

VIKINGS Episode Guide

Episodes 001–089

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Season One

Rites of Passage

Season 1
Episode Number: 1
Season Episode: 1

Originally aired: Sunday March 3, 2013
Writer: Michael Hirst
Director: Johan Renck
Show Stars: Travis Fimmel (Ragnar Lothbrok), Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Clive Standen (Rollo), Jessalyn Gilsig (Siggy), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), Gabriel Byrne (Earl Haraldson)
Recurring Role: John Kavanagh (Seer), David Pearse (Svein), Nathan O'Toole (Bjorn)
Guest Stars: Eddie Drew (Odin), Ruby O'Leary (Gyda), Gerard McCarthy (Brondsted), Billy Gibson (Ulf), Eddie Elks (Olafur), David Wilmot (Olaf Andwend), Conor Madden (Eric Trygvasson), Donna Dent (Woman), Cian Quinn (Olaf son of Ingolf), Daniel Aherne (Viking Warrior), Christopher Dane (Condemned Man), Thorbjørn Harr (Jarl Borg), Eric Higgins (Knut), Vladimir Kulich (Eric), Robert MacDomhnail (Viking Warrior), Riku Rokkanen (Viking (voice))
Summary: It is 793 AD and Viking warrior Ragnar Lothbrok wants to go to the West in search of riches, rather than following the old tradition of raiding the East. However, getting the permission of Head Man, Earl Haraldson, is not going to be easy.



A lightning hits a tree on a rainy hill. A grimfaced man stares onto a battle field. The year is 793 A.D., Ragnar Lothbrok and his older brother Rollo are fighting a battle with Baltic tribesmen. After killing their opponents, Rollo rests while Ragnar looks over the battle field as ravens descend to feast on the flesh of the slain. Ragnar sees a mysterious man with a spear and a broad hat on the horizon, but when he rubs his eyes the man is gone. Suddenly he sees the same man on another part of the battle field, with

ravens on his shoulder and pointing at corpses with his spear. In his thoughts Ragnar identifies the man as Odin. Valkyries descend from the clouds and bring with them several of the fallen. Rollo calls for his brother and Ragnar looks away. When he looks back, Odin and his valkyries are gone, leaving Ragnar and the audience to question if the scene was real or not.

In Ragnar's home and farm in Scandinavia, Ragnar is honing the fighting skills of his son, Bjorn. Meanwhile, his wife Lagertha, and daughter, Gyda, has just come home from fishing. When Lagertha finds Ragnar preparing their son for the Thing in Kattegat, Lagertha tries to convince Ragnar to delay making a man out of their young, 12-year-old son. Lagertha is not able to change her husband's mind.

After the men of the house leave, two men appear, hoping to rape Lagertha. Lagertha displays her prowess as a shield-maiden and effortlessly kills them with their fire iron.

Meanwhile, Ragnar is lecturing his son, preparing him for his manhood. He tells him how he earned his mother's hand in marriage. When asked by Bjorn, he tells him that a man fights and protects his family.

Later, Ragnar meets with Rollo and shows him what he calls a "sun-board", shown to him by a wanderer whom he met some time ago, telling him that it is indeed possible to travel to the West.

Ragnar explains how the device would help guide them on the trip, but Rollo is still skeptical and disbelieving.

At the Thing, Earl Haraldson is presiding over problems of his people, and some criminal offenses. Later, his speaker, Svein, introduces to the crowd Eric Trygavsson, a man accused of murdering Sigvald Strut. He pleads to have only killed the man in self-defense, but since he had not followed the normal procedure of declaring the death to the first person he sees, Haraldson proclaimed him guilty after a unanimous decision from the spectators. Upon his request, his execution the following day will be through beheading.

The next day, the man walks to his death with a smile, wanting to die well without fear. The crowd then watches as the man is beheaded. Haraldson curses him to never enter Valhalla, the glorious afterlife of warriors. Ragnar tells Bjorn that he did not need to do it, but Haraldson had wanted the land Trygavsson had claim to, suggesting that the verdict Haraldson had cast upon the man was personal.

Later at the great feast, Haraldson officially recognizes Bjorn and another boy as men by giving them their arm rings, and both receive a kiss from the Earl's wife, Siggý. Delaying the discussion of the summer raids for the feast, Ragnar interrupts and asks him to discuss it first. Ragnar uses the opportunity to again talk about his plan to plunder the potentially more fruitful lands of the West, but Haraldson denies this, saying he shall not risk his ships or his reputation on a potentially fruitless and dangerous endeavor.

He later summons Ragnar to his private quarters and chastises him for daring to speak out against him in his own halls. He warns Ragnar that as a farmer, he should be content with his lot, as his land is valuable and that there are many who would take it from him, likely referring to how he executed Eric Trygavsson to possess his land.

Haraldson then has a bad dream of his worst memory: finding the dismembered corpses of his sons barely buried in a shallow grave, their faces against each other's backside. Waking up, Siggý tries to comfort him.

Elsewhere, Ragnar and Bjorn meet with the Seer. Ragnar asks the Seer what the gods have in store for him. The Seer gives him good news, saying the gods desire him to have a great future, but that they can withdraw their goodwill anytime. When Ragnar asks if he should challenge the law, the Seer gives him vague answers, leaving a dissatisfied Ragnar to ponder the Seer's words.

Ragnar then takes Bjorn to see his eccentric ship-building friend Floki, who Ragnar commissions to making the boat he will be taking to the West.

Soon, Ragnar and Bjorn come home. While Ragnar and Lagertha make love, Rollo arrives and is greeted by Bjorn. At dinner, Rollo asks Gyda if she is learning to use a shield, like her shield-maiden mother. Lagertha then orders the children to bed to give the brothers some time alone, much to Bjorn's frustration, who claims to be a man that should no longer be ordered around. Ragnar and Rollo discuss their voyage to the left, and Rollo insists that he will not agree to being a subordinate to him. Ragnar asserts that, as brothers, they are equals. They decide to form their crew next. As soon as Ragnar steps out of the house, Rollo shows his affections for Lagertha, unsuccessfully trying to seduce her, much to her disgust; Lagertha calls him a great warrior who is not as good a man.

Outside, Ragnar sees the raven again, which he takes as a sign to his confusion regarding the Seer's advice. Ragnar comes in to tell his brother the good news, and he does not notice the tension in the room that he has interrupted.

Floki, Ragnar, and Rollo are then seen testing the boat Floki has made. While initially, Floki does not think the boat will be capable of surviving the trip, he is proven wrong and celebrates.

Wrath of the Northmen

Season 1

Episode Number: 2

Season Episode: 2

Originally aired: Sunday March 10, 2013
Writer: Michael Hirst
Director: Johan Renck
Show Stars: Travis Fimmel (Ragnar Lothbrok), Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Clive Standen (Rollo), Jessalyn Gilsig (Siggy), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), George Blagden (Athelstan), Gabriel Byrne (Earl Haraldson)
Recurring Role: Vladimir Kulich (Erik), David Pearse (Svein), Nathan O'Toole (Bjorn), Jefferson Hall (Torstein)
Guest Stars: Diarmaid Murtagh (Leif), Tadhg Murphy (Arne), Jouko Ahola (Kauko), Eric Higgins (Knut), Craig Whittaker (Hakon), Eddie Elks (Olafur), Paul Kealyn (Blacksmith), Carolyn Murray (Blacksmith's Daughter), Amber Jean Rowan (Floki's Slave Girl), Ruby O'Leary (Gyda), Will Irvine (Brother Cenwulf), Des Braiden (Father Cuthbert), Eddie Jackson (II) (Monk), Nathan Gordon (Monk), Martin Phillips (Old Monk), Sebastiaan Vermeul Taback (Osiric)
Summary: As Ragnor prepares for his first journey into the unknown Western lands, the suspicion and paranoia of Earl Haraldson escalates.



Ragnar and Rollo arrives at a secret meeting with their crew about their journey to the west, including Torstein, Leif and Arne. Rollo points out they will be all equals and thus the profits will be equally shared as well. One man named Knut sceptically asks if there will be any, as Ragnar's dream is just based on stories. Ragnar tells everything start with stories. When Erik warns about Earl Haraldson's order to go East, Ragnar assures him the Earl does not know about their boat. Ragnar further convinces the men that this

journey will be an opportunity to shine in battle, to impress the Gods and return with more plunder than they have ever seen. Ragnar personally asks Knut if he is coming, which he agrees to so he can tell his children a good story.

The housecarl, Olafur, notifies Earl Haraldson of the meeting and the presence of Ragnar Lothbrok. The Earl thinks that they should watch first, even though he is tempted to execute Ragnar right away. When the Earl notices the glancing of the housecarl at Siggy, his wife, he asked him if he wants to sleep with her and if so, it can be arranged.

Ragnar arrives at home. Lagertha wants to join him on their journey to the West, but Ragnar declines, as someone needs to keep an eye on the children as Earl Haraldson might claim their home if he discovers the defiance of his orders.

Olafur attempts to sleep with Siggy, but it turns out to be a trap, as Earl Haraldson only wanted to test his loyalty. As a result, Svein kills him by stabbing him in the gut before he is finished with axes.

Lagertha, angry with Ragnar's refusal to take her with him, attacks her husband viciously with a shield before their son, Bjorn, stops them.

Siggy remarks she is surprised that of all Haraldson's men, Olafur is the one to behave in disloyalty. She says that honour is a rare commodity, to which Haraldson replies that men in

who he can trust are rare as well. When Siggy remarks their enemies are everywhere, Haraldson agrees with a concerned tone, indicating he is wary in who he can trust, even his own men.

At Floki's home, where the crew for the journey to the West assembles the shipwright is waiting for the anchor to be delivered by the blacksmith. As a ransom, he was given a lock of the hair of the blacksmith's daughter. When the Norsemen are preparing to leave, Rollo secretly rapes Floki's slave girl before they depart for England.

Knut, who is Earl Haraldson's half-brother and who was supposed to join Ragnar on his journey, informs the Earl of their departure.

With the sunboard, Ragnar navigates the open sea. They go through a storm forcing them to lower the sail and proceed rowing. Thunder and lightning surrounds the ship, to which Rollo replies Thor is angry with them and strikes his hammer to sink them. Floki however sees it as Thor celebrating because he love the ship he built.

At the Lindisfarne Monastery in the Kingdom of Northumbria, monks are watching out of a window at the raging storm. In the flashes of lightning, a cloud resembling the shape of the prow of a viking ship can be seen. Concerned, one of the monks named Athelstan goes to the Father of the monastery to tell him Judgment Day has come. The Father does not want to hear of it and orders Athelstan to go back to his dormitory to pray God for forgiveness, as everything will be well when the storm passes.

In Kattogat, the blacksmith who forged the anchor of Ragnar's ship is confronted by Earl Haraldson and his men. At first he denies forging any anchor, but when Svein is about to seize his daughter, he gives in. Earl Haraldson orders him to look at the flames in the firepit and asks what he sees. When the blacksmith answers he sees his death, Svein pushes his face in the fire despite the blacksmith's daughter pleading to leave her father be.

On the sea, one of the men onboard of the ships loses faith and accuses Ragnar to be a madman sending them to their doom. Unable to calm him, Ragnar has no choice but to kill the man and throw him overboard. Ragnar orders the ravens they took with them to be released. If they return quickly there is no land, if they don't come back they have found land. When they hear the flapping of bird wings, Ragnar thinks the ravens returned and his journey is in vain. However, the birds turn out to be seagulls, indicating they are close to the shores of England.

A monk notices the arriving Viking ship and alarms the Monastery. Hearing the bells, Ragnar realizes their presence is noticed. The monks takes refuge in the church. Hearing their prayers, Ragnar forces open the doors of the monestary and he and the Vikings enter. As the monks continue with their prayers, Rollo suddenly kills the Father causing panic under the monks of which many are slaughtered by the Norsemen, while Ragnar solemnly looks. Seeking through the buildings, Ragnar, Leif and Erik find the treasury room. Surprised the treasures are left in the open, Leif wonders if their God protects it somehow. Ragnar discovers they are not alone and drags Athelstan out of his hiding place. When the monk pleads for his life, Ragnar is surprised he can speak the Norse language, to which Athelstan says he has travelled to Scandinavia in the past. Ragnar asks Athelstan about the book he hold in his hands. It is the Gospel of St. John. When Ragnar asks why the monk chose to protect that instead of any treasures, Athelstan replies that without the word of God there can be only darkness. Rollo enters the room, remarking it is a strange place with only men. When he notices Athelstan, he insists on killing him but Ragnar forbids it as the monk is worth more alive than death. Surprised, Rollo reminds his brother they are equals and attempts to kill Athelstan anyway. However, Ragnar pushes his brother back, causing Rollo to angrily chop the Crucifix in the room in pieces and telling Athelstan that is how much he respects his God before storming off. Meanwhile, Floki enters a room with many holy papers. Unable to read them, Floki burns one of them eventually setting the Monastery on fire. The Norsemen returns to their ship with treasure and some monks having survived the onslaught, including Athelstan, taken as slaves.

Dispossessed

Season 1

Episode Number: 3

Season Episode: 3

Originally aired:	Sunday March 17, 2013
Writer:	Michael Hirst
Director:	Johan Renck
Show Stars:	Travis Fimmel (Ragnar Lothbrok), Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Clive Standen (Rollo), Jessalyn Gilsig (Siggy), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), George Blagden (Athelstan), Gabriel Byrne (Earl Haraldson)
Recurring Role:	Vladimir Kulich (Erik), David Pearse (Svein), Nathan O'Toole (Bjorn)
Guest Stars:	Jouko Ahola (Kauko), Tadhg Murphy (Arne), Diarmaid Murtagh (Leif), Gary Farrelly (Young Boy), Will Irvine (Brother Cenwulf), Carrie Crowley (Ellisef), Keith McCann (Man in Kattogat), Eric Higgins (Knut), Ruby O'Leary (Gyda), Sam Doyle (Saxon 1), Sam Smith (VIII) (Saxon 2 (Edwin))
Summary:	A monastery in Lindesfarne is about to get a firsthand look at how the Vikings operate. In and out in a flurry of violence and terror, Ragnar and his crew raid the monastery for everything it contains from treasure to monks who can be sold as slaves. Unable to ignore the riches this unsanctioned journey has returned, Earl Haraldson has no choice but to agree to let these warriors undertake a second trip out. The west has now been opened for the taking by Ragnar Lothbrok and the world of the Vikings will never be the same.



The episode picks up with Ragnar's crew sailing home with their loot. Meanwhile, the Earl's man takes one of the village's children as a ransom until Ragnar returns.

On the Vikings' ship, Ragnar questions Athelstan about England. Athelstan tells him that it was once foretold that God would punish England for its sins, and now it has happened. Ragnar tells Athelstan that the monk is still alive because he spared him.

The Ragnar's crew arrives back in Kattogat with a ship full of loot. They find a large crowd at the docks waiting to meet them. The crowd congratulates Ragnar for his voyage west. Ragnar also meets with Knut, who informs him that Earl Haraldson is waiting for him in the Great Hall.

Ragnar presents his plunder to the Earl and tells him that Thor was with them on their voyage west. Haraldson replies that all of the riches before him are his, by right. Ragnar argues that he and Floki paid for the boat and surely deserve a cut of the plunder. Haraldson mocks him by repeating Ragnar's words about the ease in which they plundered the monastery.

The Earl then decides that each member of Ragnar's crew can keep one piece from the plunder. Ragnar chooses to keep Athelstan as his slave, even though it elicits laughter from Siggy and the Earl.

Afterwards, Rollo angrily confronts Ragnar after the meeting and blames him for his misfortune. Ragnar calms him, but he's angered when Rollo shows him some stolen goods from the Earl's plunder.

Meanwhile, Siggy praises Earl Haraldson for the way he embarrassed Ragnar and attempts to seduce him. However, she stops trying to make love to him and hugs him instead.

Ragnar brings Athelstan back to his homestead where he is greeted by his family. He tells Lagertha that his mission was successful, but the Earl took their riches. Ragnar presents Athelstan to her as proof that his warband raided England.

Later, Athelstan is struggling to pray as Lagertha and Ragnar make love on the other side of the wall dividing them in Ragnar's home. Lagertha and Ragnar invite Athelstan to join their bed, but the monk tells them that he can't do it because it would be a sin. The couple tries to bait him, and he's tempted. However, Athelstan finds a way to stay strong.

Meanwhile, the boy who was taken from his village early in the episode digs a hole to hide the Earl's plunder. Haraldson then has the boy killed so that no one will know where the treasure is hidden. The boy is buried with the treasure.

The story returns to Ragnar who pumps Athelstan for information about England. Athelstan tells him that there are four kingdoms in England and that the Vikings raided the kingdom of Northumbria, which is led by the powerful King Aelle. Ragnar questions how such a powerful king could leave the monastery defenseless. Athelstan replies that there was never a need to protect the monastery until Ragnar's crew came along. The two debate religion and share a drink of water before meeting with the Earl again.

Ragnar uses the information provided by Athelstan to request another raid on England. The Earl sanctions the raid on one condition: his aid Knut will go with them. Ragnar accepts, and he leaves to prepare for the next voyage. The Earl surmises that Ragnar must have found a way to navigate west and instructs Knut to find out what it is.

Meanwhile, Ragnar cuts Athelstan's leash and puts him in charge of his home while Lagertha goes with him on the raid. Lagertha privately warns Athelstan that she will kill him if any harm comes to her children.

Ragnar's warband soon departs for England. They are greeted by the local sheriff's men when they arrive on Northumbria's shores. The sheriff guesses that they are traders and tells them that they should come meet the king. Rollo doesn't trust them and eventually leads the Vikings as they slaughter the Northumbrians. Unfortunately, one of the Northumbrians got away.

Trial

Season 1

Episode Number: 4

Season Episode: 4

Originally aired:	Sunday March 24, 2013
Writer:	Michael Hirst
Director:	Ciaràn Donnelly
Show Stars:	Travis Fimmel (Ragnar Lothbrok), Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Clive Standen (Rollo), Jessalyn Gilsig (Siggy), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), George Blagden (Athelstan), Gabriel Byrne (Earl Haraldson)
Recurring Role:	Ivan Kaye (King Aelle), John Kavanagh (Seer), Vladimir Kulich (Erik), David Pearse (Svein), Nathan O'Toole (Bjorn), Jefferson Hall (Torstein)
Guest Stars:	Tadhg Murphy (Arne), Diarmaid Murtagh (Leif), Jouko Ahola (Kauko), Eric Higgins (Knut), Sam Doyle (Saxon 1), Sam Smith (VIII) (Saxon 2 (Edwin)), Jonathon Kemp (Wigea), Simon Coury (Saxon Priest), Elinor Crowley (Thyri), Carrie Crowley (Ellisef)
Summary:	The Vikings head back to England to see what other treasures this new world has to offer. This go round Ragnar and his crew sail out with Earl Haraldson's permission... and also with Earl Haraldson's spy. After bloodshed on the beach, the Vikings choose the Sabbath to invade the town of Hexam and unleash a flood of violence and panic. In the midst of the terror, Ragnar and Lagertha discover that there are consequences for every action and Earl Haraldson is always watching.



The episode begins with one of the surviving Northumbrian guards returning to his village to warn King Aelle of the Vikings' arrival.

Meanwhile, Ragnar and his men approach the town of Hexam led by another one of the survivors. As they draw near Hexam, Rollo proposes attacking immediately, but Ragnar tells him that they will wait until the following day. When an unhappy Rollo questions why they must wait, Ragnar tells him he will know tomorrow.

In King Aelle's throne room, the Northumbrian guard tells the king about the Vikings' arrival. King Aelle asks if the invaders are Franks, but the guard tells him no. Instead, these invaders came with axes, and most of them are as tall as giants. The king is then informed that these invaders may be the same people who destroyed the monastery. Aelle decrees that wherever the invaders came from, they are not welcome in his kingdom.

The following morning, Ragnar waits until the town goes to church before attacking. The Vikings find the townspeople worshipping with their weapons left outside of the church. They enter the church and plunder it after warning the people not to resist.

The men fan out throughout Hexam and begin to plunder. Rollo finds a sick man and gives him water before emptying his glass and taking all of his goods. Floki tastes the sacramental wine and spits it out, which offends the worshippers in the church. He then slits the head priest's throat as Ragnar smiles approvingly.

Knut attempts to rape an English woman, but Lagertha steps in to save her. Knut and Lagertha struggle, and he briefly overpowers her. He then tries to rape Lagertha, who grabs a knife and stabs Knut to death.

Later, Ragnar asks about Knut's whereabouts. Lagertha admits to killing him after Knut raped a Saxon woman and then tried to rape her. Ragnar then asks if there were any witnesses, to which Lagertha replies that there were none.

The warband heads back to the beach with their plunder, and they are met by a group of armed Englishmen. They attack the Vikings, who slaughter them mercilessly.

In the King's throne room, the surviving Englishmen tell Aelle that the Vikings fight with no fear, but that they did capture the two men who guarded the warband's boat. The Englishmen noted that they could not understand anything the men said except for the word "Ragnar."

Ragnar and his men hold a brief ceremony to commemorate the deaths of their lost, and then Ragnar offers the man who took his crew to the town a drink. The man is then killed.

Back on the farm, Bjorn requests that Athelstan allow him and his sister to meet their father when he arrives in town. Athelstan tells him no. Bjorn then threatens to sacrifice Athelstan to Thor for his father's safe return.

Later, Athelstan questions his faith and God for allowing his fellow monks to be slaughtered and sold. "Where are you, Lord?" he asks. "Where are you, and why don't you answer me?" He then agrees to take Bjorn to town the following day.

Ragnar's crew arrives to a hero's welcome, and Earl Haraldson salutes him as well. Ragnar informs the Earl that there was a battle, but the warband emerged victorious. He then shows Haraldson the plunder they brought back to him.

However, things turn sour when Haraldson asks him where Knut is. Ragnar informs him that he killed Knut because he tried to rape his wife. Haraldson finds it "too convenient" that he would kill Knut and asks what Ragnar thought that he would gain. When Ragnar explains that he didn't expect to gain anything, Haraldson orders him to be arrested.

Haraldson summons Rollo to meet with him. He asks Rollo if Ragnar treats him fairly. Haraldson then tells him that he believes that Ragnar considers himself to be first among equals. Rollo tells him that Ragnar would not have achieved anything without him. Haraldson says that as long as he is Earl, Ragnar can give him nothing.

However, Haraldson can give him everything. He then explains that he could confiscate the plunder from the last England trip and give Rollo a large portion of it. Haraldson then implies that he could choose Rollo to wed his daughter by proving that he is ambitious and stepping out of his brother's shadow.

Siggy enters the room and notices what's going on. She asks the Earl to not forget about her. Haraldson introduces them; Rollo can't take his eyes off of her.

Ragnar is brought before the Earl, who lays out the case against him. Lodbrok explains that he killed Knut after finding him trying to rape Lagertha. When Earl accuses her of lying, Lagertha confesses to killing Knut. Haraldson refuses to accept it. Rollo then steps forward and surprises the Earl by backing Ragnar's story.

Later, Ragnar tells Rollo that he owes him a great debt. Rollo admits that he looks forward to collecting on that debt. He then tells Lagertha that he did it for her. Just then, an armed band attacks them in the tavern. Ragnar's men emerge victorious, but there are losses.

The following morning, a frustrated Ragnar leaves the farm to mentally prepare himself for battle. Meanwhile, the Earl is meeting with a seer who tells him that there will be violence in the future. The seer informs him that Ragnar seeks to kill him. At that point, Haraldson questions whether or not the gods exist.

Raid

Season 1

Episode Number: 5

Season Episode: 5

Originally aired: Sunday March 31, 2013
Writer: Michael Hirst
Director: Ciaràn Donnelly
Show Stars: Travis Fimmel (Ragnar Lothbrok), Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Clive Standen (Rollo), Jessalyn Gilsig (Siggy), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), George Blagden (Athelstan), Gabriel Byrne (Earl Haraldson)
Recurring Role: David Pearse (Svein), Nathan O'Toole (Bjorn), Maude Hirst (Helga), Jefferson Hall (Torstein)
Guest Stars: Kevin Flood (Old Man), Elinor Crawley (Thyri), Trevor Cooper (Earl Bjarni)
Summary: In the Great Hall of Kattegat, a seer reads Earl Haraldson's future and tells him that Ragnar Lothbrok searches for his death. The unanswerable question is whom do the gods favor more? As a man willing to defend his power and status to the death, Haraldson intends to take precautionary measures. Ragnar, his home and farm burned by the Earl, is hurt but hidden safely away. He must now choose the path that will lead him back to his freedom.



The episode begins with the Earl Haraldson blessing a child. He appears to be shaken by something.

Meanwhile, Athelstan asks Ragnar if he is still a slave. He is less inclined to escape now, but he would like to be free. Ragnar seems open to talking about it but clams up when Athelstan asks if the gods have something to say about an upcoming mission.

Later, the Earl leads a raid on the village while Ragnar is out hunting. Ragnar hears screams and runs back to

help his family. He is soon wounded but battles his way into the village. He reaches his family in time to evacuate them.

Ragnar limps out from his house and falls to his knees in front of Haraldson while his family escapes in their boat. The Earl asks if Ragnar accepts that he is a criminal. Ragnar replies that he accepts his fate and requests to speak with his god. He prays to Loki and then successfully escapes. Haraldson orders Ragnar's home to be burned.

Ragnar gets away from the village, but he is still pursued by Haraldson's men. He eventually passes out and falls from a cliff overlooking the sea. Fortunately, his family is waiting at the bottom, and Athelstan is able to pull him out of the water. The group goes to Floki in hopes of saving Ragnar

Meanwhile, Haraldson sends orders for Ragnar and his family to be found. He then holds a feast with a guest, a Swede who is being given his daughter, Thyri, in marriage. The man promises to take care of her as she bears him many sons.

Later, Floki and Lagertha work to save Ragnar. Lagertha prays to the Viking gods as Athelstan prays to God for Ragnar's life.

Siggy confronts Haraldson over his decision to marry off his daughter. He tells her that she shouldn't judge a man by the way he looks, and that the Swede is King Horik's cousin. Haraldson

explains that the marriage will bring money and alliances that will ensure their survival. Siggy says he's wronged her too many times and mentions their dead sons. Haraldson admits that their sons were disrespected before being buried. He gives her locks of hair from the boy's heads. "You see Siggy, when you have this kind of knowledge, being married to a rich old man isn't so bad," Haraldson says.

Ragnar survives his wounds and begins the road to recovery. Lagertha notes that they have lost everything, but Floki notes that they are alive and asks that the gods provide for them. Athelstan begins to recite one of his prayers, but this time Floki stops him and tell him to eat. However, Ragnar notes that Athelstans prayer sounds a lot like his own.

VikingsThat night, Ragnar questions why the gods kept him alive. He asks where his boat is and finds out that it has been confiscated by the Earl for his daughter's wedding.

Rollo crashes Thryi's wedding to speak with Haraldson, who sends his daughter and drunk son-in-law off to their wedding bed. Rollo tells the Earl that there is no point in having him followed. He states that he believes in his heart that Ragnar is dead. He also reminds Haraldson that he told the truth at Ragnar's trial and that he didn't deceive anyone. Rollo admits that the Earl controls everything, and he just wants to work. Haraldson says that it will take time to trust him, but Rollo can stay and earn his trust.

In camp, Athelstan asks questions about the Vikings' gods. They tell him stories about Odin and Thor.

VikingsRollo meets Siggy in private. He walks up to her and immediately kisses her. She warns him that he must leave because Haraldson wants him dead. They kiss again before she leaves. Rollo is then attacked and beaten severely as he walks through the city. He is brought before Haraldson and interrogated. When Rollo doesn't say anything, Haraldson takes a blade to his mouth.

A messenger arrives and states that Siggy told him about Haraldson torturing Rollo. Ragnar sends Floki to Haraldson with a message challenging the Earl in single combat.

Burial of the Dead

Season 1

Episode Number: 6

Season Episode: 6

Originally aired:	Sunday April 7, 2013
Writer:	Michael Hirst
Director:	Ciarán Donnelly
Show Stars:	Travis Fimmel (Ragnar Lothbrok), Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Clive Standen (Rollo), Jessalyn Gilsig (Siggy), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), George Blagden (Athelstan), Gabriel Byrne (Earl Haraldson)
Recurring Role:	John Kavanagh (Seer), Ivan Kaye (King Aelle), David Pearse (Svein), Nathan O'Toole (Bjorn), Jefferson Hall (Torstein), Maude Hirst (Helga)
Guest Stars:	Gavan Duffy (Housecarl 1), Trevor Cooper (Earl Bjarni), Elinor Crawley (Thyri), Ruby O'Leary (Gyda), Diarmaid Murtagh (Leif), Tadhg Murphy (Arne), Angus MacInnes (Tostig), Roanna Cochrane (Slave Girl), Christina Forbes (Old Woman / Grim Giantess), Dez McMahon (Haroldson Kinsman), Michael Liebmann (Messenger), Jonathon Kemp (Wigea), Peter Gaynor (Lord Edgar)
Summary:	Ragnar, weak and still recovering from his wounds, must meet the Earl head-on after it comes to light that Rollo has been tortured on Haraldson's orders. The two men will come together face to face with a single outcome possible: Only one man will leave this fight alive.



Floki is brought before Earl Haraldson to deliver the message that Ragnar Lothbrok has challenged him to one-on-one combat. Floki tells the Earl that shame will follow him the rest of his life if he doesn't accept. The Earl scoffs at the suggestion that he and Ragnar are equals, but he does accept the challenge.

Vikings Burial of the Dead That night, Ragnar and Lagertha are making love, but she is distracted. She tells Ragnar that they should leave and make a life for themselves elsewhere. Lagertha is con-

cerned about Ragnar's health, and she warns him never to fight unless the odds are in his favor. He tells her that their fates are already decided. "You don't believe that, and neither do I," she replies. Ragnar promises that he does believe it.

Meanwhile, Earl Haraldson is struggling to sleep. He's thinking about their sons and what they would look like if they were still alive. Siggy warns him not to think about the boys and that he needs to rest for the fight tomorrow. Haraldson admits that he respects Lothbrok. He believes that if he had reached out to Ragnar, all of his supporters would have left him. He lies to Siggy when she asks if the Seer had promised that Haraldson would kill Ragnar.

Thyri is struggling to deal with her Swedish husband. She vocalizes her displeasure with his hygiene as he tells her to get some fish. He then threatens to beat her if she doesn't fetch him some herring.

Vikings Burial of the Dead The following morning, Ragnar wakes up to his entire family staring at him. Miles away, Haraldson prays to Odin, but he doesn't get a response from the god. Siggy tries to comfort him by giving him a necklace made of their son's hair. She tells him to believe in himself.

Ragnar wearily limps off the boat and into the fighter's area. Earl Haraldson meets him. Each fighter is given two shields and a choice of weapons. It's a gritty fight that sees Ragnar injured, but Haraldson gets too aggressive and over swings with his axe. Ragnar counters the move and cuts Haraldson down.

The victorious Lothbrok gets on his knees and tells Haraldson that Odin is there waiting to take one of them to dine in his halls. The Earl notes that Odin hasn't denied him entrance to his halls after all. Ragnar cuts Haraldson's wrist, and the Earl dies accepting his defeat and claiming that he will be drinking with his boys that night.

Vikings Burial of the Dead With the Earl dead, Haraldson's right-hand man calls for the crowd to kill Ragnar. Rollo steps forward and plants an axe in the man's chest. Siggy then takes a knife from Thryi and stabs her daughter's husband to death, which eliminates any potential claim he could have to be chieftain. Siggy hails Ragnar as the new Earl. Lagertha looks displeased as everyone hails him.

Ragnar enters the throne room and takes the earl's chair to everyone's cheers. He accepts the oaths of allegiance from his friends, and then grants an older warrior by the name of Tosteg the opportunity to raid with everyone the following summer. Ragnar grants this privilege after Tosteg explains that his entire family and all of his friends are dead, and he would like a chance to die with honor.

Later, Athelstan questions why Ragnar would grant Haraldson a large funeral. Ragnar replies that Haraldson was a good man, and he deserves such a great funeral in death. He then leads Athelstan to a tent with a drunken woman being cleaned up. It turns out that she has agreed to die with Haraldson to show her love for him.

Vikings Burial of the Dead Haraldson's body is carried out to the boat with the funeral pyre prepared inside. There his wife and daughter make their offerings over his body.

Athelstan is stunned to walk around the village and see all the drunken partying going on. Bjorn sees him and gets him a drink. Athelstan points out the drunken consort being escorted to a tent. Bjorn explains that she will have sex with the men in the tent in order to be able to speak with Haraldson in the afterlife.

The consort is then brought before a woman they call the Angel of Death. She strips off her jewelry and drinks out of a cup. The consort claims that she can see her master, and that he's in Valhalla. She proclaims herself ready to die. Athelstan doesn't want to watch, but Bjorn threatens to go to Ragnar if he leaves. Athelstan watches as the Angel of Death slits the consort's throat. They then carry the woman onto Haraldson's pyre as Bjorn cheers.

A rather uncomfortable looking Ragnar Lothbrok appears with Lagertha and his daughter Gyda for the ceremony. They are now dressed in the clothing of the royal family. Siggy requests to light her husband's funeral pyre, which he denies. The pyre is lit, and the villagers stand in vigil over the bodies as they float away.

Lagertha chooses this time to tell Ragnar that she's pregnant. Ragnar responds with joy as a jealous Rollo looks on.

Vikings Burial of the Dead Meanwhile, Siggy and Thryi are frantically packing their treasure when Rollo appears their tent. He tells them that Ragnar won't kill them. He promises to vouch for Siggy, and in return, he offers her the opportunity to marry an earl again. "Who?" she asks. "Me," Ragnar replies with a smirk.

Months later, a now healthy Ragnar speaks with Bjorn. "The pigs are fattening nicely," Bjorn says. Ragnar looks over at his pregnant wife and says, "Just like your mother." Bjorn notes that it's cold, and his father gives him a blanket to warm up. The boy tells Ragnar that he wants to raid in the spring, but he's rebuffed. Ragnar says he's too young, and he shouldn't be in a rush to put himself in danger.

Athelstan surprises the group by asking about Ragnarok. Ragnar decides to show the ignorant Christian what Ragnarok is and tells Floki to get the leaves. They burn and a raven flies through the room while the seer explains that Ragnarok is essentially the end of the world.

The following June, the Vikings are now raiding Northumberland, England. King Aelle is disturbed by the news and decides to use poisonous snakes against the incoming Raiders. He proves his point by tossing the man who failed to stop Ragnar the previous year into a pit full of the snakes.

A King's Ransom

Season 1

Episode Number: 7

Season Episode: 7

Originally aired: Sunday April 14, 2013
Writer: Michael Hirst
Director: Ken Girotti
Show Stars: Travis Fimmel (Ragnar Lothbrok), Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Clive Standen (Rollo), Jessalyn Gilsig (Siggy), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), George Blagden (Aethelstan)
Recurring Role: Ivan Kaye (King Aelle), Nathan O'Toole (Bjorn), Jefferson Hall (Torstein)
Guest Stars: David Murray (II) (Lord Aethelwulf), Tadhg Murphy (Arne), Diarmaid Murtagh (Leif), Angus MacInnes (Tostig), Cathy White (Ealswith), Sean Treacy (Egbert), Tristan McConnell (Saxon Warrior), Peter Gaynor (Lord Edgar), Matt Ryan (Peasant Man), Deirdre Mullins (Peasant Woman), Cillian O' Gairbhi (Saxon Warrior 2), Andy Kellegher (Saxon Warrior 1), Gary Murphy (II) (Bishop Unwan), Jonathan Ryan (Noble 3), Michael James Ford (Noble 2), Alexander Downes (Noble 5)
Summary: Three Viking ships sail upriver towards the very heart of power in eastern England: the Royal Villa of King Aelle. Ragnar Lothbrok has come looking for ransom in exchange for peace. However, King Aelle has a different plan in mind for these northern heathens.



Three Viking ships sail upriver towards the very heart of power in eastern England: the Royal Villa of King Aelle.

The king asks where they are now, and his brother tells him.

The vikings land on shore and begin to build a camp.

Lagertha is back at home deciding how to handle a situation that involves a man who says a child is not his. The husband explains a man came to their farm stayed three days and gave advice slept with his wife and left. She asks the

wife whose the father. She says she does not know. But Lagertha is determined that it was a god who had come down and lain with his wife and that he should be proud the gods chose her for this miracle. The man says nothing else.

The king's men watch from afar as the vikings continue to build their camp.

Ragnar and his brother discuss plans to attack the knights while they sleep.

Once the camp is built and the booby traps in place Ragnar and the others wait until night. Once night has fallen Ragnar and his men set fire to the camp and then attack and kill the king's troop that are camped out by the shore too. Everyone is slaughtered except for the King's brother. Ragnar does not understand why he is out fighting for his brother the king and why he does not fight. Ragnar decides He will use the King's brother for ransom in exchange for peace and gold and silver.

The king is very upset by the fact that his men are slaughtered and The bishop thinks that it is because of them straying off the path to righteousness. A man stands up and thinks it is a devil. Another thinks they are just savage men. The king asks him what should he do. The man responds with paying them off to get rid of them forever. The king is then shown praying for his salvation. A man walks into the room and says that they are here.

Ragnar and his men ride up to the castle with the King's brother. The knights ride out and invite him. He takes the king's brother and turns around and leaves. The knights are left speechless and full of fear.

Ragnar and his brother discuss going to talk to the king. Rollo does not believe it to be a good idea. He wants to attack the king while they are weak. He says he wants to talk because he has his brother. Rollo asks why does he think the king cares about his brother and Ragnar responds "do I not care for mine?" Rollo begrudgingly agrees. . The next day they are in the king's audience and being introduced . The king says he is pleased that he will talk to them. The king's advisor suggests that maybe they should feed them first before they talk and the king agrees. At dinner, the king asks what he wants for the safe return of his brother? Ragnar asks who the man in the bishop's garb. The king explains he is a bishop, a man of God. Ragnar says I have one of those too. "2000 pounds gold and silver" says Ragnar. The king is infuriated. How much he asks twice again. King Aelle agrees but only if one of the men become baptized Christian. That way the king says he can make peace with a fellow Christian and not an enemy. Rollo volunteers himself which upsets Floki and Ragnar very much.

Back at home Siggy asks for an audience with Lagertha. Her son objects since her husband tried to kill Ragnar and she explains to him why and says if Ragnar did not win she would be in her spot and she asks him what he would do. He says "ask her to sit". She asks to be her servant. Lagertha says it is not necessary but she insists. The monk stands up for her and says it would do her good like it did him to serve someone. Lagertha agrees and tells her from now on she is under her protection and will be looked on as a servant. Siggy is relieved.

Back at the king's Rollo is being baptized at the river. After the baptism the king asks Ragnar and his men to return to ship and to give him back his brother while he gets the gold and silver together.

Later Lagertha's daughter comes into her mother's room in the middle of the night. She is afraid of her father being so far away. Lagertha comforts her. Her daughter then asks how does she know it's a boy? Lagertha says it is because the seer had foretold it. She then falls asleep on her mother.

Back at camp Rollo is cracking jokes about being Christian. Floki tells him he renounced the gods in front of everyone and he risks the wrath of the gods. Soon someone in camp yells that "they're here." A cart is being put down in front of the camp. Ragnar sends some men to look at it and they reveal it is empty. Emerging from the trees is the king's men. The Vikings stand and begin to slaughter the king's army that was sent to kill them even though they are clearly outnumbered. Rollo especially tries hard to kill as many Christians as he can in order to denounce Christianity. The old Viking dies in battle just like he wanted so he could go to Valhalla. After Rollo is done slaughtering the ones that were standing He then begins to slaughter the ones that are still moving on the ground. Everyone is speechless as they watch him slaughter. After he is done, he yells at Floki " How many Christians did I kill Floki? How many? Is Odin still angry with me now? "

Ragnar thinks the king does not. The king's brother tries to talk to Ragnar about letting him talk to his brother. He then says he will persuade him to hold up his end of the bargain. He says "why should I not just kill you now?" the king's brother tells that he will lose his bargaining chip. He holds up his axe and says he has this.

Heading to the king's castle is a horse pulling something behind it. It stops at the gates. It is the king's brother tied up to boards and dead.

Siggy is seen walking to Lagertha's bedroom.. She enters and sees bloody towels on the floor. Her eyes shift to Lagertha covered in blood and her stomach is flat. She lost the baby. Siggy goes over to comfort her and hold her. Ragnar heads back with his money while the king vows war eternal with him and he will avenge himself, bring him to justice and bring him to death. Ragnar waves goodbye from his boat with a sly smile.

