

2019-2020 Theatre Season

Heroes and Villains

Blinn College Division of Visual/Performing Arts and Kinesiology  
Brenham Campus

## The Adventures of Robin Hood



### Resource Guide

This resource guide serves as an educational starting point to understanding and enjoying Michele L. Vacca's adaptation of *The Adventures of Robin Hood*. With this in mind, please note that the interpretations of the theatrical work may differ from the original source content.



# Performances

November 21 & 22 7 p.m.

November 23 & 24 2 p.m.

Elementary School Preview Performances:  
November 21 & 22 10 a.m. & 1 p.m.

Dr. W.W. O'Donnell Performing Arts Center Auditorium  
Brenham, Texas

Tickets can be purchased in advance online at [www.blinn.edu/BoxOffice](http://www.blinn.edu/BoxOffice),  
by calling 979-830-4024, or by emailing [BoxOffice@blinn.edu](mailto:BoxOffice@blinn.edu)



Directed by

**Brad Ries**

Technical Theatre Direction by

**Kevin Patrick**

Costume, Makeup, and Hair Design by

**Jennifer Patrick**

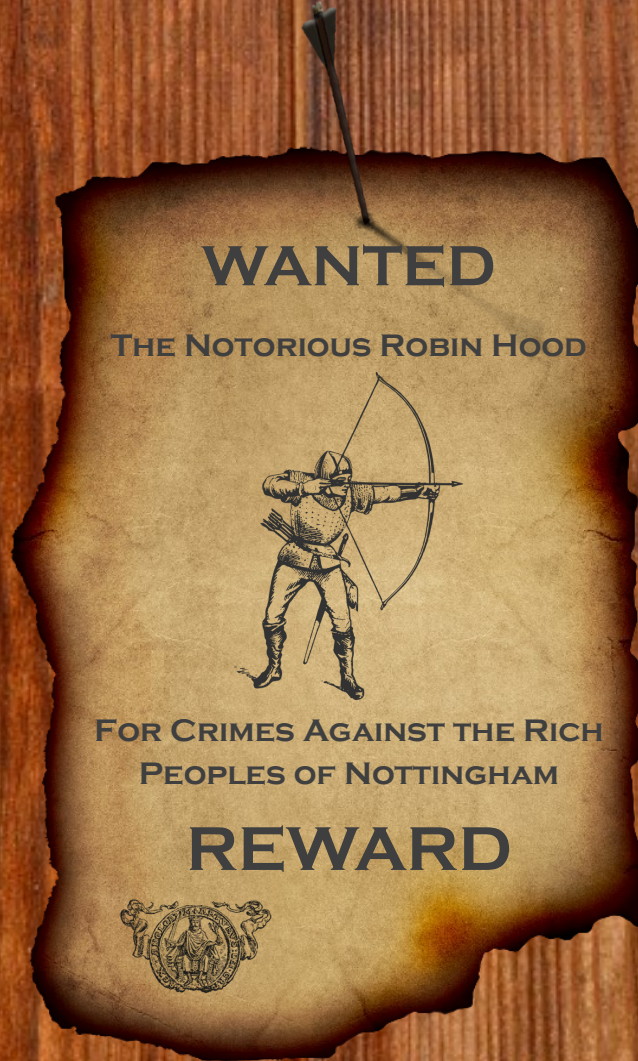
## KCACTF Entry

*The Adventures of Robin Hood* is Blinn College-Brenham's entry to the 2019 Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival. The aims of this national theater program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theater production. Each production entered is eligible for a response by a KCACTF representative.



# Synopsis

Based on the novel *The Merry Adventures of Robin Hood* by Howard Pyle, and adapted by Chicago playwright Michele L. Vacca, this play tells the story of a heroic outlaw who lives in Sherwood Forest and bestows generosity to the less fortunate. But when the nasty Sheriff of Nottingham forces the locals to pay unaffordable taxes, Robin fights against him by stealing from the rich so that he may give to the poor.



