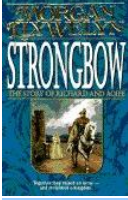


# Passages

## Reading Level 6



**Title:** Strong Bow

**Author:** Morgan Llwyelyn

### Sample From The Book

I didn't understand what it meant to be a king. I thought other people lived as well as we did, in palaces of stone with solar rooms to let in the sun so women could sew. I thought everyone had warm clothes dyed bright colors, and arm rings of silver and copper, and gold balls to fasten their hair. Just like us.

When Father had to be away, he always came back with gifts for his families. His first family was that of his senior wife, Mor, of the clan O'Toole. She and her children had the best chambers. Mor's brother Laurence was an important priest, the Abbot of Glendalough, who would become Archbishop of Dublin one day. Father had held him hostage once, before any of us were born, and they had been friends ever since. That, I suppose, was why Father married his sister.

Father's second family was that of Sive, of the clan O'Faolain, who was my mother. Kings needed to have a lot of children, so they could have more than one wife. Father even had a son called Donal whose mother wasn't a wife of his at all. Donal Mac Murrough Kavanaugh didn't live with us, but he often came to visit us at Ferns. He was Father's oldest son, and beloved.



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