Sacrifice

Season 1
Episode Number: 8
Season Episode: 8

Originally aired: Sunday April 21, 2013
Writer: Michael Hirst
Director: Ken Girotti
Show Stars: Travis Fimmel (Ragnar Lothbrok), Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Clive Standen (Rollo), Jessalyn Gilsig (Siggy), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), George Blagden (Athelstan), Donal Logue (King Horik)
Recurring Role: John Kavanagh (Seer), Nathan O'Toole (Bjorn), Jefferson Hall (Torstein), Maude Hirst (Helga)
Guest Stars: Ruby O'Leary (Gyda), Diarmaid Murtagh (Leif), Tadhg Murphy (Arne), Elinor Crawley (Thyri), Damien Devaney (Priest 1), Paul Ward (II) (Priest 2), Niall Ó Sioradain (Priest Uppsala), Steve Wilson (III) (Horik's Companion), Rudi Kennedy (Young Man)
Summary: The traditional pilgrimage to Uppsala to thank the gods brings a torrent of emotions for Ragnar, Lagertha, and Athelstan. Ragnar, pulling farther away from his wife, goes to make peace with the death of his unborn son. Lagertha, still reeling from her miscarriage, wants to find out from the gods if more sons are in her future. As the Vikings come together to sacrifice and give thanks to their gods, Athelstan discovers just how strong his Christian faith remains.



The episode begins with Ragnar telling Athelstan of the upcoming trip to Uppsala. The Vikings trek there every nine years, to thank the gods for their blessings and offer sacrifices. Ragnar is bitter over the loss of his unborn son. He asks if Athelstan wants to come with him and his family to Uppsala; the monk says he would gladly go with them. Ragnar is pleased with this, and says he would have taken Athelstan anyway. I enjoy Ragnar's curiosity, his skill in battle, his ability to see possibilities where others cannot, but

he is, many times (like with Athelstan here), a jerk.

Ragnar's bitterness over the loss of his unborn child causes tension between him and Lagertha. Ragnar seems to have given up on having the sons the Seer prophesied with Lagertha and, at Uppsala, asks Odin who will bear his son. Beneath Lagertha's calm facade is her growing desperation to bear more children; she begs Freyja to give her a son, even if it blinds or kills her. Lagertha can feel Ragnar moving away from her.

The animals to be sacrificed, nine of each kind, occupy pens outside the temple. The sole empty pen is for the humans. Though Athelstan seems to have ingested a kind of drug, either from the wine or what looked like dried mushrooms that Rollo offered him, he wakes just fine, and is kissed and washed clean by Thyri. The following morning, Ragnar takes Athelstan, along with Floki, to meet the legendary King Horik.

It is only when one of the priests of the temple questions Athelstan that he realizes he has been brought to Uppsala for the express purpose of ending his life. The priest asks him if he came there of his own free will; Athelstan says yes. The priest asks him if he remains a Christian at heart;

Athelstan says no. The priest asks him to repeat his answer; Athelstan still confidently says no. The third time, Athelstan's no is much softer, filled with doubt and fear. The priest informs the monk that he has been brought there to be sacrificed to the gods. Athelstan is surprised and hurt; he fumbles with the cross he has on his wrist, hidden underneath his sleeve. The priest sees this.

The Seer announces to Ragnar and his crew that Athelstan is not an acceptable sacrifice as he is neither willing nor has he renounced his Christian faith. One amongst the crowd must take his place, otherwise, the gods will get angry and withdraw their protection. Floki tries to volunteer but Helga, acting as surrogate to Floki's fans, stops him. One of Ragnar's young warriors also almost stands up, but is prevented by an older warrior, Leif, who volunteers.

The ceremonial sacrifice commences, with King Horik and several priests at the altar. The animals are killed, their blood collected on bowls. King Horik slit the throats of the human sacrifices; they are later shown to be hanging upside down from posts erected at the woods, alongside the animal sacrifices, their blood still trickling. The episode closes with Ragnar looking up the sky, as though asking the gods, *Is this enough?*

All Change

Season 1
Episode Number: 9
Season Episode: 9

Originally aired: Sunday April 28, 2013
Writer: Michael Hirst
Director: Ken Girotti
Show Stars: Travis Fimmel (Ragnar Lothbrok), Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Clive Standen (Rollo), Jessalyn Gilsig (Siggy), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), George Blagden (Athelstan), Alyssa Sutherland (Aslaug), Donal Logue (King Horik)
Recurring Role: Thorbjørn Harr (Jarl Borg), John Kavanagh (Seer), Nathan O'Toole (Bjorn), Jefferson Hall (Torstein)
Guest Stars: Tadhg Murphy (Arne), Ruby O'Leary (Gyda), Elinor Crawley (Thyri), David Michael Scott (Nils), Michelle Costello (II) (Female Servant 1), Rebecca Grimes (Female Servant 2), Michelle Beamish (Female Servant 3), Hillary Rose (Female Servant 4)
Summary: At the behest of King Horik, Ragnar assembles a small party to travel to Gotland (modern day Sweden) to resolve a land dispute with the area's leader, Jarl Borg. Ragnar's renown precedes him and Jarl Borg is intrigued — has he found a new ally or is Ragnar just a puppet of the king? Meanwhile in Kattegat, with a plague taking its toll on the village, the people look to Lagertha to help appease the gods.



Siggy falls ill after visiting a cousin, who recently buried her child. Before long, Kattegat is a ghost town. The sick are laid out on Ragnar's hall. Some die on the streets. Funeral pyres are lit to burn dozens of bodies. Siggy's daughter Thyri falls ill and dies, as does young Gyda (who, touchingly, asked Lagertha to pray for Athelstan's recovery, before herself succumbing to the disease).

Lagertha is profoundly moving in her stillness, whether sacrificing a goat to ap-

pease the gods or standing with spent funeral pyres still smoking behind her, staring into the sea, her daughter now gone. On the shoulders of this brave shieldmaiden lay the responsibility of ruling whilst many of the people she knew, including her own child, died. The plague was an enemy she could not beat up, it was a darkness she could only wait to pass, yet she met it with the same calm she did the two men who tried to assault her at the beginning of this series.

Ragnar is in Gotland (modern day Sweden) with Bjorn, Rollo, Floki, Torstein and others, serving as King Horik's emissaries to Jarl Borg. At first Jarl Borg is dismissive of the visitors, but when he learns that the man before him is Ragnar Lothbrok, the man who sailed West, he becomes more welcoming. No fool, Jarl Borg notices some tension between Ragnar and Rollo, when Rollo tries to continue negotiations without leave from King Horik. Whilst Floki rides to seek more instructions from King Horik, Jarl Borg sends Ragnar and his men to see the Ash Tree, an immense and holy tree that is days away from Jarl Borg's seat. Jarl Borg demands that one of Ragnar's men stay with him, and Ragnar names Rollo. Jarl Borg expertly manipulates Rollo, plays on his jealousy of his brother's fame and his own desire for greatness, and eventually, after King Horik refuses to negotiate further with Jarl Borg, Rollo agrees to fight alongside the Jarl against the King and Ragnar.

On the way to the Ash Tree, Ragnar meets the beautiful Princess Aslaug, the daughter of the famous shieldmaiden Brynhildr. The two of them sleep together one night, to Bjorn's fury. At Bjorn's insistence, Ragnar initially pushes Aslaug away. However, when Aslaug tells Ragnar she is carrying his child, and reminds him of the Seer's prophesy of having many sons, Ragnar goes to Aslaug, gently laying his head against her stomach.

Season Two

Brother's War

Season 2

Episode Number: 10

Season Episode: 1

Originally aired: Thursday February 27, 2014
Writer: Michael Hirst
Director: Ciaràn Donnelly
Show Stars: Travis Fimmel (Ragnar Lothbrok), Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Clive Standen (Rollo), Jessalyn Gilsig (Siggy), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), George Blagden (Athelstan), Alyssa Sutherland (Aslaug), Donal Logue (King Horik)
Recurring Role: Thorbjørn Harr (Jarl Borg), Nathan O'Toole (Bjorn), Jefferson Hall (Torstein), Maude Hirst (Helga)
Guest Stars: Tadhg Murphy (Arne), Alvaro Lucchesi (Pagan Priest), Morgan Jones (III) (Law Giver), Pagan McGrath (Woman), Carrie Crowley (Ellisef)
Summary: The battle begins between Ragnar and King Horik's forces against Jarl Borg. Borg is joined by Rollo, and this Viking clash pits brother against brother. There can only be one victor. Meanwhile, Princess Aslaug makes her way to Kattegat and brings with her a surprise that leaves Ragnar in a difficult predicament.



In Scandinavia, 796 A.D., Earl Ragnar, King Horik and their men await the return of Rollo from his stay with Jarl Borg. Everyone believes that Rollo has chosen to betray Ragnar to fight with Jarl Borg, but Ragnar refuses to believe it. Soon after, Rollo arrives, along with Jarl Borg and his myriad of men. Floki, who warned Ragnar that his brother was a traitor, rubs the fact in Ragnar's face.

Jarl Borg and Rollo perform a ceremony in preparation for battle as Arne rides towards them. Jarl Borg lets Arne speak to Rollo, but not in private. Arne tries to persuade Rollo to return to them and not betray them, which Rollo refuses. Much to Ragnar's dismay, the two forces soon face each other in battle. However, both sides take up the same defensive and offensive stance and are equally matched.

In the ensuing bloodbath, several lives are lost. When Rollo jumps through the wall of the Northmen, Floki engages him in battle and is overpowered, even more so when Rollo is joined by Jarl Borg. Floki is gravely wounded but saved from the battle by Ragnar, Torstein, and Arne. Arne stays behind and fights Rollo. Rollo impales Arne on a spear and is raised in the air to be seen by his comrades. It is at the moment when Rollo kills Arne that he begins to realize the gravity of his actions. Along with a few others, Ragnar rushes over. Rollo takes up arms against him as the others watch one, but realizes that he cannot bring himself to fight Ragnar. Rollo drops to his knees in defeat.

The battle ends, and both sides meet at a camp in a more civil manner. King Horik discusses his terms with Jarl Borg, and Jarl Borg still rejects his offer. Frustrated, Ragnar exclaimed that they should all focus on raiding the West together instead of fighting. All sides come to an agreement, and Jarl Borg finally accepts King Horik's offer. Ragnar faces Rollo and tells him that his niece Gyda has passed away, before stating that it was time to go home. A recovering Floki spits blood in Rollo's direction.

They sail back to Kattegat and are greeted by their usual crowd of anxious family and followers. They are grief-stricken to see the wounded Floki and the crowd jeers at the tied-up Rollo. In the Earl's hall, Ragnar tells the select few of recent events. Lagertha lectures Ragnar, and the pair begin to argue until Bjorn stops them. Lagertha then questions Ragnar about Aslaug, and Ragnar walks out, infuriated. Lagertha follows him and, while throwing things at him, continues to aggressively question him about Aslaug. Ragnar comes clean about having sex with Aslaug but tells her that he does not love her. Ragnar promises that he will never see her again, if it means Lagertha will let it go. The couple then proceed to make love to each other.

Bjorn expresses his concern for their relationship to his father, and Ragnar says he has nothing to be concerned about. Bjorn then asks about Rollo, and Ragnar says that since he is his brother, he cannot judge him himself, so a Lawgiver will be the judge, and Rollo's fate will be decided at Law Rock. Elsewhere, the restrained Rollo, guarded by Torstein, is visited by Siggy, who tries to warm him. Rollo tells her that she "cannot warm up a dead man," thinking he has no chance.

Rollo is then brought up to Law Rock, where the citizens of Kattegat, most of whom see him as a traitor, await to watch him be brought to justice. The Lawgiver, although agreeing that Rollo deserves to die, decides that Rollo be set free, much to the dismay of the spectators, believing that Rollo's surprising behavior proves that the gods themselves have made their judgment and chose to spare him from death in the battle. Torstein tells Ragnar that, as Earl, he can still have Rollo killed. Ragnar refuses, saying the lawgiver is the law when he stands on the Sacred Stone. In truth, Ragnar had bribed the lawgiver with a gold coin from England.

At the docks, Rollo tells Ragnar that he merely wanted to step out of his shadow, but upon doing so, realized that there was no sunlight beyond it. Siggy returns home and finds Rollo packing his things. Rollo tells her that he is leaving, believing that it would have been better for everyone if he had been executed. Siggy tells him that the lawgiver was right, that the gods wanted him alive, offering him a chance at redemption and Valhalla. Siggy convinces him to stay.

Ragnar sits on the shore of his land and mourns for Gyda, wanting to properly bid her farewell, reminiscing about her youth and energy. While usually appearing obsessed with having sons, it becomes evident that Ragnar dearly loved his departed daughter, and is heartbroken as he sits alone in the spot where her funeral pyre burned on the shore of the fjord, speaking of her as if she were physically present.

Meanwhile, a very pregnant Aslaug sails towards Kattegat. Bjorn awakens Ragnar, who is surprised to see her, but evidently pleased by her baby bump. Ragnar tells Lagertha that he did not know she was coming, and Lagertha is surprised to see that Ragnar had impregnated the woman.

Lagertha and Aslaug discuss their parents over a meal, and when Aslaug tries to talk to Bjorn about having a bond, Bjorn retorts that they have none. Later, Aslaug is picking out food from the marketplace, and Bjorn tells Ragnar to let her leave. Ragnar refuses because Aslaug is carrying his child. When Bjorn says she brings "unhappiness and difficulty", Ragnar tells him that unhappiness is a part of life, and that he is of age to accept that. Elsewhere, Lagertha is weaving, and Siggy tries to talk to her about Aslaug and what is to come.

Ragnar and Bjorn visit a recovering Floki, who is pleased when Ragnar tells him that he must regain his strength if he is to build a fleet of boats for their journey. Floki gleefully tells them that he had dreamed of the places they were to sail to.

At a banquet later that evening, Floki arrives with Torstein and Helga. At the head table, Ragnar is seen holding the uncomfortable Lagertha. They are soon served with food cooked by the lady servants of Aslaug, who joins them and sits on the other side of Ragnar. Seemingly drunk, Ragnar awkwardly suggests to Lagertha that the three of them be involved in what is a common marriage arrangement for Earls in the country, when the Earl can live with more than one woman, implying that he wants to live with both her and Aslaug, for the benefit of the children. Lagertha is appalled, and Aslaug agrees. Ragnar continues to try to appease Lagertha into agreeing.

The conversation only continues in their chambers later that night. Ragnar insists that she must accept so he can take care of Aslaug and their child, not wanting the incident with their unborn child to be repeated. Lagertha remains silent, her decision made.

The next day, Lagertha prepares to leave, and Floki arrives to find out himself. Torstein takes Bjorn to the side to tell him that he must stay with his father, else he will regret it. Bjorn is

torn between his parents. As Lagertha is almost ready to leave, she calls for Bjorn and asks him about his choice. He chooses his father, and she painfully bids him farewell. Lagertha bids Siggy goodbye, and mounts her cart. The townspeople watch and gossip, Lagertha's friends look on sadly, and Bjorn tearfully walks away with Torstein. They come across Ragnar, unaware of his wife's departure, and chases after her on horseback.

Ragnar stops Lagertha, hurt that she would abandon him without warning him. Lagertha confronts him, saying he left her no choice. She has been insulted and humiliated, and she will now leave and divorce him. Ragnar tells her to stay, and Lagertha tells him it is fate. Moments later, Bjorn arrives, changing his mind and choosing his mother. Ragnar despondently accepts their decision, telling Bjorn to look after Lagertha. Bjorn mounts the cart with Lagertha, and the mother and son leave as a tearful Ragnar looks on. Ragnar, dejected and forlorn, woefully comes home to Aslaug and their unborn son.

Invasion

Season 2

Episode Number: 11

Season Episode: 2

Originally aired: Thursday March 6, 2014
Writer: Michael Hirst
Director: Ciaràn Donnelly
Show Stars: Travis Fimmel (Ragnar Lothbrok), Clive Standen (Rollo), Jessalyn Gilsig (Siggy), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), George Blagden (Athelstan), Alyssa Sutherland (Aslaug), Donal Logue (King Horik), Linus Roache (Ecbert, King of Wessex)
Recurring Role: Thorbjørn Harr (Jarl Borg), John Kavanagh (Seer), Maude Hirst (Helga), Jefferson Hall (Torstein)
Guest Stars: Anna Astrom (Hild), Cormac Melia (Ubbe), Cathal O'Hallin (Hvitserk), Jay Duffy (Ari), Edvin Endre (Erlendur), Robert Fawsitt (Saxon 1), Connor Marren (Saxon 2), James Browne (Messenger)
Summary: Four peaceful years have since passed with Ragnar as Earl. The time has come for an unlikely alliance to band together in pursuit of a common goal — a new raid on England. A storm pushes the Viking fleet to a new destination, and on the beaches of Wessex, Ragnar and his men may have met their match.



800 A.D. Four years after Aslaug settled into Kattegat, she has given birth to two sons for Ragnar, and is pregnant with another. At the mead hall, people are gathered, including Athelstan and Torstein who are discussing weapons and strategy. Floki arrives with Helga and is welcomed warmly, missed due to his being occupied building their boats. Floki calls Athelstan "priest", and he replies in Old Norse, amusing those around them.

They tell Ragnar to tell his people about his plans for the summer raids to the West, and that, since it has been years since his last raid, his people are beginning to see him like Earl Haraldson. Ragnar does just this, announcing that they will return to England with King Horik and Jarl Borg, possibly for an extended sojourn. Siggy witnessed his speech and returned home, only to find Rollo asleep outside in the snow. She awakens him with a bucket of half-frozen water.

Aslaug notices Ragnar take notice of the new servant, Hild. Displeased, Aslaug calls the girl back and warns her to be careful of whom she becomes familiar with. In their quarters, a drunk Ragnar tries to calm his wife and promises that he is not interested in sleeping with other women. Aslaug tells him that "women know these things," and she knows more because of her "gifts", claiming herself sort of a völva. To prove it, she tells him that she knows that their next child will be another boy, this time, bearing the image of the serpent Fafnir, the one her father slayed, in his eye. This catches Ragnar's attention...

... enough to make him consult the Seer. Ragnar asks him the fate of his sons. When he is told that his sons will enjoy fame, Ragnar initially seems threatened. Then he asks about Bjorn, wanting to know if he was alive and if he will ever see him again. The Seer tells him that it was Bjorn he was talking about earlier, but refuses to say anymore.

Elsewhere, Siggy tells Rollo that he is a disgrace, though she refuses to give up on him because she has lost too much: her two sons, her husband, and finally her daughter. She tells him of

Ragnar's plans to go back West with King Horik for the summer's raid. She tells him that he should ask Ragnar to take him with him, as it would be something that would give him the drive to keep going. Otherwise, Siggy thinks that he should just end his own life and rot in Hel, handing him the blade she had stuck into the coals. Rollo takes it and instead, burns his hand.

They soon go to Ragnar's home, interrupting play time with their children. Ragnar tells everyone, including the reluctant Siggy, to leave, leaving him and Rollo alone. Rollo practically begs his brother to be brought back in his good graces. Ragnar brings up Rollo's betrayal. Rollo defends himself by saying brothers "hate and love each other all the time," and that he could not have killed Ragnar if it came down to it. He asks him another chance to prove himself trustworthy and to regain his respect, enough to fight beside him in battle once again. Ragnar reminds him that though he has suffered, several others suffered because of him. Despite this, he tells Rollo that he will think on it.

Warriors, both men and women, are training and sparring, one pair being Ragnar and Athelstan. During the intense exercise, Ragnar asks him if he misses England. Athelstan admits that he does, slightly, and Ragnar tells him to join him in their next raid. Athelstan happily agrees, even after Ragnar teased that they need his "God". Athelstan attacks Ragnar, to no avail, and Ragnar, having Athelstan at his throat, tells him to kill when he needs to and to not hesitate.

King Horik and his party arrive at Kattegat early, and by horse, concerning Ragnar. The king explained that he was ecstatic about their trip. He is then brought to face Jarl Borg who arrived before him, and both are not happy to see each other. Even four years since their scuffle, and King Horik is still not pleased with their terms. Rollo arrives, and King Horik, recognizing him as the traitor, is even less thrilled. Ragnar tells him that his decision was that he now acknowledges him as his brother again, though he forbade him from joining their raid. Rollo reluctantly accepts the judgment.

A feast welcoming their guests is held at the dining hall. Ragnar chats up King Horik's son Ari and is saddened when Ari mentioned his son, who would have been around the same age as him. King Horik compliments Aslaug and soon turns away to tell Ragnar that he does not want Jarl Borg to raid with them as he does not fully trust him, just as Ragnar cannot bring himself to let Rollo join them. He leaves the task of telling the Jarl to Ragnar, much to his frustrations. Siggy then catches the eye of the king.

Soon enough, King Horik's fleet arrives. Ragnar and Floki watch, and Floki is not intimidated, knowing his ships were better. Ragnar then breaks from the group to tell an eager Jarl Borg that he will not be joining them. The Jarl is obviously angry that their agreement was broken.

Meanwhile, Siggy is offering King Horik knowledge about Ragnar, saying knowing an ally's strengths and weaknesses will work in his favor. King Horik contemplates her trustworthiness, and she tries to prove her loyalty by sleeping with him. The king is pleased.

Jarl Borg laments over Ragnar's injustices and Rollo's fall, seemingly blaming him for both their problems. He offers him another chance to leave Ragnar for good. Rollo refuses, saying he wants to stay and find himself (after his previous realization that he was no one when not under Ragnar's shadow). Jarl Borg mocks him, and Rollo punches him. The jarl calls him a fool, and Rollo sarcastically replies he hopes to be wise.

In preparation for their long journey, Ragnar bids his family farewell. He says good-bye to his sons lovingly, and does so as well to his wife and his unborn son. Aslaug says they will make a sacrifice to Thor. Though concerned, she is also confident that they will cross the sea safely.

The warriors then set sail; a woeful Rollo watches them sail away and feeling dejected, throws an axe in their direction. Meanwhile, Ragnar looks on proudly as the crew gets further into the waters. They soon realize that they should have been near land by then, though there is none in sight. Torstein releases a bird to scout ahead and they wait.

Night has fallen, and the raiders are met with a storm, which they blame on the angry Aesir gods. Ragnar watches as the men try to control the boat against the waves, laughing at Horik's reaction. However, a sail rips and a huge rock blocks their path, now worrying Ragnar.

Back in Kattegat, Aslaug summons Siggy, saying they should be friends, since Ragnar has forgiven Rollo and they are now as good as family. When Siggy agrees, Aslaug states that she knows Siggy would like her status back. Aslaug claims that she does not blame her for wanting that and states that they should at least not be enemies. They agree that women should stick together and rule, and they seem to try and ease into a friendship.

Ragnar's ship had gone off course. Ragnar is more concerned that it seems their numbers have dwindled; he was right: they now only had five ships in their fleet. The mood shifts though when they see land.

The Vikings are watched by soldiers of the land as they disembark their ships and head up the shore. Ragnar looks at their new looting target and is pleased at what he sees. They make their way deeper into the land, and an armored soldier rushes off on horseback. Trekking through the woods, Ragnar decides to make camp when they reach a clearing abundant with fish. The warriors rest and chat and do chores, while they are unwittingly being watched by soldiers, waiting for the right time to strike.

Arrows begin to fly, King Horik's son Ari being the first target. Several men are felled by arrows before their shield formation is made and then they become practically invincible. They realize that they are surrounded and possibly outnumbered. King Horik rallies the warriors, telling them to fight well and meet their attackers head on, to consider the fact that it is already determined if they will be dining with the gods at Valhalla soon. With the battle cry "Odin!", the armored men of the land charge, and the raiders fight back fiercely, even Athelstan who is fairly new and inexperienced. Athelstan sees that Horik is in trouble and moves away from the shield wall to help him. While Athelstan assists Horik in the fight, Ragnar follows to help him, tasking Floki with helping Horik instead. Floki takes Torstein with him and moves to Horik's shield wall to help them. They turn the battle tide in their favor by surrounding the soldiers, trapping them. Later, Ragnar pins down a guard and was almost struck by an enemy, saved by Athelstan who proceeds to make his first kill. Ragnar grins in pride, and the Northmen cheer their victory.

In the silence and recovery that followed the battle, King Horik and Erlendur tend to the injured Ari, and Ragnar praises a quiet Athelstan for not hesitating. He gives him his arm ring, which Athelstan accepts and wears proudly. Ragnar, holding onto a dismembered head of a soldier, takes Athelstan to interrogate two survivors. Athelstan asks them, in a mutual language, where they are from. Through the soldiers, they learn that they are in Wessex, and their king is King Ecbert, whose reputation is known to Athelstan. When Ragnar asks about the king, Athelstan tells him that they are similar, and Ragnar finds himself amused.

Elsewhere, a soldier tells a bathing King Ecbert of the Northmen's arrival and the defeat of a large force of their men. King Ecbert dismisses the soldier, evidently displeased.

Treachery

Season 2
Episode Number: 12
Season Episode: 3

Originally aired: Thursday March 13, 2014
Writer: Michael Hirst
Director: Ken Girotti
Show Stars: Travis Fimmel (Ragnar Lothbrok), Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Clive Standen (Rollo), Jessalyn Gilsig (Siggy), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), George Blagden (Athelstan), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Alyssa Sutherland (Aslaug), Donal Logue (King Horik), Linus Roache (Ecbert, King of Wessex)
Recurring Role: Thorbjørn Harr (Jarl Borg), Jefferson Hall (Torstein), Moe Dunford (Aethelwulf)
Guest Stars: Morten Suurballe (Earl Sigvard), Edvin Endre (Erlendur), Duncan Lacroix (Ealdorman Werferth), Alan Devine (Ealdorman Eadric), Philip O'Sullivan (Bishop Edmund), Fionn Foley (Bell Monk), Chris Gallagher (II) (Monk), Edmund Kente (Bishop Swithern), Georgia Hirst (Torvi), Cormac Melia (Ubbe), Cathal O'Hallin (Hvitserk), Mark Lewis (II) (Old Warrior)
Summary: The Wessex Viking raid is in full swing and King Ecbert finds himself facing an entirely new kind of foe. While Ragnar races to dominate in the West, Jarl Borg has his own plans in store for the future of Kattegat.



Ragnar, King Horik and the other Northmen approaches the monastery of Winchester, which according to Athelstan holds a big treasury.

Meanwhile, King Ecbert gives his son Aethelwulf the assignment of building an army and scout the Northmen to seek out their numbers and intentions.

Lagertha, now married to Earl Sigvard of Hedeby, is displeased with her new husband for insulting her son Bjorn. Sigvard says he loves her son, but Lagertha

replies he doesn't know how to love anyone, and he hits her.

Ragnar and his raiding party moves towards Winchester. They are spotted and the townspeople hide inside the building, while defending soldiers take their stand against the Northmen. They are easily defeated by the Vikings. Inside the church, the Northmen find no treasure, but Athelstan reveals that they are hidden underneath a table on the altar. Besides treasures, they find parts of the skeleton of a saint. The Vikings continue seeking other buildings for treasures and kill any civilian they came across. Athelstan enters a room where holy papers are kept. When he is about to write on one with a feather and ink, he is confronted by a monk which Athelstan kills in fright, much to his shock. The main priest of Winchester enters and Athelstan tells him to hide before the Northmen discover him. The priest recognizes him as one of their own and says he will be punished for his betrayal of Christianity. Floki enters and takes the priest with him. The Northmen under King Horik's command takes of his clothes and tortures him by shooting arrows at him, to Athelstan's disgust.

Ragnar and other Vikings are searching another building when he discovers a boy hiding. He conceals him with a blanket before the others see him to spare his life.

When the Northmen are about to finish of the priest, Athelstan intervenes by standing in front of him before killing the priest himself out of mercy, while Ragnar looks ashamed about the behaviour of King Horik and his men.

In Hedeby, Bjorn tells his mother Lagertha he will kill Sigvard if he beats her again. She assures him it will not happen again. He says he misses his father Ragnar, and she tells him it is logical to be proud of being his son. Bjorn replies she should be proud of being Ragnar's wife.

In Kattegat, Aslaug has given birth to her son Sigurd, with the image of a serpent in his eye as his mother prophesized.

King Ecbert is informed about the raid on Winchester. One of his companions expresses the question of some of his people why nothing was done to protect the important site. Ecbert coldly replies his kingdom is very large and he cannot defend all of it. He also says it is more important to know where the Northmen would strike first. Ecbert's bishop asks if the bishop of Winchester was sacrificed in martyrdom, to which Ecbert replies he can have the same honor very soon.

In the camp the Northmen set up in Wessex, Floki gives Athelstan the Bible the monk he killed earlier was holding. Floki does not believe that the former priest has renounced his faith. He mockingly gives Athelstan the skeletal hand of the saint.

Ragnar tells King Horik that if their people were to live in England, they would never be hungry as the earth is fertile enough for farming. King Horik expresses his doubts about the Saxons allowing them to live there.

In Götland, Jarl Borg has been married to his new wife Torvi. At a feast, he tells his people they will attack Kattegat in revenge for Ragnar breaking their agreement of raiding together, as it is left undefended.

The camp of the Northmen in Wessex is visited by King Ecbert's bishop and a general with his army. The bishop asks Ragnar how long they intend to stay, to which the Earl replies it depends on what King Ecbert is willing to offer them to leave or to stay. Ragnar says he wants to make peace with King Ecbert. King Horik notices the general is scouting out the numbers of the Northmen. Before they leave, Horik kills the general, to Floki's amusement and Ragnar's dismay.

Sigvard notices Bjorn is not happy. He asked what he can do to make the boy happy. Bjorn says he wants to live in a cabin in the mountains all by himself so he can test himself, learning what is essential and important to life. Sigvard declines, mocking Bjorn by saying he cannot allow his beloved stepson starve and die all alone.

In Kattegat, a fisher spots several ships approaching the village. Siggý wakes up Rollo, who deduces it must be Jarl Borg and rallies everyone who can fight to mount a defense. He instructs Siggý to take Aslaug and her children to safety in the mountains. The defending townspeople, including women and children, are forced to retreat to higher positions. An elder man tells Rollo he should not be ashamed to flee, as his first duty is to bring Ragnar's family to safety. From a distance, Rollo and Aslaug witnesses Jarl Borg's forces seizing their village. Borg walks into Earl Ragnar's hall and revels in his victory, despite he did not have revenge on Ragnar or Rollo.

Eye for an Eye

Season 2

Episode Number: 13

Season Episode: 4

Originally aired:	Thursday March 20, 2014
Writer:	Michael Hirst
Director:	Ken Girotti
Show Stars:	Travis Fimmel (Ragnar Lothbrok), Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Clive Standen (Rollo), Jessalyn Gilsig (Siggy), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), George Blagden (Athelstan), Alyssa Sutherland (Aslaug), Donal Logue (King Horik), Linus Roache (Ecbert, King of Wessex), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn)
Recurring Role:	Thorbjørn Harr (Jarl Borg), John Kavanagh (Seer), Moe Dunford (Aethelwulf), Jefferson Hall (Torstein), Maude Hirst (Helga)
Guest Stars:	Morten Suurballe (Earl Sigvard), Morgan Jones (III) (Law Giver), Philip O'Sullivan (Bishop Edmund), Edvin Endre (Erlendur), Duncan Lacroix (Ealdorman Werferth), Richard Ashton (Thorvard), Georgia Hirst (Torvi), Cormac Melia (Ubbe), Cathal O'Hallin (Hvitserk)
Summary:	A meeting between two great men may pave the way for future compromise as Ragnar and Ecbert come face to face. Jarl Borg now rules Kattegat and with an iron fist and Rollo must now become the leader his people need in Ragnar's absence.



Rollo, Siggy, Aslaug and her and Ragnar's sons arrive at a farm, having fled Kattegat after the attack of Jarl Borg. Aslaug complains that it is too dirty for her and her children to live, but Rollo says the winter is coming soon and they are less easily found here than in a larger place like an Earls hall. Siggy comforts Aslaug by telling they will survive there together, and will become stronger and so will the children.

In Kattegat, Jarl Borg seizes leadership over the remaining citizens. He tells them he is a fair ruler, that Kattegat is an important trading settlement and thus he wants it to flourish. Borg notices The Seer is watching him skeptically during his speech. He promises a reward to the person who give him the whereabouts of Ragnar Lothbrok, his children and Rollo.

Jarl Borg visits The Seer to ask some questions. He asks if he foresaw the attack on Kattegat, to which The Seer replies he sees what the Gods allow him to see and says what the Gods allow him to say. Jarl Borg mockingly remarks that he either saw nothing or said nothing. He then asks what will happen to him. The Seer replies that he see an eagle hovering over Borg, but that the Jarl is the eagle himself as well. Jarl Borg takes it as a good sign.

King Ecbert wishes to talk to the Northmen in Wessex before they fight. He says to accommodate such thing both camps need to exchange hostages. Ecbert elects his own son Aethelwulf to be the hostage for the Northmen, as a hostage of the highest value is the safest hostage, but he only will do so if the Northmen delivers a hostage of equal value. The bishop of Wessex doubt it will work as the Northmen in his eyes don't value the life of anyone. King Ecbert denies, saying that before they became Christian, they were pagans themselves but still cared for their families and children.

A small band of Northmen, including Ragnar, King Horik and Athelstan, arrive at the gates of Wessex, where they are met by Aethelwulf. Ragnar and Aethelwulf trade over. Ragnar is led to King Ecbert in his bath house and joins him. King Ecbert asks Ragnar why they haven't left Wessex yet as they got a lot of treasure from Winchester, to which Ragnar replies he doesn't care about treasure. He is curious about the farming in England, as he is a farmer himself in Kattegat. King Ecbert proposes giving Ragnar some land in exchange for helping the King fulfilling his ambitions.

Back in the camp of the Northmen, Ragnar informs King Horik and the others of the proposal of Ecbert. Horik asks what he wants in return, but before Ragnar can answer, a horn is sound from an arriving ship. It is one of Horik's ships bringing the news of Jarl Borg's attack on Kattegat and the fled of Ragnar's family. Ragnar immediately decides to return to Scandinavia. He leaves Athelstan behind to act as a translator between King Ecbert and King Horik, as the latter doesn't speak the language of Old England.

Bjorn arrives somewhere in Earl Sigvard's territory in Scandinavia to deliver the news of the invasion of Kattegat by Jarl Borg to Lagertha. He says Ragnar will return to fight for his land and they should help him. Lagertha says they can't because it is not Earl Sigvard's quarrel.

Rollo went on a journey to see who is willing to fight against Jarl Borg, but he only found thirty warriors, not enough to drive Borg out of Kattegat, but perhaps sufficient to torment him by attacking outposts and disrupting supplies before Ragnar returns, making sure Borg never feels secure in Kattegat. Siggy smiles, as she sees Rollo finally believing in something again. Rollo says his brother Ragnar forgave him, something he thought impossible, and he found in his heart he always loved him, despite his jealousy for his brother.

Lagertha meets a drunk Sigvard, to talk about helping Ragnar in taking back Kattegat from Jarl Borg. Sigvard angrily replies he is not interested in anything that has something to do with her ex-husband. She tells him Jarl Borg will not stop with Kattegat and sooner or later will attack Sigvard as well. He is not interested and only wants to make love to her. When she denies, he attempts to rape her. but she kicks him in the groin, telling him he should treat her as his wife and not a whore. Outside the room, Bjorn listens, taking his knife out to defend his mother. Lagertha opens the door and tells him to go to his bed, as Sigvard is asleep and will not harm her, but she thanks him for him being willing to protect her.

In Wessex, Athelstan retreats to his tent after being disgusted by the Northmen drunkenly raping women captured in Winchester. He picks the Bible he secretly kept and when he sees an image of the crucified Jesus, he hallucinates seeing blood seeping out of his wounds.

King Ecbert is informed that some ships of the Northmen left Wessex.

Aslaug, still disgusted by the life in their refuge home, hallucinates Ragnar coming for her and his children.

Ragnar and his men arrive at Floki's home where they are met by Helga. She will bring them to Ragnar's family but first they need to rest.

Athelstan and some Northmen are hunting in the woods when they are attacked by bowmen. Athelstan manages to flee and falls asleep, only to be awoken when he is found by King Ecbert's men. He surrenders, saying he is one of them

Ragnar is finally reunited with his family. Ragnar angrily tells Rollo he wants to kill Jarl Borg. Rollo says they have too few men to do so.

Jarl Borg is informed of Ragnar's return in Scandinavia. He tells his men Ragnar's vanity will kill him, but then he says he himself will kill the Earl.

Athelstan is crucified by the bishop of Wessex for his betrayal of Christianity. When he is about to be finished off with a spear, King Ecbert arrives to tell them to spare the former monk and cut him loose from the cross.

A pack of warriors is approaching the hiding place of Ragnar's family. Thinking it is Jarl Borg, Ragnar confronts them only to see it is Lagertha and their son Bjorn, now grown up since the last time Ragnar has seen him. Ragnar jokingly asks who he is and when Bjorn wants to answer, he is embraced by his father. They want to help him fighting Borg. Ragnar is proud of seeing his son has become strong and wise. Bjorn says for a long time all he felt was memories, but now with both his father and mother back in his life he feels reborn. Touched by the words of his son, Ragnar embraces Bjorn once again before walking off together, leaving Lagertha ignored by her former husband.

Answers in Blood

Season 2

Episode Number: 14

Season Episode: 5

Originally aired:	Thursday March 27, 2014
Writer:	Michael Hirst
Director:	Jeff Woolnough
Show Stars:	Travis Fimmel (Ragnar Lothbrok), Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Clive Standen (Rollo), Jessalyn Gilsig (Siggy), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), George Blagden (Athelstan), Alyssa Sutherland (Aslaug), Donal Logue (King Horik), Linus Roache (Ecbert, King of Wessex), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn)
Recurring Role:	Thorbjørn Harr (Jarl Borg), John Kavanagh (Seer), Maude Hirst (Helga), Jefferson Hall (Torstein), Moe Dunford (Aethelwulf)
Guest Stars:	Cormac Melia (Ubbe), Cathal O'Hallin (Hvitserk), Rachel-Mae Brady (Young Woman), Jens Christian Bushov Lund (Olrik), Georgia Hirst (Torvi), Morgan Jones (III) (Law Giver), Carrie Crowley (Elisef), Philip O'Sullivan (Bishop Edmund), Richard Ashton (Thorvard)
Summary:	Lagertha and Ragnar unite once again; Aslaug must face the truth of her prophecies; Athelstan struggles to define his faith; Bjorn must once again make a choice.



Lagertha and Bjorn have a nice reunion with everyone else inside the hut that was their temporary residence. Rollo and Floki look mightily pleased at seeing the grown-up Bjorn. Siggy and Aslaug, however, both do not look that happy with the new arrivals, though they hid their emotions well enough. Ragnar cuts off the pleasantries so they can plan how to retake Kattegat. Even with the warriors Lagertha brought with her, they still do not have enough strength to attack Kat-

tegat. Rollo suggests drawing Jarl Borg out by destroying his winter grain stores. Ragnar thinks this would be a nice father-son bonding moment.

Ragnar and Bjorn are to burn the grain stores whilst Torstein and another Viking provided distraction. Torstein is wounded whilst this other Viking is killed; the mission is a success. The following morning, Jarl Borg decides to hunt down those responsible, despite the pleas of his pregnant wife not to be left alone in Kattegat.

Jarl Borg and his men encounter a dead body acting as sentry, before Floki gets their attention. First, only Ragnar's handful of men show themselves, then Lagertha's larger force join them. The battle scene is as well choreographed and authentic looking as any we have seen in Vikings. The two opposing forces initially fight from behind their respective shield walls. At Jarl Borg's command, some of his men appear to retreat, then run back toward Ragnar's forces, their momentum pushing their enemies, including Bjorn, to the ground. Ragnar and Lagertha both move quickly to protect Bjorn until he gains back his footing. Their defeat all but certain, Jarl Borg's forces retreat. Ragnar directs an axe toward him, but it hits someone else. The Jarl escapes on someone else's horse. Rollo tells Bjorn he fought well, whilst Ragnar snits that his son has much to learn.

Ragnar and his crew are joyfully welcomed back at Kattegat. Lagertha is obviously popular; ladies flock toward her, whilst poor Aslaug only has her children to play with. Rollo presides over

a sacrifice in thanks to the gods; one of Jarl Borg's men is to die by the axe. Ragnar interrupts Rollo's moment and stops the sacrifice; for a fraction of a second, Rollo's old grievances are visible on his face. But then Ragnar gives the honour of making the sacrifice to Bjorn, who hacks off the man's head with one swing. Rollo fondly smears blood on his nephew's face.

