D.31 EXT. WOODS OVERLOOKING THE VILLAGE DAY D.31

MARION rushes forward but she is grabbed by LITTLE JOHN.

MARION
Let me go!

She struggles desperately to free herself but LITTLE JOHN holds her firmly. Finally, she gives up and sobs in his arms.

D.32 EXT. TEMPLARS HUT DAY D.32

OPEN on ROBIN's sword held by DE VILLARET. We see the inscription ALBION on the blade. PULL BACK to see DE VILLARET looking at it curiously.

DE VILLARET
Who did you steal this from?

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

ROBIN stands before DE VILLARET in the hut with TWO KNIGHTS behind him. MUCH is being held by a third KNIGHT. ROBIN'S lip is cut and he has a bruise on his face. He remains silent. DE VILLARET is sitting. He puts down the sword and rises.

DE VILLARET
Where are the other scum?

ROBIN doesn't answer.

DE VILLARET
(Calmly)
You'll tell me. They always tell me.
(very quietly) You'll shout it at me.
Scream it! You do understand me, don't
you?

Silence from ROBIN

DE VILLARET
I can see you do. What you took is
sacred to us: sacred! And we shall get
it back, I promise you. (a pause) Where
is it now) With the others?

ROBIN remains silent. DE VILLARET hits him hard across the face.

ROBIN
We've taken nothing. Let the boy go.

DE VILLARET
Ah - so you have a tongue. A lying tongue. The thief is one of you.

ROBIN
No.

DE VILLARET
I shall prove it. And prove it fairly. Put you on trial. Trial by battle.

DE VILLARET turns to HEINRICH VON ERLICHSHAUSEN the biggest and most powerful of the TEMPLAR KNIGHTS.

DE VILLARET
And you, Confrere, shall be our champion.

HEINRICH VON ERLICHSHAUSEN looks eagerly at ROBIN.

D.33 EXT. WOODS OVERLOOKING THE VILLAGE DAY D.33

MARION and the others watch as the KNIGHTS and their prisoners come out of the tent. They are all tense grim-faced.

D.34 EXT. THE VILLAGE DAY D.34

ROBIN and ERLICHSHAUSEN stand facing each other. They carry small round shields less than two feet in diameter. In their right hands they carry chain maces consisting of a handle a short piece of chain and an iron ball with spikes - not much bigger than a cricket ball but of course a great deal heavier. The KNIGHTS stand around and the VILLAGERS watch in silence. But their mood is of growing resentment towards the KNIGHTS. All the KNIGHTS carry their swords.

DE VILLARET
Etes-vous pret?

ERLICHSHAUSEN
Ja, komptur.

DE VILLARET lowers his sword.

D.35 EXT. WOODS OVERLOOKING THE VILLAGE DAY D.35

OUTLAWS P.O.V.

They watch grimly as the two fighters begin circling. MARION has steeled herself to watch. SCARLET looks at her admiring her strength of character.

ROBIN waits as the KNIGHT comes towards him.

CUT TO:

REVERSE ANGLE

Suddenly the KNIGHT swings the mace at ROBINS head. ROBIN ducks and the mace whistles through the air. It is an ominous sound. The cumbersome weapon whirls round the KNIGHTS head three times. The third time ROBIN uses the fist shield to block it. Sparks fly from the mace.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

ROBIN attacks, swinging his mace which the KNIGHT blocks easily. Then the KNIGHT has to leap back as ROBIN 'follows through' with the shield.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

The two men circle each other. It is obvious that the KNIGHT is enjoying himself. He rushes ROBIN again. ROBIN blocks with his shield but it is a devastating blow and almost knocks him off balance. The KNIGHT keeps attacking remorselessly - swinging the mace - battering at ROBIN's shield, jarring his arm, weakening its strength, like a battering ram destroying a wall. The impression is of overwhelming and tireless power.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

ROBIN fights back, swinging the mace to crash against the KNIGHTS shield. The KNIGHTS mace crashes against ROBINS shield and ROBIN falls. He drops the shield. There is a savage cry from the KNIGHTS and a gasp from the VILLAGERS.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

The KNIGHT comes in to finish it, but ROBIN gets to his feet and attacks fiercely - driving the KNIGHT back before he swings at ROBIN again.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

ROBIN ducks very low under the whistling mace and swings at the same time at the KNIGHTS knee.