## Michele L. Vacca

Born in 1947, Michele L. Vacca moved to Chicago, Illinois in 1970 to begin work as an actress in live theatre. After marrying her husband, Robert Boburka, she produced theatre for young children in the Chicago area. In doing so, Vacca worked alongside her husband as an actress, playwright, director, and producer. A graduate of Northwestern University, Vacca was a double winner of the Shubert Playwriting Fellowship Award. Her 24 original plays include adaptations of *Hansel and Gretel*, *Tom Sawyer*, *Aladdin*, and *Beauty and the Beast*. Michele L. Vacca died on December 8, 2012.



# Howard Pyle



Born in 1853, American author and illustrator Howard Pyle wrote books primarily for children. He taught drawing at Drexel Institute of Art, Science, and Industry in 1894, and he began his own art school in 1900. Prior to that, he wrote *The Merry Adventures of Robin Hood* in 1883; the most popular version of Robin Hood that is still in print today. He is also known for his novels that possess European medieval settings, as well as his illustrations of pirates. In 1910, Pyle moved to Florence, Italy to study mural painting. He died there a year later due to a sudden kidney infection.

## Other Novels Based on the Stories of Robin Hood

*Robin Hood and Little John* (1840) by Pierce Egan the Younger

*Robin Hood the Outlaw* (1873) by Alexandre Dumas

*Robin Hood and His Merry Outlaws* (1898) by J. Walker McSpadden

*Young Robin Hood* (1899) by George Manville Fenn

*Stories of Robin Hood Told to the Children* (1905) by H.E. Marshall

*Robin Hood* (1912) by Henry Gilbert

*Robin Hood, His Deeds and Adventures* (1913) by Lucy Fitch Perkins

*Robin Hood* (1917) by Paul Creswick



## Robin Hood at the Movies

*Robin Hood and His Merry Men* (1908)  
*Robin Hood* (1922)  
*The Adventures of Robin Hood* (1938)  
*The Bandit of Sherwood Forest* (1946)  
*The Prince of Thieves* (1948)  
*Tales of Robin Hood* (1951)  
*The Men of Sherwood Forest* (1954)  
*The Son of Robin Hood* (1958)  
*Sword of Sherwood Forest* (1960)  
*Triumph of Robin Hood* (1962)  
*A Challenge for Robin Hood* (1967)  
*Wolfshead: Legend of Robin Hood* (1969)  
*Disney's Robin Hood* (1973)  
*Robin and Marian* (1976)  
*Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves* (1991)  
*Prince of Thieves* (2001)  
*Robin Hood* (2010)  
*Arrow* (2012)  
*Robin Hood* (2018)



## Robin Hood on Television

*The Adventures of Robin Hood* (1955-59)  
*Rocket Robin Hood* (1966-1969)  
*The Legend of Robin Hood (TV Movie)* (1968)  
*The Legend of Robin Hood* (1975)  
*Maid Marian and Her Merry Men* (1989-94)  
*Robin Hood* (1990-92)  
*Young Robin Hood* (1991)  
*Robin of Locksley (TV Movie)* (1996)  
*Back to Sherwood* (1999)  
*Princess of Thieves (TV Movie)* (2001)  
*Robin Hood* (2006-09)  
*Beyond Sherwood Forest (TV Movie)* (2009)  
*Once Upon a Time* (2011-18)  
*Arrowverse* (2012-Present)  
*Robin Hood: Mischief in Sherwood* (2013)  
*Once Upon a Time in Wonderland* (2013-14)  
*Kamen Rider Ghost* (2015)  
*Alyas Robin Hood* (2016)



# Did Robin Hood Really Exist?



The outlaw from Nottingham has been the subject of ballads, books, plays, and films for many years. But did Robin Hood really exist? Records dating back to the 13th century refer to bandits as *Robehods* or *Rabunhods*. Later, 14th and 15th century ballads about an robber residing in Sherwood Forest became popular. In early versions of these ballads, Robin Hood is depicted as a peasant, a knight, or a dishonored nobleman who frequently fought with the Sheriff of Nottingham. In later versions, he is a commoner who was joined by a gang of men; two of whom were named Little John and Will Scarlett. When Christians in England celebrated May Day, the characters of Friar Tuck, Alan-a-Dale, and Maid Marian entered into the legend through plays presented for the occasion. The first reference to Robin Hood in a book is found in *The History of Great Britain* (1521) by John Major. In this work, Robin Hood is shown as a follower of King Richard who lived during the 12th or 13th century. This reference, however, is brief and does not confirm the existence of the legendary hooligan. In the 19th century, several books about Robin Hood were written, and Howard Pyle's *The Merry Adventures of Robin Hood* (1883) was the first of these to be geared for children.