Ragnar goes to the Seer/ eighth century therapist to sort out his love triangle. The Seer tells him the story of a giantess whom the gods allow to choose a husband from amongst them, but only by looking at their feet. The Seer's sage wisdom is for Ragnar to look past appearances and examine the ladies' hearts, livers and every other organ. He then says Ragnar is only fooling himself if he thinks the choice is his to make.

When asked by Aslaug about Lagertha, Ragnar tells his wife he will not tell his ex wife to leave if she does not want to. Aslaug says, if Ragnar likes, she will leave.

Ragnar goes to see Lagertha, who is staying with Rollo and Siggy. They talk first of Bjorn, whom Lagertha says is very happy there. Ragnar tells Lagertha she and Bjorn should both stay. Lagertha says his wife will not be happy about that. 'I imagine not,' is Ragnar's response.

Whilst Ragnar is dispensing his brand of justice as Jarl, which includes enjoining the gathered crowd to bleat, he gets news of the attack by King Ecbert's forces on King Horik. He immediately asks about Athelstan, but the messenger does not even know who the monk is. Lagertha and Bjorn join the gathering; Lagertha addresses the assembly and announces her son is staying. She, however, has a duty and will go back to her husband. She entreats Ragnar to look after Bjorn, who is all she has. I am excusing Ragnar's near non-reaction to this heartfelt plea (a slight nod) with the fact that Ragnar just received ill news about Athelstan.

A grateful Aslaug thanks Lagertha, and the two women embrace. Bjorn reminds his mother not to take any more sh#t from her husband. 'Who do you think I am?' Lagertha asks and rides off like the boss that she is.

Meanwhile, Athelstan finds himself at the Court of King Ecbert, wearing brown monk's robes and leaning on a wooden staff, his hands still bandaged from the crucifixion he suffered in the previous episode. Before the king is a woman, her face badly damaged by her husband who believed her unfaithful (she denies this). King Ecbert asks Athelstan what the pagans would do. Athelstan says that if she were a free woman, they would believe her and make judgement according to her behalf. King Ecbert says that surely she belongs to her husband; not according to the pagans, Athelstan points out. King Ecbert muses about pagan laws being superior to theirs, then decides to deny the husband's demand to have his wife publicly branded, since the husband presented no evidence of her adultery.

Later, the king's son Aethelwulf chats up Athelstan; he says King Ecbert may go to Northumbria, and maybe he will take Athelstan with him. Athelstan sees no reason for him to journey to Northumbria since there is nothing left for him there. Aethelwulf wonders if Athelstan is a pagan now, and sternly tells the monk to attend High Mass.

Left on his own, Athelstan has a vision/ hallucination of the Virgin Mary. She, however, turns out to be the lady with the scarred face who was saved from public branding by Athelstan's intervention. She thanks the former monk and kisses him lightly.

At High Mass, Athelstan has visions/ hallucinations of blood running down the cross, and of the Viking sacrifice ritual we saw in the first season. He takes communion, but he later takes out the host from his mouth; Aethelwulf witnesses this.

On his knees, Athelstan earnestly prays to the Christian God to come into him again. He hallucinates of a creature with huge pointed teeth in the room.

Unforgiven

Season 2
Episode Number: 15
Season Episode: 6

Originally aired: Thursday April 3, 2014
Writer: Michael Hirst
Director: Jeff Woolnough
Show Stars: Travis Fimmel (Ragnar Lothbrok), Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Clive Standen (Rollo), Jessalyn Gilsig (Siggy), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), George Blagden (Athelstan), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Alyssa Sutherland (Aslaug), Donal Logue (King Horik), Linus Roache (Ecbert, King of Wessex)
Recurring Role: Thorbjørn Harr (Jarl Borg), John Kavanagh (Seer), Gaia Weiss (Porunn), Maude Hirst (Helga), Jefferson Hall (Torstein), Moe Dunford (Aethelwulf)
Guest Stars: Morten Suurballe (Earl Sigvard), Edvin Endre (Erlendur), Cathal O'Hallin (Hvitserk), Georgia Hirst (Torvi), Derry Power (Older Man), Cormac Melia (Ubbe), Steve Wall (Uncle Einar), Rick Burn (Warrior)
Summary: King Horik returns to Kattegat with a surprising proposition for Ragnar; Lagertha runs into a less than enthusiastic homecoming from her new husband; Athelstan becomes confidant to King Ecbert.



After a feast where Ragnar and Jarl Borg appear to bury the hatchet, Torstein, Rollo and others lock Jarl Borg's men in the barn where they are sleeping, and set them on fire. Rollo then leads the small group to Jarl Borg's chambers, and coolly watches the beat-down. Jarl Borg is then brought to Ragnar, who pronounces his sentence — the blood eagle.

I do not have that strong a stomach, so I am not going to describe this particularly horrendous method of torture (I

included a link in the previous paragraph if you would like to read up on it). I have heard of the blood eagle before, from one of the documentaries I tend to keep in the background whilst doing household chores. When Ragnar raises up his arms to illustrate what a blood eagle looks like, it is a chilling, welcome reminder that no matter how many baby goats he cuddles, Ragnar Lothbrok is the powerful leader of a warrior tribe. Seasoned warriors who follow strength follow him. His generous mercy can reach its limit at any point, his easygoing persona can give way to a cold, ruthless core.

Ragnar may have pledged his fealty for King Horik in the first season (and Aslaug may nag him about allowing the king to make all the decisions), but there no longer is a question of who amongst these two leaders is in charge. Many times in this show, Ragnar's belief that he is the son of Odin has been mentioned, often with disdain. Yet, this perceived affinity to the gods is almost in contrast with how mellow Ragnar is. He is comfortable in leading men to battle, to shores they have not been before, but Ragnar's defiance of King Horik's will is the clearest sign of Ragnar's growing comfort with his position as leader not just in raiding and war but in society, and his confidence in his power. To put it more plainly, Ragnar no longer gives a sh#t what King Horik thinks. Jarl Borg threatened his family, and he will have his vengeance.

Similarly, the close-ups of Rollo in this episode show his cold core. He sweetly talked of spring in the previous episode and played the proud uncle to the grown-up Bjorn, but Rollo, like Ragnar,

is first a warrior. Violence is not an abhorrence, it is a way of life. I am loving Clive Standen's portrayal of him, and look forward to seeing where the show takes Rollo.

In Hedeby, Lagertha's tiresome, drunk husband Sigvard arranges for our favourite shield-maiden to be attacked on her bed, by four men. Lagertha of course fights back but she is overpowered. Lagertha sports horrific bruises on her face at a feast, where Sigvard continues to rag on her and even tries to expose her breasts. Why did ever you marry this jerk, L? Lagertha, who has finally had enough, grabs a knife and stabs her husband in the eye. One of the men looses his sword, but rather than attacking Lagertha, he cuts off Sigvard's head. All hail Queen Lagertha! Yes, I know the death of Sigvard does not make her queen, but she deserves to be.

In Wessex, King Ecbert tries to be Athelstan's BFF by showing him art done by the Romans. Athelstan easily passes King Ecbert's test, and is given a new task — to copy the ancient Roman scrolls, to preserve them for generations. I do believe a lot of the pleasure of this task is taken away when the king threatens crucifixion should Athelstan tell anyone else about the scrolls. Not cool, King Ecbert.

Blood Eagle

Season 2
Episode Number: 16
Season Episode: 7

Originally aired: Thursday April 10, 2014
Writer: Michael Hirst
Director: Kari Skogland
Show Stars: Travis Fimmel (Ragnar Lothbrok), Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Clive Standen (Rollo), Jessalyn Gilsig (Siggy), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), George Blagden (Aethelstan), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Alyssa Sutherland (Aslaug), Donal Logue (King Horik), Linus Roache (Ecbert, King of Wessex)
Recurring Role: Thorbjørn Harr (Jarl Borg), John Kavanagh (Seer), Ivan Kaye (King Aelle), Gaia Weiss (Porunn), Jefferson Hall (Torstein), Moe Dunford (Aethelwulf), Maude Hirst (Helga)
Guest Stars: Edvin Endre (Erlendur), Sarah Greene (II) (Judith), Cathy White (Elsewith), Philip O'Sullivan (Bishop Edmund), Georgia Hirst (Torvi), Barbara Griffin (Sorceress), Noni Stapleton (Priestess), Mark McAuley (Envoy)
Summary: Ragnar and King Horik clash over differences; King Aelle arrives in Wessex; Ecbert has an eye on a new alliance.



When an episode shows the main character skinning a rat within the first minute, you know you are in for a treat. King Horik wants Ragnar to delay the execution of Jarl Borg until they can find a new ally to help them raid the West, and Ragnar agrees. Uneasy over his alliance with the increasingly powerful and unpredictable Ragnar, King Horik pays a visit to the imprisoned and chained Jarl Borg. Jarl Borg's advise is for King Horik to help him escape; the two of them can

then kill Ragnar together and install Rollo as the new Jarl. Ragnar, Jarl Borg says, wants to be king. King Horik agrees to this plan and, much later, it does seem as though the king honoured his promise. However, Jarl Borg's freedom from chains only leads him to a makeshift stage surrounded by fire, and Ragnar in white robes.

Jarl Borg is not bound; he kneels and rests his wrists on two short poles so that his arms are spread, his back naked to Ragnar's blade. Throughout his ordeal he does not scream; according to their society's beliefs, if he keeps his silence, he may enter Valhalla. When Ragnar finally pulls Jarl Borg's lungs out and rests them on his shoulders, Jarl Borg sees a raven, and a ghost of a smile flits on his face. It is Odin and Valhalla, and this warrior is at peace. My compliments to Thorbjørn Harr; his Jarl Borg has been one of this second season's unexpected pleasures, a seasoned warrior, hungry to stamp his power, touched by madness, dignified at his brutal end.

Ragnar's new ally is Lagertha, who steps in as the new Jarl after the death of her husband. She brings with her four ships and over a hundred warriors. When Lagertha tells Ragnar, 'We are equal,' the Lagertha fan girl in me screams, 'You have always been equal!'

The return of one reliable ally (Lagertha) comes as another begins to pull away. When Helga tells Floki she is pregnant and the two decide to marry, Floki states his desire not to have Ragnar bless their union. Of all the characters in Vikings, Floki is the one shown to be the most devoted

to the gods. Whilst Ragnar befriended Athelstan and the others shrugged off his presence, Floki was hostile to the monk, and remained so for years. Ragnar wants more than treasure during their raids; he is curious about other lands and their way of living (In this episode, he is shown partaking in a bath, nothing as elaborate as King Ecbert's, just a large container filled with water.). Ragnar's life is first about Ragnar; Floki's life is first about the gods. Whilst feasting at Ragnar's hall, both Ragnar and Floki are shot behind screens (Ragnar, mostly, but Floki too), two men removed from the revelry, apart from their fellows.

In England, King Aelle and King Ecbert forge an alliance against Ragnar and his crew. A neighbouring land is having succession troubles following the death of its king; King Ecbert proposes to invade this land and divide it amongst himself and King Aelle. As a cherry on top, King Ecbert's eldest son and heir Aethelwulf is to marry King Aelle's daughter Judith; their son will inherit a much larger swathe of England than either King Ecbert or King Aelle currently hold.

Boneless

Season 2

Episode Number: 17

Season Episode: 8

Originally aired: Thursday April 17, 2014
Writer: Michael Hirst
Director: Kari Skogland
Show Stars: Travis Fimmel (Ragnar Lothbrok), Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Clive Standen (Rollo), Jessalyn Gilsig (Siggy), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), George Blagden (Athelstan), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Alyssa Sutherland (Aslaug), Donal Logue (King Horik), Linus Roache (Ecbert, King of Wessex)
Recurring Role: Amy Bailey (II) (Princess Kwenthrith), Gaia Weiss (Porunn), Moe Dunford (Aethelwulf), Maude Hirst (Helga), Jefferson Hall (Torstein)
Guest Stars: Barbara Griffin (Sorceress), Edvin Endre (Erlendur), Sarah Greene (II) (Judith), Philip O'Sullivan (Bishop Edmund), Cathal O'Hallin (Hvitserk), Cormac Melia (Ubbe), Steve Wall (Uncle Einar)
Summary: Princess Aslaug's latest prophecy comes to fruition; Ragnar and Horik have very different ideas about the true purpose of their trip to Wessex.



In Kattegat, Princess Aslaug is going through a painful labor, with a concerned Ragnar solemnly looking, but eventually the baby is successfully delivered with no small amount of help from Siggy. The baby's legs, however, are deformed. Observing this, Ragnar, realizes the accuracy of Aslaug's prophecy.

On the shores of the fjord, King Horik urges Lagertha to prepare her ships and forces for the journey to Wessex as quickly as possible. Porunn comes to

bring them the news of Ragnar's newborn son. When Lagertha asks Bjorn who Porunn is, he tells she is a slave girl and that he is in love with her, making his mother smile.

Rollo and Bjorn, now as big and powerful as his uncle, spar in preparation of the raid on Wessex. Rollo, noticing Bjorn hesitating to strike, tells his nephew he should always finish off his opponents. "No man ever ran away," Rollo observes, "with his entrails hanging to his knees or his head cut off."

Ragnar tells Aslaug they should put their newborn child out of his misery, as he won't have a chance to survive anyway. Even Siggy, later, advises Aslaug to allow the baby to die, but the princess says she rather die than take the advice.

In Wessex, Princess Kwenthrith of Mercia arrives, who killed her brother after King Offa died. Her act of fratricide is apparently well known to the rulers of Wessex.

Ragnar contemplates killing his newborn son, but ultimately hasn't the heart to harm a helpless infant, so he leaves it behind in the woods. Aslaug takes it back home, not being able to kill it either.

In Hedeby, Lagertha, now Earl Ingstad, informs her people that they will go raiding with Earl Ragnar and King Horik. She orders her ships provisioned and her warriors readied. Later, Einar, who beheaded Lagertha's late husband, Earl Sigvard, after she'd stabbed his eye out, confronts Lagertha about their presumed deal, she would be earl and he would marry her. She tells them there is no deal. He was disgusted with Earl Sigvard and wanted to get rid of him, but only acted

against the Earl after Lagertha stabbed the Earl. Lagertha also points out that "If they (the people of Hedeby) had any respect for you," she chides him, "they would have made you earl."

In Wessex, at a feast in King Ecbert's hall, Princess Kwenrith inquires into Athelstan. When Ecbert informs her about Athelstan's time with the Norsemen, she is curious about their ways. When she asks if it is true Norsemen don't give abide by marital fidelity, Athelstan can only say that Viking morality is different than theirs. Kwenrith remarks that he is boring. King Ecbert quickly changes the subject, expressing his shock at the death of her brother. She tells him he shouldn't worry. The pope, Kwenrith says sarcastically, declared her brother a saint due to his exemplary life, adding that her sainted brother raped her when she was twelve. In light of the turmoil and struggle for power in Mercia, Kwenrith delves into the reasons for King Ecbert's invitation, correctly saying the king of Wessex wants to throw his support behind whoever will ultimately prevail. Kwenrith declares that she will win, but some help would be advantageous. Ecbert suggests his son Aethelwulf will advise her, which she flirtatiously accepts, despite Aethelwulf's recent marriage to the daughter of the King Aelle of Northumbria. King Ecbert suggests the hiring of some Norsemen as mercenaries to help as well. Later, King Ecbert and Princess Kwenrith are passionately making love, but he finishes quickly, much to her disappointment. Exiting the bedchamber, Ecbert sends in three of his soldiers to attempt to quench Kwenrith's apparently insatiable sexual appetite. "Good luck," the exhausted king says to one of his warriors.

In Kattegat, the fleet is finally assembled to set sail to Wessex. Princess Aslaug has named the baby Ivar, to which Ragnar adds the nickname "Ivar the Boneless". Floki, who will sail on Horik's ship on this voyage rather than Ragnar's, has drifted further from Ragnar and into King Horik's camp, as the King knows more about the dark gods that haunt him. As the fleet departs for Wessex, the women and children of Kattegat watch from the high bluffs and crags overlooking the fjord as the Viking fleet — the largest that Ragnar has yet assembled — sails away from Kattegat. Out on the open sea, Horik further courts Floki, declaring that a boatbuilder is worth ten earls. The king further sinks his talons into Floki, telling him he needs his ideas, which are worth more than any amount of gold and silver as they come from the gods. On Ragnar's ship, meanwhile, Rollo notices Bjorn deep in thought. When Bjorn tells he is thinking about battle, Rollo encourages him, saying he has nothing to be fearful of, adding that he will always be on his side. After a seemingly calm, uneventful crossing, the fleet reaches the shores of Wessex.

King Ecbert informs Athelstan of the arrival of the Viking fleet, noting that Ragnar's black raven banner was seen among the ships. He expresses his willingness to negotiate with Ragnar, but states that he'll fight him if necessary, as he has already sent word to King Aelle to send warriors.

In the camp of the Norsemen, King Horik notices Torstein riding away. Questioned, Ragnar tells him he's sent word to King Ecbert of their arrival, saying he wants to talk to him. Infuriated by Ragnar's failure — or refusal - to consult with him first, Horik says Ecbert will most likely send an envoy to trick them or an army to annihilate them. Horik, clearly, fails to grasp Ragnar's vision of Viking colonization of England, a land of greater fertility that bears great potential in the mind of the farmer-turned-earl. Heavy on Horik's mind is their last foray into Wessex, when Ecbert's forces drove Horik out after Ragnar divided their forces to return to Kattegat in response to Jarl Borg's invasion. Later, Aethelwulf and a small retinue including half-a-dozen soldiers, arrives to talk. As the party from Wessex approaches, King Horik's son, Erlendur, drifts very discreetly out of sight. Aethelwulf greets Ragnar, relaying his father's desire to talk. As a token of his father's good will, he returns to Ragnar the armring he'd given to Athelstan, confirming to Ragnar that Athelstan lived. Ragnar accepts an invitation, that they will all come to Ecbert's villa. As Aethelwulf departs, King Horik gazes expectantly into the dense forest surrounding the Vikings' camp. On his way back to his father, Aethelwulf and his retinue are ambushed in the forest by Erlendur and a contingent of Horik's warriors. All are slaughtered, save Aethelwulf. The crown prince, it seems, was intentionally spared. Erlendur looks on as the injured Aethelwulf flees into the woods.

The Choice

Season 2

Episode Number: 18

Season Episode: 9

Originally aired:	Thursday April 24, 2014
Writer:	Michael Hirst
Director:	Ken Girotti
Show Stars:	Travis Fimmel (Ragnar Lothbrok), Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Clive Standen (Rollo), Jessalyn Gilsig (Siggy), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), George Blagden (Athelstan), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Alyssa Sutherland (Aslaug), Donal Logue (King Horik), Linus Roache (Ecbert, King of Wessex)
Recurring Role:	Amy Bailey (II) (Princess Kwenthrith), Ivan Kaye (King Aelle), Gaia Weiss (Porunn), Jefferson Hall (Torstein), Moe Dunford (Aethelwulf)
Guest Stars:	Edvin Endre (Erlendur), Philip O'Sullivan (Bishop Edmund), Sarah Greene (II) (Judith), Cathal O'Hallin (Hvitserk), Cormac Melia (Ubbe), Carrie Crowley (Elisef)
Summary:	Ragnar's warriors march on to King Ecbert's villa and are met with a vicious surprise.



Despite Ragnar's insistence on negotiations, King Horik's attack on the Wessex envoys in the previous episode leads to battle between the Vikings and the combined forces of King Ecbert and King Aelle. Vastly outnumbered and surrounded, the Northmen are forced to retreat, but not before many of their number fall, including Rollo. That was very well done, Show. For a few minutes, I was genuinely frightened I will not get to watch Clive Standen on Vikings anymore.

Whilst surveying the bloody battlefield, Athelstan finds and recognises Rollo. The brother of Ragnar is taken back to King Ecbert's stronghold.

An exuberant King Aelle wants to attack again and wipe out what remained of the Viking army in Wessex. King Ecbert points out that this will not permanently stop the attacks; other Northmen will simply return for more plunder and revenge. King Ecbert wants to negotiate, and to hire the Northmen as mercenaries for Mercia.

Despite King Ecbert's initial refusal to send Athelstan as envoy to the Vikings (the king fears for his safety, aw), the monk is later sent with the offer to talk, and word that Rollo lives. Ragnar is initially just a silent face in the crowd; it is Lagertha who agrees to the meeting, without bothering to consult King Horik. As Athelstan is about to leave, Ragnar walks up to the monk. Ragnar knows King Horik well; there indeed is an archer hiding behind the trees, following Athelstan. Ragnar uses his body to shield the monk whilst the two catch up. After a safe enough distance, Ragnar gives Athelstan back his arm ring and the friends part ways.

King Aelle agrees to become hostage whilst King Horik, Ragnar, Lagertha, Bjorn and Erlendur meet with King Ecbert and Princess Kwenthrith. Athelstan is tasked in laying down the offer: treasures and 5000 acres of farming land, employment as mercenaries for Princess Kwenthrith, the release of Rollo as soon as King Aelle is returned. Ragnar and Lagertha immediately agree. During the handover of the treasure and exchange of hostages, Ragnar tells Athelstan, 'I want you to come back.'

In Kattegat, Porunn takes shieldmaiden lessons because she wants to be like Lagertha. Aslaug, having browsed Twitter, exasperatedly asks, 'Why does everyone want to be like Lagertha?' But the current Mrs. Ragnar understands and generously declares Porunn, a slave since birth, a free woman. That is one really nice way to make your step-son love you, Aslaug.

The raiders arrive back at Kattegat, and Athelstan is with them. 'I came back because you and Ragnar, all of you are my family,' Athelstan gently explains to Aslaug. Rollo remains gravely injured, and passes out from pain whilst being treated. King Horik approaches Floki with a proposition.

The Lord's Prayer

Season 2

Episode Number: 19

Season Episode: 10

Originally aired: Thursday May 1, 2014
Writer: Michael Hirst
Director: Ken Girotti
Show Stars: Travis Fimmel (Ragnar Lothbrok), Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Clive Standen (Rollo), Jessalyn Gilsig (Siggy), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), George Blagden (Athelstan), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Alyssa Sutherland (Aslaug), Donal Logue (King Horik)
Recurring Role: John Kavanagh (Seer), Gaia Weiss (Porunn), Maude Hirst (Helga), Jefferson Hall (Torstein)
Guest Stars: Elizabeth Moynihan (Gunnhild), Edvin Endre (Erlendur), Cathal O'Hallin (Hvitserk), Cormac Melia (Ubbe), Mark Fitzgerald (II) (Warrior)
Summary: Ragnar returns to Kattegat after the defeat in Wessex and places his trust in those who have stayed by his side all this time.



Horik's wife and children arrive in Kattegat and the village celebrates. Before the celebratory feast, Horik announces how proud he is at how much he and Ragnar have accomplished together and emphasizes how the two men are equal. At the feast Floki seeks out Horik, who tells Floki he does not trust him enough to allow him into his inner circle. Floki, angered and drunk, confronts Athelstan, claiming no one wants him in Kattegat and that it's his fault Rollo is going to die.

Siggy later approaches Horik and greets him warmly with a flirtatious touch on the arm, however he coldly mentions his wife and children before leaving. Horik later approaches a drunken Floki and tells him to prove his loyalty Floki must kill someone important.

Floki later gathers mushrooms in the forest and forces a weak, bed-ridden Rollo to consume them. He also sends them as a gift to Torstein, who eats them. Later Torstein is found dead, and Bjorn swears vengeance against his murderer. Horik, now convinced Floki is on his side, tells Floki that tomorrow he plans to kill Ragnar, Aslaug, Lagertha, and all their children. He tells Floki that his assignment is to kill Bjorn. Horik next approaches Siggy and tells her that if she murders Ragnar's young sons he will take her as a second wife and make her a queen, fulfilling her desire to rule once more. Bjorn, meanwhile, is having relationship issues with Porunn, who claims to no longer love him now that she is a free woman. She challenges him to fight her to prove his respect, and they make up in the woods and commit to each other, unknowingly being observed by a hidden Floki.

Back in Kattegat Horik shows the "King's Sword" to his son and tells him his plan. He explains that if even one member of the Lothrbok family survives, the day will come when he will rise again and destroy their family. He tells his son that if the plan succeeds he'll ultimately have both the sword and the kingdom. Meanwhile, Athelstan teaches Ragnar the Lord's Prayer. Erlander meets Horik's reinforcements on the beach and guides them to the rendezvous point where they meet Horik. They discreetly invade Kattegat, killing several soldiers quietly but a large battle ensues as the alarm is raised and Ragnar's men realize they are under attack. A bedridden

(but unpoisoned) Rollo is confronted by two of Horik's soldiers and, despite being barely able to stand, bravely fights them. Athelstan prepares to participate in the battle but first recites a part of the Lord's Prayer, "deliver us from evil," before engaging and killing several of Horik's men. Lagertha meanwhile marches through the village, not participating in the fight but clearly moving to accomplish some objective. She confronts Horik's wife Gunnhild and her guards and kills them. One of her men tells her she should leave as Ragnar ordered him to murder Horik's daughters. Despite clearly being torn, she leaves Horik's daughters to their fate.

Horik and his guards march to the Earl's hall, which they surround and barge into. A lone figure sits in the center, and Horik calls out for Ragnar Lothbrok. However the figure reveals himself to be a very-much-alive Torstein. Horik realizes that Floki has betrayed him and helplessly watches as his men are cut down by Lagertha and her soldiers. Ragnar appears and, accepting his fate, Horik asks Ragnar to spare his son, which Ragnar agrees to do. Horik then marches to his fate, being slashed at by Lagertha, hit with an axe by Bjorn, and stabbed by Torstein. A wounded Horik falls to his knees before Ragnar as Siggy appears behind him, revealing her betrayal. Siggy hands Ragnar the knife Horik gave her to use to kill Ragnar's sons, and leaves along with the rest so Ragnar can execute Horik. Ragnar first stabs Horik, then headbutts him, and in a mad frenzy bashes him repeatedly with a stool. The final shot of the episode shows Ragnar perched on a cliff with Horik's "King's Sword", looking over his new kingdom.

Season Three

Mercenary

Season 3
Episode Number: 20
Season Episode: 1

Originally aired: Thursday February 19, 2015
Writer: Michael Hirst
Director: Ken Girotti
Show Stars: Travis Fimmel (Ragnar Lothbrok), Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Clive Standen (Rollo), Jessalyn Gilsig (Siggy), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), George Blagden (Aethelstan), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Alyssa Sutherland (Aslaug), Ben Robson (Kalf), Linus Roache (Ecbert, King of Wessex)
Recurring Role: Amy Bailey (II) (Princess Kwenthrith), Moe Dunford (Aethelwulf), Maude Hirst (Helga), Gaia Weiss (Porunn), Jefferson Hall (Torstein), Jennie Jacques (Judith), John Kavanagh (Seer)
Guest Stars: Steve Wall (Uncle Einar), Cathal O'Hallin (Hvitserk), Cormac Melia (Ubbe), Philip O'Sullivan (Bishop Edmund), Ian Beattie (King Brightwulf), Aaron Monaghan (Burgred), Lochlainn O'Mearain (First Noble), Conor Ryan (Second Noble)
Summary: Ragnar and Lagertha's fleets depart Kattegat once more for Wessex but this time they bring settlers. King Ecbert hosts the Vikings and proposes a deal. Despite the misgivings of some of the other leaders, Ragnar leads his forces into battle once more, but this time as allies of Wessex.



The episode kicks off with a wise man giving Lagertha a prophecy and what he sees in the future for her. The prophet says that he doesn't see any more children in her future, he just sees a harvest season of blood — Lagertha asks him when she will die, and the wise man laughs in her face and tells her to come back some other time if she really wants to know. Bjorn and Ragnar head up in to the mountains in the snow that are overlooking their village, Bjorn vows that they

will go back to Wessex to reclaim what is theirs.

Floki is lying on the docks, He whines to Helga that he is "trapped in the happiness" he rants that everyone there is too happy for him to be around. Helga tells him that if he isn't happy then he can leave them and go with the other men to Wessex. Floki storms off and screams that Helga is "too good!" In his tent Ragnar watches Aslaug carry about their child with birth defects, who is about a year old now, and won't stop crying. Aslaug cries that she doesn't know how to help the baby. She asks Ragnar if he loves the baby and Ragnar snaps that of course he does. Aslaug asks Ragner if he loves her, and he doesn't answer. In Scandinavia Lagertha suits up and leaves the village to head to Wessex — as soon as she is gone there are whisperings among some of the men about overpowering her and betrayal.

At dinner Torstein whines to Bjorn that he has a huge problem, he has gotten two different women pregnant with his baby. The other men tell him to just marry one and make the other his concubine. Torstein snaps that he can't do that because the two women hate each other — he just needs to ship out to Wessex as soon as possible.

The next morning Bjorn and the rest of the men head down to the beach to prepare their ships for the journey to Wessex, Floki dances around and giddily squeals that he can't wait to leave. Lagertha arrives and Bjorn explains his girlfriend refuses to stay behind — even though she was pregnant. The ships sail off, and the women remain on the beaches waving their goodbyes.

Ragnar, Lagertha, and their men arrive in Wessex, they announce that Florick is no longer with them. They sit down for a feast with the King of Wessex, the Princess of Mercia announces to Lagertha and Ragnar that she needs them to fight in her army to protect Mercia. Lagertha rants that they came to Wessex to farm the land, not participate in someone else's war. After some persuasion, Ragnar and his men agree to help fight for Mercia in exchange for the farmland from King Ecbert that they were already promised before they arrived.

The next day Ragnar, Lagertha, and the rest of their men prepare to fight for Mercia, even Athelstan is preparing to go with them. Bjorn tries once again to reason with his pregnant girlfriend and convince her to stay behind and not go fight in the battle. King Ecbert arrives and climbs in the wagon with Lagertha and Athelstan, they are both shocked to see him tagging along seeing as how he never gets his hands dirty. He jokes that he can come with them if he wants to because he is King.

Ragnar and the men arrive at the beach and board ships to head to Mercia. Ragnar sits down with the Princess and tries to talk to her about being ousted by her Uncle Britwolfe and dethroned by him and her brother. The Princess insists that her Uncle used magic to turn her brother against her. Ragnar laughs that just because she was deceived doesn't mean that it was magic. The ship with Ragnar and his few dozen men is about to land in Mercia. The beach has two HUGE armies waiting for them, Mercia has easily ten times the number of men that Ragnar does. Bjorn tries to urge him to turn the ships around because they are seriously outnumbered.

Ragnar considers leaving, but he assesses the situation and says that there is no bridge at the beach for Mercia to retreat and he thinks that they can take them because the army is split in half on different sides of the beach. Ragnar and his men rush in — and he warns the Princess to stay out of their way. They rush the beach and begin attacking Britwolfe and his men, who appear to be no match for Ragnar's barbaric army. Ragnar and Floki slice their way through the army and kill the Princess's Uncle Britwolfe — she sobs from the boat as she watches from where Ragnar left her.

The Wanderer

Season 3

Episode Number: 21

Season Episode: 2

Originally aired:	Thursday February 26, 2015
Writer:	Michael Hirst
Director:	Ken Girotti
Show Stars:	Travis Fimmel (Ragnar Lothbrok), Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Clive Standen (Rollo), Jessalyn Gilsig (Siggy), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), George Blagden (Athelstan), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Alyssa Sutherland (Aslaug), Ben Robson (Kalf), Kevin Durand (Harbard), Linus Roache (Ecbert, King of Wessex)
Recurring Role:	Amy Bailey (II) (Princess Kwenrith), Moe Dunford (Aethelwulf), Maude Hirst (Helga), Gaia Weiss (Porunn), Jefferson Hall (Torstein), Jennie Jacques (Judith), John Kavanagh (Seer)
Guest Stars:	Aaron Monaghan (Burgred), Lochlainn O'Mearain (First Noble), Conor Ryan (Second Noble), Philip O'Sullivan (Bishop Edmund), Matthew O'Brien (I) (Saxon 1 Farmstead), Ciaran McGlynn (Saxon 2 Farmstead), Lenny Hayden (Viking 1 Farmstead), Nigel O'Neill (Viking 2 Farmstead), Cathal O'Hallin (Hvitserk), Cormac Melia (Ubbe), Steve Wall (Uncle Einar), Laurence Falconer (Rider)
Summary:	A mysterious wanderer arrives in Kattegat; Lagertha and Athelstan establish a Viking settlement.



The episode picks up where we left off last week, Ragnar and his army have just finished fighting Princess Kwenrith's battle and killing her Uncle Britwulf and getting back her territory. She rants to Ragnar that she still doesn't believe her Uncle is dead and now she needs his head. Ragnar asks her why she hates her Uncle so much and she reveals that he and her brother used to take turns raping her when she was just a child. Floki chops off Britwulf's head and brings it to her,

the Princess jumps on top of the head and begins savagely stabbing it.

Bjorn lectures his pregnant girlfriend about "taking too many risks" during the battle. She taunts him that he isn't acting like Ragnar's son. Bjorn asks her to marry him and she giddily accepts his proposal. In the woods Rollo and the rest of Ragnar's men are losing it, they are either drunk or drugged — and can barely stand up, they are eating and setting up camp around Britwulf's men's dead bodies. Princess Kwenrith comes along and sits down with Rollo and he tries to kiss her — she screams "no" and smacks him and storms off.

In Wessex Lagertha is sitting with King Ecbert, Athelstan is translating for them. He confesses to Lagertha that the farm land that they are using he stole from Saxons, Lagertha is concerned that they will try to take the land back and be hostile to her people. Ecbert personally guarantees their safety and security, Lagertha thanks him from the "bottom of the heart." She reminisces that it has always been her and Ragnar's dream to find land for their people to farm and live on peacefully. Then Ecbert makes a pass at Lagertha and asks if she "is a free woman."

Kwenrith's brother and his troops are one the other side of the lake and still have not fought with Ragnar's men. Ragnar and his troops tie the heads of Britwulf and his men to

the boats' masts and head across the foggy water. When Kwenthrið's brother and his men see them coming they all retreat and run off in to the hills. Kwenthrið screams at her brother to "wait," but he doesn't listen. Meanwhile, in Wessex Ecbert and Lagertha arrive at the farm land that he promises her and Ragnar, he gives her a handful of dirt and says it is his gift to her. Lagertha gushes that it is worth more to her than a necklace made up of priceless jewels.

Helga, Aslaug, and Siggý all realize that they keep having the same dream over and over about a man without a face that walks through the snow without making a sound and carries a ball of flaming fire. Meanwhile, Lagertha and her people are moving in to the house in the new village that she is setting up on the farm land that Ecbert gave to her. Ecbert tells Athelstan to say the blessing, while he is praying and blessing the house a man pushes past him and interrupts and places a doll up on a shelf and everyone watches in horror. Back home, unbeknownst to Lagertha, there is a mutiny and Elcof is taking over her village and convincing the people to help him overthrow her.

Lagertha, Ecbert, and Athelstan sit down for dinner. Ecbert has a servant bring Lagertha a platter, he tells her that "stones are much easier to wear than Earth." Lagertha opens the package and finds a beautiful necklace inside, Ecbert joins her and helps her hook it around her neck. He gushes to Lagertha about how beautiful she looks.

Siggý wakes up in the middle of the night and is having another nightmare — she meets with Helga and Aslaug and they had the same dream about a man that was bound and bleeding out of his face, there was blood everywhere. Aslaug tries to reason with the shaken up women and insists it was "just a dream."

Athelstan heads to confessional and a woman comes to confess her sins, it's Ecbert's daughter Judith. She reveals to Athelstan that she has had "impure thoughts" and has been thinking about laying naked with him and having sex with him — instead of her husband. Athelstan is speechless, the young woman runs off.

Elcof rants about Ragnar to one of his men — he sneers that Ragnar is "just a farmer who named himself King." Elcof plans to take down Ragnar, he doesn't want to be like him — but he wants to be as famous as him. He says confidently, "if you cut him he will bleed."

Torstein is delirious, his arm was wounded and infected and it is getting worse and worse. He is going in to shock laying on the ground — he calls out that he needs someone to cut off his arm and it is "no longer any use for him." Bjorn volunteers to cut off the arm almost too excitedly, Torstein turns him down and says he needs Floki to do it. They sodder axes and strap Torstein down to a board, Floki asks him if he is sure he wants to lose the arm and Torstein sneers "get on with it." Ragnar and Bjorn hold Torstein down while he screams in pain and Floki begins chopping off his arm.

It's time for Lagertha to head home, she and Athelstan say their goodbyes to Ecbert — Lagertha thanks him profusely for the necklace and says that it must be made by dwarves because it is so beautiful. Before Athelstan leaves he whispers goodbye to Judith. After Athelstan and Lagertha leaves, Ecbert warns Judith about falling for him.

Ragnar and his men find the Princess's brother and his troops hiding up in the hills — they know it is a trap and they are drawing them away from their boots but they prepare to go to battle anyways.

Helga is walking through the village when she sees a man in a black coat running towards her, he holds out his hands which are dripping blood, it falls in to the snow just like in her dream — he pleads with Helga to help him. Meanwhile miles away Athelstan stumbles in to the lodge and holds his hands out to Lagertha — he is dripping blood from his hands as well.

Warrior's Fate

Season 3

Episode Number: 22

Season Episode: 3

Originally aired:	Thursday March 5, 2015
Writer:	Michael Hirst
Director:	Jeff Woolnough
Show Stars:	Travis Fimmel (Ragnar Lothbrok), Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Clive Standen (Rollo), Jessalyn Gilsig (Siggy), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), George Blagden (Athelstan), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Alyssa Sutherland (Aslaug), Kevin Durand (Harbard), Linus Roache (Ecbert, King of Wessex)
Recurring Role:	Amy Bailey (II) (Princess Kwenethrith), Moe Dunford (Aethelwulf), Maude Hirst (Helga), Gaia Weiss (Porunn), Jefferson Hall (Torstein), Jennie Jacques (Judith), John Kavanagh (Seer)
Guest Stars:	Cathal O'Hallin (Hvitserk), Cormac Melia (Ubbe), Christopher McHalle (First Saxon Noble), Marty Maguire (Second Saxon Noble), Muiris Crowley (Third Saxon Noble), John Merriman (Second Mercian Archer), Aaron Monaghan (Burgred), Lochlainn O'Mearain (First Noble), Conor Ryan (Second Noble), Lallor Roddy (Fisherman), Amy Potter (Woman), Niamh Algar (Second Woman), Tony Owen (II) (Older Man)
Summary:	King Ecbert visits the developing Viking settlement as the first harvest is sown and rebuffs criticism from his leading nobles. In Mercia, the Wessex/Viking forces charge at the battle at the Hill of the Ash. In Kattegat, Harbard arrives in to the Great Hall and his mysterious aura fascinates Aslaug and Helga but Siggy remains suspicious. There are strange and tragic happenings in Kattegat, and Siggy suspects Harbard is the cause.



The episode kicks off with Helga bringing back the man she met in the village to Aslaug's tent — while Aslaug bandages up his bloody hand he reveals that he is a wanderer and he sleeps with the cattle for warmth, his name is Harvard. Harvard says that he tells stories about his travels and the Gods, and he sings for his supper. Aslaug invites him to stay for supper with them, and reveals that Ragnar won't mind and he is away.

King Ecbert is leading his men through the woods, he hears two of his men whispering behind him and turns around and demands to know what they are talking about. They grumble that Ecbert isn't making Ragnar and his people convert — and why Ecbert is sharing their farming secrets with Ragnar, but not making Ragnar share his boat secrets. Ecbert puts them in their place and challenged them to say he isn't looking out for the greater good of England — especially while Ragnar is off fighting their battle.

Meanwhile, Ragnar, Floki, and the rest of the men are preparing to chase Princess Kwenethrith's brother and his men up the mountain and away from the boats. Before they leave, Kwenethrith pleads with Ragnar to spare his brother.

Ecbert arrives at the land that Lagertha and her people are farming — he has brought some of his nobles to check in on their progress. He gifts Lagertha with a new state-of-the-art plow,

he invites her and Agelthstan back to his villa whenever they wish to visit him and then he bid her farewell. His men watch from a distance, they aren't impressed with the King flirting with Lagertha.

Ragnar and his men make it to the top of the mountain, and are able to launch a surprise attack on the army. Ragnar makes it to the Prince, and realizes that there is another entire army protecting him. It looks grim for Ragnar, but Ecbert's men arrive out of nowhere as back up. Ragnar screams at them not to kill the Prince, like Kwenthirth requested. When it is clear that he is outnumbered the Prince screams that he surrenders and his men drop their swords and bows.