CUT TO:

CLOSE SHOT (SLOW MOTION)

In slow motion, the KNIGHT crumples and begins falling sideways to the ground.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

As the KNIGHT hits the ground DE VILLARET and the KNIGHTS stand for a moment - frozen with disbelief and then the scene explodes into violent action again. ROBIN hurls his shield at one of the KNIGHTS catching him in the chest and knocking him backwards. Another KNIGHT cuts at him and ROBIN swerves to avoid it at the same time swinging at a third KNIGHT but missing him. But the way out of the village is now clear and as DE VILLARET comes lunging at him, ROBIN throws the mace at him and takes to his heels with the KNIGHTS chasing him. As he wears no armour he has a natural advantage. The KNIGHTS are no sprinters and the panicking VILLAGERS impede their pursuit. DE VILLARET stops them as ROBIN races away.

DE VILLARET
Let him go!

The KNIGHTS stop and turn in some surprise to their leader.

D.37 EXT. WOODS OVERLOOKING THE VILLAGE DAY D.37

MARION and ROBIN run into each others arms. The rest of the OUTLAWS join them.

CUT TO:

CLOSE SHOT ROBIN and the OUTLAWS

They are crouched in a circle. It is a few minutes later.

LITTLE JOHN
(suggesting)
An attack in the dark?

ROBIN
(shakes his head)
They'll expect it.

TUCK
What about the villagers?

ROBIN
Terrified. And they've no weapons.
Pitchforks against chain mail?

MARION
We have to save him.

ROBIN
We'll save him. The Templers think
we've stolen something from them.
Something sacred.

SCARLET
Sacred?

ROBIN
Siward took it. The lad with one eye.

FADE IN

PART THREE

D.40 EXT. NOTTINGHAM STREET BY THE CASTLE WALL DAY D.40

SIWARD is running past several stalls, pushing his way through passers by. Chasing him is a FAT MERCHANT.

FAT MERCHANT
Stop him! He's a thief!

SIWARD keeps running. He knocks a pile of earthenware off. The POTTER curses and also comes after him. People grab at him but he fights them off.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

SIWARD runs towards CAMERA into B.C.U. and stops dead. A look of fear.

CUT TO:

SIWARDS P.O.V.

TWO SOLDIERS are coming towards him. He glances back.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

The FAT MERCHANT and the POTTER and several others are coming after him.

FAT MERCHANT
Stop thief!

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

The TWO SOLDIERS grab SIWARD. The FAT MERCHANT joins them. OTHER PEOPLE surround the group including the POTTER. Everyone talks at once.

FIRST SOLDIER
What's this?

SIWARD
Let me be!

FAT MERCHANT
The villain took my purse!

POTTER
Smashed half my stock!

SIWARD
That's a lie!

FAT MERCHANT
Search him then. He cut it from my
belt!

SIWARD
He's lying!

ONE SOLDIER hits him in the face. The other SOLDIER grabs hold of him. The FIRST SOLDIER searches SIWARD and pulls a purse from his clothing followed by a pair of scissors.

FAT MERCHANT
My purse - you see - you see!

SOLDIER
Let's have a look in that pack!

D.41 INT. LEAFORD GRANGE DAY D.41

IN CLOSE UP the gold crest from the TEMPLARS flag is put on the SHERRIFS table.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

The SHERRIF rises and picks up the gold crest. He knows what it is.

SHERRIF
The symbol of the Templars. Two poor
knights sharing a horse. They've come a
long way since then.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

SIWARD stands miserably in front of him. He has been beaten up.

SHERRIF
How?

SIWARD hesitates.

GISBURNE
Answer the Sherrif!

SIWARD
It - it was on a banner.

SHERRIF
Go on man.

SIWARD
I followed 'em. To this village and - and
-waited me chance. There was always a
guard but - but I crawled in round the
back - while the rest of 'em were busy
with the horses - got this off the banner
- and -and crawled out again.

The SHERRIF suppresses a giggle.

