

#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR

KEN FOLLETT

THE PREQUEL TO
THE PILLARS OF THE EARTH

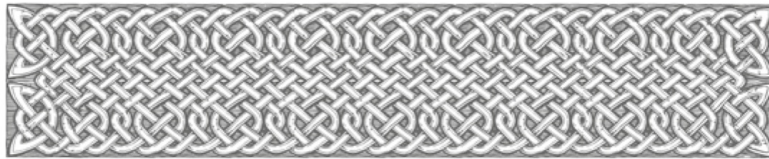


THE EVENING .. AND THE .. MORNING

ALSO BY KEN FOLLETT

The Modigliani Scandal
Paper Money
Eye of the Needle
Triple
The Key to Rebecca
The Man from St. Petersburg
On Wings of Eagles
Lie Down with Lions
The Pillars of the Earth
Night over Water
A Dangerous Fortune
A Place Called Freedom
The Third Twin
The Hammer of Eden
Code to Zero
Jackdaws
Hornet Flight
Whiteout
World Without End
Fall of Giants
Winter of the World
Edge of Eternity
A Column of Fire
Notre-Dame

THE
EVENING
∴ AND THE ∴
MORNING



KEN
FOLLETT

VIKING

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Map on pp. x-xi by Daren Cook

This is a work of fiction. Apart from the historical figures, any resemblance between fictional characters created by the author and actual persons, living or dead, is purely coincidental.

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In memoriam,
E. F.

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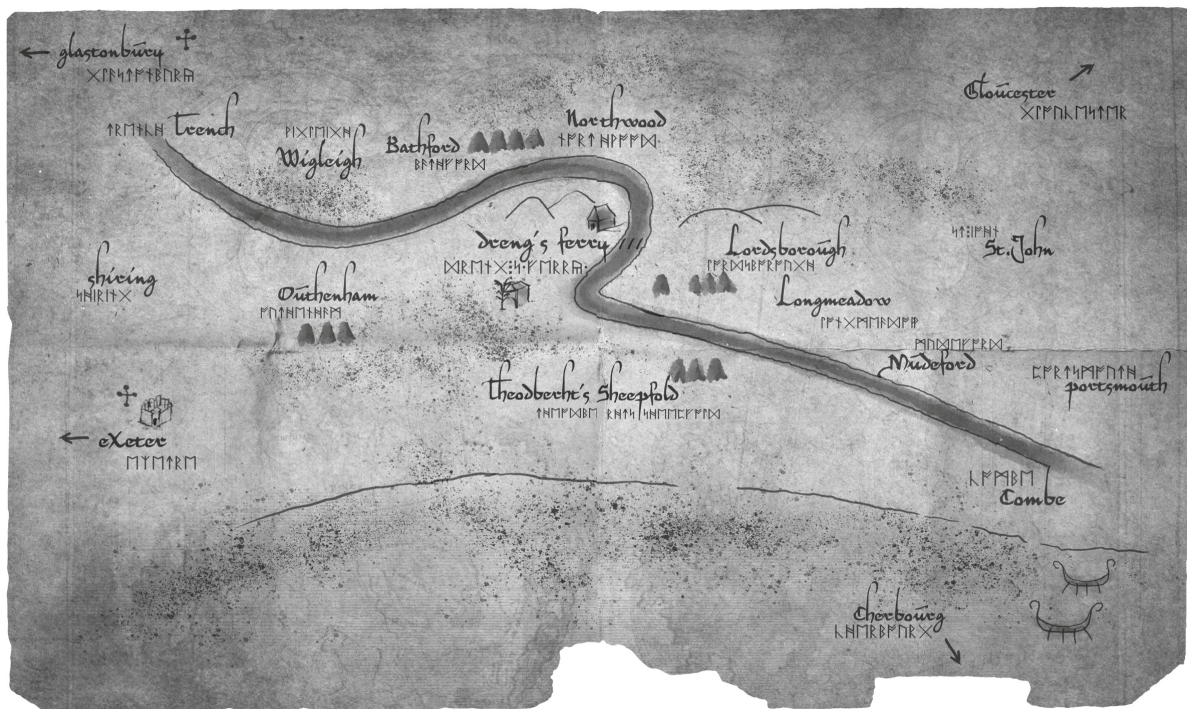


When the Roman Empire declined, Britain went backward. As the Roman villas crumbled, the people built one-room wooden dwellings without chimneys. The technology of Roman pottery—important for storing food—was mostly lost. Literacy declined.

This period is sometimes called the Dark Ages, and progress was painfully slow for five hundred years.

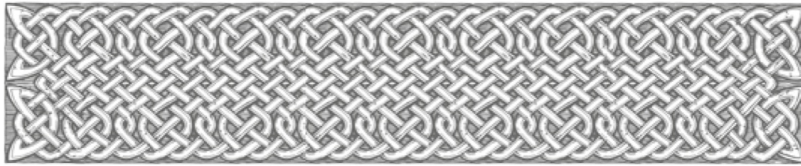
Then, at last, things started to change . . .





PART I

THE
WEDDING



997 C€