Back at the village Harvard is sitting around the fire with Helga, Aslaug, and Siggy. He is telling them a story about when he visited a land full of giants and met with their king. Aslaug and Helga are totally enthralled by their bizarre visitor, but Siggy is not thrilled and it is obvious she doesn't trust Harvard. He continues his story about being in a wrestling contest with a "horrible old woman." He jumps up and begins flailing his arms and shouting and getting in to his story. After his story, they realize that he was actually telling the story of Thor.

Aslaug's baby begins screaming and she rushes in the other room to tend to Hivra. Harvard follows him and he rubs the baby's head and coos that his "pain is all going away." The baby stops screaming and shuts his eyes instantly and drifts off. Aslaug is shocked and demand to know how he was able to do that. Meanwhile, Lagertha and Athelstan head to King Ecbert's village to visit him, Lagertha winds up making out with King Ecbert in his bath.

Tolston was killed in the battle, Ragnar finds Floki sitting with his dead body. Floki snarls at Ragnar that it is his fault Tolston is dead. Floki accuses Ragnar of turning his back on their Gods and converting to Christianity, Ragnar is letting his men die for Jesus Christ. Ragnar orders him to "shut his mouth."

Ragnar finds Bjorn on the mountain with his girlfriend — she has been badly beaten and her face is unrecognizable, but she is still alive. Ragnar tries to comfort Bjorn, and he reveals to his father that she is pregnant. Ragnar smacks Bjorn and sneers that he has the "will of a little girl" and he can't believe that he let his pregnant girlfriend come along to fight in battle.

Ecbert visits Lagertha and Athelstan at the farm — they announce that Ragnar was victorious and he and Ecbert's men defeated the Merciaries. Lagertha and Athelstan invite Ecbert and his men to stay for dinner and a sacrifice — the men protest but Ecbert announces they will be happy to stay.

Back at the village a fisherman rows in screaming for help, he dumps his net on the beach and two young boys fall out. He says he found them out in the middle of the sea, they drowned to death. Everyone is baffled as to how they got so far out in the water. Their mother drops to the ground and tries to wake them up. Aslaug, Siggy, and Helga all look at Harvard who is lurking in the background with his hood up.

Ecbert and his people stand by and watch Lagertha and the Pagans chant around the fire and sacrifice a cow — they all squeal and cheer when the cow's head is chopped off and its blood begins gushing on to the ground. They scoop up two bowls of blood and dump them over Lagertha's head — then they proceed to fill bowls of blood and march out on to the field and begin dumping it all over the crops that they have been planting. Ecbert's men watch in horror and warn him that the Pagans are trouble — and they need to get them off their land.

Siggy visits the wiseman and he insists that Harvard is not responsible for the boys' death. Siggy can tell that he is lying, she demands to know what the Gods told him about the mysterious man in their town. The wiseman whispers, "no one can help you."

Scarred

Season 3

Episode Number: 23

Season Episode: 4

Originally aired:	Thursday March 12, 2015
Writer:	Michael Hirst
Director:	Jeff Woolnough
Show Stars:	Travis Fimmel (Ragnar Lothbrok), Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Clive Standen (Rollo), Jessalyn Gilsig (Siggy), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), George Blagden (Athelstan), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Alyssa Sutherland (Aslaug), Ben Robson (Kalf), Kevin Durand (Harbard), Linus Roache (Ecbert, King of Wessex)
Recurring Role:	Amy Bailey (II) (Princess Kwenthrith), Moe Dunford (Aethelwulf), Maude Hirst (Helga), Jennie Jacques (Judith), Ivan Kaye (King Aelle), Gaia Weiss (Porunn)
Guest Stars:	Cathal O'Hallin (Hvitserk), Cormac Melia (Ubbe), Aaron Monaghan (Burgred), Philip O'Sullivan (Bishop Edmund), Steve Wall (Uncle Einar), Elinor Crawley (Thyri), Robert Fawsitt (Drunken Saxon), Bryan Baker (II) (Drunken Northman), Edvin Endre (Erlendur), Georgia Hirst (Torvi)
Summary:	The victorious Wessex/Viking forces return to Wessex but there is rancour in the Viking camp — Floki is angry over the alliance with Ecbert and is resentful the influence that he feels Athelstan has over Ragnar. Princess Kwenthrith makes some calculating political moves following the battle at the Hill of the Ash in Mercia. Visitors from the past arrive in Hederby, at Kalf's invitation.



The episode kicks off with Aslaug trying to comfort her and Ragnar's crying son. She demands to know where Harvard is — Siggy says that she should learn to take care of her own child. Harvard rushes in and rubs the baby's head — he coos "no more pain," and he falls asleep. Siggy chases Harvard out of the room and demands to know who he is and why his power is so strong. She asks I he is a God and he replies "I Wish."

Ragnar and his men are heading back to camp after battle and carrying their wounded. Bjorn carries his beaten girlfriend in to the tent, half of her face is literally gone — she is half awake. Ecbert's son sits down with Floki and Rollo and tries to "become friends." Rollo shakes his hand — after he leaves FLoki mocks Rollo for being friends with a Christian.

Ragnar is lying down by the water, Princess Kwenthrith finds him and realizes he was wounded she offers to help him and he lays back down and she pees on his wound. Afterwards Ragnar thanks her and warns him that her brother is weak — and he is going to be her downfall.

Aslaug tries to sneak out of the tent and Siggy catches her — she demands to know why she is leaving her kids again. Aslaug scoffs that she knows Siggy will take care of them. Siggy pleads with her to stay away from Harvard — but Aslaug ignores her and leaves to meet up with him. Harvard walks and explains to her that he has a son named Olaf, and tells a story about his mother who was a nymphomaniac. They slip in to a cabin and he orders Aslaug to take off her

clothes. While Aslaug has sex with the mysterious stranger, Siggy sits in her tent watching her kids for her. In Wessex Athelstan finally sleeps with the married woman that has been trying to seduce him — afterwards he tells her that he loves her.

Ecbert and Lagertha are getting dressed — he asks her if she is going to stay at Wessex with him and Lagertha scoffs at the idea. She knows that at the end of the day the only person that Ecbert cares about is himself, and getting what he wants. Unbeknownst to Lagertha, while she is in Essex the man that she left in charge of her village is conspiring to overthrow her, he promises his minions that a man is coming to help him steal back the village.

Siggy is fixing dinner for Aslaug's kids and they are whining for their mother. She reassures them that Aslaug is with Harvard, she is "making a sacrifice" because Harvard can help the baby. Siggy suddenly "feels frightened" and notices two of the children are missing... she hands the baby to Helga, she says she has to find the and runs outside. She finds the two kids standing in the middle of the frozen lake, she rushes out to try and save them and the ice cracks and they fall in to the frozen water. She dives down to save them and can't find them. A blond woman, (Siggy's daughter) who appears to be a Valkyrie squeezes Siggy's hand and appears to reassure her before she dives back underwater to search for the kids again. Siggy saves both of the kids and places them on top of the ice — only the Valkyrie is gone and Harvard is sitting there tending to the children. Siggy nods at Harvard and then slips back in to the water and doesn't resurface again.

Ragnar and the troops return to Wessex, Kwethrith introduces her brother Bergert to King Ecbert and he welcomes him with open arms. Ragnar asks Lagertha how the settlement is going, she reassures him that she "sacrificed herself for the common good" and Ecbert has ensured their safety. Bjorn tends to his girlfriend in the other room — he has a hard time looking at her face, she cries that he won't marry her now. He reassures her that he still wants to marry her and kisses her bloody lips.

At the feast King Ecbert pleads with Lagertha to stay — she turns him down. King Ecbert asks Athelstan to stay — and teases that Judith will be sad if he goes. Ragnar overhears and asks Athelstan if he plans to stay, he tells Athelstan that everyone is "free to do as they please." Judith pulls Athelstan into a dark corner and pleads with him not to leave her. He reminds her that her husband, the king's son, is back home. Judith cries that she "gave herself to Athelstan" and she doesn't want him to leave.

Ragnar sits down with Ecbert — Ecbert coos that they understand each other and that is why they are allies and they will remain so. Ragnar points out that the only reason they are allies is because he needed a settlement and Ecbert needed to take control of Mercia. Ragnar asks Ecbert if he is corrupt, Ecbert says "oh yes" and asks Ragnar if he is — he laughs and agrees that he is to.

Floki finds Rollo outside talking to the Gods. Floki says that the gods are angry and they are scared that one day they will have to choose between the Gods and Ragnar. Rollo reassures him that he will never have to make that choice. Inside, Ecbert finds Athelstan sitting by himself. He asks him what he is going to do and Athelstan replies that he is leaving with Ragnar. Ecbert sneers that is "the wrong thing to do."

At Lagertha's village, Alcov's special guest has arrived. He has called Horik's son to help him overthrow Lagertha. Horik's son announces that before Ragnar killed Bjork he impregnated his wife. Horik's son has married Bjork's wife — so the baby is now his son, and the rightful heir to the village.

At the feast in Wessex Kwenthirth gives a speech and announces that they are going to celebrate their alliance and drink to victory over her abusers. Her brother Agbert cries that he loves her and he has always loved her and takes a drink out of the goblet that Kwenthirth handed him. Everyone watches in awe as Kwenthirth's brother begins choking up blood and then drops to the floor and dies — Kwenthirth poisoned him. Everyone is silent, Kwenthirth orders them to all "stand and raise their cups to the only rules of Mercia." They all cheers to the Queen and then dump out their drinks because they don't want to be poisoned like her brother.

Harvard heads in to Aslaug's tent, he announces that it is "time for him to be on his way." He reassures Aslaug that her son will be well — he has taken on some of his pains as well. He tells Aslaug that Siggy is happy now too, and she is with her sons and husband. Before he leaves Aslaug asks him one last time who he is — he replies "just a wanderer" and then puts on his hood and wanders out of the tent. Helga rushes to the door and watches him disappear in to the

fog.

The Usurper

Season 3

Episode Number: 24

Season Episode: 5

Originally aired: Thursday March 19, 2015
Writer: Michael Hirst
Director: Helen Shaver
Show Stars: Travis Fimmel (Ragnar Lothbrok), Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Clive Standen (Rollo), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), George Blagden (Athelstan), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Alyssa Sutherland (Aslaug), Ben Robson (Kalf), Linus Roache (Ecbert, King of Wessex)
Recurring Role: Moe Dunford (Aethelwulf), Maude Hirst (Helga), Gaia Weiss (Porunn), Jennie Jacques (Judith), John Kavanagh (Seer)
Guest Stars: Michael Hough (Warrior 2), Jack Hickey (Warrior 3), Ciaran McGlynn (Saxon 2 Farmstead), Marty Maguire (Second Saxon Noble), Muiris Crowley (Third Saxon Noble), Jill Harding (Judith's Maid), Cathal O'Hallin (Hvitserk), Cormac Melia (Ubbe), Steve Wall (Uncle Einar)
Summary: The fleet returns to Kattegat to find tragic circumstances await. Lagertha learns that her Earldom has been usurped and convinces Ragnar to travel to Hederby with her in an effort to reclaim her title. Ragnar causes great surprise when he announces the next raid. The Seer has interesting prophecies for Rollo.



The episode kicks off with Ragnar and his men at sea — headed home. Athelstan tells Ragnar a story about a village outside of Paris. He gushes that it "rises out of the water," and is surrounded by huge walls. The churches are made out of marble and stone — and the village was full of beautiful women. They were so beautiful, he almost questioned his vows of celibacy. Floki watches Ragnar and Athelstan talk from afar — he rants that it sickens him that Ragnar is hud-

dled up with the priest. Meanwhile, on another one of the ships Bjorn tends to his beaten girlfriend.

When they arrive at home the villagers rush to the beach to great them. Lagertha tells both of Tolstons' pregnant wives that he did not make it. Rollo searches the beach for Siggy — Aslaug breaks the news to him that Siggy drowned and died when she was saving Ragnar's sons from the lake. Rollo freaks out and storms off — Ragnar demands to know why Aslaug wasn't watching their kids and Siggy was. Helga jumps to her defense and says that all three of them were taking turns watching the kids — Ragnar isn't buying it though.

Rollo proceeds to get wasted on the boat and begins trying to pick fights with everyone — Bjorn tries to calm him down and they wind up fighting each other while everyone gathers around and hoots and hollers. Both Bjorn and Rollo are badly beaten — but Rollo continues screaming at Bjorn to hit him. He says he wants to go to the Gods with Siggy. Rollo finally has had enough and stumbles off in to the pouring rain.

Aslaug returns to her hut and Ragnar is waiting for her — he demands to know why she wasn't watching their kids and Siggy was and what they were doing on the lake. Aslaug insists tht the boys were just being curious like their father. She tries to kiss Ragnar and he pulls away. Aslaug

shouts that he had so much se in England that now he doesn't need it from her. Meanwhile, Floki corners Helga and demands to know what really happened while they were away. He can tell that they are hiding something about how Siggy died. Helga tells Floki everything about the visitor Harvard that came from their dreams, she even confesses that Aslaug slept with him. Floki says that Harvard is a God, and he didn't cause Siggy's death but he gave them a new one in place of her — Aslaug will be pregnant.

A messenger arrives and tells Lagartha that Kalf has taken over her village and she has been overthrown — she is no longer the Earl. Lagartha is furious, she goes to Ragnar for help and demands that he help her take back her village. Ragnar warns that it could lead to a civil war — but agrees to help Lagartha.

Floki apparently told Ragnar about Harvard — he corners Aslaug and demands to know who the guy was. Aslaug sneers that Harvard was a good man and he cared for Ragnar's son — the son that Ragnar always leaves behind and ignores. Ragnar picks up the baby and awakes him from a dead sleep and he begins screaming hysterically.

In Wessex Judith's husband demands to know what's wrong with her and why she is sick — she confesses that she is pregnant. He freaks out and screams at her that she can't be pregnant because they haven't had sex. King Ecbert catches his son slamming his head against the wall — he tells him to come to the hall. A messenger reveals that there have been some major disputes about the settlement, and the North Men are threatening to kill them. Ecbert's son has no qualms about leaving Judith to go deal with the boundary disputes — he volunteers to go.

Ragnar holds a meeting — he announces that they are going to attack Paris. It won't be easy because it is a well-protected city, he tells them that Athelstan has been there and they will be "travelling with knowledge." Everyone cheers and begins celebrating. Lagartha corners Ragnar and reminds him of his promise to help her take back the Earldom.

Ragnar makes good on his promise and he travels to the Earldom. Lagartha demands that Kalf gives back what is rightfully hers. Ragnar takes Kalf aside and says he wants to talk to him in private. He tells him about his trip to take over Paris — and he invites him to come along. Ragnar says that if he doesn't bring his men with him then he could lose everything, even his Earldom. Lagartha reminds Ragnar that it is her Earldom — Ragnar says that it is between the two of them to figure out who is in charge and leaves.

King Ecbert's son and his men arrive at the settlement — he is still upset about Judith's affair and he orders them to "kill all of the Pagans." They ride through the settlement on their horses, killing everyone in sight and slaughtering men, women, and children with their swords. A little boy runs off in to the woods and they even shoot him with an arrow to ensure there are no survivors. They light a wooden cross on fire and they all drop to their knees and pray — King Ecbert's son announces that they "did all of this for their lord."

King Ecbert's men return and reveal that they slaughtered all of the Pagans — he screams that he gave the North Men his word that nothing would happen. Ecbert begins screaming at the guards to arrest all of the men for treason. Ecbert warns his son that he is "not escaping lightly," he screams at everyone to get out so he can speak to him. Once everyone is gone Ecbert begins laughing — he thanks his son for killing the Pagans, he says that their rouse worked out beautifully and even Charlemagne would have approved.

Born Again

Season 3

Episode Number: 25

Season Episode: 6

Originally aired:	Thursday March 26, 2015
Writer:	Michael Hirst
Director:	Helen Shaver
Show Stars:	Travis Fimmel (Ragnar Lothbrok), Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Clive Standen (Rollo), Jessalyn Gilsig (Siggy), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), George Blagden (Athelstan), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Alyssa Sutherland (Aslaug), Ben Robson (Kalf), Linus Roache (Ecbert, King of Wessex)
Recurring Role:	Moe Dunford (Aethelwulf), Maude Hirst (Helga), Gaia Weiss (Porunn), Jennie Jacques (Judith)
Guest Stars:	Søren Pilmark (Stender), Cathal O'Hallin (Hvitserk), Cormac Melia (Ubbe), Jill Harding (Judith's Maid), Eva Bartley (Midwife), Jonathan Gunning (Priest), Philip O'Sullivan (Bishop Edmund), Greg Orvis (Siegfried), Edvin Endre (Erlendur), Georgia Hirst (Torvi), Frankie McCafferty (Sinric)
Summary:	Preparations for the Paris raid pick up pace. Porunn and Judith both deliver children, and with new life there is also death. Athelstan tells Ragnar of his re-connection to his Christian faith. Floki interprets a sign from the gods that a sacrifice should be made.



The episode kicks off with Athelstan telling Ragnar all about Paris and what kind of defense system they have — Ragnar plans to attack the city and take it over. Floki watches them from a distance, disgusted. Inside a tent, Aslaug and Helga are helping Bjorn's girlfriend give birth to their baby — she screams that she doesn't want the child. Bjorn snaps that he does, the baby finally is born and she is perfectly healthy despite that her mother was badly injured in battle. Bjorn

announces he is going to name the baby girl Siggy.

Later that night Floki runs in to Ragnar's tent and wakes him up. He has a farmer with him. The farmer sobs to Ragnar that King Ecbert's son and his troops destroyed their entire village and killed everyone — including the women and children. Ragnar vows that King Ecbert and his son will pay. Floki argues that it is Athelstan's fault too, because he convinced them to do business with Ecbert. Ragnar won't hear it though. Floki leaves, and Ragnar tells the farmer that he can "go be with his family now" and then he chokes him until he drops dead. Ragnar heads in to Aslaug's tent and wakes her up — he tells her that she could have slept with another man in front of the children for all he cared, as long as he looked after them. Aslaug screams at Ragnar and hits him, and he ignores her and leaves.

Athelstan wakes up in the middle of the night after a nightmare. Meanwhile at King Ecbert's village, Athelstan's son is born by Ethelwolf's wife. He tells her congratulations and then soldiers march in and drag her out of the room kicking and screaming. She is dragged outside and tied to a stake — and the entire village gathers around her while Ecbert and Ethelwolf look on. A pope speaks and announces that Judith has been found guilty of adultery and as per the holy

book — her punishment is that her ears will be cut off. Ecbert gives her a chance to save her ears and reveal who the father of the baby is — she refuses. After a soldier cuts off one of her ears she sobs that the baby's father is Athelstan. Ecbert stops the soldier and tells Ethelwolf that they can't punish her for having a baby with a holy man, he announces that she will not punish Judith anymore and they will Christian the special baby and name him Alfred. Meanwhile back in his tent in Ragnar's village, Athelstan is having a meltdown. He rocks back and forth and says "praise the Lord, you have given me a sign."

Athelstan rushes to Ragnar's tent and excitedly tells him that he was born again and he is Christian again — he tells Ragnar that he can't honor his God anymore and he is going to leave the village. Ragnar snaps that Athelstan can't leave him because he is the only one that he trust and he loves him. Athelstan reassures Ragnar that it doesn't matter where he goes — what matters is where Ragnar is going. Outside Bjorn finds FLoki sitting outside in the rain — he demands to know why he isn't working on the boat. Floki explains that his heart isn't in it and he is upset about Athelstan and the Christians. He saw Athelstan earlier that morning throwing away the necklace that he wore honoring their Gods. He tells Bjorn that he is going to finish the boats, and then he is going to go home to his old village.

Kolf arrives with his boats full of men, he plans to join Ragnar on his quest to take over Paris. Lagartha is not happy to see him, and grumbles that those boats used to be her's. Kolf introduces Ragnar to King Horic's son and Ragnar is shocked to see that he brought him along. Athelstan sits down with Ragnar and Kolf, and they come up with a plan of attack on Paris and how they will approach the city — since Athelstan is the only one that has been there before and he knows what to expect.

Outside at the feast everyone is drinking, Bjorn tries to seduce his girlfriend but she turns him down again. She tells Bjorn that she doesn't want to have sex — she just had a baby and her face is scarred from when she was hurt at battle, she offers to find a nice girl that will sleep with him. Bjorn pleads with her not to be like that — but she grabs a girl by the fire and introduces them. She Bjorn him away from the fire and finds him sitting on the bluff — he informs her that he loves his wife, and then has sex with her.

Helga finds Floki in the forest praying to the gods — he begins acting crazy and shouts that the gods told him that blood had to be spilled. He chokes Helga and screams at her not to tell anyone that she saw him and then storms off. In his tent Athelstan strips off his clothes and lights a candle and begins praying and chanting to a cross. Floki storms in to Athelstan's tent, he mumbles "Lord save my soul" when he sees Floki. Floki screams and swings his axe and strikes Athelstan's head — he drops dead. Floki kneels over his body and dips his finger in Athelstan's blood and then tastes it.

The next morning Ragnar heads out in the forest on his horse — he is carrying Athelstan's body wrapped in cloth. He finds a clearing by the stream and drops Athelstan's body and prepares to dig a grave — he mumbles that this is "as close to Athelstans God as he could get him." Once Athelstan is buried, Ragnar sits down and talks to him. He thanks Athelstan for everything he taught him, and says that in his eyes he was fearless because he dared to question his religion. Ragnar cries as he makes a cross out of rope and sticks to put on his grave and shouts that he hates Athelstan for leaving him.

Paris

Season 3

Episode Number: 26

Season Episode: 7

Originally aired:	Thursday April 2, 2015
Writer:	Michael Hirst
Director:	Kelly Makin
Show Stars:	Travis Fimmel (Ragnar Lothbrok), Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Clive Standen (Rollo), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Alyssa Sutherland (Aslaug), Ben Robson (Kalf), Lothaire Bluteau (Emperor Charles II), Linus Roache (Ecbert, King of Wessex)
Recurring Role:	Amy Bailey (II) (Princess Kwenthriht), Moe Dunford (Aethelwulf), Maude Hirst (Helga), Gaia Weiss (Porunn), Jennie Jacques (Judith)
Guest Stars:	Owen Roe (Odo Count of Paris), Morgane Polanski (Princess Gisla), Frankie McCafferty (Sinric), Greg Orvis (Siegfried), Huw Parmenter (Roland), Laurence Foster (French Archbishop), Aonghus Og McAnally (Messenger), Brian Fortune (Injured Noble), Edwin Endre (Erlendur), Georgia Hirst (Torvi), Philip O'Sullivan (Bishop Edmund), Dave Curry (Mercian Commander)
Summary:	The appearance of the Viking fleet causes panic among the population of Paris. King Charles, urged by his daughter Gisla, announces in Court he will remain in the city. The defence of Paris is in the hands of commander, Count Odo, who hopes that a heroic victory against the Vikings will gain him Gisla's hand in marriage. The Vikings establish camp downriver from the city and plan an attack.



The episode kicks off with Ragnar and his men sailing up on the beach of Paris — the guards at the top of the wall spot them coming. They ring a warning bell and everyone in the streets begins scrambling and the army takes their position. Count Odo rushes down to the King and tells him that Northerners are coming. He warns the King that the Pagans are coming and he should leave and find safety. The King heads to his chambers to mull it over, his daughter tells him that he can't

leave and has to stay with his people and protect them.

The King tells Count Odo that he is not leaving his city in its most urgent time of need. He announces that the next few weeks will be difficult but he prays for their courage. Odo begs the King to ask his brothers for help — the King refuses and says that he needs to prove that he is a worthy successor of Charlemagne, and Odo has to defeat the Northmen. He tells Odo that his burden is "much heavier than even he imagined." Ragnar and his ships hit the beach — they begin setting up camp. Rollo takes a ship of men up to the wall with their shields in tack — the French stand at the top of the wall and riddle their shields with arrows.

In Wessex King Ecbert sits down to eat with his son — he asks Aethelwulf how his marriage is with Judith after she had a love child with Athelstat. Aethelwulf reassures him that they will be okay, a marriage is a marriage. Ecbert confesses to his son that he is planning on overthrowing Judith's father so that he can become the king of all of the kings of England. Judith arrives with the baby — Ecbert coos over the baby and calls himself a grandpa. Aethelwulf screams that he is

tired of hearing about Athelstan and calls his wife a whore. Ecbert kicks his son out of the room and comforts Judith.

While everyone is milling around the beach and setting up their tents and lodges, Ragnar summons Floki. He tells Floki that he missed Athelstan, he says that he wishes he was there at Paris with them and he would have been useful. Floki argues that Ragnar will manage just fine without him.

In Wessex Aethelwulf is kneeling before candles and begging for forgiveness — he is whipping himself and bloody. Guards arrive with a badly beaten man — he was in Mercia, he says that Queen Kwenthrith has violated the contract they made with her. She wants to rule Mercia alone and is trying to cut ties to Wessex.

On the beach Ragnar and Floki are still talking, Ragnar shocks him and says that he wants him to take command of the raid. Floki meets with Lagertha, Bjorn, Rollo and the other leaders. They argue over the best way to attack Paris. There will be a river-borne attack, and an attack at the gates. Rollo tells Floki it is his responsibility to make something that they can use to scale to the top of the walls.

Back at their village, Bjorn's girlfriend cries to Aslaug that she doesn't want her baby anymore. She begs Aslaug to take care of her and raise her as her own. Aslaug tells her that she is being selfish and she has to think of Bjorn — he needs her and loves her. She refuses to take care of the baby for her and tells her to pray to their god Fraya for guidance. Ecbert summons Aethelwulf and tells him that he needs to go to Mercia and talk to Queen Kwenthrith, Aethelwulf doesn't want to speak to the queen after she killed six of their nobles. Ecbert orders his son to go talk to Kwenthrith and give her a chance to beg for their forgiveness and realign with Wessex. If she refuses then they are going to tie her limbs to four horses and let them rip her apart.

Bjorn runs in to the girl that he slept with the night of the fire. She reassures him that it is not important and she is "not with child." They both apologize for taking advantage of each other. He gives her a piece of jewelry and tells her it is a gift. After he leaves, her husband King Horik's son takes the jewelry from her and tells her it is far too good for her, he cuts her hand and calls her a whore before he shoves her and storms off.

On the beach outside of Paris Floki is working feverishly to build an invention that will help their warriors storm the walls. Helga tries to bring him some food, he rambles that he doesn't have time to eat because his work is so important. Floki says he gave the gods a sacrifice and killed Athelstan — so they are giving him a gift and building the ladders for him with his hands. He grabs Helga and she begins crying and runs off in to the woods — obviously scared of how insane he is.

Ecbert pays Judith a visit and shares the writings with her about the Romans that Athelstan was helping him translate. He vows to Judith that "at long as there is blood in his body he will protect her and her son Alfred." Then he kisses his son's wife — Judith sits there in shock.

Aethelwulf visits Kwenthrith and shouts to her that the King is not happy she murdered the nobles, and she has to reaffirm their alliance. She pours him a drink and says cheer to their alliance — and then she invites him to sit down with her and talk civilly about the alliance. She rants that Aethelwulf is always doing what his father tells him — she teases him and pretends to seduce him and then heads off to bed. Aethelwulf wakes up a few hours later and is surrounded by her guards. The guards bring Aethelwulf to Kwenthrith and she is holding a baby, she announces that it is Ragnar's baby — and he will be back to protect her and the baby.

On the beach Floki tells Ragnar and the other leaders that his contraption is complete and tomorrow they can attack Paris. As night sets in they all stand on the beach with torches and chant as they prepare for battle.

To the Gates!

Season 3

Episode Number: 27

Season Episode: 8

Originally aired:	Thursday April 9, 2015
Writer:	Michael Hirst
Director:	Kelly Makin
Show Stars:	Travis Fimmel (Ragnar Lothbrok), Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Clive Standen (Rollo), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Alyssa Sutherland (Aslaug), Ben Robson (Kalf), Lothaire Bluteau (Emperor Charles II)
Recurring Role:	Maude Hirst (Helga), Gaia Weiss (Porunn)
Guest Stars:	Morgane Polanski (Princess Gisla), Owen Roe (Odo Count of Paris), Georgia Hirst (Torvi), Edvin Endre (Erlendur), Greg Orvis (Siegfried), Huw Parmenter (Roland), Mark Huberman (Louis), Michael Hough (Frightened Warrior), Sean Duggan (Monk), Laurence Foster (French Archbishop), Lauterio Zamparelli (Officer), Karen Hassan (Therese)
Summary:	The Viking army embarks and Paris goes into lockdown as the army prepares the defense, overseen by Odo. The Vikings are determined to make it through the gates of Paris and will stop at nothing to succeed.



The episode kicks off on the beaches of Paris — Ragnar and his men and women preparing for battle, Floki has completed the contraption that they will use to scale the city's high walls. They fill their boats with weapons and secure the contraption that Floki built. Meanwhile, inside the walls of Paris the Count orders his men to take their positions and not allow any pass the walls. Women and children are scrambling through the city and taking cover.

Lagartha and her men arrive on foot at the front gate, meanwhile Floki, Ragnar, and the rest of the men sail around and prepare to storm Paris from the back entrance. With their Shields Lagartha and her men move forward, they have brought a handmade tunnel to stand inside and protect them while they beat down the gates with a log. On the other side of the city, Ragnar, Floki and the rest of the troops begin jumping out of their boats — and scaling the ladders that Floki built up the walls.

Lagartha and Rollo are not making out well at the front gate, the log is not working so they begin hammering spears in to doors — and still are not making much headway. At the ladders Ragnar is losing men left and right. Floki's ladders offer no protection while the men scale them and the Parisians are picking them off with arrows while they are trying to get to the top of the wall.

A group of Ragnar's men finally make it to the top of the wall and begin infiltrating Paris. The King's daughter heads to the battle and hangs up a sacred flag, she screams at the soldiers to "fight for the death for Paris." Inspired by her speech the Paris army seems to find their second wind and begins taking out Ragnar's men. At the front gate, Lagartha's men have the spears through the doors — they tie ropes to them and connect them to horses and begin trying to pull them off of the enormous gate, all while trying to avoid being shot with arrows.

Floki is running around like a mad man at the base of his ladders, and trying to avoid being hit by all of the falling bodies. The Parisians douse the ladders with buckets of oil and begin

lighting them on fire — killing dozens of Ragnar's men as he watches from the ship in dismay. Lagartha finally gets the gates open, and there are no soldiers on the other side, just a long empty hallway.

Lagartha and her men begin charging down the hallway and storming Paris they get to the end of the hallway and realize it is a trap. The army lowers a door and begins shooting harpoons through Lagartha's army. Kolf realizes it is a trap and he punches Lagartha in the face and knocks her out and begins dragging her back out of the tunnel because she won't retreat.

Bjorn gets fed up with the troops unsuccessfully climbing the ladders and begins scaling one himself — Ragnar chases after him. Floki is hiding underneath another burning ladder and chanting to himself, he blames Athelstan and curses him for doing this to him. He thinks Athelstan is having them all murdered from the grave. Ragnar and Bjorn finally make it to the top of the wall — after admirably trying to take all of the soldiers out himself Ragnar is flung off from the wall and lands in a heap on top of all of his dead men.

Ragnar climbs up out of the pile of dead bodies and stumbles over to Bjorn's body — he has been shot with several arrows. Underneath the burning ladder, Floki is still shouting at the Gods. He screams that they betrayed him and are "pissing in his mouth." He takes out a knife and prepares to slit his own throat — and then a body engulfed in flames falls on him. Inside Paris, they are celebrating their victory — and chanting "all hail to the emperor."

Helga and the other women begin trying to patch up what is left of Ragnar's men — he drags Bjorn's lifeless body back to the camp. Lagertha and Rollo rush to his side and blame Ragnar for letting Bjorn climb the ladder up the wall — Ragnar snaps that he is a grown man and they need to stop treating him like a child. They get to work on Bjorn and try to save him — the woman informs Lagartha he might not live.

Floki is not dead, Helga finds him swimming ashore — he tells her that he has come to face the others. Helga hisses that he shouldn't be there and shouts that he is selfish and all he cares about is himself before she storms off leaving him in the water. He screams at her not to leave him but she doesn't look back. Later that night Kolf visits Lagertha in her tent, he whispers the he "desires her" and begins washing the blood off from her and kissing her. Lagertha stops him and snaps that she can't forgive him for what he did, she will leave with him and be with him, but one day she will kill him.

Bjorn wakes up and cracks jokes at Ragnar when he sees him peeing blood next to his bed. Ragnar sits down with him and Bjorn explains that he climbed the ladder because his "instincts told him to." He asks Ragnar what they are going to do now — he tells Bjorn he has to speak to an old friend about it. Ragnar wanders out in the woods and begins looking up at the sky and speaking to Athelstan. Ragnar laughs that he might have went too far with Floki, and he never intended to let him "really lead the men." Ragnar coughs up blood and flops back on his bad, he announces that he is "bound and determined to conquer Paris."

Breaking Point

Season 3

Episode Number: 28

Season Episode: 9

Originally aired:	Thursday April 16, 2015
Writer:	Michael Hirst
Director:	Ken Girotti
Show Stars:	Travis Fimmel (Ragnar Lothbrok), Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Clive Standen (Rollo), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), George Blagden (Athelstan), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Alyssa Sutherland (Aslaug), Ben Robson (Kalf), Lothaire Bluteau (Emperor Charles II), Linus Roache (Ecbert, King of Wessex)
Recurring Role:	Moe Dunford (Aethelwulf), Maude Hirst (Helga), Jennie Jacques (Judith)
Guest Stars:	Owen Roe (Odo Count of Paris), Morgane Polanski (Princess Gisla), Mark Huberman (Louis), Anthony Kinahan (Sentry), Rex Ryan (II) (Soldier), Colm O'Brien (Tower Sentry), Frankie McCafferty (Sinric), Greg Orvis (Siegfried), Huw Parmenter (Roland), Eddie Drew (Odin), Carl Shaaban (Jesus), Tommaso di Vincenzo (Terrifying Creature), Joe Doyle (1st Older Viking Man), Brian McGuinness (2nd Older Viking Man), James Murphy (I) (Ansgar), Karen Hassan (Therese), Edvin Endre (Erlendur), Ciaran O'Grady (Viking Man), Laurence Foster (French Archbishop)
Summary:	The Vikings goes out for a second assault on Paris. Recognizing the desperate state of affairs. Emperor Charles must make a difficult decision. In Wessex, Judith is compelled to make a difficult decision of her own.



The episode kicks off with Ragnar wandering through the cap on the beaches of France, he heads out to the woods where Floki is hiding. He tells Ragnar that he doesn't understand why they failed, he tried everything to make them succeed. Ragnar nonchalantly says that the others will try again tonight and walks away, leaving Floki in the woods.

Later that night after dark, Lagertha and some of her men begin swimming through the water to Paris for a sneak attack. The French are in high alert and

standing guard on top of the wall. Lagertha and her men make it inside the city walls undetected — she begins creeping through the dark hallways and silently killing the guards.

The French are finally alerted that the Vikings are inside the city and the soldiers begin attacking, Lagertha manages to light the large wooden gate on fire and Rollo and his men make it inside. As they are running down the long corridor in to the palace the French begin rolling a huge wheel down the corridor with spikes on it. Princess Gisla watches as Rollo single-handedly stops the wheel and the Vikings begin charging down the corridor and killing the French soldiers left and right.

Ragnar is in bad shape and has been urinating blood all day, he stays behind on the beach and watches from a distance. He falls to the ground and begins hallucinating. Meanwhile in Paris,

Count Odo rushes and tells King Charles that the North Men are inside the city walls — he begs the King to come down and reassure the men, he says that the men need his encouragement. The King refuses, Odo reminds him that his grandfather Charlemagne would have put on his armor and come down and fight alongside his soldiers. King Charles scoffs that he is not Charlemagne.

Odo heads back to the battle — French soldiers and Lagartha and Rollo's men are being slaughtered in the corridor. Floki screams to Rollo that they can't get through the French soldiers — Rollo finally concedes and shouts at his men to pull back. They barely make it out of the Palace alive. The French soldiers take two hostages and drag them to the king: Earl Siegfried and the wanderer that speaks French. Odo demands to know who the great warrior was that stopped their spiked wheel — the wanderer reveals that his name is Rollo. Princess Gisla tells Count Odo that she wants him to bring her Rollo's head.

In Wessex King Ecbert summons Judith, he informs her that Aethelwulf's mission in Mercia was successful and he is on his way home. King Ecbert tells Judith that he plans to keep his promise to protect her and her son Alfred, Athelstan's baby from anyone who will harm them — including Aethelwulf. But, King Ecbert says he is not going to protect her without getting some reward in return. He tells her that she is going to be his mistress and orders her to get in bed.

In Kettegat Princess Aslaug is holding court, two of the men left behind bring her a Christian who has been preaching about the Devil, he tells Aslaug that her Gods are dumb and blind and they can't bring them any salvation. Princess Aslaug says that Christ may be a god, but her Gods are greater and mightier. The Christian begins screaming about the holy ghost until someone in the crowds throws something at him and knocks him down. Aslaug asks the Christian if he will trust his fate to his god and he agrees. They head outside and everyone gathers around, they take a burning hot rock and place it in his hands and he drops to the ground and begins screaming, his hands are covered in blood.

Meanwhile in Paris, they are preparing to behead Earl Siegfried. He requests that the guard hold his hair back so that they can get a clean cut. Siegfried puts his head on the block and as requested a soldier holds his hair to the side. He pulls his head back at the last second and the soldier wielding the axe cuts off the man holding his hair's hand. Siegfried laughs hysterically before they behead him. After the beheading Odo and Princess Gisla make their rounds through the city — hundreds of people have come down with a "dark sickness" and are laying in the streets coughing. Odo reports the illness to King Charles and tells him that they lost too many men and they are going to have to leave the city for food soon — Count Odo advises him to surrender to the North Men. Princess Gisla shouts at her father not to listen to the Count.

Aethelwulf arrives back at Wessex and he sits down to have dinner with Ecbert and Judith. Aethelwulf tells his father that Queen Kwenrith tried to seduce him to get her way, but he was able to turn her down. Ecbert gives a speech about being loyal to his wife, and Aethelwulf says that he has forgiven her for sleeping with Athelstan and he knows it was just god's will. Aethelwulf changes the subject and asks Ecbert if he sent him to Mercia so that Kwenrith would kill him. Ecbert is astonished by his accusation and says that he is building this empire so that he can pass it on to him.

The French travel to the beach to meet with the North Men and discuss a treaty. Ragnar is lying on a makeshift bed and still writhing in pain — Rollo and Bjorn speak to the soldiers. They want Ragnar to meet with the King outside of the city with no weapons, Bjorn says they will let them know whether they will discuss a treaty tomorrow. After the French leave Lagartha, Rollo, and Bjorn begin arguing over whether they should attack Paris again — or meet with them to discuss a treaty. Ragnar gets up and begins screaming that he is the King and it is his decision, he doubles over and coughs up blood on the ground and then announces that he will go to the meeting tomorrow.

The next morning Rollo realizes that Ragnar went to meet the French without him. At the meeting place Count Odo offers Ragnar gold and silver to lift the siege. Ragnar informs him it is not enough, he demands that Count Odo's priest baptizes him because he is dying and he wants to go to Heaven to be with Athelstan. The French are baffled by Ragnar's request, but the priest follows him in to the water and proceeds to baptize him. Lagartha, Rollo, and Floki arrive just in time to see Ragnar being baptized and they are horrified by the scene.

The Dead

Season 3

Episode Number: 29

Season Episode: 10

Originally aired: Thursday April 23, 2015
Writer: Michael Hirst
Director: Ken Girotti
Show Stars: Travis Fimmel (Ragnar Lothbrok), Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Clive Standen (Rollo), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Ben Robson (Kalf), Lothaire Bluteau (Emperor Charles II)
Recurring Role: Maude Hirst (Helga), John Kavanagh (Seer)
Guest Stars: Owen Roe (Odo Count of Paris), Morgane Polanski (Princess Gisla), Huw Parmenter (Roland), Edvin Endre (Erlendur), Frankie McCafferty (Sinric), Laurence Foster (French Archbishop), Karen Hassan (Therese)
Summary: As Ragnar prepares to take his troops for one more daring attack on Paris, he makes a request of his son that could change the future of the Vikings for ever.