GISBURNE
But they saw him, my lord.

SIWARD
I ran like the devil, I can tell you.
Managed to lose 'em in the forest. It
was getting dark see. I thought I was
safe. But in the morning - they came
after me again.

SHERRIF
They would.

GISBURNE
And that's when he met the outlaws my
lord.

SIWARD
The knights attacked.

SHERRIF
And you ran off of course.

SIWARD nods. A pause. The SHERRIF looks at the crest and then back at SIWARD.

SHERRIF
How did you lose that eye?

SIWARD
It was put out my lord. On your orders.

SHERRIF
For thieving?

SIWARD nods.

SHERRIF
Well, now you're going to lose the other
one.

SIWARD collapses wailing and howling with fear. He continues through the next dialogue.
GISBURNE takes a dagger from his belt.

GISBURNE
Now, my lord?

SHERRIF
No, not now, Gisburne - in the morning.
(To SOLDIERS) Get him out of here!

The SOLDIERS drag SIWARD - now sobbing hysterically - out of the council chamber while
the SHERRIF picks up the crest and begins to laugh. The laughter builds and builds. He
tries to talk through it.

SHERRIF
No wonder they were so annoyed!

GISBURNE
My lord?

SHERRIF
Beau Seant! Beau Seant, Gisburne! The banner! (he pauses trying to recover) Oh dear. If they've lost the crest to their precious banner - they'll - they'll (another paroxysm of laughter) they'll be expelled from the Templars!

GISBURNE
Expelled?

The SHERRIF nods.

SHERRIF
Think of it, Gisburne. They fight carrying the blessed thing all over the Holy Land. Guard it against sandstorms - Saracens - every damned thing and then have it stolen by a one-eyed cut-purse from Nottingham!

The SHERRIF's laughter once again overwhelms him.

GISBURNE
You mean - without their crest?

SHERRIF
Thrown out! Disgraced! Finished!
No wonder they wouldn't tell us about it!

The SHERRIF collapses with laughter and GISBURNE joins in. The SHERRIF finally controls himself.

SHERRIF
I shall keep this trinket Gisburne. A souvenir of a most unpleasant encounter.

He begins to laugh again.

SHERRIF
But the real joke - the real joke Gisburne -is that they're going to kill Robin Hood for it!

The SHERRIF hoots with laughter again and again GISBURNE joins in.

D.42 EXT. NOTTINGHAM AND THE CASTLE. NIGHT. D.42

Establishing shot.

D.43 EXT. VICINITY OF NOTTINGHAM NIGHT. D.43

The FIVE OUTLAWS, ROBIN, MARION, SCARLET, TUCK, and LITTLE JOHN come out of the trees onto the road.

D.44 EXT. STREET in NOTTINGHAM NIGHT. D.44

The street is deserted - it is after curfew. A rope snakes down from the outer wall and ROBIN shins down it. He looks down the street to the gateway, where TWO SOLDIERS lounge with their backs to him. ROBIN turns and tugs three times on the rope. Three more ropes snake down and then MARION, SCARLET, LITTLE JOHN AND TUCK swing down them to join ROBIN in the street. It is all done in silence. ROBIN glances towards the gateway and then quickly leads the others up the street.

D.45 INT. POTTERS WORKSHOP. NIGHT. D.45

OPEN on a small pot being turned on a wheel. It is almost finished and the POTTER'S hands are making sure it is regular in shape.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

Crouched over the wheel is the POTTER we saw in PART TWO. There is a table full of unfired beakers, judgs and plates. A fire burns in a brazier filling the place with smoke which escapes rather inefficiently through a hole in the roof of the shack. There is a light knocking at the door. The POTTER keeps working.

POTTER
Whose there?

ROBIN (O.V.)
(quietly)
Robin Hood.

The POTTER'S hands shake and the little pot wobbles and collapses as he tries to save it. He stops the wheel and cursing under his breath crosses to the door. He unbolts it by sliding back a wooden beam. He opens the door. ROBIN and the OUTLAWS comes swiftly into the little room and the POTTER once again bolts the door.

POTTER
Eh up, lad - are you invading
Nottingham?

ROBIN shakes his head.