# Themes in Robin Hood

## Social Justice

Robin Hood steals money collected as taxes from the Sheriff and redistributes it back to the poor.

## Political Power

Robin Hood returns political power to the people when King Richard is restored to the throne.

## Loyalty to One's Friends

Robin Hood is devoted to his gang, as well as his true love, Maid Marian. In turn, they are very loyal to Robin Hood.

## Money Does Not Buy

## Happiness

The peasants in Sherwood Forest are much happier than that of the greedy Sheriff and his minions.

## Allegiance to a High Power

Faith in the social justice of their cause, their religious beliefs, and their allegiance to King Richard make the struggle of the outlaws worthwhile.





# Hey, Teachers!

**This theatre is a proud member of the Theatre Collective of the Brazos Valley.**

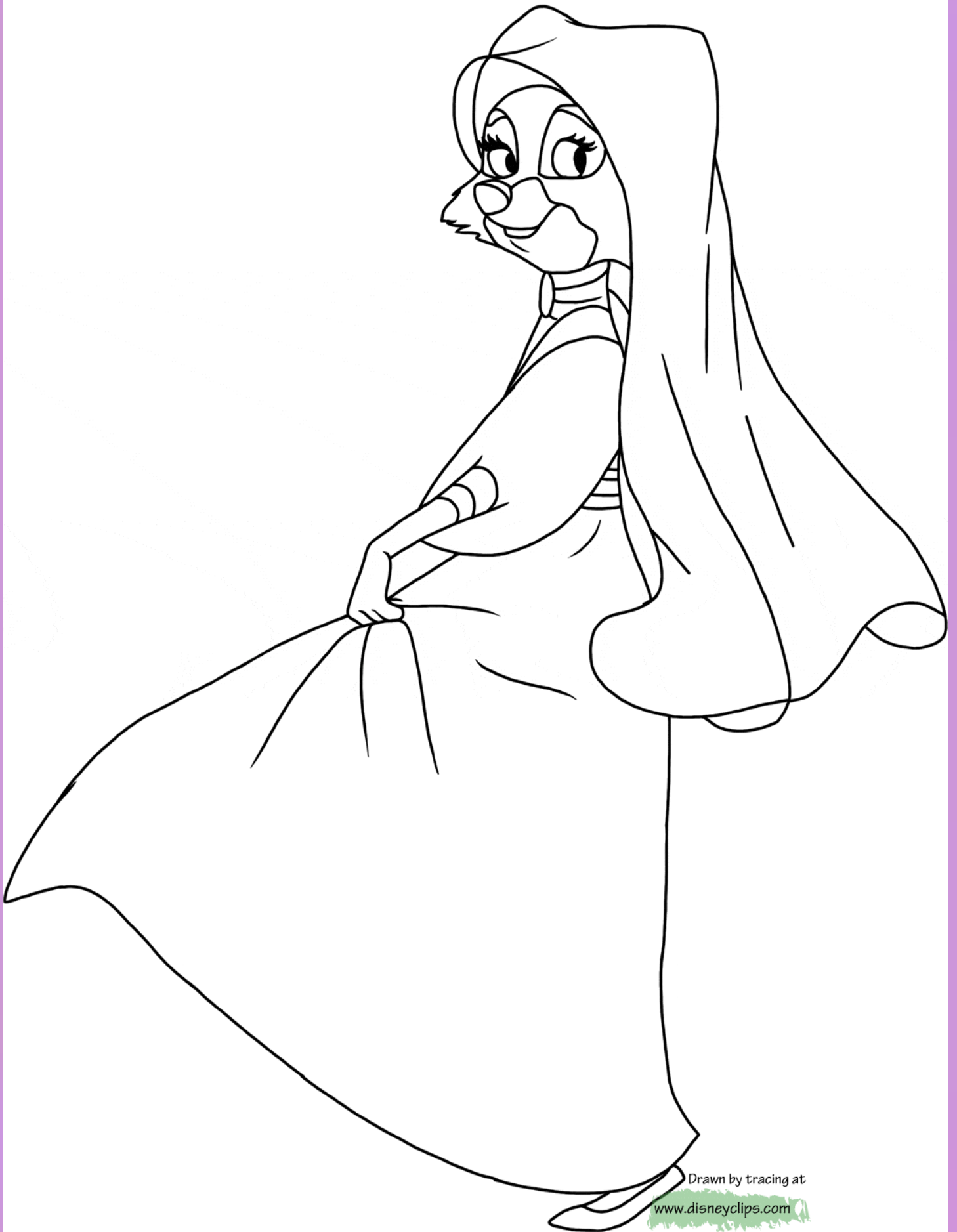
**This organization has been kind enough to develop the following rules of theatre etiquette. Please review these rules with your students to assure that all audience members enjoy the show!**