The episode kicks off on the beaches at Paris, the French soldiers arrive and inform Bjorn and Lagertha that they have brought all of the treasure they promised — the Emperor expects them to keep up their end of the deal and leave immediately. The French leave and Ragnar's men begin digging through the chest of treasure and cheering. Meanwhile, inside a tent Ragnar is lying in bed shaking and coughing, he doesn't look good. Rollo visits him and informs him that they have

brought the payment that they promised. Ragnar says it doesn't matter to him because he is dying, but at least he will get to see Athelstan again.

Rollo leaves the tent and talks to Floki — Floki says that the priest poisoned Ragnar's mind. Lagertha doesn't believe that Ragnar is really baptized. Rollo explains that their Gods didn't protect his mind from the priest because he has taken Athelstan's side.

Meanwhile in Paris the Emperor and his daughter head to the Church to pray with other members of the city. Count Odo tries to talk to Princess Gisla after prayer but she gives him the cold shoulder. The Emperor boasts to the people that it is a beautiful day because they are safe, his daughter Gisla sneers that all he did was pay off the Vikings, and more people will be back to try and get in to their city.

Later that night at the beach the Vikings are celebrating the treasure they received. Floki finds Helga sitting off by herself and tries to talk to her — she tells him she has no forgiveness for him and doesn't want to understand and then she storms off. In his tent Ragnar is talking to Bjorn, he warns him that he will soon be responsible for their people. Ragnar warns him that when the time comes he must lead with his head and not his heart. And, then he tells Bjorn he has a job for him that only he can do.

At the palace Count Odo has a woman in his chambers, he pours her a drink. The woman scoffs that Princess Gisla is boring and moral, and won't even speak to Odo. The Count reassures her that Princess Gisla will speak to him eventually — the Emperor will make her. Count Odo takes the woman by her hand and takes her down a dark chamber in to a room in the basement — he lights torches and the creepy room looks like some sort of torture chamber. He tells the

woman that if she lets him chain her up and whip her, he will let her choose which whip he uses on her. She lets Count Odo chain her up and take off her clothes and he begins whipping her.

The next morning Helga finds Floki on the beach tinkering around with some tools — he says that Ragnar has asked him to build one last boat for him. The French soldiers arrive at the beach and demands to know why they haven't left yet since they were already paid. Bjorn explains to Count Odo that his father Ragnar is very sick and too weak to travel. The Count demands to see if Ragnar is really sick — Bjorn takes him in to Ragnar's tent. Bjorn informs the Count that Ragnar has asked for one thing, he wants a proper Christian burial and they are not leaving the beach until he promises to do so. Count Odo agrees that Bjorn can bring his body to the Cathedral with unarmed men after he dies and they will say a Christian mass for him.

The next morning, Bjorn emerges from Ragnar's tent — where there is a coffin inside shaped like a boat. It looks like Ragnar has died, he tells all of the men lined up outside of Ragnar's tent that they can go talk to him now. Lagartha heads in to the tent first where the coffin is lying on a fur rug and surrounded by candles. She crouches on the floor and whispers to the closed coffin that she doesn't know what the Gods have in store for Ragnar — but she believes they will save him from the Christians. Afterwards Rollo files in and says his peace, followed by the other men. Floki rants to Ragnar's coffin that he betrayed him and his heritage and chose the Christian Athelstan over him.

The next day Ragnar's men carry his casket to Paris, the Priest opens the doors for them and leads them through the city and to the chapel where Count Odo, Princess Gísla, and the Emperor are waiting for the funeral. Inside the chapel the Priests begin the funeral and prayer. Ragnar jumps out of the coffin — very much alive, and slits the priests' neck. He takes Princess Gísla hostage and uses her as a shield to get back to the doors to the city. Ragnar opens the door and Bjorn is waiting outside with all of the men. Ragnar turns around to kill Princess Gísla, thinks for a moment, and then lets her go free, she rushes to safety. The Vikings storm through the doors that Ragnar opened them and in to the unsuspecting city of Paris. Ragnar stumbles out of the city gates and his son Bjorn catches him.

Inside the chapel the Emperor is sitting on the floor crying to Gísla and Count Odo about how the Vikings violated their city, the Princess orders her father to get up and tells him the heathens have left. Back on the beach Lagartha is shouting at Bjorn, she demands to know why Bjorn didn't tell her that Ragnar was alive. Bjorn tells reminds her that Ragnar is still king and that was what he wanted and because of his plan they got even more spoils from their raid on the city of Paris. They plan to raid Paris again in the Spring and they need to leave some men on the beach — Rollo volunteers, Ragnar and Bjorn and the rest of the Vikings ship off for home. At the Palace that night the Emperor reveals to Princess Gísla that he has offered her as a wife to Rollo to bribe him to leave the beach and go home and not raid their city again. Princess Gísla cries that her father is only doing this because she won't marry Count Odo — the Emperor scoffs that she has to obey him not as her father but as the Emperor.

The French soldiers visit Rollo on the beach and offer him Gísla and the title of Duke, in return Rollo has to help the French defend Paris against Ragnar when he returns. Rollo agrees to the terms and heads to the castle, the emperor greets him and Princess Gísla stands up and sneers that she will not marry the "filthy Pagan animal." Rollo is unfazed by her and laughs and says "Hello" in French to the Emperor. Meanwhile, on the boat back home everyone is sleeping. Ragnar whispers to Floki and calls him over to him. Floki kneels down next to Ragnar and he whispers to him that he knows he killed Athelstan.

Season Four

A Good Treason

Season 4

Episode Number: 30

Season Episode: 1

Originally aired:	Thursday February 18, 2016
Writer:	Michael Hirst
Director:	Ciarán Donnelly
Show Stars:	Travis Fimmel (Ragnar Lothbrok), Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Clive Standen (Rollo), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Alyssa Sutherland (Aslaug), Ben Robson (Kalf), Lothaire Bluteau (Emperor Charles II), John Kavanagh (Seer)
Recurring Role:	George Blagden (Athelstan), Maude Hirst (Helga), Owen Roe (Odo Count of Paris), Edvin Endre (Erlendur), Georgia Hirst (Torvi), Morgane Polanski (Princess Gisla)
Guest Stars:	Dianne Doan (Yidu), Søren Pilmark (Stender), Stephen Rockett (Hvitserk), Luke Shanahan (Ubbe), Elijah O'Sullivan (Sigurd), James Quinn Markey (Ivar), Steve Wall (Uncle Einar), Shashi Rami (Slave Trader), Rosalie Connerty (Angrboda), Barry McGovern (French Archbishop), Frankie McCafferty (Sinric), Huw Parmenter (Roland), Karen Hassan (Therese), Simon Jewell (Frankish Officer), Cillian O'Sullivan (Eirik)
Summary:	As Ragnar lies in his sick bed in Kattegat, events unfold beyond his control; Bjorn orders the arrest of Floki for Athelstan's murder; Rollo betrays his Viking supporters to strengthen his position; Kalf announces joint Earldom with Lagertha.



The episode opens with Ragnar, wounded and near-death, having a fever dream of walking towards the welcoming open gates of Valhalla, only to see them close before him. The scene was intercut with his loving wife Aslaug asking The Seer if a woman would rule Kattegat should the king Ragnar die.

In Kattegat, Queen Aslaug rules imperiously in Ragnar's stead, with a returning Bjorn at her side. No sooner have the spoils of Paris been laid at their feet, than Bjorn has Floki arrested for the killing Athelstan. When Ragnar finally

stirs, hobbling into a celebratory feast with the help of a wooden staff, he chastises Bjorn for publicly shackling up his once beloved shipbuilder turned traitor. Bjorn decides that he will prove to his father that he can live as the great heroes did; he's going into the interior, to survive deep in the wilderness. Meanwhile, Aslaug procures new slave girl, Yidu, most likely to use as a weapon against Ragnar.

In Hedeby, Earl Kalf announces to his people that he and Lagertha will share the Earldom. This doesn't go down well with Einar, who helped Kalf get rid of Lagertha in the first place. Kalf invites Einar and his men around a central post so they can vote to exile Lagertha. Then he sneers smugly as his men to shoot all the dissidents down with their shiny new Frankish crossbows. Lagertha expresses her pleasure with a stealy smile, and delivers the final insult to injury, castrating the dying Einar.

In Paris, Count Rollo is settling in to his new life of Frankish nobility. He's married away to Princess Gisla, who weeps through the ceremony and holds a knife to his throat on their wedding

night. "You're tickling me," he jokes, before taunting her by falling asleep. Rollo receives a visit from Eirik. It seems the Viking left behind with him don't think much of their nominal leader, who's become a Frankish noble and a Christian. He rides to the Viking encampment outside Paris, gives the signal, and a horde of hidden Frankish bowmen cut down every man, woman, and child.

Kill the Queen

Season 4

Episode Number: 31

Season Episode: 2

Originally aired:	Thursday February 25, 2016
Writer:	Michael Hirst
Director:	Ciarán Donnelly
Show Stars:	Travis Fimmel (Ragnar Lothbrok), Clive Standen (Rollo), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Alyssa Sutherland (Aslaug), Linus Roache (Ecbert King of Wessex)
Recurring Role:	Amy Bailey (II) (Princess Kwenthrith), Moe Dunford (Aethelwulf), Maude Hirst (Helga), Owen Roe (Odo Count of Paris), Jennie Jacques (Judith), Morgane Polanski (Princess Gisla)
Guest Stars:	Seán T. O'Meallaigh (Prudentius), Mark Fitzgerald (II) (Warrior), David Shannon (Noble 1), Christopher McHalleem (First Saxon Noble), Malcolm Douglas (Noble 3), Stephen Rockett (Hvitserk), Luke Shanahan (Ubbe), Rosalie Connerty (Angrboda), Des Carney (Waerferth the Scout), Connor O'Hanlon (Alfred), Huw Parmenter (Roland), Karen Hassan (Therese), Paul Ward (II) (Hairdresser), Philip O'Sullivan (Bishop Edmund), James Quinn Markey (Ivar), Aron Hegarty (Mercian Commander)
Summary:	Ragnar and Floki are still at odds; Rollo makes great attempts to win over his new bride, Princess Gisla; Bjorn's survival skills are put to the test; King Ecbert sets the task for his son Aethelwulf to rescue Queen Kwenthrith.



The episode opens with a reminder that Bjorn Ironside has decided to find himself by roughing it in the wilderness (unlike what vikings normally do which is roughing it, in general). It is a tough time for Bjorn, as he struggles to even catch food for himself with something taking all his kills from the traps he has set. Eventually, though, he does manage to secure himself some food.

In Kattogat, Floki has escaped and the hunt is on to track him down. Ragnar Lothbrok's son Ubbe helps out. Floki tries

to throw off the scent by travelling through water, but there is no fooling the vikings on his trail.

Ragnar approaches Helga and asks if she helped Floki escape. While Helga is hesitant to admit she may have done so, Ragnar is, at least, compassionate, saying it is her duty as Floki's wife to do so. He also feels obligated to help support Helga and her daughter with Floki, providing them with food on account of the fact that "winter is coming," and fans are wondering if they are still watching Vikings anymore or if they have stepped into another TV program.

Eventually Floki is caught after Ubbe sees him hiding from the vikings under the water. He is hauled back to Kattogat and Ragnar — once again — has to deal with his old friend. Ragnar is still trying to get Floki to admit that maybe what he did to Athelstan is not what the gods asked, but perhaps just Floki's own jealousy. After all, did the gods save Floki from getting captured by the vikings just now? Ragnar then comes up with a creative way to torture Floki rather than kill him outright.

Besides having to argue this point with Floki, Ragnar also has to defend his beliefs against his wife, Aslaug. This leads to him slapping his wife, which is totally not cool, Ragnar.

Remember Queen Kwenrith? Well, she and her son, Magnus, have been taken hostage after the different factions of Mercia decided that she was not the true queen. So King Ecbert, along with King Aelle, join forces to rescue the queen. A guard admits he knows where she is being held captive. It could be a trap, it might not be, but King Ecbert allows his son, Aethelwulf to attempt a rescue.

It turns out queen Kwenrith is being held in the aforementioned tower, and it is not a trap. After some fighting and a close call for Kwenrith and Magnus, she is rescued. Kwenrith is, as always, enchanting. She is also tough and holds her own when the order to "kill the queen" is issued. But will Aethelwulf be able to hold his own against the beguiling Kwenrith now he has saved her?

Meanwhile, back in Wessex, Ecbert, is making his move on Aethelwulf's wife, Judith. He is very smart about it too, offering Judith the choice of being "free" by organizing a tutor for her to show her how to paint the holy books — a task that is normally forbidden for women. This ploy works, and Judith finds herself more inclined to favor her father-in-law now.

But what of Rollo? After all, he burned all his bridges at the end of episode 1 of Vikings. Episode 2 shows the audience that there are plenty more bridges for this viking to burn. Rollo is showing the Franks just how to defend themselves against the vikings when they return to raid Paris.

But, just when you are hating on Rollo all over again, he gets himself the makeover I was talking about in my season 4 review of Vikings and that adorable humorous aspect rears up again between himself and his brand new Parisian wife, Gisla.

Also in Paris, that 50 Shades of Vikings scene we saw in the season 3 finale comes into play again. It turns out Therese is merely playing the part in order to extract information from Count Odo. It seems there could be a sting in the tail of this deceit that will not be to Odo's liking at some point in season 4 of Vikings.

Episode 2 of Vikings concludes on a sad note. While King Ragnar had tried to provide food for Helga and her daughter, Angrboda, the harsh winter was no match, and Angrboda succumbs. Ragnar helps bury the child but insists that Floki needs to know.

And what of Floki? Where is he? Ragnar has looked to the viking sagas and has chosen a punishment most fitting. Floki has been strung up in a cave, just like the god Loki was. Instead of venom from a serpent dripping down onto his head though, causing a constant, torturous reminder, it is water that drips down onto his forehead.

Mercy

Season 4

Episode Number: 32

Season Episode: 3

Originally aired:	Thursday March 3, 2016
Writer:	Michael Hirst
Director:	Ciarán Donnelly
Show Stars:	Travis Fimmel (Ragnar Lothbrok), Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Clive Standen (Rollo), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Alyssa Sutherland (Aslaug), Ben Robson (Kalf), Lothaire Bluteau (Emperor Charles II), Linus Roache (Ecbert King of Wessex)
Recurring Role:	Amy Bailey (II) (Princess Kwenthrith), George Blagden (Athelstan), Moe Dunford (Aethelwulf), Maude Hirst (Helga), Owen Roe (Odo Count of Paris), Edvin Endre (Erlendur), Jennie Jacques (Judith), Nathan O'Toole (Bjorn), Morgane Polanski (Princess Gisla)
Guest Stars:	Dianne Doan (Yidu), Seán T. O'Meallaigh (Prudentius), Huw Parmenter (Roland), Karen Hassan (Therese), Niall Cusack (Abbot Lupus), Des Carney (Waerferth the Scout), Stephen Rockett (Hvitserk), Luke Shanahan (Ubbe), Elijah O'Sullivan (Sigurd)
Summary:	Ragnar tells FLoki he has to pay a heavy price for his actions. Rollo finds an ally in Count Odo. Bjorn Ironside finds more than He bargained for in the wilderness.



Bjorn finally tracks down the bear who has been stealing all the food from his traps. At first it is a near miss thanks to Bjorn leaving his axe behind at the cabin he has been staying at. However, after getting rolling drunk, he then ventures out to find the bear and kill it. Which he does, but not without the bear getting a decent swipe at him first.

After tending to his wound and skinning the bear, Bjorn does the only thing anyone can do when they have found themselves: jump naked into an ice-hole and emerge victorious.

Ragnar sees birds scatter and it is almost like he can hear his son bellowing out his victory. But for Ragnar, this episode of Vikings is less about victory and more about eyeing off Yidu and telling his children stories about Harbard. When his children ask if Ragnar has ever met Harbard, he replies that he hasn't, but perhaps their mother has. I can see this is going to be a long, drawn-out end to Ragnar's second marriage.

Ragnar does have a victory of sorts, though. So far, in season 4 of Vikings, Ragnar has struggled with the forced hand he has been given with Bjorn arresting Floki. This episode sees a dreamlike sequence in which Athelstan appears to Ragnar and repeats one word over and over again to him: "Mercy." It is this vision that makes up Ragnar's mind. He sets Floki free and hopes Floki shows him the same mercy he has shown in return.

Even though Floki is freed, episode 3 of Vikings is a tough one for him. Not only does Helga finally tell him about the death of his daughter, Angrboda, but he is slowly going mad with the torture Ragnar had inflicted on him in episode 2 of Vikings. The torture is unique and particular to the viking culture, having been based around a story about the god Loki. This myth and how

it relates to Floki is explained in more detail in this article on Tumblr. It will be interesting to see just how Floki will react to both Ragnar's cruel punishment as well as his merciful release in subsequent episodes of Vikings.

Athelstan not only appears to Ragnar in episode 3 of Vikings, but also to King Ecbert. While Athelstan asks Ragnar for mercy, with Ecbert, he offers up the sign of the cross before leaving. Ecbert tells Judith (who had relented and joined him in bed the previous night) about his vision. Ecbert is convinced Athelstan is now dead and Judith grieves for the man she really does love.

It is perfect timing for her sorrow though, as her husband, Aethelwulf, returns with Queen Kwenthriht and she is able to pretend they are tears of joy at her husband's return.

Queen Kwenthriht introduces her son, Magnus, to King Ecbert and announces the child as her heir — even though the child is of viking descent.

As for Aethelwulf, it seems no one can resist the charms of Kwenthriht and he has finally submitted to temptation and laid with someone other than his wife.

Meanwhile, in Paris, Rollo is still struggling with the Parisian lifestyle and the fact that his new bride, Gisla, is determined to obtain a divorce thanks to their marriage not yet being consummated. Poor Rollo tries with his broken French, but cannot get the message across that he is serious about their marriage. The argument is in public and ugly.

Of course, Gisla's father, Emperor Charles, is only concerned with the fact vikings are scary — especially when the one you have married off to your daughter may not be there to protect your country from the savages. Luckily, Charles has Count Odo on hand. Rollo, however, was never planning on leaving (he can't after all, he's a traitor to his people now, but the emperor has forgotten that in his mad panic) and the count agrees to teach Rollo French so he can talk things over with his bride.

Yol

Season 4

Episode Number: 33

Season Episode: 4

Originally aired:	Thursday March 10, 2016
Writer:	Michael Hirst
Director:	Helen Shaver
Show Stars:	Travis Fimmel (Ragnar Lothbrok), Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Clive Standen (Rollo), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Alyssa Sutherland (Aslaug), Ben Robson (Kalf), Lothaire Bluteau (Emperor Charles II), John Kavanagh (Seer), Peter Franzen (Harald Fairhair), Linus Roache (Ecbert, King of Wessex)
Recurring Role:	Amy Bailey (II) (Princess Kwenthrith), Moe Dunford (Aethelwulf), Maude Hirst (Helga), Ivan Kaye (Aelle King of Northumbria), Owen Roe (Odo Count of Paris), Edvin Endre (Erlendur), Georgia Hirst (Torvi), Jennie Jacques (Judith), Morgane Polanski (Princess Gisla)
Guest Stars:	Dianne Doan (Yidu), Seàn T. O'Meallaigh (Prudentius), Philip O'Sullivan (Bishop Edmund), Maxim Boshell (Ivar's Axe Boy), Stephen Rockett (Hvitserk), Luke Shanahan (Ubbe), Elijah O'Sullivan (Sigurd), James Quinn Markey (Ivar), Niall O Siorad'ain (Pagan Priest), Huw Parmenter (Roland), Nabil Massad (Papal Legate), Niall Cusack (Abbot Lupus), Robban Follin (Berserker), Jonathan Gunning (Wessex Fool/Magician), Conor O'Hanlon (Alfred), Karen Hassan (Therese), Tom Hopkins (French Archbishop)
Summary:	Ragnar gets to know the new slave woman while Rollo reveals his ambitions to his wife. Bjorn meets an unexpected warrior on his way home.



For all the kingdoms it is time to celebrate winter festivities. In Kattegat, this is what they are celebrating and Westerners who are familiar with Christmas celebrations might identify the yule log being burned and the hanging of the mistletoe. As the festivities are planned, the lives of our favorite Vikings characters are explored.

Floki, now freed from his torture, appears on the outer in Kattegat. But, to the Seer, only potential is seen. Vikings fans are left wondering just how long it will be before Floki takes over from the Seer, especially when Aslaug brings her son, Ivar the boneless, to him for instruction in the

viking ways.

We then enter the midlife crisis section of Vikings this week with Ragnar getting a hall pass from his wife, Aslaug. All that is left now is to discuss the meaning of life and death, the lack of differences between being a king versus being a slave, and to get stoned with Yidu. It is also a very good time to bring up Yidu's backstory and justify how she ended up in viking territory. On a side note though, just what language are Ragnar and Yidu actually speaking?

It turns out Ragnar has his very own secluded shack in the woods that he has never shown to anyone before in Vikings. He must be pretty lonely if he is offering this sanctuary to the worst

slave in the village, but, then again, that is what Ragnar does; feel compassion for those who are different. It was shown when he freed Athelstan in season 1 of Vikings. It was also shown in this episode when he argued with Aslaug about their son, Ivar the boneless.

For Bjorn, he is returning to his family a new man, having killed a bear in episode 3 of Vikings. But, before he can get there, he is confronted by the berserker Kalf organized for Erlendur. Bjorn appears to have learned a lot with his involvement with the bear and in a game of cat and mouse, Bjorn emerges victorious.

When he arrives at Hedeby, Kalf and Erlendur are obviously surprised and cautious as Bjorn announces his intentions. But, alas, he is not there to call them on their betrayal, but to collect Erlendur's wife, Torvi, and take her back to Kattegat. Erlendur is not at all impressed, but Torvi decides to go with Bjorn once Lagertha agrees to look after Torvi's child.

In France, they are celebrating the epiphany. Rollo is issued with divorce papers but has managed to learn the language since last week's episode of Vikings. Gisla is impressed — to a degree. She sends everyone from the room and confronts Rollo over just what he considers more important, his marriage, his standing, or vikings. Rollo hands over his viking band insisting Gisla can do as she pleases with it to show his allegiance to her and their marriage. It is finally enough for Gisla to soften and decide divorce is no longer on the cards. And so begins the "Rollo gets lucky" portion of season 4 of Vikings.

England is celebrating advent. Kwenthrith is happy she is safe. King Ecbert is happy because he is getting some action from his son's wife. Judith is happy she is a "free" woman, and Aethelwulf is happy because of Queen Kwenthrith.

King Aelle, however, is not happy with the fact Kwenthrith has bore a viking son that she now considers the heir to the Mercian throne. He is also not happy at just how close his daughter, Judith, appears to her father-in-law. When he confronts Judith about this, she stands up to her father and already I can see the beginnings of the reason why King Aelle might fixate on Ragnar and blame him and his pagan ways for everything that is wrong in his world now in Vikings.

We finish episode 4 of Vikings with the Yule celebrations well under way in Kattegat. Ragnar is still missing — presumably snuggled up with Yidu. This is not great news as King Harald Finehair and his brother, Halfdan the Black have decided now is the time to turn up in Kattegat and announce their intention to rule over all of Norway.

Promised

Season 4

Episode Number: 34

Season Episode: 5

Originally aired:	Thursday March 17, 2016
Writer:	Michael Hirst
Director:	Helen Shaver
Show Stars:	Travis Fimmel (Ragnar Lothbrok), Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Clive Standen (Rollo), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Alyssa Sutherland (Aslaug), Ben Robson (Kalf), Lothaire Bluteau (Emperor Charles II), Peter Franzen (Harald Fairhair), Jasper Pääkkönen (Halfdan the Black), Linus Roache (Ecbert King of Wessex)
Recurring Role:	Amy Bailey (II) (Princess Kwenthrith), Moe Dunford (Aethelwulf), Maude Hirst (Helga), Ivan Kaye (Aelle King of Northumbria), Owen Roe (Odo Count of Paris), Edvin Endre (Erlendur), Georgia Hirst (Torvi), Jennie Jacques (Judith), Morgane Polanski (Princess Gisla)
Guest Stars:	Dianne Doan (Yidu), Seán T. O'Meallaigh (Prudentius), Des Carney (Waerferth the Scout), Connor O'Hanlon (Alfred), Huw Parmenter (Roland), Karen Hassan (Therese), Philip O'Sullivan (Bishop Edmund), Stephen Rockett (Hvitserk), Luke Shanahan (Ubbe), James Quinn Markey (Ivar), Elijah O'Sullivan (Sigurd), Maxim Boshell (Ivar's Axe Boy)
Summary:	Betrayal is in the air at the Court in Paris and Wessex as trusted people plot against Odo, while Ecbert agrees to throw his support to Kwenthrith in Mercia. Meanwhile, Ragnar reveals his deepest secret to Yidu; pregnancy brings happiness to Lagertha and Kalf and an arranged marriage doesn't come on as planned.



Lagertha and Kalf intend to tie the knot. But a marriage between these two is never going to be simple. Between Kalf conniving with Erlendur to kill Ragnar's line and telling Lagertha he loved her, his intentions were never clear to begin with.

Bjorn and Ragnar discuss which of them is the worst husband ever. Bjorn still has plenty of time to take the crown yet. And it is this strange sort of character amalgamation that left fans worrying that perhaps the demise of Ragnar will come sooner than I can bare because, we all know, there can be only one Ragnar in Vikings and with his son taking on his

crazy mannerisms and personality, it seems likely Bjorn will succeed his father sooner rather than later. As for Bjorn's storyline, it seems he must discover who owns the ring he found on the beserker. His wife Torvi turns out to be helpful in that matter and suddenly Lagertha's wedding is looking more like a plot than a plan.

Ragnar seems to be developing an addiction to Yidu's herbal "remedy." Yidu also announces her father in an emperor — or is he? Is Yidu just trying to seem more important than she actually is? Mixed in between that is one wicked bath scene involving foot fetishes and a haircut. But for Ragnar, these aren't his only woes as King Harald Fairhair and his brother, Halfdan the Black

are causing all sorts of problems with Harald's intention of becoming the king of all Norway. Then Ragnar decides it's time to head back to Paris and so begins the lead up to the expected clash between Ragnar and his brother, Rollo.

So, remember when Count Odo went all 50 shades with Therese in season 3 of Vikings? Well, it seems he is not the only one with a thing for whips in this season of Vikings. Aethelwulf also has a fondness for them, flagellating himself for his sins while calling his wife out for sleeping with his father. But that's okay, because Judith is just as happy to call him out for sleeping with Queen Kwenthriht and fans are left wondering if modern day marriages are more sincere than medieval ones ever were.

Now, just to add to the fetish weirdness going on in episode 5 of Vikings, remember Therese and Roland? Well, the audience were led to believe they were a couple. A normal couple. But, oh no. They are actually a fully fledged Game of Thrones certifiable brother and sister couple.

Other intrigues to note in this week's episode of Vikings include the potential for King Aelle to fall at his daughter's hand (or, by proxy, that of her father-in-law, King Ecbert) and King Ecbert admitting he is totally happy signing a contract with the devil in order to be powerful, but Vikings fans already knew that anyway.

While most of the sexual weirdness is going on over the seas, back in Kattegat, while Ragnar is preoccupied with Yidu, his sons have their own worries. Bjorn has dealings with King Harald and Ivar is getting babysat by Floki thanks to the arrangement between he and Aslaug in the previous episode of Vikings. And this may not be the best idea ever when Ivar manages to kill a child with an axe that just so happened to be in his wagon. Aslaug defends her son and the feared Ivar the Boneless of the viking sagas is officially born. While Floki isn't encouraging small children to be cold-hearted killers, he is bonding with King Harald and the audience is left wondering whether Ragnar showing him "mercy" was really such a good idea.

Now, to Lagertha's wedding. You know that old saying about how the groom should never see his bride before the wedding because it brings bad luck? I'm pretty sure that expression was penned as a direct result of Lagertha and Kalf's wedding. Which, of course, turns into a bloodbath because Lagertha always said she would kill Kalf and he didn't seem to believe her. Although, considering how swiftly she stabbed him, it is likely she felt more for Kalf than she ever did for Einar. But now the audience is left trying to work out whether Kalf was really Team Lagertha or Team Erlendur. But, thanks to the cull in anti-team Lagertha supporters earlier in the season, Lagertha is once again Earl Ingstad, ruler of Hedeby.

What Might Have Been

Season 4

Episode Number: 35

Season Episode: 6

Originally aired:	Thursday March 24, 2016
Writer:	Michael Hirst
Director:	Ken Girotti
Show Stars:	Travis Fimmel (Ragnar Lothbrok), Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Clive Standen (Rollo), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Alyssa Sutherland (Aslaug), Lothaire Bluteau (Emperor Charles II), John Kavanagh (Seer), Peter Franzen (Harald Fairhair), Jasper Pääkkönen (Halfdan the Black), Kevin Durand (Harbard), Linus Roache (Ecbert, King of Wessex)
Recurring Role:	Amy Bailey (II) (Princess Kwenhthrit), George Blagden (Athelstan), Diane Doan (Yidu), Moe Dunford (Aethelwulf), Maude Hirst (Helga), Owen Roe (Odo Count of Paris), Edvin Endre (Erlendur), Georgia Hirst (Torvi), Jennie Jacques (Judith), Seán T. O'Meallaigh (Prudentius), Nathan O'Toole (Bjorn), Morgane Polanski (Princess Gisla)
Guest Stars:	Stephen Rockett (Hvitserk), Luke Shanahan (Ubbe), Elijah O'Sullivan (Sigurd), James Quinn Markey (Ivar), Conor O'Hanlon (Alfred), Philip O'Sullivan (Bishop Edmund), Huw Parmenter (Roland), Karen Hassan (Therese), Ruby O'Leary (Gyda)
Summary:	At the Thing in Kattegat, Ragnar reveals his plan to raid Paris again, and, although the fleet is storm-tossed as it sets out, the challenge lies in the France, where Rollo awaits. Meanwhile, Ecbert dispatches Aethelwulf and Alfred on a pilgrimage to Rome.



The episode introduces the same theme we saw back when Bjorn was a boy and trying to get out from under his mother's skirts. Ragnar Lothbrok is wanting to take his two eldest boys to Aslaug across the seas and into the latest raid on Paris. Aslaug, just like Lagertha before her, thinks her sons are too young.

While introducing Bjorn to the adult world of Vikings was pretty clear cut, for Aslaug's boys, there is the question as to whether Ragnar just wants his boys away from Aslaug, a dark ages version of the

custody battle of today's ruined marriage. Although, considering how Aslaug reacted to little Ivar's slaughter of an innocent child, the need to remove her children may be necessary before she raises them all as serial killers with her enabling ways.

And it seems to be the beginning of story arcs for young children in general in this episode of Vikings with King Ecbert announcing Prince Alfred (born to Judith and Athelstan) is about to take a spiritual journey to Rome. However, this story arc might have a more sinister motive. With Aethelwulf, the legal guardian of Prince Alfred away from Kwenhthrit for so long, and unable to defend her worth, it is possible this pilgrimage has less to do with Alfred's growth and more to do with the takeover of Mercia?

The trip to Paris is fraught with more dangers than just keeping Bjorn from Erlendur and Erlendur from his ex-wife, Torvi.

Over the course of a night, several boats (Ragnar's, Lagertha and Erlendur's, and King Harald's, of course) have run off-course. This leads them to the Frankish shoreline. Finding a group of Frankish knights, the vikings take them hostage, sending one man afloat as a message to the rest of the Frankish army. In the interlude from this fight, Ragnar and Lagertha discuss their past. There is further confirmation that Ragnar was Lagertha's one true love, as well as the suspicion that Lagertha was not really pregnant and was just luring Kalf into a trap.

There is little time for this small breather between battles as — predictably — a Frankish knight has escaped and risen the alarm. King Harald responds by burning the captured Franks, sending a powerful message to Paris, reminding them just how brutal the vikings can be. This throws the Emperor into a nervous flurry and he begs Rollo not to betray Paris. A strange thing has happened to Rollo: even though he has betrayed the vikings in the past, this betrayal has probably been the worst. However, the audience has been allowed a more personal look this time around and have been given the opportunity to see his side more clearly. This conflicted Rollo, as a result, is a lot more appealing to fans who have disliked the character in the past.

Ragnar is still drug addled, having taken Yidu along to help "medicate" him while he is away. It is during this betel nut fix that Ragnar has a flashback to an earlier time. Perhaps his chat with Lagertha is weighing heavily on him or perhaps his impending battle against his brother is the reason for his memories of a simpler, happier time? And, when the memory clears, it is, in fact, Rollo's face that he sees. His brother has arrived on the shores of Frankia, ready to face his brother again.

Meanwhile, back in Kattegat, Harbard has returned. And twice over, it appears, Ragnar's life is about to get even more complicated.

The Profit and the Loss

Season 4

Episode Number: 36

Season Episode: 7

Originally aired:	Thursday March 31, 2016
Writer:	Michael Hirst
Director:	Ken Girotti
Show Stars:	Travis Fimmel (Ragnar Lothbrok), Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Clive Standen (Rollo), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Alyssa Sutherland (Aslaug), Peter Franzen (Harald Fairhair), Jasper Pääkkönen (Halfdan the Black), Kevin Durand (Harbard), Linus Roache (Ecbert, King of Wessex)
Recurring Role:	Dianne Doan (Yidu), Maude Hirst (Helga), Owen Roe (Odo Count of Paris), Edvin Endre (Erlendur), Georgia Hirst (Torvi), Morgane Polanski (Princess Gisla)
Guest Stars:	Stephen Rockett (Hvitserk), Luke Shanahan (Ubbe), Huw Parmenter (Roland), Elijah O'Sullivan (Sigurd), Philip O'Sullivan (Bishop Edmund), Des Carney (Waerferth the Scout), Ceire O'Donoghue (Third Young Woman), Declan Conlon (Wigstan)
Summary:	Now aware that Rollo has betrayed him, Ragnar carries out his plan of attack, which has dire consequences. Ecbert is given an offer from Prince Wigstan of Mercia. Harbard causes a stir with the women of Kattegat.



The episode starts at sea, with Ragnar Lothbrok finalizing the plan of attack. It is determined there will be attacks on Paris from both sea and land. The expectation is that Rollo will not suspect the land attack. Lagertha decides to lead the land attack.

Ragnar is still concerned about Lagertha fighting pregnant in this episode of Vikings. Lagertha is leaving everything in the hands of the gods though and I am still thinking she isn't really pregnant at all.

As the longships approach, the mood is one of excited anticipation among the vikings. Except for Ragnar, who is completely hopped up on betel nuts. Bjorn is also murderous towards his uncle.

As the vikings approach the forts Rollo had built to protect Paris, everything seems to be going to plan. Rollo is there, waiting, watching, ready to make the call to attack the vikings in episode 7. Lagertha is leading her group on foot, sneaking up on the forts, until they start sticking in the boggy grounds surrounding. It doesn't take long for Rollo to realize the attack from behind and orders the Franks to fire on the vikings sneaking up on them. The attacks continue on Lagertha's group as well as on the longships. Surprisingly the shield walls hold against the Frankish crossbows — until they get closer to the forts.

The battle is vicious and at first it seems like the vikings are holding their own. Even with Lagertha's cover blown, they still manage to get close enough to the forts to attack the troops at ground level.

However, it soon becomes apparent that Rollo has designed protections for Paris that are holding their own. The casualties are great. Especially once the Franks also attack the viking camp.

There is a close call for Floki when he ends up stranded in the water. But it is his old friend Ragnar who saves him. Will this finally be enough for the pair to bury the hatchet — and not in each other? The scene is reminiscent of the iconic image of Floki and his wife, Helga, laying in the grass and this is probably on purpose.

The battle ends with Ragnar howling his grievances at Rollo. Fimmel's facial expressions during emotional scenes slay me. Every. Single. Time. Although, to see Rollo searching through the casualties afterwards, obviously checking for familiar faces was nearly as gut-wrenching, even though this was the episode that finally cemented my hatred for him.

When the vikings retreat and return to camp, the devastation is great and the life of Helga hangs in the balance. Floki is understandably devastated. All the other main characters — including Ragnar's sons — seem to have survived the onslaught though.

Just when you have forgotten that there is anything outside the battle of Paris, History Channel takes us back to Kattegat. Harbard and Aslaug are reacquainting themselves with each other. Harbard is also all over the women of Kattegat, kissing them and telling them their future like some sort of guru from a new age cult.

It is perfect timing to be reminded of Kattegat though as Floki, in his despair over Helga's devastating injuries, leaves the camp. On the mountaintop he sees a vision of Aslaug. There is then a weird amalgamation of her having sex with both Floki and Harbard, alerting Floki to the fact Harbard has returned to Kattegat. It will be interesting to see if he shares this information with Ragnar this time around.

Meanwhile, in Wessex, King Ecbert is heading off to Mercia. Along the way he bumps into Prince Wicksten, the other legitimate contender for Mercia's throne. The prince is bitter with the way his family has degenerated and is happy to hand over the official Mercian crown to Ecbert. I wonder what Kwenthriht will think of this once she finds out. Although, Ecbert is single and so is she.

Back in Paris, the defeat is weighing heavily on Ragnar and in the midst of all this, Yidu is trying to get him to cut back on the drugs. It's probably not the best time, but, then again, Ragnar's addiction is getting out of hand. Even Bjorn is blaming his father for the vikings defeat by the Franks.

Ragnar is seen muttering like a crazy man as he tells Bjorn that they plan to retreat.

Portage

Season 4

Episode Number: 37

Season Episode: 8

Originally aired: Thursday April 7, 2016
Writer: Michael Hirst
Director: Ken Girotti
Show Stars: Travis Fimmel (Ragnar Lothbrok), Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Clive Standen (Rollo), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Alyssa Sutherland (Aslaug), Lothaire Bluteau (Emperor Charles II), Peter Franzen (Harald Fairhair), Jasper Pääkkönen (Halfdan the Black), Kevin Durand (Harbard), Linus Roache (Ecbert, King of Wessex)
Recurring Role: Amy Bailey (II) (Princess Kwenthrith), Dianne Doan (Yidu), Maude Hirst (Helga), Owen Roe (Odo Count of Paris), Edvin Endre (Erlendur), Georgia Hirst (Torvi), Jennie Jacques (Judith), Morgane Polanski (Princess Gisla)
Guest Stars: Stephen Rockett (Hvitserk), Luke Shanahan (Ubbe), Huw Parmenter (Roland), Philip O'Sullivan (Bishop Edmund), Des Carney (Waerferth the Scout), James Quinn Markey (Ivar), Elijah O'Sullivan (Sigurd), Karen Hassan (Therese)
Summary: Ragnar's leadership is called into question after their defeat, evacuation and retreat down-river, although he does have a plan that he keeps under wraps. Rollo and Gisla have information that will strengthen Rollo's position at the French court, while Count Odo is slow to identify his true enemies, which could have serious consequences.



The defeat at Paris has been hard on the vikings. King Harald Finehair is blaming Ragnar and he is not the only one. Lagertha, however, is still Team Ragnar. But all the hate directed at Ragnar is probably just what he needed to devise a very clever plan to get past the Frankia river forts. The title of this episode was a give away anyway. "Portage" means "the carrying of a boat or its cargo between two navigable waters." And that is exactly the plan. Ragnar gets the help of Floki who is as humble as pie, and the longships are raised up onto dry land before the episode end.

But all does not go well for Ragnar. His addiction to betel nuts is still a raging concern and when he asks Yidu for the last of her supply because he is going away. When she declines he finally snaps. Yidu pulls what she thinks is her draw card, saying she is now the holder of Ragnar's big secret, and storms off. Rather than have everyone know about the massacre of vikings that occurred in England, Ragnar drowns Yidu. Yes, he kills her, taking her stash after she dies, and then turns to find his sons looking on.

Back in Kattegat, Aslaug has discovered she is not Harbard's only lover, with her son showing her just what Harbard gets up to when he is not with Aslaug. It breaks her heart but for those that are Team Ragetha, it is about time Aslaug got a taste of the bitter pill that is labelled "homewrecker."

Just when everyone was starting to tire of the Frankish royalty and King Ecbert with his arrogant ways, episode 8 of *Vikings* holds its own among the other shows that kill their main characters like they are nothing more than red shirts. While it was a welcome surprise to see Helga had survived what appeared to be a death sentence last week, for Count Odo and Queen Kwenthriht things are not as optimistic.

Count Odo is finally held accountable for his treasonous ways and is executed by the Emperor. He then elevates Duke Rollo to Odo's position. Therese immediately lets the Emperor know that she is looking for a new lover. Gisla also announces her pregnancy.