ROBIN
We're after someone. His names Siward.

POTTER
There's lots of Siwards. What's his
trade?

LITTLE JOHN
He's a thief -

MARION
With one eye.

POTTER
One eye? One eye d'you say?

ROBIN nods.

POTTER
And young? A little feller?

SCARLET
That's him.

LITTLE JOHN
Hey - we're in luck!

POTTER
You may be, but I wasn't.

The POTTER points to a pile of broken pottery on the barrow.

POTTER
He broke that lot today, he did. Trying to get away from this fat feller he'd robbed. That's why I'm working late.

ROBIN
What happened to him, Tod?

POTTER
They caught 'im, didn't they? Took him to the Sherrif.

Reaction from OUTLAWS.

POTTER
Doesn't help methough, does it? Gottomake another batch.

SCARLET
That's done us.

TUCK
Ay. We'll never get into the castle.

POTTER
The Sherrif ain't at the castle. He's touring the County, isn't he? Making sure everyone's paying their taxes. He's at Leaford.

MARION
Leaford Grange?

TOD
Ay. Sir Richard's old place. D'you know it?

MARION
I should. He was my father.

Reaction from OUTLAWS.

MARION
I was born there. It was my home until they made me Abbot Hugo's ward and the Church took everything. I know every inch of it.

SCARLET
By God!

ROBIN
Where would they put Siward?

MARION
The cellars, I should think. Caves in the rock under the grange.

SCARLET
How do we get in?

MARION
There's a courtyard to one side of the main gate. If we can get into that we can go over the wall without being seen.

ROBIN
What about the Grange itself?

MARION
(thinks for a moment)
At the back. There's a window in a passage. It leads, down to the cellars.

ROBIN
How many men did the Sherrif have with him?

TUCK
A dozen.

LITTLE JOHN
Think we can do it?

ROBIN
If we don't - Much is going to die.

D.46 INT. COUNCIL CHAMBER. LEAFORD GRANGE NIGHT. D.46

The SHERRIF is at his table - reading a parchment. Waiting near him is a MONK. The SHERRIF finishes reading and nods, signing the parchment and putting it on one side. The MONK hands him another. The SHERRIF sighs and settles to read it. He finds a mistake.

SHERRIF
Plurimi you fool.

He corrects it, reads to the end and then signs it. Then he leans back and snaps his fingers. A SERVANT comes forward with a goblet of wine and hands it to the SHERRIF. He takes it.

SHERRIF
I'm a glorified clerk, d'you know that?

The SHERRIF drinks deeply.

D.47 EXT WALL OF COURTYARD LEAFORD GRANGE NIGHT. D.47

ROBIN, MARION, LITTLE JOHN, SCARLET AND TUCK reach the wall of the courtyard outside Leaford Grange. MARION is with ROBIN. They creep along the wall with SCARLET, as usual bringing up the rear. They approach a small gateway keeping flat to the wall. There are TWO MEN AT ARMS standing guard. LITTLE JOHN creeps up and using his staff almost as a spear, knocks out the nearest MAN AT ARMS. The second MAN AT ARMS turns in surprise as ROBIN jumps him and crashes his head against the wall. It is all done silently and in a few seconds. Precise, planned and economic.

D.48 EXT. COURTYARD. LEAFORD GRANGE NIGHT. D.48

ROBIN and the others creep along the wall of the stone barn bordering the courtyard towards the gateway adjacent to the stables. They use the three buttresses for cover. Suddenly TWO MEN AT ARMS come through the gateway on their way to relieve the TWO guards that the outlaws have already taken care of. ROBIN and the others jump them, knock them out and drag them to the wall of the stone barn. Then they peer through the gateway towards the main gate.

D.49 EXT. MAIN GATE. LEAFORD GRANGE NIGHT. D.49

OUTLAWS P.O.V.

The main gateway to Leaford Grange is guarded by FOUR MEN AT ARMS. There are torches burning and the men are relaxed and talking among themselves one of the men is dozing against the wall. No one is expecting any trouble.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

The OUTLAWS creep through the gateway and keeping close to the wall creep to the main wall to the right of the main gateway and begin to climb it.