- 1. Be on time by being in your seat 10 minutes before the performance is scheduled to begin. Live theatre begins at the published performance time with a darkened theatre and actors frequently in the aisles ready for entrances. Latecomers will be seated at the discretion of the theatre and in locations chosen by the theatre.**
- 2. Remain seated until intermission and until curtain calls are completed to allow performers free access to the exits. If an emergency requires leaving your seat, please remain outside the theatre until allowed to return by the theatre's volunteer staff.**
- 3. Finish and/or discard all food and drinks before entering the theatre. Community theatres in the Brazos Valley use volunteers to clean debris from the theatre and restrooms. Please be respectful of these volunteers by disposing of your own trash.**
- 4. Silence or turn off all electronic devices, including cell phones, beepers, and watch alarms. You are encouraged to share your theatre experience via social media, but you must refrain from sharing or texting during the performance. The glow from all media is easily discernable in the dark theatre and is distracting to your neighbors and the actors.**
- 5. Video and flash photography of live performances is not allowed. Community theatres in the Brazos Valley do not purchase the rights to tape live performances. Actors will generally be available for photographs after the show.**
- 6. Tickets and programs will be provided for all students who need to receive credit for attending theatre performances. The Theatre Collective of the Brazos Valley provides a stamp for proof of attendance after every performance.**
- 7. To allow all patrons easy access to theatre seating, saving more than one seat for a latecomer or volunteer is not allowed.**
- 8. Please refrain from talking during the performance.**
- 9. Your courtesy is much appreciated as it allows for the ultimate experience of theatre productions for all our patrons.**









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[www.disneyclips.com](http://www.disneyclips.com)



