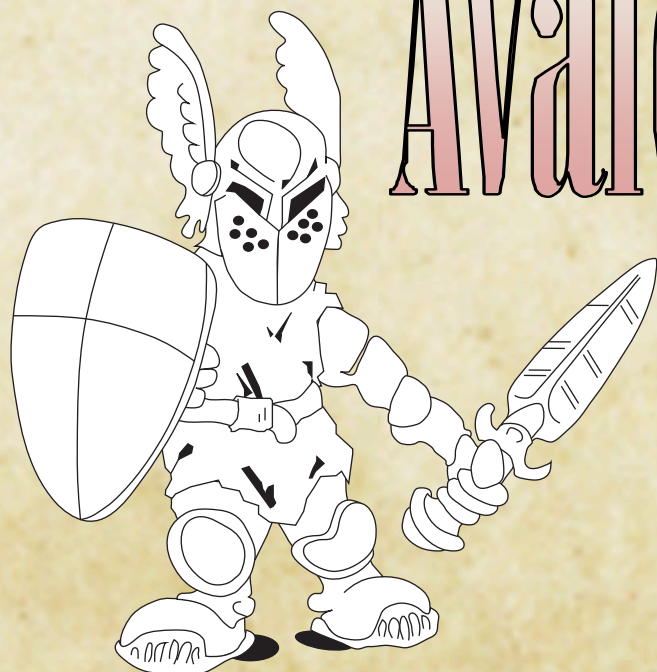


Avalon Characters



Beginning of the Explorer Prince

Lord Ashcroft is a typical dilettante who dabbles in many different things but his main talent is with musical instruments. His father was displeased when he heard his son playing bawdy tavern songs with a cheap flute. (The puffing and facial distortions necessary to play the reed pipe or trumpet is looked down among the nobility, at least in the eyes of his father)

The young lord also played with the rapier and reading obscure magical texts to make himself at least marginally more pleasing to his father. He ran a lot, often winning foot races due to technique rather than sheer endurance.

All of these activities were suggested to young Ashcroft by an old bard by the moniker of the Silver-haired Raven in order to prepare himself for the wider world. The aged bard told Ashcroft about this wider world, all of the excitement sounded better to the young man than being a courtier with a distant connection to the king. It was highly unlikely the young lord would see the crown, he never had a problem with the laws and decrees of the land but he would not listen to his father. Eventually he ran off and explored the world for himself.

Lord Ashcroft

By

Sean Wilt

Adventuring Career

As he went from town to town, young Ashcroft earned his living by playing the songs of heroes who saved the land in the past. He used his razor tongue on anyone who chooses to think of himself above the law.

One patron, the local leader of a thieves and assassins guild, was not amused by the law loving fool known simply as Ashcroft. His father had disowned the young man at this point and so there was no rescue in store for him. In fact, they threatened to kill him unless he did what he was told. He was given some scraps of parchment and they alluded to an ancient tribe who was favored by the elemental gods. One of the guild's clients wanted this secret for himself.

Ashcroft, only wanting a bit of freedom, still felt obligated to protect his father and so he agreed to begin doing research for this group. They allowed him to continue his bard activities, but only as long as they were not aimed at the guild.

As time passed, Ashcroft gained more notoriety as a bard and continued to listen for tales that might aid in this quest to free his father. He has heard messages of his father almost being killed saved only by the bad aim of a dagger throw or poison being slipped in the wrong cup.

Lord Ashcroft