D.50 INT. COUNCIL CHAMBER. LEAFORD GRANGE NIGHT. D.50

The Sherrif looks up from his work as GISBURNE approaches him.

GISBURNE
Any orders, my lord?

SHERRIF
There's a Hundred Court tomorrow isn't there?

GISBURNE
Yes my lord. At Walford.

SHERRIF
Apparently a man called Gerveys is buying corn before it comes to market and the Bailiff's losing his custom. Deal with it, will you

GISBURN
Yes, my lord. Shall I hang him?

SHERRIF
No Gisburne. A flogging will do. I'm going to bed.

D.51 EXT. WALL. LEAFORD GRANGE. NIGHT. D.51

SCARLET is the last of the OUTLAWS to drop down from the wall. They look towards the Grange.

CUT TO:

OUTLAWS P.O.V.

The Grange.

CUT TO:

CLOSER ANGLE

The OUTLAWS run to the Grange and begin moving round to the back.

D.52 INT. LEAFORD GRANGE. OUTSIDE BEDROOM NIGHT. D.52

The SHERRIF goes down the passage to his bedroom and goes inside.

D.53 INT. LEAFORD GRANGE. WINDOW IN PASSAGE NIGHT. D.53

ROBIN climbs through and turns as LITTLE JOHN follows.

D.54 INT. LEAFORD GRANGE. PASSAGE NIGHT. D.54

GISBURNE comes through a door and heads diagonally across to the exit to the courtyard. He is checking the passageway.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

The OUTLAWS look round the wall and see GISBURNE. After a moment GISBURNE exits towards the courtyard. The OUTLAWS move off passing the exit to the courtyard.

D.55 INT. LEAFORD GRANGE. STEPS TO CELLARS NIGHT. D.55

MARION and ROBIN lead the other three down the steps.

D.56 INT. CELLARS. LEAFORD GRANGE NIGHT. D.56

The TWO GUARDS sit on the floor playing dice. In background SIWARD can be seen chained to the wall.

CUT TO:

CLOSE SHOT GUARDS (HIGH ANGLE)

A sword appears between the TWO GUARDS and they look up - very startled.

CUT TO:

LOW ANGLE

LITTLE JOHN stands looking down at the two GUARDS with his sword pointing straight at them. Behind him ROBIN, SCARLET, MARION and TUCK are standing ready.

LITTLE JOHN gestures for the TWO GUARDS to get up. Slowly they do so. They are terrified. LITTLE JOHN's sword taps the GUARDS keys. The GUARD doesn't hesitate. He hands them over straight away. LITTLE JOHN throws them to ROBIN and continues to keep the TWO GUARDS up against the wall.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

ROBIN crosses to SIWARD and unlocks the chains. SIWARD is terrified.

CUT TO:

CLOSE TWO SHOT

ROBIN shoves SIWARD hard against the wall.

ROBIN
What did you take, Siward?

D.57 INT. SHERRIF'S BEDCHAMBER NIGHT. D.57

OPEN on the TEMPLAR'S crest. PULL BACK to see that it is being held by the SHERRIF. he is chuckling to himself. His iron strong box is clearly visible. He moves over to the bed and sits on it, still admiring the crest.

D.58 EXT. LEAFORD GRANGE MAIN GATEWAY. CASTLE GATE NIGHT. D.58

GISBURNE comes quietly to the castle gate. There are four GUARDS. Three chatting - one dozing against the wall. GISBURNE comes up to the one who is asleep and gives him a tremendous kick. The man goes sprawling - the other three spin round.

GISBURNE
So this is the way you guard the Sherrif
is it?

GISBURNE grabs the man as he scrambles to his feet.

GISBURNE
I'll have the skin off your back!

D.59 INT. LEAFORD. CELLARS NIGHT. D.59

The TWO GUARDS are now gagged and bound. All this is done quickly and in complete silence.

CUT TO:

TUCK, MARION and ROBIN lead the way up the steps with SIWARD following. LITTLE JOHN and SCARLET bring up the rear.

D.60 INT. SHERRIF'S BEDCHAMBER NIGHT. D.60

The SHERRIF climbs into bed and settles himself down for the night. He has a final chuckle. He is still holding the TEMPLARS crest. Gradually his eyes close and his head falls back on the cushions.