Another character who announces their pregnancy is Kwenthriht. It turns out she is going to bear Aethelwulf a child. Judith couldn't care less. But when King Ecbert announces Kwenthriht is no longer the queen of Mercia, things really start to go downhill. Kwenthriht raises as much hell as a de-throned queen can, but considering Ecbert has the official paperwork announcing him as the official king of Mercia, there is nothing left to do but for Kwenthriht to try to escape with her son Magnus. When that doesn't work, she then tries to assassinate King Ecbert. This goes as well as her escape plan — worse, in fact — because Judith stabs Kwenthriht in the back after the ex-queen starts monologuing. As Kwenthriht lays dying, Judith then blames Ecbert for what she has become. Unfortunately dear Judith, this is the price one must pay for female freedom in *Vikings*.

Death All 'Round

Season 4

Episode Number: 38

Season Episode: 9

Originally aired:	Thursday April 14, 2016
Writer:	Michael Hirst
Director:	Jeff Woolnough
Show Stars:	Travis Fimmel (Ragnar Lothbrok), Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Clive Standen (Rollo), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Alyssa Sutherland (Aslaug), Lothaire Bluteau (Emperor Charles II), Peter Franzen (Harald Fairhair), Jasper Pääkkönen (Halfdan the Black), Linus Roache (Ecbert, King of Wessex)
Recurring Role:	Moe Dunford (Aethelwulf), Ivan Kaye (Aelle King of Northumbria), Edwin Endre (Erlendur), Georgia Hirst (Torvi), Jennie Jacques (Judith), Seán T. O Meallaigh (Prudentius), Morgane Polanski (Princess Gisla)
Guest Stars:	John Kavanagh (Pope Leo IV), Luke Pierucci (Frankish Farmer), Ross McKinney (Frankish Farmer), Gwynne McElveen (Farmer's Wife), Connor O'Hanlon (Alfred), Martha Christie (Roman Prostitute), David Coon (Roman Relic Seller), Dylan McDonough (Papal Secretary), Huw Parmenter (Roland), Karen Hassan (Therese), Philip O'Sullivan (Bishop Edmund), Elijah O'Sullivan (Sigurd), James Quinn Markey (Ivar)
Summary:	As they near Paris, the Vikings relaunch their boats, but this time they bear interesting structures made by Floki; Aethelwulf and Alfred arrive in Rome, where honors are bestowed by Pope Leo IV, but in Wessex, relations are less than cordial between King Ecbert and a disgruntled King Aelle.



The Vikings left after the horrible defeat at Paris, and Ragnar's new plan has lifted their spirits. Floki's in particular, the man who is always happiest when he is building boats and, well, just building in general. Dragging the longships across the land is arduous but it still leaves time to rape and pillage, something King Harald Fairhair and his brother look forward to.

Things are not so great for Lagertha: the Seer's prophecy finally comes true and she loses her child. Her son and her ex-husband console her and then it is right back into the thick of things for Lagertha. Will this woman ever get a

break?

For Bjorn Ironside, things finally come to a head between his new wife, Torvi and Torvi's ex-husband, Erlendur. Torvi is forced to take Erlendur's crossbow and kill Bjorn. For a brief, sickening moment, I even thought Torvi would turn the weapon on herself rather than kill Bjorn. But, instead, she kills Erlendur and that storyline is over for good. Thankfully.

Back in Kattegat, Sigurd has been the moral compass for his mother while his father is away. This continues after he discovers the body of young Siggy (Porunn and Bjorn's daughter) floating in a creek. When Sigurd tells Aslaug, she can't seem to recall who the child is and then goes on to say she thought someone else was looking after her. Ivar, predictably, couldn't care less and I am left wondering which one of them actually offed the child.

In Rome, Aethelwulf finally looks happy as himself, Prince Alfred and Prudentius make it to Rome. For some strange reason they celebrate by dressing Alfred in a really ugly hat and the poor child is presented with a blessed sword to take home with him.

But, back in Wessex, things are strained after King Ecbert is crowned the king of Wessex and Mercia. King Aelle lets Ecbert know he is not impressed with what he has done behind his back and Ecbert lets Aelle know that their alliance is officially over.

As for Paris, in this episode of Vikings, Emperor Charles is promoting Roland and sleeping with him as well asking to take on his sister, Therese as his lover.

Poor Rollo is getting knocked back by his pregnant wife, Gisla. While she is not doing her husband any favors, she is still suggesting he get rid of Roland rather than see him in a higher position than her dear husband.

The episode ends with Ragnar and the rest of the Vikings finally setting their longships back in the water and approaching Paris. Will this attack on Paris work? Will Ragnar finally have a chance to confront his brother?

The Last Ship

Season 4

Episode Number: 39

Season Episode: 10

Originally aired:	Thursday April 21, 2016
Writer:	Michael Hirst
Director:	Jeff Woolnough
Show Stars:	Travis Fimmel (Ragnar Lothbrok), Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Clive Standen (Rollo), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Alyssa Sutherland (Aslaug), Lothaire Bluteau (Emperor Charles II), John Kavanagh (Seer), Peter Franzen (Harald Fairhair), Jasper Pääkkönen (Halfdan the Black)
Recurring Role:	Maude Hirst (Helga), Georgia Hirst (Torvi), Morgane Polanski (Princess Gisla)
Guest Stars:	Alex Høgh (Ivar), Marco Ilsø (Hvitserk), David Lindström (Sigurd), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe), Tom Hopkins (French Archbishop), Ian Meehan (Frankish Officer), Huw Parmenter (Roland), Karen Hassan (Therese), Adam McNamara (Thorhall)
Summary:	Victory proves costly in the battle between the Vikings and the French as Ragnar squares off against Rollo, sealing the fates of the two brothers.



What started as a quest for glory and exploration has become a timeless tale of revenge. The Brothers' War opened season two many moons ago, as Rollo joined Jarl Borg to fight against Ragnar and then King Horik—Ragnar was victorious and forgave Rollo. In season four, after many episodes of strategic build-up, the Brothers' War erupted once more. But let's take a moment to celebrate the death of two useless characters; Therese and Roland bid this season a long-overdue adieu, leaving Princess Gisla and her fa-

ther alone with Rollo and his unborn child.

With plenty of big boats, King Ragnar and Rollo finally made contact. Without any barriers or towers to hide behind, the French troops were overwhelmed at the start of this clash by a reinvigorated ferocity of Viking rage and power. Floki in particular was in top form, yelling and slashing at all the Frenchmen he could find. Remember, through some epic form of heroism, he needs to either win back Ragnar or find his own band of dedicated Norsemen in order to destroy the Christians in his way. After defeating a HUGE BEAR earlier this season, Bjorn was also in top battle form, as well as Lagertha.

But halfway through, the French mustered their strength and started landing blows and slices upon our Viking clan. Floki, though he may be a god in human-form, doesn't tap into any mystical powers to fight, which is a very bold move for the show. This isn't a superhero movie, after all, and despite mystical implications here and there, these characters are inspired by real-life legends.

Duke Rollo, "betrayor of the gods and the sacred things," walked back to court with a broken body but a 100% point French advantage. The realization that Ragnar had no further ambitions for concurring Paris didn't come as a surprise last episode. Bent on revenge, his sole purpose

in life slowly became his demise. In the end, it came down to a dozen hard-handed punches between the brothers on a ship. Rollo won this time while Ragnar was forced to retreat. A short time-hop later and Ragnar is missing from Kattegat. For a while, Bjorn (with a super long braid) and Queen Aslaug are the ruling members.

All of Ragnar's sons are finally together... minus Magnus, whom they just found out about. Hvitserk, Ubbe, Sigurd, and Ivar are all huge grown Norsemen men. After years of training under Floki, Ivar is the most traditionally Norse son of Ragnar, set on protecting the old ways which Ragnar failed to do years ago when Athelstan showed up. Yet, he admitted that he admired his father as well—so, he's not entirely driven by hate like his mother.

But it's up to the eldest brother, Bjorn, to take up the task of Viking exploration towards the Mediterranean Sea using improved ships crafted by a skeptical Floki. Alas, Ragnar did reappear towards the last moments of the episode, asking for a fight to his death. His younger sons seemingly refused to kill him, though I got wannabe-King vibes coming off of Ivar.

The Outsider

Season 4

Episode Number: 40

Season Episode: 11

Originally aired: Wednesday November 30, 2016
Writer: Michael Hirst
Director: Daniel Grou
Show Stars: Travis Fimmel (Ragnar Lothbrok), Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Alyssa Sutherland (Aslaug), John Kavanagh (Seer), Alex Høgh (Ivar), Marco Ilsø (Hvitserk), David Lindström (Sigurd), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe)
Recurring Role: Maude Hirst (Helga), Georgia Hirst (Torvi)
Guest Stars: Josefin Asplund (Astrid), Ida Marie Nielsen (Margrethe), Anton Giltrap (Gunthrum), Travis Fimmel (Ragnar Lothbrok), Alex Høgh Andersen (Ivar), Marco Ilsø (Hvitserk), David Lindström (Sigurd),
Summary: Ragnar returns to Kattegat and formulates a plan to head back to Wessex, where he intends to right past wrongs.



The episode starts with Ragnar Lothbrok having flashbacks where he is challenging each of his sons to kill him and be the next king. Instead of his sons killing him, Bjorn asks his father why he returned. Bjorn informs him that he has another son named Magnus, the son of Queen Kwenrith from King Edward's villa in Wessex.

Ragnar tells Bjorn he came back because he wanted to see what had become of his sons. Ragnar wants them to join him, but Bjorn says they are all rejecting him because of a piece of a map from the Roman Empire, that Bjorn found in Paris.

It has a map of the Mediterranean Sea, and that is where he wants to go.

Ragnar asks how far along they are with their plans. He tells him that Floki is building the boat, King Harold, his brother, and Hvitserk have agreed to go along with him. Ragnar asks why Bjorn's other two brothers are not going, and they tell him things have changed in Kattegat since he was away. They want to stay behind to protect their mother. Ragnar tells them they were right to think of family. They all walk away leaving Ragnar behind.

At dinner, Ivar asks why his brothers do not want to follow their father to England? Ubbe says that he knows who he is and to shut up. Ivar then asks Sigurd taunting him that he might get seasick. Ivar asks him if he is afraid of him.

A slave girl comes to fill Ivar's cup and he gropes her, Ubbe tells him that is not the way to treat her; Ivar insists she is just a slave and they all want her. Ivar's mother, Queen Aslaug tells him to stop.

In the fields you see Lagertha training a shield maiden on how to protect herself. She tells her she wants her to be ready, but admits that she is not ready for what they have to do. As she pets her face lovingly.

Bjorn goes to see The Seer to talk about his father, Ragnar. Bjorn feels that he shouldn't have come back, but The Seer tells him Ragnar had no choice but to come back. Bjorn asks what that means? The Seer asks him if he really wants to know. Bjorn says he is not afraid.

The Seer tells him that his father brings calamity, disorder, chaos, tragedy and death; for all thy glories, the god swill be fierce with despair. Bjorn asks if he will die and the Seer tells him to go away. Bjorn asks the Seer one last question... What calamity will befall on us? The Seer says not one calamity, but too many calamities to number. The last words the Seer shares with Bjorn is that he was happy the day his father returned, but he should in fact curse that day.

Bjorn goes through the great hall and joins his wife in their room. She asks how his father took the news, and he tells her that he was disappointed in his plans because avenging what happened in England should be the most important thing in his and everyone's life right now. Bjorn says everything was always for Ragnar, and those days are gone!

Ragnar sneaks up on Helga by the shores and tells her she looks like she has seen a ghost. He grabs her hand and asks where Floki is? Meanwhile, Ivar sneaks up to the barn to watch Ubbe and the slave girl having sex, when they are done Ubbe asks her name and she says its Margaret.

Ragnar is admiring Floki's work on the boat. Floki says he has learned through the years about what works and doesn't work. Ragnar confronts him about giving his ideal boat to Bjorn, but says it is fitting but in an annoying way.

Ivar continues to crawl through the woods to see Margaret having sex with his brother Sigurd. Ragnar asks Floki if he is going with Bjorn, and he tells him that he wasn't there, and he made him a promise. Ragnar tells him that he knows he must go back to England, Floki tells him, he should have done that a long time ago. Floki tells Ragnar that he knew the truth like him about what happened to the settlement, but he chose to say quiet. When Ragnar asks why, Helga says its because Floki loves him.

Ragnar's four sons go through the forest to practice their archery, and sword skills. Ivar grabs an arrow and shoots it right between the brothers fighting with the swords. They start a battle with Ivar who is as strong and swift as they are. Jealousy is everywhere.

Ragnar wakes up at Floki and Helga's place, where he asks Helga why she didn't wake him. She said there was no reason to. Ragnar asks if he missed breakfast, she says yes, and he replies that is reason enough to wake him. Floki hammers down on one of his fingers, and Ragnar and Helga smirk together.

Margaret meets with one more of the brothers, and has sex with him too while Ivar watches. A little while later, he watches his three brothers fishing, and when they are done and laying on the beach they all talk about Margaret; Ivar says he wants to also have sex with her. Two brothers say they will bring her to his bed, Ubbe says that she is a servant, not cattle; that she is a human being.

Ubbe says they need to ask her. Ivar wants to know what they would ask her? Ubbe says he will ask her, and that Ivar is not a cripple, he is the son of Ragnar Lothbrok, just like the rest of them.

Ragnar tells Floki that he has a feeling if Floki doesn't come with him, that he will never see him again. Floki tells him not to be so sure of that. Floki says the fates they have will surely reunite them in Vahalla, and sit among the gods, drink and share their stories with them.

Ragnar says he doesn't know if he will see Vahalla. Floki tells him if anyone deserves to go to Vahalla, it would be him. Ragnar asks Floki to watch over his family and to take care of Helga, even though he doesn't deserve her. As he walks away he tells Floki he loves him, Floki begins to cry and shouts that he loves Ragnar Lothbrok too. Ragnar gets on a horse and leaves to the countryside.

Ubbe puts Ivar on a raft and the brothers bring him across the river to a building where Margaret is. They light some candles and help him onto the bed. She tells him to not be afraid, and she kisses him. She undresses him and herself, and they begin to kiss.

Ragnar meets with Astrid, who says that she believes her wet nurse is a little bit in love with him, he asks when he can meet her. He says he never heard about her and he is old enough to be her father. She says that is a very ridiculous thing to say, and Lagertha interrupts them, he is thrilled to see her. She says it has been a very long time. When she asks for a drink, Ragnar jumps to get it for her, instead of her slave.

Lagertha asks him why he left Kattegat, and he said he was no longer interested in it. Lagertha asks her slave to leave, and she asks him again why he is there. Meanwhile, Ivar is having sex with Margaret, and she cries while they are having sex, so he ties a rope around her neck,

strangling her telling her he needs to kill her so she cannot tell his brothers of his inability to please a woman.

She promises not to say anything, but then tells him that she doesn't care that his prick doesn't work, it doesn't make him less of a man. She tells him that having sex and having children is easy but to be the son of Ragnar Lothbrok and to find true greatness is hard. She tells him that she truly believes that, as Ivar cries.

Ragnar tells Lagertha that he is returning to Wessex and he wanted to see if she wanted to come. Lagertha tells him that the future of their people depended on the settlement that failed, and he refused to tell her about it. Ragnar apologizes. Lagertha tells him they all approved of his ideas, but they didn't work and Ragnar Lothbrok failed.

Ragnar says he is tired and it has been a long journey in the mind and begs her to forgive him for all of his faults and his failings. They both tell each other, no regrets, Ragnar kisses her on the cheek, as he is about to walk away, Lagertha grabs his face and says, "Yet, every regret." She kisses him and he leaves to sleep and go back to Kattegat in the morning.

Lagertha and Astrid are in bed together, where Astrid tells her that she loves Ragnar. Lagertha asks her if she loves him more than her; she says of course not. They kiss passionately.

Ragnar's sons get together to discuss the return of their father. Ubbe asks who is going with their father. Not one of them is willing to travel with him back to England because no one believes in him, even the gods. Ivar pipes up and tells them they are all unworthy of being Ragnar's sons.

Astrid asks Lagertha if she is sure she didn't want to leave with Ragnar. She admits she was never sure of how she truly felt about him, and what she should and shouldn't do when it comes to him, and she is sure she isn't the only woman who isn't sure. As Ragnar travels back he stops under a tree, he wraps a rope around the tree branch, and hangs himself, but several dozen crows appear and break the rope so he doesn't die.

Ivar crawls to his father's chair and sits in it as a king, he invites his father to sit beside him. Ivar told him that his mother never let anyone sit on his throne since he left, because she hoped that one day he would return. He asks why Ragnar doesn't speak to his mother? Ivar admits that growing up when everyone would fall asleep, he would creep out and sit on his father's throne, and just think.

Ragnar asks him about what? He says about how Ragnar abandoned him, and how he wished his legs would heal so he could go out and find him. He says he wanted to find him to tell him how much he hated him. Ragnar says he will perhaps explain his actions, once they get to England. Ivar asks what use is a cripple on such a journey? Ragnar tells him to stop talking like that. Ivar agrees to go with him.

The Vision

Season 4

Episode Number: 41

Season Episode: 12

Originally aired: Wednesday December 7, 2016
Writer: Michael Hirst
Director: Daniel Grou
Show Stars: Travis Fimmel (Ragnar Lothbrok), Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Alyssa Sutherland (Aslaug), Peter Franzen (Harald Fairhair), Jasper Pääkkönen (Halfdan the Black), Alex Høgh (Ivar), Marco Ilsø (Hvitserk), David Lindström (Sigurd), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe)
Recurring Role: Maude Hirst (Helga), Georgia Hirst (Torvi)
Guest Stars: Josefin Asplund (Astrid), Ida Marie Nielsen (Margrethe), Jack Olohan (Viking Farmer), Anton Giltrap (Gunthrum), Tristan Heanue (Blacksmith)
Summary: While the great and the good descend into Kattegat in preparations for Bjorn Ironside's voyage to Rome, Ragnar must try to convince the remainder to join his raiding party to England.



The episode begins with Ragnar sitting in the middle of a village. He begins to wander through the village and meets with some men telling him he wants to build an army, and he needs men like them to accompany him when he returns to England. The man asks him why would want to raid England again, they have all heard that his son, Bjorn has other plans.

Ragnar says he has plans to exact revenge on England. The man in the cart says that his brother and family who went with him, they were farmers, and nobody seems to know what has happened to them; he accuses Ragnar of

knowing all along and didn't tell them. He says that Ragnar only wants to get revenge for his own guilt, not for all the people who died.

He spits on Ragnar, telling him that if he were to raid with anyone it would be with his son because the gods no longer favor Ragnar and he is now on his own. He goes on to yell at him that everyone hates him now, as Ragnar thanks him for his time and walks away.

Ragnar meets with Bjorn, who says he is going to reach out to Rollo; Ragnar is disappointed but Bjorn tells him that he will send messengers and if Rollo kills them, he will know where he stands. Ragnar says its a bad idea, as he leaves Bjorn tells his dad he wishes he was coming with him, Ragnar looks back and says, "NO, you don't. that this is Bjorn's destiny, not his." Ragnar tells Bjorn that there is one thing he needs, and it is ships. Bjorn says he can have ships. Ragnar smiles and says that was easy.

The brothers are eating dinner with their mother. Ivar is holding the slave's hand, and his mother Aslaug says she is proud that he is with a woman; and tells her other three sons they should be married and have children already. Ubbe says he probably does have them. Everyone laughs.

Aslaug tells them that even though they are the King's sons, it doesn't mean they can be irresponsible. Its important to find a woman and settle down. Sigurd says he thought he found

a woman he loved, but Ivar had stolen her from him. Aslaug tells them she is not talking about love, that as a King's son, they can have as many women as they like... the brothers cheers each other...

Their mother continues to tell them that they need to find a woman to breed with. Sigurd asks her if she believes in love and she says that yes she loved Ragnar and he loved her. Sigurd continues to badger her saying that some believe she bewitched him. Ivar starts to defend their mother, when Sigurd says that he is beginning to wonder if she loved anyone other than Harbard.

Ivar says she has always loved him, but Sigurd says all she feels is pity, like the rest of them. He even says that their mother sometimes wish she left Ivar to the wolves. Aslaug orders him to stop, he takes some food and Ivar crawls around the table to Sigurd who eggs him on, calling him "Boneless". Sigurd pulls the chair out from under Ivar, who crawls across the floor after his brother screaming.

The next day there are Viking ships arriving, Ragnar watches from the hilltop as they come to greet Bjorn. Bjorn is excited to see his mother, Lagertha and Astrid; and asks what they are doing there. She tells him that she is there to watch her son on his voyage of destiny, that she could not stay away. Bjorn welcomes Astrid to the feast.

King Harold arrives and they tell him they believe in him and this journey and that the gods are with him. Lagertha seems to be looking for someone or something. Bjorn brings King Harald to come meet his brothers, announcing that Hvitserk will be coming with them. King Harald tells them he remembers them and how grown up they are now. Ivar jokes that he would be tall too if he stood up, and he is told that he wishes he could come with them. Ivar tells them to go to hell.

Floki sneaks up and hugs King Harald, and he brings them to see Helga. They are thrilled to see her alive and well. Ivar whispers into his mother's ear and Aslaug approaches Lagertha. Lagertha tells her whatever their differences, their sons are travelling together and they both must wish them the luck of the gods.

Aslaug suggests making a sacrifice, Lagertha says they could do one together. Aslaug reminds her that she is queen, not Lagertha. Lagertha toasts her and says she never forgets that. The whole room makes a toast to the journey. Aslaug goes to her throne and sits down, while her and Lagertha keep staring at each other.

Sigurd goes outside to meet Margaret who tells him she is terrified of Ivar. She asks for protection, saying Ivar tried to kill her and tells him the secret that Ivar cannot satisfy a woman. He promises not to say anything, but he shares the news with their other three brothers. Sigurd tells them she is terrified of Ivar, and Ubbe admits he is too.

At dawn they all gather outside as Queen Aslaug is offering a sacrifice to the gods. She slices open an animal and the blood is blessed on all of them. Ivar crawls to the bowl of blood and puts it all over his face and then drinks it. Lagertha takes some blood and streaks it onto Astrid's face.

She then crouches down beside Aslaug and tells her that she wants her to know that she will never forgive her for taking her husband, and her world, and how ashamed she should be with what she has done with it. "You call yourself Queen, but you will never be Queen of Kattegat", and throws blood in her face.

Ivar meets up with his father on the hilltop, and after Ivar calls Ragnar a loser, Ragnar tells the cripple boy to come down and help him lift the stones. As the horns sound and the ships prepare to leave, Ragnar sits down behind a rock with Ivar. Bjorn meets with his mother, who hugs him and walks back to Astrid.

Bjorn's wife tells him to be strong and safe and to not return unless he does something extraordinary. If he fails, what stories is she to tell their children about their famous father, Bjorn Ironside? Bjorn tells her to tell them he loves them and kisses her. Aslaug and her sons hug Hvitserk for a safe journey. Bjorn tells Floki he built them a beautiful dragon.

Ragnar shows Ivar what he was digging up. Ivar asks him what it is, as he plays with the coin in his hand. Ragnar tells him it is King Ecbert. Ivar asks if he can keep the coin. Ragnar closes his hand. Bjorn is looking out over the water...

Ragnar is giving all his things away to buy an army. His son Ubbe tells him he is humiliating himself by doing this. Ragnar asks why he even cares. The man who spat on Ragnar earlier approaches and says for the whole box, he will join him. Ragnar gives him the box and everything they found on their raids that he had hidden.

Aslaug approaches Ivar who is sitting on his father's throne. He tells her he is going with his father and sailing to England. Aslaug is furious and tells Ivar that Ragnar needs to stop avoiding

her and she needs to speak to him.

As she is preparing for bed, Ragnar shows up in her home. He pats her hair and begins to unbraid it., and tells her that they both know it wasn't love that brought them together; but she has endured with him and suffered his words and his neglect and never turned their sons against him She begins to cry. He tells her for all of that with all his heart he is grateful to her. She asks him why he is saying this now, he tells her it needed to be said.

As Margaret sleeps, Ivar sneaks into her bed. When she wakes up, he covers her mouth to prevent her from screaming. Ivar confronts her on telling his brothers about him. She swears she didn't tell them. She lays there and lets him touch her until he falls asleep.

Aslaug has a vision of a storm and funnel, her son Ivar dangling above the water. She goes running to the water to see Ivar drowning. She awakens and is scared of what she just saw. She runs into the village to find Ivar and tells him he cannot go with Ragnar. She tells him of the storm coming and that everything will end in disaster. She tells him he will drown, that she has seen it.

Ivar tells her to stop telling him what to do. Ivar confronts his mother on all the special attention she gave him because he was a cripple, and that he is not poor Ivar; He tells her now that he has a chance to prove himself with the gods, he will not let her take that away from him, and he doesn't care if he dies. He tells Aslaug he loves her, kisses her hand and tells her to let him be with his father and be a man. Aslaug kisses his head and tells him to go.

Ragnar is watching over the ships being loaded, but turns to watch his son Ivar use his crutches to get to the ship. Aslaug is very proud as Ivar walks, but he falls on the dock, Ragnar looks away but Ivar doesn't give up. He crawls to the ship and Ragnar heads off with only 3 ships in his fleet. He looks worn and defeated, but continues on.

He walks over to Ivar who is clearly sea-sick. Ragnar asks him if he is okay, Ivar admits he is terrified of water. Ragnar sits beside him as he vomits into the water. Ragnar climbs on the side of the boat and sees that the ships are approaching a storm.

Aslaug is at Kattegat rocking back and forth as she foresees the storm. When the waters get rough, Ragnar grabs Ivar and ties him to one of the poles on the boat. Aslaug is screaming as she continues her vision. A huge wave hits the boat and it flips upside down. Ragnar tries to save Ivar, but it looks like he fails. Aslaug is covered in blood and continues to scream.

Two Journeys

Season 4

Episode Number: 42

Season Episode: 13

Originally aired: Wednesday December 14, 2016
Writer: Michael Hirst
Director: Sarah Harding
Show Stars: Travis Fimmel (Ragnar Lothbrok), Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Clive Standen (Rollo), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Alyssa Sutherland (Aslaug), Peter Franzen (Harald Fairhair), Jasper Pääkkönen (Halfdan the Black), Moe Dunford (Aethelwulf), Alex Høgh (Ivar), Marco Ilsø (Hvitserk), David Lindström (Sigurd), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe), Linus Roache (Ecbert, King of Wessex)
Recurring Role: Maude Hirst (Helga), Georgia Hirst (Torvi), Jennie Jacques (Judith), Morgane Polanski (Princess Gisla)
Guest Stars: Josefin Asplund (Astrid), Ida Marie Nielsen (Margrethe), Jack Olohan (Viking Farmer), Liam Clarke (Gudmund), Ed Murphy (Gardar), Amy Hughes (Shield Maiden), Charles Last (William Son of Rollo), Caoimhe Garvin (Young Saxon Girl), Michael Power (Captain of the Guard), Christopher McHalleem (Saxon Noble), Jack Walsh (VII) (Scotus), Paul Booth (II) (Saxon Officer)
Summary: While Ragnar must deal with the aftermath of the fatal storm, Bjorn goes to meet his uncle. Meanwhile, Lagertha returns to Kattegat.



The episode begins with the crew from Ragnar Lothbrok's lying on a beach, after their ships were destroyed from a violent storm. Ivar is among the men on the beach, he wakes up beside his father, Ragnar. Ivar asks Ragnar what he sees, he stands up and cannot see any of the boats. The survivors ask Ragnar what he is going to do, and he better figure it out soon because they are the only survivors. One is angry with him, telling him his revenge is at the bottom of the sea feeding the fish.

They begin to explore the land they are on, hiding as men ride by on horses. Ragnar

tells Ivar to leave his leg braces behind and crawl. Ivar says the braces make him normal, Ragnar jumps on him and takes the braces off, telling him he is not normal and once he realizes that, that is when greatness will happen, and tells him to crawl. Meanwhile at the Normandy Coast, Bjorn Lothbrok is questioned by Hvitserk about contacting their Uncle Rollo.

The crew is upset that they have to carry the cripple. Ivar says everyone will blame him for the disaster and he starts to laugh. Ragnar asks him what is so funny, he says its just the great Ragnar Lothbrok acting like a nurse to a cripple. Ragnar isn't pleased by his comment. Prince Aethelwulf and his men come across the wreckage from Ragnar's ships, and orders them to find Ragnar.

Bjorn arrives to see his Uncle and after Floki tells him he will learn how well treachery pays off; Bjorn orders Floki not to do anything stupid. Floki says he has never done anything stupid in his life, but he is contemplating it over dealing with this scum — referring to Rollo. Rollo introduces his nephews and former friends to his wife and children.

Rollo says he doesn't want to apologize, and they are where they are. Rollo and his wife, Princess Gisla want to know why Bjorn is there. Bjorn shows Rollo the map. He tells him he wants to go there, to this sea, but he has to sail around his coastline to get there and is asking for safe passage for his fleet.

Rollo asks him what he gets in return. Floki says they will not attack his villages and towns like they should do. Rollo steals the map from Bjorn and captures, everyone. Floki tells him they can't keep them prisoners for long, there are 60 ships outside full of Vikings.

Ragnar and his men are looking for a village, when a young girl comes singing down the path, they all hide. They stay hidden while she picks mushrooms. The Vikings now see what they can eat besides any of the wild animals they caught.

The next morning, Ragnar tells Ivar the soldiers who found the wreckage will be looking for them now, and they may be a threat, but only a small threat. Ragnar assures Ivar, he did not come this far only to go back. He informs Ivar that it will only be the two of them, the others are not to be included.

Back home in Kattegat, Lagertha is watching the villagers train. Queen Aslaug continues to have visions, this time she sees children running, blood and the traditional ritual ships on fire with dead bodies on it.

Lagertha tells Astrid that she plans on taking Kattegat back, that Aslaug isn't fit to be queen. Astrid asks her about Ragnar's children; Lagertha says that they are grown and gone. Astrid reminds her that Ubbe and Sigurd stayed behind, what will she do about them? Lagertha turns and smiles.

As the survivors are sleeping, Ragnar sneaks upon them and slits their throats. Ivar crawls towards a few of them, one wakes but he kills him with an axe before he can continue. He then comes after the only woman who came with them, when she offers him her body, he stabs her.

Bjorn's wife, Torvi brings the slave girl Margrethe to Lagertha and Astrid, informing them that she was being used by the sons of Ragnar. Astrid asks her if she hates all of the sons, before she can answer Lagertha says she needs to talk to Torvi. Lagertha asks her how everything is, then tells her she needs her to return to Kattegat before her absence is noticed. She tells her that if she returns there is something else she needs done as well.

As Rollo holds Bjorn and his men prisoners, they begin to blame Bjorn for his bad judgment; and how they all believed in him and trusted the gods were behind him. They are yelling at him for wanting to trust Rollo, and had they fought Rollo like they wanted, they could have died like vikings instead of like sheep. Two of Rollo's soldiers come to take Bjorn, "don't disappoint us, Ironside!"

King Ecbert is informed by his son, Aethelwulf that Ragnar has returned. He learns they came with a fleet, but from the wreckage it looks like most didn't survive. He goes on to tell him that some were killed outside a village. Ecbert wants to know who killed them, but no one knows.

Ecbert is concerned that there is no sign of Ragnar but says he will not stop doing his duties because of one man illegally entering his kingdom. Aethelwulf tells him that it isn't just one man; he's a history of his race. He is the face of an enemy they must fight and overcome. Judith interrupts them, and asks if they are in danger, King Ecbert says that as long as it is only him, they are fine because he is "just a man".

Ragnar hides him and Ivar as soldiers ride by again. Ivar tells Ragnae he is probably upset that he brought him along and probably wishes he had killed him when he was born. Ragnar smiles at him and says, "only when you talk."

Ragnar tells him that he thought his legs would be his weakness, but they are his strength, a strength none of his other brothers have. He tells him its like he is a deaf man, who has eyesight like nobody else, sharper than anyone's. He says Ivar is special, not in spite of his legs but because of them. Ivar looks at his father and says it is the first time he is admitting he was wrong, Ragnar says to him it will never happen again.

Rollo brings Bjorn up to meet a scholar he had set for to explain the map to him. Rollo translates for him and informs Bjorn that his piece is only a fragment of the actual map. Bjorn asks if there is another route than going along France, there isn't. Bjorn asks Rollo for safe passage, Rollo says no, but they can go, only if Rollo goes with them.

Ragnar is carrying Ivar on his back. Ivar asks him what if they are going in the wrong direction, Ragnar tells him to then walk the other way, making the sounds of a donkey. Ivar makes a point to his father about the gods still favoring him. He says if you want to know if the gods still favor

you, look around, look at us. Ragnar says that he gives the gods too much credit. Ivar then says that I guess he is just his famous father. He thought his dad got lucky because the gods favored him, but maybe that isn't true.

Princess Gisla is upset that Rollo is choosing to go. She says that he chose her world, that she had his children, that he renounced their gods and honored God. She goes too far when she tells him that if she thought their children were vikings, she would kill them before he killed herself. Rollo grabs her throat and tells her that everything she says is true.

He loves her and he loves his children, but he cannot deny that part of himself, no matter how hard he tries. She tells him perhaps he isn't trying hard enough. He explains that when they hear thunder, she only hears thunder, but when he hears it, he still hears Thor's heart beating. Gisla grabs a pot and smashes it. She tells him if he goes away, this is probably the end for them.

Astrid meets with the brothers who stayed behind, Sigurd and Ubbe. Astrid asks how many sons there are of Ragnar's. Lagertha says she knows of one for sure. They all raise a drink to Bjorn and Hvitserk. Ubbe and Sigurd ask why they are there. Lagertha and Astrid tell them that it was actually Margrethe who invited them and that she loves both of them and they will have to decide amongst themselves. Of course Astrid interferes and says unless they decide they can share her. Lagertha smiles. Ubbe is in the middle of having sex with her, when Astrid and several shield maidens take Ubbe and put him in a locked room with his brother Sigurd. Ubbe demands they let him out.

Back in France, Rollo leaves with Bjorn, leaving his wife and children behind. Rollo's hands and feet are bound, and he is thrown off the boat. After a while, Bjorn orders them to pull him up. Rollo spits up water, Bjorn nods his head as Rollo laughs and spits up more water. Bjorn orders everyone to row.

Lagertha, Astrid and her army arrive in Kattegat. Lagertha plans on keeping her word and taking back what was hers. Lagertha watches as her army slowly takes over the village. Queen Aslaug unwraps her sword, as she prepares for war. Lagertha shouts enough and says, "these are my people!" Aslaug walks out of her house with the sword.

Ragnar is still walking with Ivar on his back. He is exhausted, but tells Ivar they made it. He puts Ivar down. Ivar reminds Ragnar that he brought him there for a reason. Ragnar says that no matter what they do to him, he must remain quiet, so they don't feel threatened by him. Ivar asks what they are going to do to Ragnar, and if it involves him getting hurt, it doesn't sound like a good plan. Ragnar leans in and kisses him on the forehead and walks towards the village, Ivar crawling in front of him.

As they approach the village, soldiers raise their arrows at him, some villagers scream, and Ragnar raises his hands.

In the Uncertain Hour Before the Morning

Season 4
Episode Number: 43
Season Episode: 14

Originally aired: Wednesday December 21, 2016
Writer: Michael Hirst
Director: Sarah Harding
Show Stars: Travis Fimmel (Ragnar Lothbrok), Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Alyssa Sutherland (Aslaug), John Kavanagh (Seer), Moe Dunford (Aethelwulf), Alex Høgh (Ivar), David Lindström (Sigurd), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe), Linus Roache (Ecbert, King of Wessex)
Recurring Role: Georgia Hirst (Torvi), Jennie Jacques (Judith)
Guest Stars: Josefin Asplund (Astrid), Ida Marie Nielsen (Margrethe), Paul Booth (II) (Saxon Officer), Christopher McHalle (Saxon Noble), Cameron Hogan (Magnus), Isaac O'Sullivan (Alfred)
Summary: Lagertha is near realizing a long-held ambition; Ragnar acquires a surprising concession from King Ecbert.



The episode begins with Lagertha being greeted in Kattegat. Their cheers are silenced when Queen Aslaug comes out with a sword in her hand. She berates Lagertha for fighting with another woman. Lagertha says that she took her husband, her world and her happiness, and the fact that Aslaug is a woman means nothing to her.

Aslaug tells her that she didn't take her husband, Ragnar Lothbrok, he chose to be with her. Lagertha insists that he didn't choose, Aslaug is a witch who bewitched him. She denies it. Aslaug tells the crowd that Ragnar is dead, when

questioned she tells them she dreamed it, and she had warned him but he chose to go anyways. Lagertha tells her she doesn't know that for sure.

When Aslaug admits that it was only a dream, she tells her that she has dreamed of taking Kattegat back for a long time. Aslaug tosses the sword on the ground admitting that she isn't her parents and she knows she would never win. Aslaug continues to tell Lagertha that it doesn't matter, she fulfilled her destiny by giving Ragnar many sons; she insists that she is as much a part of Ragnar's saga as Lagertha is.

Aslaug renounces everything, asking for safe passage and to leave in peace to live wherever the gods allow her to go. She gives Lagertha her blessing, and says if Lagertha allows this, her sons will know how this happened and they will not seek revenge on her. Aslaug thanks her and begins to walk away; Lagertha shoots her in the back with an arrow, killing her.

Margrethe releases Ubbe and Sigurd from where Lagertha was keeping them captive; Ubbe grabs her and demands to know where Lagertha is. She just tells them to return to Kattegat as soon as possible, Sigurd wants to know what is waiting for them there.

Ragnar and Ivar arrive in town, and Ragnar wants to see King Ecbert but the guards tell him he isn't there. Ragnar tells them that he is a good friend of the king and he would want to know that they were treated kindly, the guards let them in.

They escort Ragnar and Ivar into the village where they are met by Aethelwulf who introduces Ragnar as King of the Northmen; he orders the guards to seize him. Ivar remains silent on the

horse while the men beat Ragnar; Ragnar signs for Ivar to stay quiet. Aethelwulf wants to know who the cripple is.

Ragnar is chained in the dungeon. Aethelwulf demands to know where the rest of his men are. Ragnar tells him it is only him and his son; Aethelwulf scoffs at the cripple being his son. Ragnar admits that he killed all his men. Ragnar wants to know where his son is and pleads for Aethelwulf to show compassion as he has sons too. He tells Ragnar that he is an animal and should be caged. Aethelwulf leaves.

Back in Kattegat, the village is having a ceremony for Aslaug's death. They cut the head off a horse and lay some of their jewels and food with her body before they send the ship to sail off. They light the little boat and let it burn as Lagertha and Astrid look on. The Seer comes out to observe the ceremony, Lagertha smiles at him when he turns his head towards her.

Back in England, King Ecbert arrives to the village where Ragnar is being held captive. When Aethelwulf tells him he has good news, he brushes past him to see Ragnar. He orders his son to leave so he can talk to Ragnar. Ecbert wants to know what took him so long to get there.

Ecbert brings Ragnar's cage to the dinner table and wants to know why Ragnar won't eat, he tells him that he hasn't seen his son in days and he doesn't even know if he is alive. One of the guards leaves and brings Ivar in to the table. Ragnar is happy to see his son and asks Ivar if he is okay; he tells his father that he is doing better than him.

Ragnar smiles but refuses to eat until his son eats. Ecbert says that Ivar is also his guest and promises no harm will come to Ivar, he gives Ivar a piece of his meat. Ecbert tells the guards to make sure Ivar is well kept as they take him away. Ivar tells his dad not to mess with them. Ecbert says that it was wrong his son slaughtered all the Viking farmers, but he did it under his orders as part of a bolder, much larger strategy; Ragnar begins to eat and drink.

Ecbert tells Ragnar that on a previous visit, he left behind another son; but informs him that his mother, Queen Kwenthriht is no longer alive, so he has been raising him as his own. Ecbert tells the young boy Magnus to come forward and Ecbert introduces them to each other. Ragnar doesn't look at him but he is told to speak to his father.

Magnus goes to the cage and tells Ragnar that he has longed for the day he would meet him. His mother has told him a lot about his father and that one day he would be famous like him too. He admits that everything makes sense now and everything she had told him was true. Ragnar tells Magnus that someone once explained to him what a miracle was, and that his birth is a miracle.

Magnus is confused but Ragnar continues to tell him that it is a miracle because he never had sex with his mother. Ecbert smiles but Magnus is upset. Ecbert tells Magnus to leave. Ecbert admits that he had doubts about that boy; but quickly changes the subject and wants to know why it took so long for Ragnar to return. Ragnar uses Ecbert's words saying that it's part of a bold, much larger strategy! Ecbert laughs.

