

2. The story of Sir Gawain and the Green Knight is the culmination of the Arthurian romances. Its essential features are the following: 1) It lacks general resemblance to truth or reality.) It exaggerates the vices of human nature and idealizes the virtues. The Romance in the Anglo-Norman Period Essential Features of the Romance The romance was the prevailing literary form in the medieval period. 5) The central character of the romance is the knight, a man of noble birth and skilled in the use of weapons, who is commonly described as riding forth to seek adventures, or taking part in tournaments, or fighting for his lord in battle. Alexander the Great (356– 323 B.C.), King of Macedonia and conqueror of Greece, Egypt, India and Persian Empire is the favorite hero of this group. He says to Gawain that the first two blows of other than the host of the Castle where Gawain stayed for the axe did not injure Gawain because he was true to the compact and twice returned the kiss. 1) The matter of France deals largely with the exploits of Charlemagne, usually known as Charles the Great, King of the Franks and Emperor of the West Empire. Sir Gawain and the Green Knight It is a verse-romance of 2,530 lines, derived from Celtic legends. He holds out his head and the ghastly lips warn Gawain to be faithful to his promise and to seek through the world till he finds the Green Chapel, where on the next New Year's Day, the Green Knight will meet him and return the blow. According to the compact, the host goes out hunting each day, and Gawain stays in the castle to entertain the beautiful hostess. Gawain refuses to accept the ring.