D.61 INT. BOTTOM OF STEPS NIGHT. D.61

MARION points the way. ROBIN takes SIWARD, with him up the steps. The rest wait at the bottom of the steps.

D.62 INT. PASSAGE OUTSIDE BEDCHAMBER. NIGHT. D.62

ROBIN leads SIWARD to the SHERRIF's door. ROBIN gestures to SIWARD. He hesitates. ROBIN looks at him. SIWARD NODS and opens the door quietly. He disappears inside.

D.63 INT. SHERRIF'S BEDCHAMBER NIGHT. D.63

SIWARD looks round the bedchamber. He sees the strong box and crosses to it. He looks round with a practised eye. The SHERRIF's clothes are on a chair. His keys are on the clothes. SIWARD picks them up carefully but they still jingle slightly.

CUT TO:

CLOSE UP SHERRIF

His eyes open. He is awake!

CUT TO:

RESUME ON SIWARD

SIWARD creeps to the strong box with the keys. He is scared. He begins trying the keys one by one.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

Slowly the SHERRIF turns to watch SIWARD. All he can see is his back.

CUT TO:

INSERT

The SHERRIF'S hand grasps the crest.

CUT TO:

RESUME ON SIWARD

SIWARD is absorbed in what he is doing. He tries another key.

CUT TO:

RESUME ON SHERRIF

The SHERRIF reaches for a concealed dagger and slides out of bed.

CUT TO:

RESUME ON SIWARD

He puts a key in the lock but it won't turn it.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

The SHERRIF approaches SIWARD silently and places the point of his dagger against SIWARD'S neck. SIWARD freezes and then spins round to face the SHERRIF - still kneeling by the strong box.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

The SHERRIF is equally surprised to discover that the intruder is SIWARD. However he recovers immediately and draws back his arm to strike. The arm is grabbed.

CUT TO:

CLOSE SHOT

The SHERRIF turns and looks in astonishment.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

ROBIN smiles and knocks him out.

CUT TO:

The SHERRIF falls - dropping the TEMPLARS crest together with his dagger onto the stone floor.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

ROBIN sees the crest lying on the floor and scoops it up. He holds it up for SIWARD who nods.

D.64 INT. BOTTOM OF STEPS NIGHT. D.64

TUCK, SCARLET and LITTLE JOHN turn as ROBIN and SIWARD come down the steps. As they turn to the door it is opened by GISBURNE.

CUT TO:

C.U. GISBURNE

He stares in total disbelief. As he opens his mouth to shout -

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

The OUTLAWS grab him. LITTLE JOHN puts his hand over GISBURNES mouth and they drag him to the floor.

D.65 EXT. WALL NIGHT. D.65

TUCK, ROBIN, SIWARD and LITTLE JOHN, SCARLET and MARION climb over the wall and race through the small gateway to the courtyard.

D.66 EXT. VILLAGE DAY D.66

It is dawn in the village and the VILLAGERS stand in a group watching as the TEMPLARS bring MUCH to be hanged. DE VILLARET stands by a large tree with a coil of rope. The mood of the VILLAGERS is ugly. For the first time they aren't scared of the KNIGHTS. The TEMPLARS are bringing MUCH over to the tree. They are all mounted and MUCH is bound and being led like an animal. The TEMPLARS are impassive, arrogant. As they ride past the VILLAGERS there is an angry buzz from the crowd and they surge forward. One of the TEMPLARS dismounts and drags MUCH to DE VILLARET. The MUTTERING grows louder.

DE VILLARET
Silence! Or I will burn this village!

CUT TO:

TWO SHOT

DE VILLARET comes to MUCH. The boy is terrified and throwing anxious glances all round.

DE VILLARET
(cruelly)
He didn't come!

MUCH licks his dry lips. He is dazed with fear but he still defends ROBIN.

MUCH
He will - he will, sir. I know he will.

DE VILLARET shakes his head.

DE VILLARET
You're better dead.

MUCH
He'll come (Calling loudly)
Robin. Robin. Robin!

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

The Villagers move forward angrily.

