

KING JOHN

Reigned 1199–1216; play opens in 1199;
closes in 1216. Written in 1596.

Dramatis Personae

Queen Eleanor, mother of King John

Constance, mother to Arthur

Blanche of Spain, niece of King John

Lady Faulconbridge

Various Lords, Ladies, Citizens,

Sheriff, Heralds, Officers, Soldiers,

Messengers, other Attendants

King John

Prince Henry, son to the king

Arthur, Duke of Britain; nephew to the king

Earl of Pembroke

Earl of Essex

Earl of Salisbury

The Lord Bigot

Hubert de Burgh

Robert Faulconbridge

Philip the Bastard, his half-brother

James Gurney

Peter of Pomfreet, a prophet

Philip, King of France

Lewis, the Dauphin

Lymoges, Duke of Austria

Cardinal Pandulph, Papal legate

Melun, a French lord

Chatillon, ambassador of France

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Name and title	Birth date	Death date	Age in play	Age at death
King John Youngest and favorite son of Henry II; brother of Richard the Lionheart, whom John succeeded. Also called Lackland or Sans Terre because of the lack of land apportioned him by his father.	24 Dec 1167	18 Oct 1216	32/49	49
Queen Eleanor Mother of King John, married to Henry II.	1122	1204	77/dead	82
Prince Henry (later Henry III) Eldest son of King John. He succeeded to the throne at age nine.	1207	1272	--/9	65
Arthur Plantagenet, Duke of Brittany Posthumous son of Geoffrey (John's older brother), so he is nephew to King John. He was actually 17 years old at the time of his death.	1187	1203	13/dead	17
Constance of Brittany Mother to Arthur; widow of King John's brother Geoffrey	≈1160	1201	39/dead	41
William Marshall, 1st Earl of Pembroke He obtained the title thru his married to Isabel/Eva de Clare, daughter of Earl Richard Strongbow (Richard de Clare, Earl of Pembroke and Striguil/Chepstow). William made possible the realization of the Magna Carta. Was a Templar right before his death. His five sons were all successively Earls of Pembroke and Marshall of England, but all died without issue. The title was passed on through his daughters.	1146	1219	53/71	73
Geoffrey FitzPeirs, Earl of Essex Or FitzPeter. He married Beatrice de Say. He was one of five judges in the King's court. Carried out many oppressive measures to supply Richard the Lionheart with money. King John actively disliked him.	1165	1213	34/48	48
William Longsword, 3rd Earl of Salisbury He is a bastard son of Henry II by an unknown mother, possibly Rosamund Clifford. Half-brother to Richard I (Lionheart), who gave him Ela Devereux as wife, who was daughter to William Devereux, Earl of Salisbury, from whom he succeeded to the title.	≈1160	1226	39/56	66
Robert Lord Bigot (Bigod) He was the 2nd Earl of Norfolk, son of Hugh, 1st Earl. Married Isabel Plantagenet.	≈1170	1221	29/46	51
Hubert de Burgh Descended from Charlemagne; immediate ancestor was a half-bro to William the Conqueror. Married 4th Margaret, sister of Alexander II of Scotland.	1165	12 May 1243	34/51	78
Philip, King of France	1165	1223	34/48	58
Lewis, the Dauphin Married to Blanche of Castile	1187	1226	12/29	39
Blanche of Castile Wife of Lewis VIII of France (the Dauphin in the play).	1188	1252	11/28	64
Cardinal Pandulph, Papal Legate		1226		

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Mentioned:				
Richard the Lionheart , second son of Henry II (probably gay)	1157	1199		41
Geoffrey Plantagenet , third son of Henry II	1158	1186 killed in a tournament one month before his son was born		28