## QUICK CARD: THE DOOR IN THE WALL



| Reference  | The Door in the Wall, Marguerite de Angeli. (1949) ISBN: 9780606032346  |
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| Plot       | Robin de Bureford, the young son of an English knight, dreams of becoming a knight like his father. When his father goes off to fight in the Scottish wars and his mother leaves to wait upon the queen, Robin's aspirations are unexpectedly threatened when he contracts a disease which leaves him without the use of his legs. Alone and afraid, Robin must trust to the kindness of Brother Luke the monk to bring him safely back to his parents and perhaps to teach him the meaning of true knighthood along the way.   |
| Setting    | A feudal society in medieval England. The action of the story moves from London to the neighboring monastery, St. Mark's, and from there it moves onward to Sir Peter de Lindsay's castle where Robin is expected to become a page (an apprentice to a knight).   |
| Characters | <ul> <li>Robin, the protagonist of the story who struggles with his own immaturity as well as his crippled legs.</li> <li>Dame Ellen, Robin's long-suffering servant who falls ill with the plague.</li> <li>Brother Luke, the patient monk who tends to Robin and encourages him that there will "always be a door in the wall."</li> <li>John-Go-In-The-Wynd, a friendly minstrel whose trusty service saves a town.</li> <li>Sir Peter de Lindsay, the knight to whom Robin has been entrusted for the duration of his education in the knighthood.</li> <li>John de Bureford, Robin's father.</li> <li>Lady Maud, Robin's mother.</li> <li>The King.</li> <li>The Queen.</li> </ul> |
| Conflict   | Man vs. Self- Robin must overcome his fears and his immaturity and look for the door in the wall, the blessing in his suffering  Man vs. Society- Robin must think quickly in order to save Sir Peter's castle when it falls under siege to the Welsh army  |
| Theme      | The true nature of courage and knighthood is self-sacrifice Maturity lies in putting the needs of others before yourself There is always a "door in the wall" if you will only have the patience to look for it  erary Education  |

| Literary Devices | Personification- "The wind blew hard and spits of rain warned them of more to follow" and "The rain held off, but dark clouds scudded low, and the wind was searching."  Imagery- "They roasted apples in the fire, but ate the pasty cold, and hunger sauced it better than the finest cook could have done." |
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|                  | Motif- the "door in the wall" represents the solution to a struggle, the blessing in the midst of suffering which can be found if one trusts in the benevolence and faithfulness of God.   |