

A Viking Queen's Legacy

Cast of Characters

Aud Unn, later Aud the Deep-Minded: The lead character, whose ambition and personality influence many events that occur. The youngest daughter of Ketil Flat-Nose and Ygnvild Unn, widow of Olaf the White, King of Dubhlinn, and mother to Thorstein the Red, King of Scotland. Clever but ambitious to a fault, she dreams of creating a dynasty of kings.

Olaf the White: King of Dubhlinn, the unfaithful husband of Aud the Deep-Minded and father to Thorstein the Red. Also very ambitious and intelligent, he engineers the Longphort of Dubhlinn, creating a safe haven for the slave trade, making him a wealthy, powerful man. His ambition for more drives him to create partnerships with four other powerful men. Jarl Sigurd of the Orkneys, King Kjarval of Ossory, Ketil Flat-Nose, and Ivar the Hated. Olaf, Ivar, and Ketil pillage and plunder other lands to accumulate the means to accomplish their goals.

Ketil Flat-Nose: Starts off as a Norwegian hersir under King Harold's command, then joins Olaf's partnership. Father of Aud the Deep-Minded, Jorunn Unn, Thorunn Unn, Bjorn, and Helgi. Husband Ygnvild Unn, the mother of his children. No other children are known to exist. He negotiates the marriage contract of his youngest daughter to Olaf, to solidify their partnership.

Ivar the Hated: Cousin and partner to Olaf the white and cousin to Jon the Priest. Despised by many but especially by Aud the Deep-Minded.

Kjarval, king of Ossory: Another partner to Olaf. His ambition is to take over as the High King of Tara from his aging grandfather. He marries Aud's sister Jorunn and they have many children.

Jon the Priest: Cousin to both Olaf the white and Ivar the Hated. Loyal to Olaf but leery of his cousin Ivar, his respect for Aud's intelligence is evident.

Thorstein the Red: Son of Olaf the White and Aud the Deep-Minded, he becomes the king of Northern Scotland with the aid of his *afi*, Ketil Flat-Nose, and Sigurd, *jarl* of the Orkneys.

Ygnvild Unn: Wife of Ketil Flat-Nose and mother to Aud, Jorunn, Thorunn, Bjorn and Helgi. The marriage contract between her daughter Aud and Olaf the White is her idea.

Jorunn Unn: Daughter of Ketil Flat-Nose and Ygnvild Unn, sister to Aud, thorunn, Bjorn and Helgi. She married Kjarval, king of Ossory, after he became the High King of Tara. They have many children.

Thorunn Unn: Daughter of Ketil Flat-Nose and Ygnvild Unn, sister to Aud, Jorunn, Bjorn and Helgi. She married Helgi the Lean while still in Norway, and they moved to Iceland with her two brothers.

Bjorn: Son of Ketil Flat-Nose and Ygnvild Unn, brother to Aud, Jorunn, thorunn and Helgi. He moves to Iceland and establishes a great estate there with all his wealth collected from his Viking days. He marries a local woman and has four children.

Helgi: Son of Ketil flat-Nose and Ygnvild Unn, brother to Aud, Jorunn, Thorunn and Bjorn. He moves to Iceland, but with only one Viking expedition under his belt, he cannot build an empire in Iceland like his brother. Fortunately for him he eventually marries a wealthy Christian woman who is an only child. He becomes a staunch Christian.