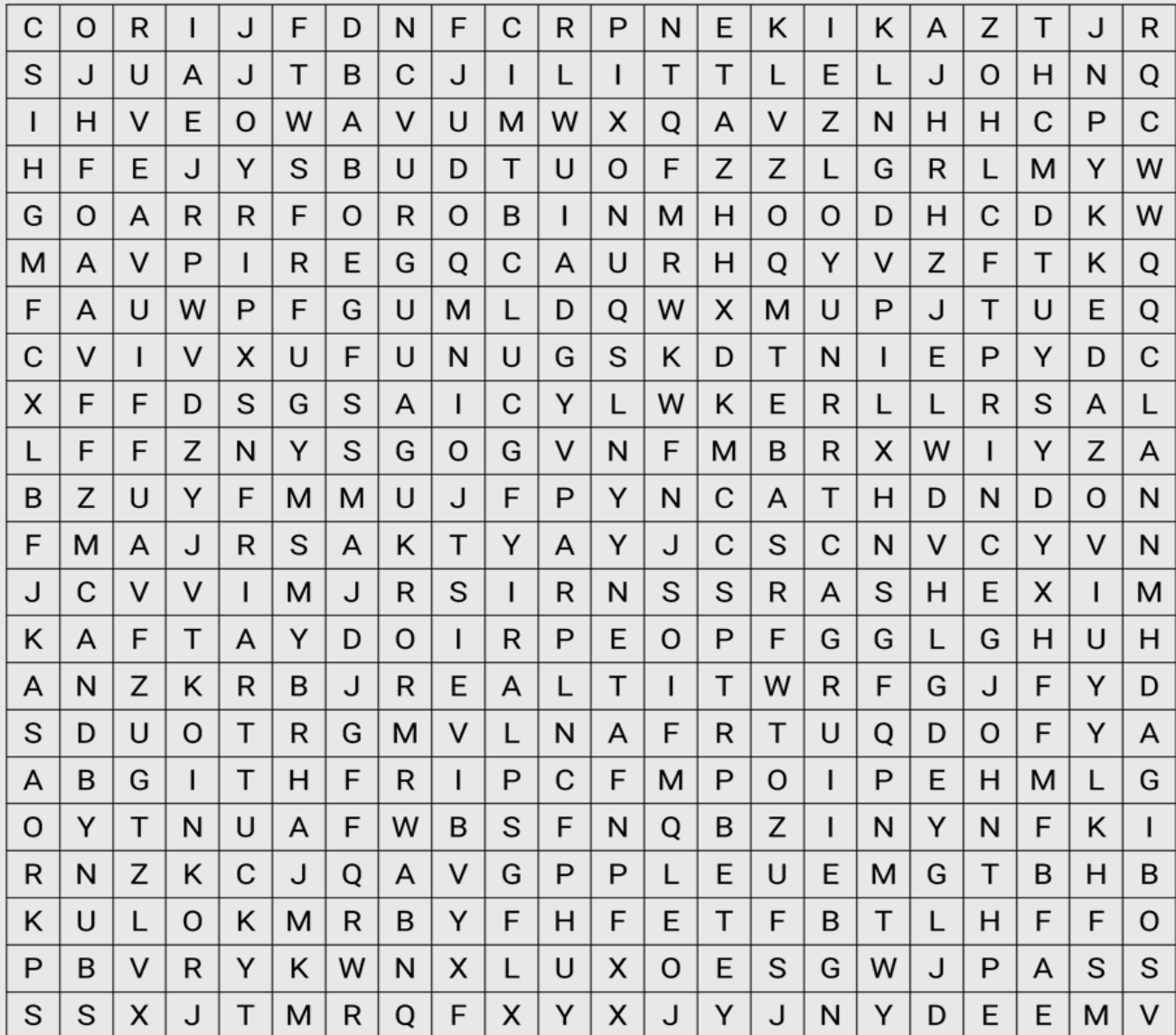








# Robin Hood Word Search



made at [makeprintplay.com](http://makeprintplay.com)

Robin Hood  
Little John  
Sheriff of Nottingham  
Prince John  
Maid Marian  
Friar Tuck  
Will Scarlett  
Merry Men



# Themes in Robin Hood Word Search

O	C	G	J	Y	D	W	F	S	Q	U	R	G	F	T	G	B	Q
E	R	H	V	D	E	V	O	T	I	O	N	N	F	I	E	U	E
K	B	W	A	W	X	A	H	X	H	A	M	J	J	N	Q	C	L
A	P	E	P	P	M	H	N	Z	I	W	G	D	T	Y	I	E	L
W	F	O	B	B	P	B	Q	A	O	V	E	Z	I	T	O	P	O
J	B	B	L	Q	N	I	Y	L	E	G	D	J	S	H	O	D	Y
T	B	Z	M	I	C	C	N	L	U	W	S	U	D	J	R	Z	A
I	O	T	B	J	T	D	M	E	Y	F	J	P	J	E	M	I	L
T	I	W	I	X	Y	I	W	G	S	B	T	Y	W	H	N	I	T
W	P	H	X	Z	K	V	C	I	L	S	Y	O	U	S	I	I	Y
U	Q	U	Y	H	V	K	C	A	K	I	P	S	K	O	O	R	Z
U	W	N	R	R	B	A	I	N	L	A	I	N	W	J	L	D	T
G	R	G	J	N	M	C	H	C	R	N	M	S	M	O	N	E	Y
H	H	L	T	H	O	A	B	E	B	B	P	J	U	L	J	N	T
Q	I	L	H	S	C	M	H	B	B	I	I	O	V	C	G	K	M
W	M	H	M	Q	Z	G	F	E	P	G	N	R	W	C	F	J	Y
T	J	Z	D	D	I	M	S	W	P	G	Z	M	O	E	O	R	B
A	S	J	W	H	E	N	K	N	P	C	F	K	R	P	R	J	V

made at [makeprintplay.com](http://makeprintplay.com)

Social Justice  
Political Power  
Loyalty  
Money

Allegiance  
Higher Power  
Happiness  
Devotion



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