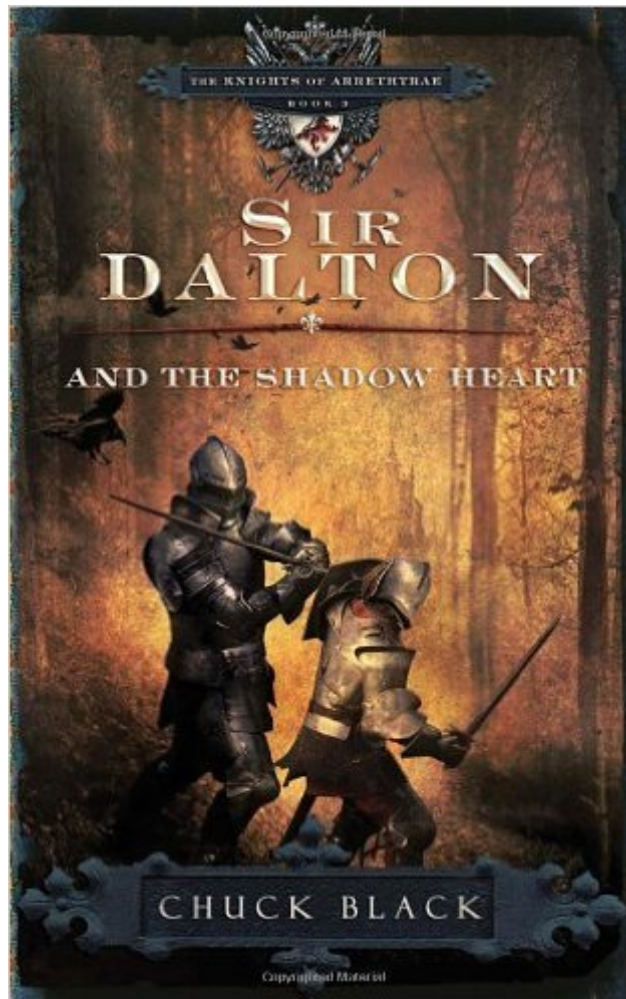


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# Sir Dalton And The Shadow Heart (The Knights Of Arrethtrae)



## Synopsis

Sir Dalton, a knight in training, seems to have everything going for him. Young, well-liked, and a natural leader, he has earned the respect and admiration of his fellow knights, and especially the beautiful Lady Brynn. But something is amiss at the training camp. Their new trainer is popular but lacks the passion to inspire them to true service to the King and the Prince. Besides this, the knights are too busy enjoying a season of good times to be concerned with a disturbing report that many of their fellow Knights have mysteriously vanished. When Sir Dalton is sent on a mission, he encounters strange attacks, especially when he is alone. As his commitment wanes, the attacks grow in intensity until he is captured by Lord Drox, a massive Shadow Warrior. Bruised and beaten, Dalton refuses to submit to evil and initiates a daring escape with only one of two outcomes—“life or death. But what will become of the hundreds of knights he’ll leave behind? In a kingdom of peril, Dalton thinks he is on his own, but two faithful friends have not abandoned him, and neither has a strange old hermit who seems to know much about the Prince. But can Dalton face the evil Shadow Warrior again and survive?

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

In the Kingdom across the sea, Lucius and one third of the warriors loyal to him rebelled and were tossed out of their homes. These beings are Shadow Warriors, who tempt mortals away from the Prince and King. Lucius and his minion travel to Arrethtree to gain loyal followers while the Knights

of Arrethtree counter by spreading the Word of the King and Prince. Sir Dalton is a knight of Arrethtree in training, but lacks the heart and passion of his peers. When the Shadow Warrior Sir Prox captures Sir Dalton, he locks him away in a prison no one escapes from. He plans to break Sir Dalton into disavowing the Word, the Prince and the King and when he succeeds he will have another loyal member added to his shadowy minion. Sir Dalton does the impossible as he breaks out. He meets Master Sejus who explains to him about the Code, the King and the Prince until the young knight in training feels the passion in his heart and becomes one of their most loyal supporters. He knows he must challenge Sir Prox in order to liberate the prisoners as he now believes he can win with the Prince in his soul. This allegory of good vs. evil is a strong tale that young adult readers and many of us older in the audience will appreciate and understand the symbolic religious significance. Sir Dalton is a doubting Thomas until his escape from the demonic shadow warrior and encounter with a true believer. He finally accepts on faith the Word and is willing to test his belief in battle. Though somewhat similar in tone to the sagas of Sir Bentley and Sir Holbrook, fans will enjoy this engaging parable. Harriet Klausner

The "Knight Series" and the "Kingdom Series" are both FABULOUS book series and I HIGHLY RECOMMEND them for all ages of readers. Some of the words the writer chooses to use do require a certain level of knowledge and understanding. The stories are absolutely wonderful and hard to put down. Mr. Black is a wonderful writer with a gift for story telling. There is never a dull moment in his books. It is amazing the character lessons he is able to portray in the Knight series. A truly wonderful set.

Have you ever doubted when it comes to Christianity and the Bible? Well this epic adventure is one book you don't want to miss!! It's about a young knight of the Prince, Sir Dalton, who's got popularity, a potential love (Lady Brynn), and skills just waiting to be developed but something is missing in his life. Also, He and all the other knights, except for two, at his local haven don't seem to be worried about some other young people who start disappearing while on missions. One day, Sir Dalton gets attacked and captured by Lord Drox, an evil Shadow Warrior. Can Sir Dalton break out of the bonds holding him down or will he be a prisoner forever? This was the third book in the Knights of Arrethtrae series and was as engaging as the first two. I liked how Chuck Black started the book off at the middle of the story and then did a flashback. This technique worked really well by grabbing my interest right off the bat. The theme of the book was helpful and thought provoking. When I was younger, I remember having problems with what the theme addresses and really wish I

had read this book then. I also like the mysterious mountain hermit that helps Sir Dalton. I would recommend this book to teens and older kids who have trouble with doubt in their lives. I know this book will encourage and teach you to be a stronger Christian.

Four or five years ago, I borrowed and read the first three books of Chuck Black's Kingdom series. While the writing was not great, the storytelling swept me away, and the pictures of Biblical truths had me eagerly rereading Scripture to savor the source of the echoes. Each book ended with the piano music to a haunting (but not too difficult) song, which I simply loved. Chuck Black has been off my radar for a few years, but recently I discovered he's still writing books set in the world of Arrethtrae, and I suddenly found the third of his second series in my hands. I usually refuse to start in the middle of a series, but I couldn't find copies of the first two in time and had to just jump in. And in The Knights of Arrethtrae series, each book focuses on different characters, making them more episodic than epic. There's an epic level, of course, but it's explained in the first few pages. Sir Dalton's story was a decent kids' adventure, an allegory full of medieval motifs like swords and knights and battle. The main character learned some important things about being a Knight of the King, and there were some great pictures of spiritual principles about doubt, faith, friendship, and freedom. Most of the time I felt it was a bit too heavy-handed on the allegory to get let readers fully immerse themselves in the story, but when I did get lost in it, it was wonderful. While allegory is not my favorite form of story, I don't think it's evil. Sometimes formulas and direct correlations are helpful, sometimes they are just dry and distracting. For a fairly short, kid-friendly book, Sir Dalton and the Shadow Heart was a thoughtful look at doubt in the life of Christians and how to combat it by knowing Christ and His Word well. For timeless, better-written (but more challenging) allegory, find Pilgrim's Regress or The Faerie Queene.

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