## **Uther the Lightbringer**

"We are paladins. Vengeance cannot be a part of what we must do. If we allow our passions to turn to bloodlust, then we will become as vile as the orcs."



Grand Master of the Silver Hand, Paladin Commander of Lordaeron, the First Paladin, Lord of the Silver Bastion.

## Early life

There isn't much known about the early life of great Uther. His second name remains unknown to us, as he had always been know as Uther of Lordaeron before he was given his legendary title of Lightbringer and he never revealed it to anyone himself. Still, from what we can gather, Uther was born in a year 556 somewhere in the northern reaches of the kingdom of Lordaeron. A boy of blue eyes and dark auburn hair, he lost his home and family while a little kid during one of the countless Amani raids that preceded the last of the Northern Troll Wars. Afterwards, local lord adopted him into his household, as he took pity of the small boy.

At a fairly early age, he became a page of one of his lord's sons, as he had shown himself to have certain talents and a bright mind. Little is known about this period of his life, but with the outbreak of another Troll War, he soon written himself into the history of Lordaeron. It was during the famous battle of Tyr's Hand, where Thalassian, Stromic and Lordaeronian armies managed to defeat yet another uprising of the Forest Trolls, when he saved the life of young King Terenas. Terenas, owing his life to thirteen years old Uther, took him as his personal squire and made him a member of his court. After five years, he knighted him and henceforth, Uther would be known as Sir Uther of Lordaeron.

## Faol and the Northshire Brotherhood

For long years, Uther served his king with unyielding resolve and devotion. He was responsible for many victories over the marauding Trolls of Lordaeron, who, even in their defeat, posed a serious threat to his kingdom. But even the brightest candle can be snuffed out and shadow befell Uther's life. After he entered his twenty-fifth year of life, strange illness slowly but surely began to take away his sight and with it, his will to live. What kind of illness might have that been remains unknown to us, but its severity cannot be doubted, as even the greatest healers and priests of Lordaeron were unable to help the great Knight. With the last remnants of his sight gone, only one hope remained for Uther; to travel south, to the great kingdom of Azeroth and find the famous Clerics of Northshire, who were said to master the Light in the ways that were unknown even to the greatest priests of Lordaeron. And so once a great hero of Lordaeron, now a broken and blind man, left the court of King Terenas and set out for the southern lands of Azeroth.



After long seasons of travel, Uther found his way to the Northshire Abbey. Sadly, the clerics found even their knowledge could not help him restore his sight and Uther despaired. It was then when the Abbot of Northshire and Lordaeronian native himself, Alonsus Faol, took care of the broken man. His words to Uther are remembered as legendary, although it is not certain if he truly said them. "Nothing is truly lost unless we believe so. The end of one path is the beginning of another one. The sword was your way of life, perhaps it is time to turn to the Light". We do not know if Uther had been a truly religious man before, even though he grew in Lordaeron, but one is sure; Faol managed to bring him to the Light. Uther heeded his words, set aside his sword and title and became a brother of Northshire. And thus Sir Uther of Lordaeron became Brother Uther of Northshire. As his faith grew stronger and stronger, he learned the delicate ways of the Light and soon, Faol took him for his personal apprentice. Eventually, Uther managed to master the techniques known as Far Seeing and Holy Vision, which effectively restored his sight.

## The First War and Silver Hand

After a decade of living as a brother of Northshire, the First of the Great Wars against the Orcish Horde began. As the great armies of Azeroth clashed with the bloodthirsty orcs, Uther found himself on the battlefield once again, leading his brothers to support and heal brave Azerothiens and banish the evil Horde from Azeroth. But orcish legions were relentless and soon, the armies of Azeroth began to falter. Many of his brothers fell and after more than two years of conflict, orcs launched a daring assault against his beloved Northshire itself. Many of the clerics were slaughtered and the Abbey itself was burned to the ground, while Uther, Faol and others fled towards the relative safety of the great city of Stormwind. Seeing the horrors of the war, they realized how ill-prepared they were for the conflict, but sadly, there was no time nor means to make drastic changes.

Soon after, Faol received a call from Lordaeron, as the current Archbishop died of old age and great council was to be held to determine his successor. Seeing the opportunity, Faol took Uther with him and left for Lordaeron. Telling of the great danger in the south, not only did Faol succeed to convince the ministers of Lordaeron to rally themselves, but he was elected as the new Archbishop as well. Having the power and means to see his and Uthers vision through, he officially created a new order; the Order of the Silver Hand, and anointed Uther as the first of its holy knights, who would come to be known as paladins. As Uther took his holy oath, the Light radiated through him and something short of miracle happened; his sight was fully restored by the grace of the Light. As the people of Lordaeron considered this a great omen, Uther became known as the Lightbringer and soon, the ranks of the Silver Hand began to swell. Uther spent next years training his disciples; those who were mere knights in the ways of the Light and Northshire, those who were his former brothers in the ways of arms and warfare. And as the Silver Hand built itself a home by the grace of King Terenas and Archbishop Faol; the Silver Bastion of Stratholme, the man who was once Sir Uther of Lordaeron and Brother Uther of Northshire became Lord Uther the Lightbringer.