DE VILLARET
Get back!

The KNIGHTS ride across the front of the VILLAGES, keeping them back.

CUT TO:

RESUME ON MUCH AND DE VILLARET

MUCH
Will I feel it sir? Does death hurt?

DE VILLARET doesn't answer.

MUCH
Robin! Robin!

CUT TO:

HIGH ANGLE

Suddenly the VILLAGERS see ROBIN coming into the village. There is silence.

ROBIN
Let him go!

DE VILLARET hesitates. Slowly, ROBIN holds up the symbol of the TEMPLARS. The KNIGHTS look at each other. DE VILLARET nods. The unmounted KNIGHT unties him. MUCH is off like the wind to ROBIN.

CUT TO:

ROBINS P.O.V.

MUCH runs towards him.

MUCH
They said - they said - you'd let me die.
But they were wrong. I knew they were
wrong.

CUT TO:

DE VILLARETS P.O.V.

He mounts up as does the KNIGHT who untied MUCH. DE VILLARET rides towards ROBIN and MUCH. the other KNIGHTS form a line behind him. ROBIN looks very defenceless.

CUT TO:

B.C.U. DE VILLARET

DE VILLARET
(under his breath)
Tu paieras pour ca! Tu paieras cher!

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

ROBIN waits as DE VILLARET comes towards them at the walk. They stop and he holds up the symbol and goes to DE VILLARET.

DE VILLARET
Give it to me!

ROBIN hands it over.

ROBIN
You have my sword.

DE VILLARET
Yours you thief! Out of my sight!

ROBIN looks long and hard at DE VILLARET.

ROBIN
Evil to him who thinks evil.

ROBIN turns and walks back to MUCH. They both continue out of the village.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

DE VILLARET and the KNIGHTS watching him go. Finally DE VILLARET can bear it no longer. His spear comes down. So do the others.

DE VILLARET
Beau Seant!

CUT TO:

ROBINS P.O.V.

ROBIN glances back. The KNIGHTS are charging out of the village and down the beginnings of the forest path. ROBIN and MUCH take to their heels.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

DE VILLARET and the KNIGHTS thunder after ROBIN and MUCH who are running flat out.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

The KNIGHTS gain rapidly.

CUT TO:

SINGLE ON DE VILLARET

He suddenly looks in alarm.

CUT TO:

DE VILLARET'S P.O.V.

A rope is stretched across the path. It races to meet them.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

The KNIGHTS crash into the rope and are jerked backwards off their horses.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

They crash down in a tangle of spears and chainmail.

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE

THE OUTLAWS swing down on ropes and rise from the bushes. Nets are thrown entangling the KNIGHTS as they attempt to rise dazedly from their ignominious crash.

CUT TO:

ROBIN and MUCH's P.O.V.

ROBIN
Pride goes before a fall Much, remember
that!

D.67 EXT. FOREST CLEARING BY LAKE DAY D.67

OPEN on the TEMPLARS symbol, now once more in ROBIN's hands. The OUTLAWS are behind him. He looks at the symbol.

CUT TO:

ROBIN's P.O.V.

The KNIGHTS have become a living symbol of their Order. Two per horse and stripped of their finery. Their shields and spears are piled in front of the OUTLAWS. MUCH brings ROBIN his sword. ROBIN goes to DE VILLARET

ROBIN

Now get out of Sherwood.

Slowly the TEMPLARS move away from the OUTLAWS. ROBIN puts his arm round MUCH's shoulders. PULL BACK TO LONG SHOT.

D.68

EXT.

VILLAGE.

DAY. D 68

The sound of a hammer on an anvil stops as the crest is dropped onto the top of a blacksmith's fire. It is lifted off the fire with a pair of blacksmith's pincers and we widen to see a SMITH looking at it in amazement. There is a burst of laughter as he turns, still holding the crest in the pincers, and go tight on OUTLAWS standing behind him.

ROBIN

That'll pay the village
tithes and taxes, Go on -
melt it down!

The OUTLAWS watch as the SMITH grins at them and turns back to the fire and puts the golden crest into it with his pincers. PULL BACK TO LONG SHOT.

FADE OUT.

END OF EPISODE.