

Solomon's Wheel

Once upon a time in the land of Fools, two great pillars fashioned of Ebony and Ivory held between them a vast curtain woven of golden and silver thread from the light of the Sun and Moon. There was not another like it in all the world, and many came from far and wide just to glance at it. This was not to be, as long ago the pillars had been built within a chamber hidden from sight, and only a chosen few knew of its whereabouts. However, every five years the great knights from the red and white cities would be granted an audience. Through trial and tournament a chosen few would hope to win the keys to the chamber that held the magical curtain between the pillars.

So for three days when the crown of stars shone in the sky, and the fields of corn were plump for harvest, a great tournament would take place before the Emperor. The land would ring out with the sound of battle, and the clashing of lance and shield.

And those alas who gave their lives would be hung from a great tree, upside down by their feet for all the world to see, as an example. The winners of course would be granted their prize, only on the condition that they swore never to tell a living soul what they saw behind the great curtain.

And so the tournament would end with the sound of a herald blowing a great trumpet, and all would rise and return to their dwelling places until they were called again.

One Day . . .