Sigurd and Ubbe return to Kattegat where they discover Lagertha sitting on the throne. They demand to know where their mother is. She tells them that she killed her, when asked why, she tells them Aslaug stole Kattegat from her and she wanted it back.

Ubbe draws his sword and Sigurd asks why she didn't kill them too; she says that they are Ragnar's sons and this had nothing to do with them. She tells them it wasn't their fault that their father was bewitched. Ubbe raises his sword and tells her it was a mistake not killing them. She tells him it was a chance she was willing to take.

As Sigurd and Ubbe are leaving, Ubbe takes off his coat, pushes Sigurd out of the way and he begins to attack the guards. Three of the guards surround Sigurd, while Ubbe continues to fight but before he can reach Lagertha he is taken down.

Ecbert asks what Ragnar would do if he let him out. Ragnar tells him he would kill him, or not. He begins to tease Ecbert about having power. Ecbert has the key in his hand, but tells Ragnar that he has used his power well. He had turned all the small kingdoms into a single entity now capable of defending itself against anyone threatening to destroy it. Ragnar says, "Like me."

Ecbert tells him that he thought Ragnar wanted his people to come there for good farming land, and that their people could live together and mutually benefit from it. Ragnar questions him how it would benefit him to kill all the farmers that were there. Ecbert expresses his apologies but admits that it was the right idea, only it was at the wrong time. He continues to tell him that he believes it will eventually happen, but probably in his grandson's time. Ecbert comes to

the cage and asks Ragnar what he wants him to say. Ragnar produces his cup and tells him he wants the truth.

Ubbe, beaten with a swollen eye, and Sigurd are commiserating in their home, when Sigurd says that their mother never loved them, she only loved Ivar and Harbard. Sigurd goes on to say that she made a fool of herself with Harbard. Ubbe says he was there, and Harbard took advantage of her. Ubbe says she still was their mother, Sigurd admits that in the end she was a stranger to him. Both question whether she was truly a witch or not.

Ubbe says that Lagertha needs to pay the price; Sigurd says that Ivar will do it. Ubbe says only if he is still alive, telling Sigurd that both their parents may be dead. Sigurd laughs saying Ragnar isn't dead, he cannot die!

Ecbert tells Ragnar that he is the most dangerous man on this Earth. He brings the key to the cage, and Ragnar lunges forward asking him if he is sure. Ecbert admits he isn't entirely sure, but he lets Ragnar out of the cage. Ragnar comes out of the cage but falls to the floor, he looks up to Ecbert and says he has to kill him; Ecbert admits that he has to decide his fate.

Ragnar says that the Seer told him that he is fated to die the day a blind man sees him. He points his finger at Ecbert and tells him he has to kill him. Ecbert scoffs and tells him that Vikings are all the same, they emerge from the womb with only one thing on their mind: How to die! He asks what about all the things in between? Ragnar asks him if he is talking about women. Ecbert gives Ragnar the pitcher of wine and tells him they have a lot to talk about.

Aethelwulf brings Magnus out of the village and tells him it is time for him to leave, to become a man. Magnus protests that he doesn't want to leave. Aethelwulf tells him he has no choice, gives him a bag with some food for the journey, telling him wherever he goes, he must tell people he is the son of Ragnar Lothbrok and people will always take care of him; he begs to stay.

He hugs Aethelwulf, who pulls him away from him with a blade to his throat telling him to start walking or he will kill him. Magnus asks about the animals, and Aethelwulf tells him there are animals in the villa. He gives Magnus the blade, who walks away sobbing.

Ragnar and Ecbert have drunk way too much when he asks Ecbert what if his God doesn't exist? Ecbert doesn't know what he is talking about; Ragnar continues the thought that maybe Ecbert's God and his gods don't exist. Ecbert says that if they don't exist then nothing has meaning, that if there were no gods everybody could do anything they liked and nothing would be real or meaning or value.

He says that even if the gods don't exist, it is still necessary to have them. Ragnar tells him to live with it, Ecbert tells him that he doesn't have to live with it because all he thinks about is death and Valhalla and Ragnar says that he has a heaven, which is a ridiculous place where everyone is always happy. They both sit on the floor.

Ecbert says that Athelstan was a man of God; Ragnar says and now he is dead. Ecbert wants to know what happened. Ragnar admits that Floki killed him; Ecbert says, "so your gods killed him!" Ragnar says that Floki killed him out of jealousy because Ragnar loved Athelstan more than him. Ecbert tells him he was jealous too because he chose to go back with Ragnar.

He felt his loss greatly, and Ragnar says that he left because he loved Ragnar more than him. Ecbert says that Ragnar should have protected him then. Ragnar said he didn't need protection, Ecbert says if he had stayed with him, he would still be alive. Ragnar says that he chose his path and that was to be with him. Ragnar says he is not to blame; and Ecbert tells him he is not being honest.

Ecbert wants to know from Ragnar if he believes that Athelstan is with his gods or the Christian God. Ragnar says it doesn't matter, that his death is on his conscience not Ecbert's. He again tells Ecbert that he needs to kill him; both men sit in silence.

Sigurd wakes up and kicks Ubbe to wake up. Astrid is sitting in their house. They want to know why she is there. Astrid begins by telling Sigurd that one day she would like to change the way he looks. She says she wants to be friends with Ragnar's sons. Ubbe protests and she warns him that they need to be afraid, that if they touch a hair on Lagertha's head, they are dead men. As she leaves, Ubbe throws a cup at her saying that if he isn't afraid of Lagertha, why would he be afraid of her? Astrid smiles at him and walks out.

Judith comes into the room where Ragnar and Ecbert are sitting on the throne, she says it is great privilege to see him again, he says not every Saxon would agree. She brings her son, Alfred to meet him and he says he knows who he is without explanation. He approaches Alfred and announces that he is Athelstan's son and he hugs him with tears in his eyes.

Ecbert goes to the chapel to speak to God while Ragnar sits in his room on the floor thinking of the ocean, praying to his gods. They meet again where Ecbert tells him that he cannot kill him, but he must die. Ragnar says to hand him off to another king who would kill him, Ecbert says he would rather set him free. Ragnar says that his sons know he was coming to Wessex, and when they learn of his death, they will avenge him. Ecbert says he doesn't doubt him but again pleads with him to kill him. He begs that Ivar will be set free and give him a ship so he can get home safely. Ecbert gives him his word; Ragnar says that Ivar will know that King Ecbert did everything he could to save him, so when his sons come back, they will spare Ecbert's life.

Ecbert folds his hands as Ragnar begs him to turn him over. Ragnar takes his hands and tells him not to be afraid.

All His Angels

Season 4
Episode Number: 44
Season Episode: 15

Originally aired: Wednesday December 28, 2016
Writer: Michael Hirst
Director: Ciarán Donnelly
Show Stars: Travis Fimmel (Ragnar Lothbrok), Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Alyssa Sutherland (Aslaug), John Kavanagh (Seer), Moe Dunford (Aethelwulf), Alex Høgh (Ivar), David Lindström (Sigurd), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe), Linus Roache (Ecbert, King of Wessex)
Guest Stars: Clive Standen (Rollo), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn Lothbrok), Josefin Asplund (Astrid), George Blagden (Athelstan), Ivan Kaye (King Aelle), Jennie Jacques (Judith), Nathan O'Toole (Bjorn), Isaac O'Sullivan (Alfred), Dave Rowe (Guard), Brendan Conroy (Blind Driver), Ruby O'Leary (Gyda), André Eriksen (Black Cloaked Figure), Patrick Murphy (The Saxon)
Summary: King Aelle can't hide his pleasure when Ragnar arrives in a cage and shows him no mercy.



The episode begins with Ragnar Lothbrok locked in a room. He is leaning over a bowl of water staring at his reflection. King Ecbert comes to inform him that he has a ship ready to take Ivar back to his kingdom. Ragnar tells Ecbert he needs to say goodbye to him, Ecbert agrees and Ragnar wants to speak to him alone.

Ivar is playing chess with Alfred when they are interrupted by guards who were ordered to bring Ivar to see his father. Ragnar tells Ivar he is going him and he insists that he won't leave without him; Ragnar tells him that they won't release him and he has to die. Ivar stubbornly

tells him that he will die then too.

Ragnar tells him not to be stupid and that people are wrong about him being no threat, that it is Ivar who is very important for the future of the Vikings. Ragnar says the way he thinks is a gift and his unpredictability will serve him well. He tells him to use his anger intelligently and promises that one day the whole world will know and fear Ivar the Boneless!

Ivar wishes that he wasn't angry all the time. Ragnar tells him without his anger he is nothing; Ivar wishes he was happy and Ragnar responds by telling him being happy is nothing. Ivar says he was just joking and Ragnar playfully slaps him.

Ragnar informs Ivar that King Ecbert is handing him over to be killed. Ivar says that if he does that him and his brothers will seek revenge, Ragnar is counting on it and tells him that revenge must be on Ecbert though. He smiles as Ivar nods. Ragnar says everyone will underestimate Ivar and he must make them pay for that. Ragnar hands his bracelet over to Ivar who promises that he will. Ragnar hugs him and tells him to be ruthless. The guards take him away.

Aethelwulf has his men put Ivar in a cart, and Alfred hands him one of the pawns from their game of chess. Ivar and Alfred just look at each other and the horse pulls away to bring him to the ship. Ragnar watches from his room.

King Ecbert wishes things were different but he has no power to change them. Amnesty is not something he would wish on anyone, he struggles with having to destroy something/someone truly great. He continues to tell Judith that he has to commit a friend to death. She tells him that he has no choice. He protests asking if that is really true. He questions if he is just supposed to wash his hands of him like Pontius Pilate.

Ecbert visits Ragnar saying that King Aelle will make his death a big spectacle. Ragnar says that he will be able to speak about his joy of entering Valhalla; Ecbert tells him that he doesn't believe it. Ragnar says he doesn't but his sons and people do. Ecbert nods his head and Ragnar walks down the path of soldiers shackles on his legs and hands.

As Ragnar is about to enter the cage it begins to rain. Ecbert brings Alfred over to him where Ragnar gives Alfred the chain and cross Athelstan gave him. Ragnar turns to Ecbert and tells him that he might find comfort in the fact that in the end Athelstan chose their God. Ragnar climbs into the cage and the horses take him away.

As the horses travel, the blind man guiding them tells Ragnar that he has heard a lot about him, that he is 8 feet tall and has killed thousand of their countrymen and ate children. Ragnar smiles and says the last one was not true. The driver bets that none of it is true, but everyone around them is terrified that he is going to kill them. He asks Ragnar how he is going to escape, Ragnar straightens him out by saying he has no intentions of escaping.

When night arrives, Ragnar is sleeping in the cage and all the soldiers are standing wide awake around the cage. One soldier is goaded into touching Ragnar. Ragnar lunges pretending to bite his finger. The soldier cried out and Ragnar releases him. He repositions himself and after he looks at the moon, he goes back to sleep.

Ecbert is unable to sleep, he kisses Judith on the lips and when she calls his name, he turns to face her, says nothing than continues to leave the room. He goes and finds the executioner's robe and hood.

Ragnar asks the driver where they are going, he then notices that the man is blind, he tells Ragnar not to worry that the horses know the way and he can definitely see him. As Ragnar continues to talk the man guiding the horses is now the Seer.

Ragnar tells him that it will be at least another day before he is put to death; and that them and their gods are wrong. He insists that he guided his fate, and he fashioned the course of his life and his death. Him, not the gods. He says this was his idea to come there to die. He continues to say that he doesn't believe in the gods, that men are in control of their own fate, not them. The gods are men's creation to give answers in things they are too afraid to give themselves.

The Seer tells him that he may be right, he has walked among the lowest of the dead and has groped for meaning but he may have been wrong. When Ragnar demands to know what he said, the driver tells him he didn't say anything. Ragnar sits back in the cage and closes his eyes.

King Ecbert walks the path in the robe and hood, hiding his face as he goes. The villagers passing him sign the cross and continue to walk.

The soldiers and Ragnar continue along the road, and when Ragnar sees the water, he is hit with flashbacks of when they first raided England and he met Athelstan. He smiles as he remembers Athelstan talking about his God.

Ecbert is walking barefoot in the sand along the water, his face is severely worn and he looks horrible. He is panting and out of breath.

King Aelle is on a hill with some of his men watching as Ragnar arrives with his soldiers. Ragnar looks up to see him with a devilish look in his eyes. Aelle comes down to see Ragnar telling him it took him a long time to return but at last he is there. Aelle thanks God and all his angels that he has kept his promise and he is still alive to witness this day. He leans in and tells Ragnar that before he dies he will atone for his sins against his countrymen.

He backs away and has the cage hoisted into the air. The soldiers all cheer. Throughout the night the soldiers continue to jab at the cage with their swords and spikes. King Aelle tells them to burn the dog as he laughs.

The next morning they remove Ragnar from the cage with ropes around his neck. Aelle says today is a good day because today the souls of all the innocent, Christian men, women and child that Ragnar and his pagans slaughtered shall escape from their Purgatory and sing Hallelujah. He says he is about God's work and that the Lord chose him as his instrument of judgment. Ragnar smiles just before someone hits him in the back of the head knocking him down. The soldiers begin to beat Ragnar but before they kill him King Aelle orders them to leave him.

Aelle has Ragnar brought up to him and he said that was for absolution and he punches him in the face. Ragnar is bloody and swollen but continues to have flashbacks about Athelstan and their raid. Ragnar looks to the sky but says nothing. Aelle tells Ragnar to ask for absolution and when he remains silent he punches him in the stomach.

Aelle returns with a red-hot spike and burns it into Ragnar's stomach, telling him again to ask for absolution. When Ragnar stares at him in defiance, he pulls out a blade and carves a cross into Ragnar's forehead. It appears that Ragnar is about to speak and Aelle orders his men to remove the ropes around his neck.

Ragnar says they will all hear how the old boy suffered. Aelle steps back and lets his soldiers beat Ragnar some more. Ragnar makes his way back to the cage and closes the door. He stares back at Aelle, both too stubborn to say any more.

During the night all the men continue to watch Ragnar as his cage sways. Ragnar flashes back to when he was young and kissing Lagertha, the memories jolt him and he remembers when he was teaching a young Bjorn how to fight. He watches as Lagertha left him and when they returned. He has a moment flash before him of Floki smiling, when he had Floki captive and even his battles with his brother Rollo.

His flashes to his time with Athelstan and the good times he shared with King Ecbert ending with him carrying his son, Ivar on his back. His last moments he recalls Athelstan teaching him how to pray the Lord's Prayer and he is awoken to hearing the villagers reciting the prayer and he notices Ecbert in the crowd.

When the prayer is done, the men open a pit in the ground under the cage. King Aelle is praying to the Lord in his chapel as the men are dropping snakes into the pit and the crowd is cheering. King Aelle returns to the forest and as the winds pick up and it gets bitterly cold. Ragnar finally speaks.

He says that it gladdens him that Odin is preparing for a feast and soon he will be drinking ale from curved horns. He says that he will not enter Odin's hall with fear, and there he shall wait for his sons to join him and when they do, he will bask in their triumphs. Ecbert smiles at him while Ragnar tells them the Seer will welcome him and his death goes without apology and he welcomes the Valkyries to summon him home.

King Aelle shouts, "Deliver me oh Lord from my enemies!" the cage opens and Ragnar falls into the pit of snakes below. King Ecbert is shaken and moves with the soldiers to look down in the pit. Ragnar is being repeatedly bitten by the snakes. He looks up to see King Ecbert smiling at him and then he dies. Ecbert begins to cry while Aelle smirks and the pit is closed up. King Ecbert stays behind after all the villagers have left. The empty cage creaks in the wind.

Back in Kattegat, Ivar is taken off the ship and reunited with his brothers Ubbe and Sigurd. Lagertha and Astrid look at Ivar with concern and curiosity. When the brother return home, Sigurd asks where their father is. Ivar takes a drink and when Ubbe asks him where Ragnar is. Ivar tells them that King Ecbert handed their father over to King Aelle to kill him.

Ivar says that their father is probably dead by now and they need to avenge him, that is all that matters. Ubbe nods to Sigurd who tells him that their mother, Queen Aslaug is also dead. He looks to Ubbe who tells him that it is true that Lagertha killed her and she is now Queen of Kattegat. Ivar remains silent. Ivar grabs the pawn Alfred had given him and squeezes it in his fist causing his hand to bleed. Unaware that they are not alone.

Crossing

Season 4
Episode Number: 45
Season Episode: 16

Originally aired: Wednesday January 4, 2017
Writer: Michael Hirst
Director: Ciarán Donnelly
Show Stars: Travis Fimmel (Ragnar Lothbrok), Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Clive Standen (Rollo), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), John Kavanagh (Seer), Peter Franzen (Harald Fairhair), Jasper Pääkkönen (Halfdan the Black), Moe Dunford (Aethelwulf), Alex Høgh (Ivar), Marco Ilsø (Hvitserk), David Lindström (Sigurd), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe), Linus Roache (Ecbert, King of Wessex)
Recurring Role: Josefin Asplund (Astrid), Maude Hirst (Helga), Ida Marie Nielsen (Margrethe), Georgia Hirst (Torvi), Jennie Jacques (Judith)
Guest Stars: Sinead Gormally (Tanaruz), Lorena Weldon (Bjorn's Victim), Andre Eriksen (Black Cloaked Figure)
Summary: Bjorn's fleet launches a surprise attack, while Lagertha's quest for power continues in Kattegat.



Words travel slowly from the lonely ground in Northumbria, where the great, legendary, cursed Ragnar Lothbrok lies buried beneath earth and snakes and ambition. In Kattegat, his first wife Lagertha cannot believe he is dead. But her responsibility is clear. She must pick up the burden of rule, no matter the cost. "Ragnar hated it," she tells her lover Astrid. "It weighed him down, perhaps it even killed him." But she cannot disappoint her women: Not Astrid, not Torvi, not the shieldmaidens who fought and died for her. And she thinks Ragnar is watching her.

In Wessex, Ecbert mourns his friend, while his son Aethelwulf fears the worst. Ecbert had an agreement with Ragnar, a promise the Viking's sons would seek vengeance only against Aelle. "Ragnar and I were alike in many ways," says Ecbert, suddenly looking like an old man, or like a man who has begun to outlive his own time. He agrees Aethelwulf should raise an army; he will stay right where he is, at the seat of his power, teaching young Alfred the ways of this cruel world.

Lagertha assumes her own seat of power, sitting in the high throne at the center of Kattegat. She sat up there once before, next to Ragnar — and, briefly, next to Aslaug, Ragnar's second wife. Lagertha, in charge, has some new ideas. Kattegat has become large, "the largest, richest trading center in Norway." Others will be envious; the time has come to fortify, to dig ditches, to turn this small overgrown village into a true defended city.

All the citizens of Kattegat agree with her. Well, almost all. Ubbe and Sigurd, Ragnar's sons and Aslaug's sons, linger under heavy security, unsure of their role in this new status quo. Their little brother, Ivar, is more expressive. He challenges Lagertha to single combat, in full view of all Kattegat. She refuses; she does not want to kill him. And perhaps her people agree with her thinking, even believe her to be gracious, saving the life of little Ivar the legless boy. But none

can miss the fire of Ivar's words. "One day, I will kill you, Lagertha," he tells his father's true love. "Your fate is fixed."

To the South, Bjorn sails. He sails with his half-brother, his uncle, and two of his father's most trusted friends. They are in the fog, but the mist is nothing compared to the clouds in Floki's minds. "I no longer know who I am," he tells his wife Helge. "Why I am here. Why my purpose here."

Floki has always been a believer, in old ways and old gods. But perhaps his final meeting with his old friend Ragnar has changed him. "I feel like an empty vessel," he says. "I'm all alone. I need something to fill me up." Perhaps it was Ragnar, always, who Floki worshiped; perhaps, sensing Ragnar's absence, Floki has suddenly discovered Ragnar's curiosity, his need for something greater. Helge feels the same. She wants another child, someone who will live on after they have left the world.

Elsewhere in the fleet, King Harald and his brother Halfdan whisper plots to each other. Harald wonders if their leader, Bjorn Ironside, is cursed, as his father was. "One day, we must overcome the Lothbroks," Harald tells his brother. "How else can I become the King of all Norway?" Why should they wait, these ambitious young Vikings? Perhaps the time to strike is now. Halfdan cautions his brother and teases him. "The gods will give us a sign," he says. "They love us."

The Vikings find a port city, Algeciras, in the south of Spain. The Northmen can't know this, but by the time they arrive in the city, Algeciras has already weathered invasion and destruction. Barbarians attacked centuries ago; the city was rebuilt by the Moors. This is an Islamic society, something new for the Northmen, who have spent this generation waging war against the followers of the Christ-god.

They set about their violent business, Rollo laughing to be a Viking once again. But Floki and Helge are much changed here in this strange city. Floki hears the call to prayer and follows it to a temple. He is struck by their worship. Their gods are nowhere to be seen, "yet they're praying with such passion." Harald has no time for cultural investigations and prepares to slay everyone in the temple. Floki stops him. "No more killing," he says. "Not in here. Not in this place." Floki had criticized Ragnar and his brother Rollo for their flirtations with one religion. Perhaps, though, time has emptied his soul; perhaps he, too, searches for some new answers.

Helge finds her own answers in Algeciras. She watches Harald slay a man and a woman, watches their child flee. She chases after the child, and rescues her — or, if you like, takes her captive. She wants to take the child with them on their journey. She joins the march of prisoners and plunder. They sail on.

Back in Kattegat, Lagertha awakes to a vision in the night: Ragnar as a much younger man, as she knew him when she shared his bed. "Enjoy Valhalla," she says. "You deserve it. But don't forget me." Lagertha has no way of knowing Ragnar himself no longer believed in Valhalla; that at the end of his life, he saw no higher power, recognized no deity. Lagertha is a believer.

She goes to see the Seer, and the Seer says he, too, has seen Ragnar. "On his way to Valhalla," the Seer says, an edge in his voice that could be sarcasm. "He was so happy!" Lagertha asks the Seer: Will one of Ragnar's sons kill her? Or, to be specific, "Will I be killed by a son of Ragnar?" The Seer hears her and ponders. "Yes," he says, offering her an answer but also several more questions.

The sons of Ragnar are far spread. Yet words do travel. They see birds fly and they see a vision: A one-eyed man, garbed in black, telling each of Ragnar's sons their father is no more. Ubbe sharpens his arrows, Sigurd sharpens his axe, Ivar hacks away in the blacksmiths. On the cusp of the Mediterranean, farther than Ragnar ever dreamed his people would go, Bjorn and Hvitserk burn with great ambition. Yet Bjorn knows, deep in his soul, that his father is dead. We see Ragnar's final words travel across the known world: Words about Valhalla, about Valkyries, about the great fate that awaits him in the afterlife. Perhaps Ragnar is somewhere, or perhaps he is nowhere. For his sons, there is no mystery. Vengeance calls them, from across the sea.

The Great Army

Season 4

Episode Number: 46

Season Episode: 17

Originally aired:	Wednesday January 11, 2017
Writer:	Michael Hirst
Director:	Jeff Woolnough
Show Stars:	Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Clive Standen (Rollo), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Peter Franzen (Harald Fairhair), Jasper Pääkkönen (Halfdan the Black), Alex Høgh (Ivar), Marco Ilso (Hvitserk), David Lindström (Sigurd), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe), Linus Roache (Ecbert King of Wessex)
Recurring Role:	Josefin Asplund (Astrid), Maude Hirst (Helga), Ivan Kaye (Aelle King of Northumbria), Ida Marie Nielsen (Margrethe), Georgia Hirst (Torvi), Jennie Jacques (Judith), Morgane Polanski (Princess Gisla)
Guest Stars:	Sinead Gormally (Tanaruz), Charlie Kelly (Egil), Tristan Heanue (Blacksmith), Cathy White (Ealswith), Caitlin Scott (Judith's Sister), Charles Last (William Son of Rollo), Isaac O'Sullivan (Alfred), Adam Traynor (First Viking), Donal Gallery (Second Viking), Jack Nolan (Earl Jorgensen), Anton Giltrap (Gunthrum)
Summary:	A great Viking army assembles at Kattegat, while Lagertha remains vigilant in the absence of Bjorn.



They build, they build, they build. Kattegat has grown and it has grown large, from an earl's village to a King's capital to a merchant metropolis. It is a modern city, and it is a prize, and Queen Kattegat will defend it. She has set her people to building, building, building. They will build defenses. There are enough enemies within already.

Ragnar's youngest son, Ivar, seeks vengeance against Lagertha for the death of his mother, Aslaug. But his brothers Ubbe and Sigurd pull Ivar's focus toward another vengeance. Should they attack King Aelle, in tiny Northumbria —

or, following their father's wishes, take on King Ecbert in grand Wessex? To do so would require a large army, twice the size of the coalition Ragnar led to Paris. But is it an army they can assemble, with their father's memory as their rallying cry. "In the name of Ragnar Lothbrok, in the name of Odin, we declare war on the whole world," says Ivar Boneless, hate and joy in his eyes.

Ubbe relays their plan to Queen Lagertha. He asks her to join them. But Lagertha has a reason to stay. The sons of Ragnar are inviting other rulers to her city. "They will see the size and understand the value of this trading station," says Lagertha. The city has to be defended. "I know what your father would have wanted me to do," she says. Lagertha remembers when Ragnar was a young man, ambitious like his sons, and remembers one of Ragnar's great ambitions: to build something that lasts. Lagertha has seen many great men brought low. She saved Kattegat from Aslaug, didn't she? She will save it from any assault, won't she?

But can she save herself? Perhaps she doesn't want to. The seer says she will be killed by a son of Ragnar Lothbrok. Ivar certainly would like the opportunity. His brother, Sigurd, disagrees.

"We have different memories of mother," he says. "She doted on you and she ignored me." Sigurd baits his brother; he calls him a mama's boy, and mommy's little favorite. Ivar lifts his axe to his brother, aiming to kill. Only the ready arm of a humble blacksmith stops him. Will brother kill brother? Can Ragnar's sons survive Ragnar's legacy?

In Northumbria, King Aelle welcomes unwelcome Judith to the home she never wanted. How far she has come from her father's hall. Wife of Aethelwulf, lover of her husband's father, mother to another man's son. She has a message for her family. "There is much talk of the revenge of the sons of Ragnar," she says. "I wanted you all to be aware of it and prepared for it."

Aelle is ready for any incursion, he promises; anyhow, he needs no help from the likes of his daughter and her degenerate lover. Judith's father condemns her and her mother condemns her. "If we do not pray for your soul, daughter, then you will be damned for all eternity." Hell would be a fine place, Judith declares. "As for you, Father, you may enjoy the erudities of heaven without my discomforting presence, and that of every other woman whose only crime was a desire to be free." She advises her sister to learn to read, pays her respects to great Ragnar Lothbrok, and then she is off, away from Northumbria on the road to destiny.

Meanwhile, Duke Rollo returns home from his Mediterranean jaunt with his former allies. His nephew, Bjorn, has told him he will never be welcome back home in the lands of the Northmen. They would want him dead; Bjorn would have to kill him. It is a kindness to leave him in Frankia, and Rollo returns with his own kindness. "I want to make you all an offer," he says. "Anyone from our homelands who wants good rich lands to farm can come and live in my kingdom. It will always be a part of Frankia, which is a part of us."

Ironic, or inevitable. This a dream held by Rollo's brother, Ragnar: to settle far from home, to farm foreign lands. And now it falls to Rollo, the traitor, to bring Ragnar's dream to life. Floki spits at him. "You are no longer a part of us, Rollo," he says. "What is us, Floki, is changing," Rollo claims. "Only you won't accept it." So, Rollo leaves his people one more time, promising he will never forget them. His wife, Gisla, greets him at home, with violence and cries and the righteous words of a spouse betrayed. But she does welcome him. "I have a bad feeling," Floki tells Bjorn Ironside, "that he will reach more fame than any of you."

In Wessex, King Ecbert struggles to educate his grandson, Alfred. He tries to tell him books are just as important as swords or plowshares; he tries to teach him to be clever and to think for himself. But there is power in community, too. In Kattegat, the sons of Ragnar welcome the first arrivals in their vengeance army. These are young Vikings, who think of Ragnar as their own father.

They have heard the poems about Ragnar — and about Lagertha, too. An earl from Sweden greets Lagertha, telling her the songs about her are almost tiresome — the fault of the poets, not of her. "Ragnar and I were simple farmers," says Lagertha, with a tone of voice suggesting she was never really just a simple farmer.

But Lagertha remembers more modest days. She does not know this Ragnar the young men talk about ... the hero, the father. She remembers a man who was hers. She sees his son, Ubbe, who looks at her with such hate. She tells him, "You look just like your father looked when he was a young man, when I first knew him." She is reaching out to him, or perhaps she is saying: I understand what you are feeling. For she remembers when Ragnar was a young man who felt his family was under attack, and she remembers what Ragnar did to the man doing the attacking, and she knows how few people today remember Earl Haraldson.

The sons strike, Ubbe and Ivar. They have allies; they kill shieldmaidens, close the hall, advance on the Queen. She advances to them, sword in hand. But then there is a homecoming: Bjorn Ironside, back from his quest. He knows his half-brothers want vengeance. But there is a more important vengeance: their father and the land of Christians across the sea.

That is what Bjorn says, in public. In private, perhaps, he feels much different. His mother has her vengeance, and so she is Queen. He sits with his family, with Torvi and his children, and he has never looked less comfortable. "I did not come back here to be told what to do!" he says. "Not by you! Not by anyone!" He stalks out, angry, and goes to the throne room. His mother is gone, but Astrid is there. Astrid looks upset; Lagertha does not tell her everything. So, Astrid and Bjorn have something in common, and perhaps it is that that leads them to kiss each other, or perhaps they want to punish Lagertha, or perhaps they are both a bit mad.

The other sons of Ragnar Lothbrok recede, biding their time. Hvitserk agrees with Sigurd; he has few good memories of his mother and thinks someone ought to rule Kattegat while they set

off. Who shall that be? On the outskirts of the city, they are building, building, building, and there is King Harald and his brother and their new friend, Egil, who is not beautiful but very clever. They plot, as ambitious men must plot.

And in the forest, Floki is building, too. He carries little Ivar, his favorite student, and he gives him a present. "Your legs, Ivar," says Floki, showing Ivar a personal chariot. "Your wings." And off Ivar goes, the boy with no legs moving faster than any man can run, a smile on his face and murder in his heart.

Revenge

Season 4

Episode Number: 47

Season Episode: 18

Originally aired: Wednesday January 18, 2017
Writer: Michael Hirst
Director: Jeff Woolnough
Show Stars: Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), John Kavanagh (Seer), Peter Franzen (Harald Fairhair), Jasper Pääkkönen (Halfdan the Black), Moe Dunford (Aethelwulf), Alex Høgh (Ivar), Marco Ilsø (Hvitserk), David Lindström (Sigurd), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe), Linus Roache (Ecbert, King of Wessex)
Guest Stars: Josh Donaldson (Hoskuld), Josefin Asplund (Astrid), Maude Hirst (Helga), Ivan Kaye (King Aelle), Ida Nielsen (Margrethe), Georgia Hirst (Torvi), Jennie Jacques (Judith), Charlie Kelly (Egil), Anton Giltrap (Gunthrum), Sophie Vavasseur (Princess Ellisif), Gary Buckley (Vik), Noni Stapleton (Pagan Priestess), Sinead Gormally (Tanaruz), Jack Nolan (Earl Jorgensen), Niall O'Sioradain (Pagan Priest), David Maine (Royal Servant), Gary Murphy (Bishop Unwan), Cathy White (Eal-swith), Caitlin Scott (Judith's Sister)
Summary: Ragnar's plan is realized; the Viking army alights on the coast of Northumbria.



The Great Army assembles in Kattegat, kings and earls and heroes and monsters. A great sacrifice must be made, says Lagertha, the heroic Queen. "If the army fails," she says, "if they are defeated by the Saxons, our peoples might never recover." The gods call for a special sacrifice at times like this. The question is not what, but who?

All must sacrifice in times like this. The sons of Ragnar Lothbrok must sacrifice their pride, perhaps, or perhaps much more. Ivar Boneless must sacrifice his ambition, for the moment. Some of his brothers think the army doesn't need a

leader at all. They are willing, for the moment, to let Bjorn Ironside lead them, for Bjorn has the experience: He sailed with his father to the walls of Paris and sailed beyond his father's wildest imagination to the Mediterranean. "What battles have you won?" Bjorn asks his brother, Ivar. "What battles have you lost?" Ivar doesn't answer him; it is the future, not the past, that interests the youngest son of Ragnar.

They're a curious lot, these sons of Ragnar: Selfish and self-regarding, noble and proud. Ivar jealously covets greatness, but Ubbe and Hvitserk believe in sharing. Ubbe marries Margrethe, the former slave. But he knows his younger brother covets Margrethe — loves her, even. "I don't think it's fair that I should keep Margrethe to myself," says Ubbe.

"How can you not be jealous?" his bride asks. She loves them, both of them, of course, but there is still much she doesn't understand about these strange men. "We are Vikings," Ubbe says, as if that explains everything. They spend the wedding night together in bed, all three of them.

What tangled lives they lead, the great and tragic Lothbroks! Queen Lagertha takes on her ceremonial duty, sacrificing an Earl for the army's cause. The Earl is not afraid. Tonight, he

dines with the gods; he shall meet Odin, and perhaps he shall meet Ragnar Lothbrok. He is a believer, and when Lagertha stabs him with her sword, he pulls her in closer. Lagertha's lover, Astrid, is not watching by then; she is pulling Bjorn Ironside closer, another tangled affair for a family not one generation removed from its little farm. The gods greet the sacrifice with shooting stars overhead, a good omen if you believe in such things.

Love, or something like it, is all around in Kattegat these days. King Harald sees a specter of his past and a vision of his glorious future: A princess he once knew, who would not take his hand in marriage. He has worked his whole life since to deserve her; he still seeks to be King of all Norway. Yet she is already married to an Earl in Denmark. "I was a King," Harald tells her, "And I was not good enough for you. In the meantime, you marry a nobody?"

It's a side of Harald we have not seen before. For years now, Harald has seemed like a new sort of Viking, or an older sort given new license in these days of high adventure. A man like Ragnar or a woman like Lagertha seeks power for complex reasons — for protection of the family, for the advancement of society, for curiosity. Harald has always sought power, with great violence and little curiosity about the cultures he plunders.

Yet Harald is only human, after all. "I have built my entire life around you," he says, madly, half-considering killing his old love. He does not kill her; perhaps, in his strange heart, he still believes she will choose him, if only he conquers more, if only his power increases.

King Ecbert's friends never grew old. Think of Athelstan and Ragnar, dead and buried in lands so far from where they were born. But Ecbert is old now, no denying it. "You're not behaving like a King anymore," says Aethelwulf. "You're distracted, you're withdrawn, you seem unsure and hesitant." Aethelwulf has heard of the arrival of the Great Heathen Army, and he is angry at his father. Angry because Ecbert let Ragnar's son, Ivar, go free. And angry because... Well, where to start? "Most of my life, you've either manipulated or humiliated me," says Aethelwulf. "You used me to fulfill your ambition, while at the same time, taking my wife as your mistress, and forcing me to adopt her bastard son. What kind of a father are you?"

Ecbert has no easy answer for him. Perhaps he does not believe in easy answers anymore. "I am filled with doubts," says Ecbert, "And I've come to believe that being firm and strong was the illusion, and that I am unsure now because it is the most honest way to be." He trusts Aethelwulf completely; that is why he always used him. But that's not the answer Aethelwulf is looking for. Ecbert loved Athelstan and Ragnar, and he loves Judith. "Do you love me, father?" asks Aethelwulf. "Because if you do, I want you to say so, I need you to say so. Please."

Ecbert is silent. Perhaps he doesn't love his son. And perhaps his son is wrong, and he never really loved anybody.

King Aelle is not the kind of ruler who doubts. He doesn't doubt himself, nor his fate, nor his moral rightness. An army has arrived, you say? A Great Heathen Army? Impossible, no such thing. Heathens are not great; they are piddling little monsters, less human than vermin. He rides out to battle knowing God is on his side. And then he sees the army, sees the great turbulent mass of Vikings, their swords, their shields, their eyes, their rage, and he knows even God cannot help him.

We do not see the battle; it is inevitable, perhaps, that Aelle will find himself brought low, pulled behind Ivar's carriage, to the place where Ragnar Lothbrok died. Ragnar isn't there, his body disappeared or decomposed or taken in the night by thieves who would spit upon him or admirers who honor him. King Aelle offers his captors whatever they want, anything at all. "I've been taught your god is a carpenter," says Floki. "Guess what? So am I!"

And so again to the blood eagle, that most monstrous and vengeful and violent execution of Viking society. So ends King Aelle, who waited years for vengeance upon Ragnar and mere months for the vengeance of his enemy's sons. Does he feel the skin leave his back forever? Does he feel his blood fly onto the faces of Ragnar's sons? Does he hear Ragnar Lothbrok's voice, one last time?

On the Eve

Season 4

Episode Number: 48

Season Episode: 19

Originally aired: Wednesday January 25, 2017
Writer: Michael Hirst
Director: Ben Bolt
Show Stars: Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Peter Franzen (Harald Fairhair), Jasper Pääkkönen (Halfdan the Black), Moe Dunford (Aethelwulf), Alex Høgh (Ivar), Marco Ilsø (Hvitserk), David Lindström (Sigurd), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe), Linus Roache (Ecbert King of Wessex)
Guest Stars: Josefin Asplund (Astrid), Maude Hirst (Helga), Ida Nielsen (Margrethe), Georgia Hirst (Torvi), Jennie Jacques (Judith), Conor Lambert (Viking Tradesr), Gary Murphy (Bishop Unwan), Rob Walsh (Aelle's Cleric), Philip O'Sullivan (Bishop Edmund), Isaac O'Sullivan (Alfred), Olga Wehrly (Saxon Woman), Lee Hunter (Saxon Scout), Sinead Gormally (Tanaruz), Adam Goodwin (Saxon Noble), Charlie Kelly (Egil), Sophie Vavasseur (Princess Ellisif), Gary Buckley (Vik (Ellisif's Husband)), Siobhan Kelly (Egil's Wife), Peter Dillon (Viking Scout)
Summary: The Viking army rampages through the English countryside, while King Ecbert and Aethelwulf seek to defend of the realm.



There are strange people in Kattegat always, riding in from lands far away or sailing in from points further. Yet one man in particular catches Torvi's eye, as she patrols her fortress-city. He sailed in this morning with the other traders. He looks at the wares being peddled — but he and his men do not want to buy anything. The reason is clear enough: The man calls for an attack, and the battle for Kattegat begins.

It is not the only battle the Northmen are fighting this week. In Wessex, a man arrives from the land of King Aelle, with a dying bishop and a mad tale about an

army of heathens sailing with vengeance in their hearts. How many men are there, Aethelwulf asks the bishop. "How many blades are grass are there in a field," the man says, on his way to meeting whatever gods there are. Aethelwulf rages, mindfully. "Damn you! And may you rest in peace!"

This will be the battle of Aethelwulf's life. His father demands that he march to the Great Heathen army; the element of surprise is everything. We have always seen Aethelwulf in conflict with those around him: his father, his wife, the Vikings, his own sad self. But there is grace in this dull man. He tells his son Alfred goodbye, and he reminds him that his father watches over him. "I mean your real father," says Aethelwulf. "The monk they called Athelstan. A very special man."

Aethelwulf is a fervent Christian, and you wonder if he recognizes something biblical in his peculiar misery. His wife was made pregnant, and so his son is not quite his son. Perhaps Aethelwulf imagines himself a modern Joseph, nobly tasked with protecting the son of God.

Perhaps he is simply older than he once was, and tired. "I'll try to be worthy of you, Judith," he tells his wife, long-absent from his bed but perhaps not from his heart.

His father the King has harsher words. He quotes Ecclesiastes (not the Byrds) and tells Aethelwulf: "To everything, there is a season, and a time for every purpose under the sun. A time to love. A time to hate. A time of war. A time of peace. This is the time of war." Aethelwulf looks at his father and sees only an old man. For Aethelwulf, it has always been the time of war. Poor Aethelwulf, who has never known a time to love.

