



## The Burning Land: The Saxon Chronicles, Book 5

By Bernard Cornwell

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**The Burning Land: The Saxon Chronicles, Book 5** By Bernard Cornwell

**The fifth installment of Bernard Cornwell’s *New York Times* bestselling Saxon Tales chronicling the epic saga of the making of England, “like *Game of Thrones*, but real” (*The Observer*, London)—the basis for *The Last Kingdom*, the hit television series.**

At the end of the ninth century, with King Alfred of Wessex in ill health and his heir still an untested youth, it falls to Alfred’s reluctant warlord Uhtred to outwit and outbattle the invading enemy Danes, led by the sword of savage warrior Harald Bloodhair. But the sweetness of Uhtred’s victory is soured by tragedy, forcing him to break with the Saxon king. Joining the Vikings, allied with his old friend Ragnar—and his old foe Haesten—Uhtred devises a strategy to invade and conquer Wessex itself. But fate has very different plans.

Bernard Cornwell’s *The Burning Land* is an irresistible new chapter in his epic story of the birth of England and the legendary king who made it possible.

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## The Burning Land: The Saxon Chronicles, Book 5 By Bernard Cornwell Bibliography

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### Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Slathered in blood and gore, Saxon warlord Uhtred of Bebbanburg hacks his way through the ninth century in the exciting fifth installment to bestseller Cornwell's Saxon Tales series (following *Sword Song*). This action-packed novel continues the saga of warfare for supremacy in Britain, a brutal period when Saxon and Danish swords, battleaxes, and treachery ruled the day. By now, Alfred the Great is old and feeble, unwilling and unable to repel the Danish invaders. He relies on trusty pagan warlord Uhtred, but Uhtred's temper and an unexpected violent act force Uhtred to break his oath of loyalty to Alfred and flee north with his men, intending to reclaim his ancestral home. En route, they face marauding Danish armies, betrayal, battles for a pirate treasure, and the curse of a vicious Danish witch, only to eventually be manipulated back into fighting for Alfred. Vivid descriptions of merciless battlefield slaughter, rape, and destruction are artfully related by a masterful storyteller. Uhtred is victorious in some battles, but the outcome of others will have to wait for the sequel. (*Jan.*)

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From [Booklist](#)

After taking a break from his best-selling Saxon Chronicles series to write the stand-alone *Agincourt* (2009), Cornwell revisits ninth-century Britain to continue the story of Uhtred, the morally and emotionally conflicted Saxon-born, Danish-bred prince who was kidnapped and trained in the arts of war by his captors. Reluctantly committed to King Alfred of Wessex, Uhtred is still plagued by divided loyalties that continue to influence his actions and reactions both on and off the battlefield. After an embittered and overlooked Uhtred finally sets off on his own, determined to reclaim Bebbanburg, his ancestral home in Northumbria, Harald Bloodhair makes a play for the aging and debilitated Alfred's throne. Called back into service by Alfred's daughter, Uhtred meets and defeats the Viking warrior at the Battle of Farnham. Once again, Cornwell, a master of martial fiction, makes history come alive with his rousing battlefield scenes. Since the future of a united Britain is left hanging in the balance, keep on the lookout for further installments. --Margaret Flanagan

Review

"Cornwell, a master of martial fiction, makes history come alive with his rousing battlefield scenes."  
(Margaret Flanagan, *Booklist*)

"Cornwell (*Agincourt*) has been described as a master of historical fiction, but that may be an understatement. Cornwell makes his subject material come alive. Better, his major protagonist is totally believable and human." (Robert Conroy, *Library Journal*)

"Slathered in blood and gore, Saxon warlord Uhtred of Bebbanburg hacks his way through the ninth century in the exciting fifth installment to bestseller Cornwell's Saxon Tales series. . . . Vivid descriptions of merciless battlefield slaughter, rape, and destruction are artfully related by a masterful storyteller."  
(Publishers Weekly)

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**From reader reviews:**

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**Troy Harlow:**

Precisely why? Because this The Burning Land: The Saxon Chronicles, Book 5 is an unordinary book that the inside of the reserve waiting for you to snap the idea but latter it will surprise you with the secret that inside. Reading this book close to it was fantastic author who have write the book in such incredible way makes the content inside easier to understand, entertaining technique but still convey the meaning entirely. So , it is good for you because of not hesitating having this ever again or you going to regret it. This book will give you a lot of rewards than the other book get such as help improving your proficiency and your critical thinking method. So , still want to hold off having that book? If I had been you I will go to the book store hurriedly.

**Jacki Peters:**

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**May Davidson:**

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