The Vikings sail on, the sons of Ragnar already quarreling through their victories. Proud Ivar declares himself their father's anointed one: Why else would he have chosen Ivar to sail with him on his final journey? His brothers laugh, and worry: Of all the things that can defeat them, dissension among themselves is first and foremost. Elsewhere in the Viking camp, the girl Helge stole from the Spanish raid tries to escape. Floki finds her and struggles to communicate. "I'm sorry you hate us," he tells her. "I don't know what to do." Helge greets the girl with a fearful hug. The girl looks more scared of her than of Floki. Surely this can't end well.

In Kattegat the battle rages. Lagertha leads her shieldmaidens to the edge of town, commanding her forces along the wall. The bastard Egil leads another force of men to the dock, attacking toward the great hall. Lagertha sees this and realizes her mistake. "We're in the wrong place," she says.

Egil's men battle through town, seem quite close to capturing Kattegat. Some warriors see Lagertha holding nothing but a torch, and run towards her; she sets the burning oil underneath them afire, and they do the death-dance in the flames. The tide turns quickly after that. Astrid throws a spear in Egil's side and prepares to do him the kindness of a killing blow. "Let him live," says Lagertha. Not all are so lucky. Among the fallen are Torvi, father of the children of Bjorn Ironside, a true Viking.

Lagertha tortures Egil, and brings his wife in front of him as a further threat. Egil admits his benefactor: He was hired by King Harald, with an eye towards expanding his kingdom into Kattegat. Lagertha expected this, perhaps; she expects the worst of any ambitious man.

In the Viking camp across the sea, Harald admits a rare mistake to his brother. He was wrong, he says, not to kill his beloved princess; he has not been able to forget her. Halfdan tells him to forget her; after all, women are fickle. Harald cannot forget. But he promises his princess that he has forgiven her — right before he cleaves her husband's head apart. I didn't catch the husband's name, but it doesn't matter much anyways. The Princess comes to Harald's tent in the night, declaring her love for him; as they make love, she tries to kill him, but her blood rains upon Harald's body. It is Halfdan's doing. Better, perhaps, if King Harald had simply taken his brother's advice, and forgotten her. But that is not his way.

"We cannot fight in the same way," Ivar tells his brothers. Why should they fight Aethelwulf's army with a shieldwall? He suggests a new strategy. Scout the field of battle. Use the landscape, the hills. For such a large army, they should devise a new kind of warfare.

Aethelwulf arrives, hundreds of men behind him. They see the Viking horde on the hillside. But the Northmen run away, and when the Saxons race after them, they see that the mad warriors have disappeared into the trees. The Northmen appear far behind them, at the other end of the field; the Saxons give chase, and the Vikings disappear into the forest. This continues, a merry game that is inevitably deadly. Arrows fly out of the trees, killing soldiers of Wessex.

Aethelwulf tires of the game. He has new orders: They shall set out for the Vikings' ships, and destroy them. This is, of course, precisely what Ivar had hoped for. Floki rejoices in their enemies' foolishness — and in the brilliance of Ivar, his favorite of Ragnar's sons. "You crippled bastard!" he says. "You bloody mad genius! You were right!"

Indeed he was. Aethelwulf and his men walk into a trap. And so comes the inevitable moment: the Vikings forming their shield wall, and the Saxon army charging on them. Many years ago, Ragnar Lothbrok and Ecbert of Wessex shared drinks, and laughter, and many happy moments. Now, the sons of Ragnar and the son of Ecbert shall duel, and there shall be no drinks, no laughter, only glory or glorious death.

The Reckoning

Season 4

Episode Number: 49

Season Episode: 20

Originally aired: Wednesday February 1, 2017
Writer: Michael Hirst
Director: Ben Bolt
Show Stars: Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Peter Franzen (Harald Fairhair), Jasper Pääkkönen (Halfdan the Black), Moe Dunford (Aethelwulf), Alex Høgh (Ivar), Marco Ilsø (Hvitserk), David Lindström (Sigurd), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe), Linus Roache (Ecbert King of Wessex), Jonathan Rhys Meyers (Bishop Heahmund)
Recurring Role: Maude Hirst (Helga), Jennie Jacques (Judith)
Guest Stars: Philip O'Sullivan (Bishop Edmund), Lee Hunter (Saxon Scout), Adam Goodwin (Saxon Noble), Isaac O'Sullivan (Alfred), Jim Roche (Saxon Scribe), Sinead Gormally (Tanaruz), Tamaryn Payne (Widow Ordlaf)
Summary: Prince Aethelwulf is targeted by the Vikings' battle plan, while Ecbert stays behind formulating his own plan.



See Ecbert, King of Wessex and Mercia and perhaps some other lands he has forgotten about. Ecbert is a great man, and he is an old man. He sits off his throne, long beard and long hair and mind far away. He is remembering the past, he is witnessing the present, he is imagining the future that will occur long after he is gone.

Ecbert cannot see that his son, Aethelwulf, fights for his life against the maddening power of the Great Heathen Army. Ecbert could not have foreseen this, years ago, when the young Earl Ragnar Lothbrok first arrived in Wessex, bringing a

small coalition of soldiers, bringing violence but also carrying the curious request for farmland. No one could have foreseen the consequences of those actions, and the hundred of actions that followed. Now Ecbert's son fights Ragnar's sons, in brutal battle, horses toppling and men falling atop other men and bones breaking and blood flowing from bodies into the mud, until the very landscape looks like the fallen oozing husk of an old soldier dying alone.

"Save yourselves!" cries Aethelwulf. "Retreat! Retreat!" To Wessex he returns, declaring a state of emergency. The time has come for his family to flee. But Ecbert refuses. He promises to renounce his crown; he will make Aethelwulf the King, and remain behind to await his destiny. The secession is quick, and as formal as formalities can be as the world ends. Aethelwulf is now king, lord of lands conquered by invaders. His path ahead is uncertain. His father is hopeful. "I know I have placed my kingdom in the safest hands," says Ecbert. "You go now, save yourself and your family."

Ecbert kisses his son farewell — a final show of love, for one he has used so badly for so long. And he says farewell to Judith, his companion for these many years, and to Alfred, upon whom he has placed so many hopes. He tells Alfred that the greatest Christian virtue is humility. His family leaves, but he has a final companion: old Bishop Edmund, who will not leave his King behind, not when the cellars of Wessex are stocked with the finest wines in Christendom.

And so here are the Northmen, arrived at long last within the walls. They set about their brutal plunder, burning away history in the flames: texts that cannot be reclaimed, wisdom lost to time. Perhaps Ragnar's beloved monk Athelstan wrote some of those translations. They are all up in flames now, like so many of the dreams of old.

Truly, Wessex is become a funeral pyre of ambition. Helge carries her "daughter" through the wreckage, promising to protect her. The Spanish girl stabs her, and kills herself: death and madness, here at the end of one generation. Floki finds his beloved just in time to hear her final words. "The world is too small for you," she says, dying. Floki buries her here in this alien land, in the same land where Ragnar Lothbrok went to his final rest. Wanderers are blessed, for they see the world, and cursed, to die so far from home.

And what to do with Ecbert? Ivar wants to carve the blood eagle into the king, as the brothers did with Aelle. Bjorn thinks there's a more complicated reality here. The Saxon forces are scattered, but they shall gather again. Ubbe reminds his brothers that their father did not just want to win battles and leave. Ragnar dreamed of winning land. And Ragnar never held a king to ransom, Hvitserk says. "We do."

Ecbert understands their language a bit; after all, he loved their father, and romanced their father's first wife, in happy days long gone. "I am King of Kings," he tells him. He can give them legal right to a kingdom, East Anglia. "No one can question that claim," he says.

Ecbert will grant them the land. His only request is that he choose the manner of his own death. Bjorn agrees. The land is signed over to the sons of Ragnar. And Bjorn leaves Ecbert in his warm bathing pool, naked as the day he came into this world, a single knife in his hands. Ecbert hears voices from loved ones long gone, Athelstan and Lagertha, Alfred and Judith. He sees his whole life from the outside, and perhaps he is much satisfied, and perhaps he sees much work left to do. He opens up his own veins and dies alone with his memories, and all of those memories fade as he departs this world for whatever comes next.

Floki departs, too, leaving behind his old life in the ruins of all that was. He has died thrice over: with his daughter, with Ragnar, and now finally with Helge. He gives himself to the gods, to do with as they wish. He bids farewell to Bjorn, who has grown so strong since Floki first met him. His destiny, if he has one, lies elsewhere.

But there must be a feast to celebrate, and there is wild celebration. Bjorn declares that the great army has defeated two kingdoms. He reminds them of Ragnar's dream: to take land and farm it, settle it with young families. But Bjorn must return to the Mediterranean. And his brothers are already debating their father's legacy. "We have a great army," says Ivar. "And we should use it. There are many other places I want to attack and raid. Those of you who feel like I do, you should come with me!"

This is little Ivar's moment, and he takes it. Who wants to farm now? Who wants to put on an apron and settle down? He gives a rousing speech, declaring that those who follow him will find battle and the love of Odin. Bjorn sees clearly that this is the end, that all that held him to his brothers was their quest to avenge their father. How quickly they forget their unity. For Sigurd declares that Ivar is not really a man, that he is a little mama's boy, a snake who crawls across the ground.

And Ivar does not respond with words, but with mad action. He hurls his axe into his brother's stomach. Sigurd pulls the axe out, and with his final breath steps toward his brother. Murder is on his mind, but death claims his body first. So the sons of Ragnar turned on each other, and so the great Lothbrok family found tragedy within itself once again.

And greater dangers lurk. Elsewhere in England, a bishop named Heahmund oversees the burial of a man. He tells the widow that the Lord will find a way to console her. Who can say anything about the Lord, but Heahmund offers his own consolation. As they loudly copulate, we see Heahmund's sword. What blood shall decorate that blade? With one battle over, what wars yet await us?

Season Five

The Departed Part 1

Season 5

Episode Number: 50

Season Episode: 1

Originally aired:	Wednesday November 29, 2017
Writer:	Michael Hirst
Director:	David Wellington
Show Stars:	Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Peter Franzen (Harald Fairhair), Jasper Pääkkönen (Halfdan the Black), Moe Dunford (Aethelwulf), Alex Høgh (Ivar), Marco Ilsø (Hvitserk), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe), Jonathan Rhys Meyers (Bishop Heahmund)
Recurring Role:	Josefin Asplund (Astrid), Ida Marie Nielsen (Margrethe), Georgia Hirst (Torvi), Jennie Jacques (Judith)
Guest Stars:	Ferdia Walsh-Peel (Alfred the Great), Jonathan Delaney Tynan (Lord Cuthred), Keith McErlean (Lord Denewulf), Jim Roche (Saxon Scribe), Darren Cahill (Aethelred), India Mullen (Aethegyth), Frank Prendergast (Bishop Cynebert), Jake O'Loughlin (First Saxon Boy), Ben Smith-Short (Second Saxon Boy), Anna Sheils-McNamee (Young Nun), Ben Roe (Guthrum), Kieran O'Reilly (White Hair), Rebecca Grimes (Sheild Maiden), Richard McWilliams (II) (Saxon Scout), Adam Goodwin (First Scout), Tristan Heanue (Blacksmith)
Summary:	Tensions mount between the sons of Ragnar Lothbrok; with King Aethelwulf and his family still in hiding, Heahmund, the warrior bishop, rallies the Saxons to defend the Realm, as the Great Army moves to take York.



The sons of Ragnar Lothbrok have already begun to split asunder. Joined in vengeance, they separate into ambition. Bjorn seeks glory in the Mediterranean, taking Harald's brother Halfdan with him. Ivar tells Ubbe and Hvitserk that he didn't really mean to kill Sigurd, and his grief seems palpable — perhaps the blood rage did just take him over. But Ivar's lust for conquest has not been satiated, and he convinces his remaining brothers to take their army up to the town of York, closer to the realm of the

late blood-eagle'd King Aelle. Their father, Ragnar, dreamed of a day when his people could farm as he did in his younger days. Ubbe has picked up that dream, reminds his brothers that Ragnar didn't want them to live a life of perpetual plunder.

But Ragnar is dead. His friend Floki is departing, giving himself over to the gods, building a ship small enough for just one man. Ragnar's friend and final nemesis Ecbert is dead, too, and Ecbert's own legacy is being forgotten into history. A new power arrives within the Saxons: Bishop Heahmund, a warrior for Christ who prays to Ecbert as if the dead king was a devout saint (and not a playfully pan-cultural hedonist). "Do not be afraid," the bishop tells his followers. "Christ is here. You are safe." He brings with him the old-time religion; he feeds one follower the body and blood of Christ, and the act is tense with eroticism.

The Northmen attack York on Ascension Day, with Ubbe recalling an old Ragnar lesson about the Christians and their special Saints' Days. Ubbe seems to have inherited his father's curious,

rueful side. Not so Ivar, who boils a cross into molten gold and feeds it to the local bishop. News of the horror in York spreads to Heahmund — and, by way of spiritual messenger, to the newly crowned King Aethelwulf, currently hiding out with Judith and his remaining people in mudhuts in some foggy landscape. Their son Alfred is sick, and the leeches are doing nothing; but Alfred sees a vision of his true father, a monk who walked between worlds, and receives a premonition that his father is headed Yorkwards.

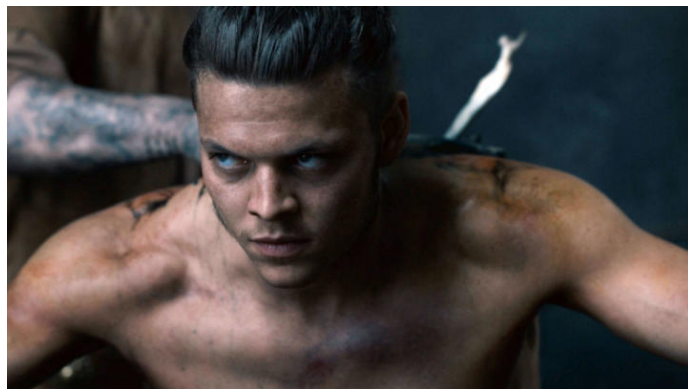
The Departed Part 2

Season 5

Episode Number: 50

Season Episode: 2

Originally aired:	Wednesday November 29, 2017
Writer:	Michael Hirst
Director:	David Wellington
Show Stars:	Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Peter Franzen (Harald Fairhair), Jasper Pääkkönen (Halfdan the Black), Moe Dunford (Aethelwulf), Alex Høgh (Ivar), Marco Ilsø (Hvitserk), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe), Jonathan Rhys Meyers (Bishop Heahmund)
Recurring Role:	Josefin Asplund (Astrid), Ida Marie Nielsen (Margrethe), Georgia Hirst (Torvi), Jennie Jacques (Judith)
Guest Stars:	Jonathan Delaney Tynan (Lord Cuthred), Kiernan O'Reilly (White Hair), Ben Roe (Guthrum), Rebecca Grimes (Shield Maiden), Keith McErlean (Lord Denewulf), Richard McWilliams (Saxon Scout), Darren Cahill (Aethelred), Adam Goodwin (First Scout), Tristan Heanue (Blacksmith)
Summary:	Ivar is determined to lead the Great Army as the Vikings establish their stronghold in York; in Kattegat, Lagertha misjudges King Harald and pays a heavy price; Floki arrives at a mysterious land.



Back in Kattegat, Lagertha welcomes the returning King Harald with news of his own failed coup. Imprisoned, Harald offers Lagertha a peculiar truce. They should marry, he says, merge powers, rule all the land. Lagertha refuses, has sex with her shackled prisoner — an incredibly troubling moment that appears to be an act of assertive defiance. Yet she lets Harald live — long enough for him to escape with his men, and to steal her lover Astrid. Then Harald asks Astrid to marry him, tantalizing her with the

grandest of ambitions: "You would become Queen of Norway," he says. "The most powerful woman in the country."

Is Lagertha losing her touch? Those are the rumblings around Kattegat, as her closest followers note that she ought to have killed King Harald when she had the chance. Ivar's not losing his touch: Surrounded by bodyguards, with new tattoos and new crutch-legs, the boneless boy is standing taller than ever. Heahmund and Aethelwulf array outside his captured York, biding their time. And in a distant land where mountains chug inky blackness into the sky and waves crash on infinite beaches, Floki finds what he believes to be his destiny. The waterfalls ascend upwards. A god appears in the mist. "I am in Asgard," says Floki. "I am in the land of the gods." Well...

Homeland

Season 5

Episode Number: 52

Season Episode: 3

Originally aired:	Wednesday December 6, 2017
Writer:	Michael Hirst
Director:	Steve Saint Leger
Show Stars:	Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Peter Franzen (Harald Fairhair), Jasper Pääkkönen (Halfdan the Black), Moe Dunford (Aethelwulf), Alex Høgh (Ivar), Marco Ilsø (Hvitserk), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe), Jonathan Rhys Meyers (Bishop Heahmund)
Recurring Role:	Josefin Asplund (Astrid), Jennie Jacques (Judith)
Guest Stars:	Ferdia Walsh-Peelo (Alfred the Great), Frankie McCafferty (Sinric), Alicia Agneson (Ivar's Slave Girl), Adam Goodwin (First Scout), Lee Hunter (Second Scout), Darren Cahill (Aethelred), Jonathan Delaney Tynan (Lord Cuthred), Keith McErlean (Lord Denewulf), Nathan Hughes (Slave), Lauren Farrell (Female Slave)
Summary:	Celebrations are cut short in the aftermath of the battle at York; Ragnar Lothbrok's sons are pitted against each other as tensions reach an all-time high, and each is forced to choose a side.



The episode begins with Floki sitting on a cliff, overlooking a river. He uses a walking stick as he crouches down and dips his rag into bubbling liquid, he wraps his cut hands in the cloth. He prays the Allfather, asking for forgiveness for his weakness and carve his future there among the gods. Meanwhile, Astrid arrives at King Harald Finehair's homeland; she steps over blood and carcasses, asking if this is his kingdom, saying she doesn't like the looks of it; he says this is her new home as everyone welcomes him

home.

He stands before his people and informs them their warriors went to England and exacted revenge for the death of Ragnar Lothbrok and their great army was victorious everywhere. He shares that some decided to remain there, while his brother, Halfdan went exploring with Bjorn Ironside, so no harm will come to him. He reminds them that it has always been his dream to make this town the capital of Norway and introduces them to Astrid as part of his dream; everyone seems pleased as he invites her to sit next to him.

Ivar meets a slave girl, Freydis who isn't afraid of him; he explains they are about to be attacked and need to offer the gods a sacrifice asking her if she is willing to sacrifice herself. She agrees to anything he asks, undressing and sitting on him, saying she knows he is a cripple but the gods favor him especially and she always looks for people who are different as that is a true sign. He is a very special person as no one is like him, as he is destined for great things. He tells her she is free to go, saying she is a free woman and tells her to leave!

King Aethelwulf is enjoying dinner with Alfred, Judith and Bishop Heahmund when soldiers come in, informing them the Northmen haven't secured the northern walls, and remain undefended; the Bishop says that is where they will enter as Aethelwulf tells Alfred that tomorrow they will take York. Ivar calms contemplates what Freydis has just said to him as he prepares for the impending battle.

At the Gulf of Cadiz, Bjorn and Halfdan drink and talk about Halfdan needing something to prove. He wants to simply live, unlike his brother, who just wants fame and more fame. He wants to live with the greatest intensity and feel every moment of his life, for as long as it lasts. Bjorn says he understands him completely. Sinric joins them at the fire, saying it would be better for them to appear as traders than raiders, suggesting he send most of his fleet home, proceeding forward with only 3 of his ships; saying it's better to feel naked than dead!

In the early morning hours, the Saxxon Army gathers for mass as they prepare for an attack on York. Judith reminds her boys to care for each other as they ride off. They climb into the city, as Ivar watches from a hidden spot, showing his brothers Hvitserk and Ubbe who Aethelwulf and his sons are — like lambs to the slaughter. Aethelwulf tells the army to divide up and meet at the Cathedral, after a few moments of silence, arrows fly through the air and strike several of them before several Vikings lift up doors and trap them in alleyways.

Ivar watches from his window as the Saxons run over their own people in attempts to save themselves. Bishop Heahmund prays to God as his men are not only hit with arrows but are set on fire; the chaos around him doesn't seem to faze him. Finally, the Saxons and Vikings meet face-to-face as King Aethelwulf screams out to Ivar to come out to fight, calling him a coward. He pulls Alfred to safety as Ivar grabs his helmet, and rides into the city on his chariot; suddenly he is knocked off it by a Saxxon who swings at him with a massive stick. Ivar jumps on him and repeatedly stabs his face until there is nothing left to stab; he laughs insanely as the army approaches him; his face covered in the other man's blood, pouring down from the rain. He screams at them asking if they know who he is. Saying they cannot kill him as he is Ivar the boneless!!

Ubbe and his men watch Ivar for a few moments, as does Hvitserk and the people with him; when Ivar continues to scream that no one can kill him, the battle begins again, as several Vikings surround Ivar with shields. Ivar shouts that they are going to die, moving the shields aside so he can see everything that is happening. Bishop Heahmund sees him and draws his sword, he stops for a second as Ivar snaps an arrow that was shot into his leg. Suddenly they are interrupted and the Bishop orders for them to continue fighting for their king. Heahmund and Ivar share eye contact again, just before the Saxons retreat. Ivar celebrates with his people, but Ubbe doesn't look happy at all, as there are so many dead around them.

Ivar walks to his brothers. Ubbe says they did well but Ivar says it wasn't "we" as it was HIS strategy. Hvitserk says they all did well and the only important thing is what they do next. Ubbe suggests they make good of the land and make peace but Ivar has no interest in peace; feeling peace is a dirty word. Ivar says the Saxons lost the battle but they haven't lost the war, and he would be wary about making negotiations with them.

Astrid looks at the jewels in her room but quickly throws them; when she tries to leave, there is a massive guard at her door, making it impossible to leave. Several women come in, bringing beautiful clothing. King Harald calls over a slave and demands to know why Astrid hasn't come and learned she refuses; but just as he stands to get her, she comes in with the beautiful gown on, joining him at the head of the table. As she takes her seat they all shout "skol!"

Ubbe wakes up Hvitserk, saying they are leaving in the middle of the night. In the middle of dinner, Astrid thanks King Harald for the feast and says she is tired and is off to bed; he raises his hands in the air and decides to go after her. He tells her, she looks very beautiful and kisses her; she punches him in the face and he returns to the table with a bleeding and broken nose, joking that he doesn't have any luck with women.

Ubbe and Hvitserk arrive on horseback to meet with King Aethelwulf, Alfred, and Bishop Heahmund. They only want peace, saying they no longer want to fight and only want to claim their land. The Bishop spits on the ground as they are told they will get their decision in the morning, Ubbe feels this was the right thing to do. Ivar welcomes back his brothers who have been badly beaten. He says he told them this would happen, that the Saxons would speak sweetly to them, only for them to come into their tent while they were resting, and beat them with their own weapons.

Ivar mocks them for not fighting back, shouting at Ubbe for making a bad call and showing himself as being weak and is lucky to be alive. He feels it is time for him to recognize him as the leader of the great army. Ubbe says as his older brother, he will never accept that as someone needs to take care of their people. He tells Ivar he cannot continue to fight in England without him and Hvitserk. Ivar feels it is the opposite, so Ubbe suggests him and Hvitserk will go back

to Kattegat with their forces in the morning. He tells Ivar that Ragnar would have hated him for separating his family; Ivar disagrees.

Floki wanders down to the river and unwraps his hand that is now badly infected. He prays again, saying Allfather, I don't understand; asking why he was brought there. Floki looks up and sees a female figure with bees flowing out of her mouth, then it suddenly vanishes. He looks up to the waterfall again, where he sees a woman all in black, who turns into dozens of ravens who fly past him. He falls back onto the ground calling out to Allfather, saying he now understands that this is where he should die; in peace. Floki looks up and struggles for a few minutes, he sits up and looks at his hand and the wound is gone. He smiles at the skies and thanks to the Allfather, saying he will live there with the gods.

Ivar tells Ubbe that he is shameful and embarrassed for leaving the way he is; shouting that no one is with Ubbe and everyone is with him. Hvitserk looks at Ubbe and steps off the boat, returning to Ivar's side.

The Plan

Season 5

Episode Number: 53

Season Episode: 4

Originally aired:	Wednesday December 13, 2017
Writer:	Michael Hirst
Director:	Steve Saint Leger
Show Stars:	Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), John Kavanagh (Seer), Peter Franzen (Harald Fairhair), Jasper Pääkkönen (Halfdan the Black), Moe Dunford (Aethelwulf), Alex Høgh (Ivar), Marco Ilsø (Hvitserk), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe), Jonathan Rhys Meyers (Bishop Heahmund)
Recurring Role:	Josefin Asplund (Astrid), Ida Marie Nielsen (Margrethe), Georgia Hirst (Torvi), Jennie Jacques (Judith), Frankie McCafferty (Sinric)
Guest Stars:	Ferdia Walsh-Peelo (Alfred the Great), Albano Jeronimo (Euphemius), Karima McAdams (Kassia), Darren Cahill (Aethelred), Jonathan Delaney Tynan (Lord Cuthred), Ben Roe (Guthrum), Paul Reid (Mannel), Aoife Molony (Chief Priestess)
Summary:	Guided by Bishop Heahmund's visions, the Saxons devise a battle plan. Ivar the Boneless strategizes on his own as the Vikings undergo increasing pressure. Bjorn Ironside finds himself in a new territory and must convince the local commander he is a trader and not a raider.



In the Straits of Gibraltar, Bjorn Ironside moves forward with his three ships, along with Halfdan the Black. Halfdan awakens Bjorn when they see land and Sinric tells them it is the Pillars of Hercules, they mark the entrance to the Mediterranean Sea. Bjorn feels his father would relish this opportunity but Sinric continues to caution him about the lands and people as they don't know who he is nor does he know how strong they are.

Bjorn wants to go to Rome as it is the center of the map and the center of the New World, Sinric says since the map was drawn the New World has changed,

in fact, the Roman Empire is no more, and what is left is only a shadow of its former glory. He suggests they go to an island nearby called Sicily instead.

Outside of York, King Aethelwulf tells Alfred the great that even though they saw some of the Northmen leave, they can not be sure they have weakened any, so they cannot think of attacking nor reclaiming the town. Bishop Heahmund agrees, saying he dismissed the peacekeepers, since they are Heathens and are here to make trouble, not peace.

Aethelwulf suggests they go back to rebuild their army but Heahmund disagrees, speaking of a vision he had. Alfred says he speaks in riddles but he explains that the Pagan Northmen died because they starved to death, and tells the King they should close all the roads, refusing them anyway of coming or going from York, trapping them and starving them, forcing them to surrender. When Alfred asks what they should do, Aethelwulf assures his son they should do as Heahmund says, with God's help.

Ubbe returns to Kattegat, where Margrethe greets him happily with a kiss. Torvi quietly walks away. Lagertha welcomes Ubbe home, saying she has heard of their great army's success, and

their revenge for Ragnar's death. He talks about Ivar and how both Ivar and Hvitserk are his enemies; Lagertha agrees to make a pact. She will support him against them, if he will support her against King Harald Finehair. They agree to do it for the people of Kattegat.

Lagertha assures Torvi that Bjorn will come back, but Torvi worries about Lagertha trusting Ubbe since Bjorn should be ruling Kattegat after her. Ubbe tells Margrethe that he will not be sharing her with his brother Hvitserk anymore. She seems to be happy but tells him that she thinks Lagertha is losing her power and the gods are not pleased with her. She thinks Ubbe is the one, true ruler of Kattegat, not Bjorn, and he knows it.

Bjorn asks Sinric to tell him more about Sicily. He tells him of the Emperor ruling Sicily and reminds Bjorn when they enter to lands in the morning that they are coming there as traders, NOT raiders.

The Vikings are hunting in the woods outside of York, when the Saxons kill them all. Meanwhile, Hvitserk informs Ivar that the hunting party did not return again. Ivar continues to enjoy his food and drink. Hvitserk says they are almost out of food and there is sickness in town. Ivar is annoyed, wondering if Hvitserk is saying that Ubbe was right and should have negotiated with the Saxons. Hvitserk said he didn't go with Ubbe because he is no one's dog, Ivar taunts him and barks at him, everyone laughs until Hvitserk storms out of the room.

Margrethe continues to talk about how the gods have turned against Lagertha to Torvi. Lagertha hears her, saying she is right, they are all equal. She admits she has no feelings towards her either way and could kill her for her words of betrayal but she is sick of betrayal. She tells her to have the courage to be loyal and she would respect her; Margrethe rushes off in tears.

Alfred watches as his mother's people begin to arrive at their camp. Judith introduces Mannel to her husband, who offers his loyalty to Aethelwulf. Mannel is awestruck to serve under Aethelwulf and Bishop Heahmund, who reminds him that they should not be so vain.

In Sicily, Bjorn and his men arrive. Commander Euphemius greets them but isn't happy when they introduce themselves as traders and would much prefer them to be warriors. Once they are able to sit down for a meal, Sinric revels to Bjorn that the Commander would like Bjorn and his men to be his bodyguards; he will pay them very well. Bjorn agrees and Euphemius stands up and kisses him on the cheek, which startles and confuses him.

A beautiful woman named Kassia begins to sing, they learn she is a Nun, the Commander had abducted from the Holy Land and the Emperor sentenced him to death for abducting her; they are all mesmerized by her voice.

Lagertha goes to see the Seer, who reveals she will see her son Bjorn again, but it will be in terrible circumstances. The consequences of Ragnar's death have not yet played out, and she has only seen the beginning of the end. He tells her to prepare for what is to come. He refuses to tell her what is about to happen, so she cannot change her fates. She pleads because she is only thinking of her son. He says too much knowledge is only an agony to bear by herself.

Hvitserk prays to Lord Odin, asking for a sign that he made the right choice, asking for about his fate; suddenly arrows fly over his head.

Back in Sicily, Bjorn and Halfdan are etching in stone and sharpening swords when Halfdan notices Kassia with Sinric. Bjorn catches Sinric and demands to know what is going on; he says Euphemius isn't really the commander. An Arab leader agreed to invade the island on Euphemius behalf in return for a yearly tribute; this leader is in Africa. Bjorn wants to know about this other world — Africa. They wonder if Sinric is a spy, Halfdan puts his knife to his throat and wonder if he is a go in disguise as Bjorn now wants to meet this Arab leader.

Aethelwulf listens to Heahmund speak of his vision, as it seems that the Pagans are surely burning their dead. Aethelwulf wants to attack now but the Bishop wants their condition to worsen and suffer more dismay, until only rags and bones wander the streets of York. Aethelwulf tells him they cannot always follow only his visions and doesn't like that he is putting himself before him. He shouts that he is his KING; Heahmund bows down saying he is his humble servant and to do with him what he will. Aethelwulf kneels down saying he believes he is not humble, but he is still his servant as well as the Lord's and they will proceed together for our country and for the sake of England.

Inside the walls of York, Hvitserk doesn't understand Ivar's plan of pretending to burn their people. He says he found out that the Romans were very clever and his plan is based on what he found out, promising Hvitserk will know what that is in good time.

Floki prays to Allfather, begging for forgiveness, as he is just an artist and boat builder. He is thankful for being brought to the land of the gods but has no idea why. He is deeply happy and could laugh all day but has been thinking that it is wrong of him to be enjoying this paradise alone. He wants to share the paradise with others and hopes Allfather will agree, that he could go back to the land of the living and invite those who are true believers and courageous. They can build a city uncontaminated with false strangers. He begs to go back to the land of the living. Thunder bangs and Floki laughs.

In Vestfold, Norway, King Harald watches as Astrid joins him at the waterfront. She tells him she has made up her mind, after asking the gods for advice she has come to a decision. She looks at him and informs him that she agrees to marry him. He smiles and tells her that is good, as he couldn't have waited any longer.

Astrid approaches him as he is dressed in his ceremonial outfit, under the whale bones. When she is asked if this is what she wants, she thinks of her private, intimate moments with Lagertha, she looks at Harald and agrees that this is what she wants. The priestess asks for a blessing on this marriage, she dips the ring in blood and Harald places it on her finger. He smiles and she smiles as he says that perhaps his luck has finally changed; everyone cheers!

Floki lowers the sails on his boat as he looks at the fiery volcano, awaiting the rising tide. He prays to the Allfather once more and closes his eyes.

In Sicily, Sinric approaches Euphemius telling him that Bjorn wants to meet the Arab leader, Ziyadat Allah. He refuses to see him but Kassia says he must take her as he promised her, otherwise she will leave him. He agrees. Bjorn is surprised that he changed his mind because of something she said. On the travels, Halfdan and Bjorn wonder who Kassia is to give her such power.

Aethelwulf smiles when he is given word that the Northmen are gone, their ships and everything; they have left York. The Saxons enter the city and find burning ashes and empty buildings, but when they approach the church, Bishop Heahmund opens the doors and finds horses and rats inside. Aethelwulf smiles but the Bishop is disturbed as he does the sign of the cross. He wonders why the rats are above ground.

The Prisoner

Season 5

Episode Number: 54

Season Episode: 5

Originally aired: Wednesday December 20, 2017
Writer: Michael Hirst
Director: Ciarán Donnelly
Show Stars: Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Jasper Pääkkönen (Halfdan the Black), Moe Dunford (Aethelwulf), Alex Høgh (Ivar), Marco Ilsø (Hvitserk), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe), Jonathan Rhys Meyers (Bishop Heahmund)
Guest Stars: Ferdia Walsh-Peelo (Alfred the Great), Darren Cahill (Aethelred), Kal Naga (Ziyadat Allah), Alicia Agneson (Freydis), Josefin Asplund (Astrid), Adam Copeland (Kjettil Flatnose), Peter Franzén (King Harald Finehair), Degnan Geraghty (Saxon Priest), Jennie Jacques (Judith), Albano Jerónimo (Euphemius), Maddy Joy (Guest Star), Karima McAdams (Kassia), Jack McEvoy (Helgi The Lean), Leah McNamara (Aud the Deep Minded), Belle Niloufar (Guest Star)
Summary: Ivar meets his match in Bishop Heahmund. Floki returns to Kattegat. Bjorn receives a lavish welcome in North Africa.



The episode begins with the Saxons returning to York, and king Aethelwulf telling Bishop Heahmund that they will bring all the faithful to the cathedral to celebrate high mass and the delivery of York. Heahmund says the Lord works in mysterious ways as the church bells begin to ring out; the men wonder why there are so many rats on the streets as the Vikings wander through the sewer ways under the city.

Ivar and Hvitserk smile as they see the Englishmen above them. Ivar signals for his people to lift up the ladders and the Vikings rise up through the grates and begin shooting arrows at everyone in the streets. The Bishop gets on his horse and orders the men to save every soul or be subject to a higher power, as there is no higher power than God. Meanwhile, Aethelwulf is in for the fight of his life, beating a Viking with a rock in the head; Alfred the Great is almost killed by a Viking with a massive hammer but he also is able to stab him with his sword and escape.

Ivar watches from above as the Bishop continues to shout for the men to fight. Ivar yells "spears" and laughs as dozens of Saxons die; the Bishop tramples someone and then his horse is shot with multiple arrows. Ivar shouts for them to stop fighting and orders them to give the Bishop his horse, as Heahmund is too great a warrior to fight on foot. Bishop Heahmund kisses his sword, rises off his knees and bows down to Ivar, who then drops his hand and the fighting resumes.

King Aethelwulf is told to take his son Alfred and get to safety as the other Vikings get Bishop Heahmund off the horse, Ivar comes down from the wall. The Bishop screams that he is a Heathen as Ivar laughs calling him a Christian, his men drag him away.

In the desert, Bjorn Ironside, Sinric and Halfdan the Black travel with Euphemius and Kassia to go meet Ziyadat Allah.

Outside of York, Judith attends to the wounded, when Aethelred rushes to his father, Aethelwulf as he approaches the camp. Judith learns her cousin Mannel died protecting him and they all fear the worst when it comes to Bishop Heahmund. Aethelwulf begins to hit himself in the head, saying he was wrong to believe that God was on their side; that he hadn't forgiven them. Bishop Heahmund lies shivering on the floor of the cathedral, as Ivar crawls towards him.

The camels finally stop at a camp in the middle of the desert, where they are asked for their weapons and told to relax in the tent after their long journey. Everyone bows down when Ziyadat Allah walks in the room, he introduces himself, even speaking Norse to the Vikings. Halfdan and Bjorn are told they do not understand how the world works there and should just take it as it appears. He wants to make trade deals with Bjorn.

At Kattegat, Torvi watches as Floki returns and is welcomed by everyone.

Queen Lagertha greets Floki, surprised, saying she never expected to see him again, in this lifetime. He says it is strange for him to be back too and he can still hear Ragnar's voice, fondly touching her arm saying they have so many memories they have shared. He tells her, he is more than just the boat builder.

Ubbe comes in as Floki says he did see the gods and they took him to a special place, he was dead and then he was alive. He tries to explain it that no humans were there, only the gods; Aud the Deep-Minded looks at the others in the room as Floki speaks. Floki says he came back to share it with those who believe in the true gods; those who are pure in spirit and heart, people like him. Lagertha is offended, feeling it wasn't for her nor Ragnar who were never pure like him.

When she asks him about taking warriors and shield maidens from Kattegat to his special place, she warns him that this is her kingdom and she will protect it and its people; especially when they have every reason to expect another attack from King Harald Finehair. The last thing she needs is someone like Floki to take away her best warriors and forbids him from doing it.

Inside the tent, Sinric brings in two women, one for Bjorn and one for Halfdan while Ziyadat enjoys the company of Kassia. Bjorn says his night was very satisfactory as Halfdan reveals that his company was not a she; he doesn't answer when Bjorn asks him if that is a problem for him.

In the forest, Floki meets with several Vikings showing them to not be afraid because the land has no diseases, no wars and no suffering. It is blessed by the gods in every way; the soil is good for farming and waiting for them to plant. He says they have never seen it because they were waiting for the right people to find it. Floki says they should not bring too many, just enough for a working colony of believers.

Ivar is told the Saxon army has abandoned their camp and left. Ivar suggests to Hvitserk they could pursue them and kill them all but Hvitserk they have more important things to do, like a return to Kattegat to make sure that Ubbe hasn't convinced Lagertha to crown him King. Hvitserk reminds Ivar he needs to sort things out, he needs to kill Ubbe and Lagertha and become king of Kattegat. Ivar smiles, telling Hvitserk that he is a good man and making more and more sense every day. He thinks in the short term, they should make an alliance with King Harald to take over Kattegat.

Hvitserk wants to know what they should do with their prisoner, thinking they should offer him back for a great ransom. Ivar jokes that they should crucify him. Ivar sits with Bishop Heahmund and they talk about God and the gods that Ivar swears he has seen. The Bishop offers to bring Ivar to salvation and eternal life; Ivar laughs, asking him if he knows who he is. He taunts Ivar, saying he doesn't fear any man. Ivar says people tell lies about other people they have never met, tell lies and curse them, Bishop agrees, saying people tell lies about his Savior. Ivar suggests people tell lies about him as well and when Bishop asks how would he know, Ivar says he will give him the chance to find out, as he is coming on a journey with them.

Bjorn and Halfdan wake up to Ziyadat yelling at his men because Commander Euphemius was arrested last night but somehow escaped and it is their fault; all three men are beheaded and the guards are ordered to find Euphemius. Halfdan tells Bjorn they haven't exactly been the best bodyguards.

Floki and Ubbe talk Ivar and their falling out; admitting that one day it is likely they will go to war against each other. Floki looks at Ubbe and says he wouldn't lie to him about finding the land of the gods, but Ubbe says he is insane.

Back in the desert, two men are bickering about which part of the man's body they are going to cook for dinner. Everyone sits down for the feast as Ziyadat says these spicy and exotic dishes are in celebration of their trade agreement and are specially made for them by his special chefs

and they will be insulted if they don't eat their fill. He turns to Kassia and tells her he has done exactly as she wanted and they are both free of the monster and laughs as he shares they are eating Commander Euphemius. Ziyadat reveals that he knows about the double cross and Sinric says they need to return to the boats as they are in the greatest danger from Kassia.

Floki joins the group and tells them they are the chosen ones, marking them with the blood on their foreheads. He tells them to prepare the families for the voyage carefully and with utter secrecy. He says he has to disappear from Kattegat and will prepare the boats and will meet in 9 days time and don't give any indication they are leaving. Floki promises the gods will take care of them as they are doing this in their name. He disappears into the night.

Bishop Heahmund prays as Ivar asks if this is a part of his journey or an interruption of it as they take to the seas. Halfdan looks around as Sinric watches, Bjorn breaks off some wood for a weapon as they try to figure out what to do. Ziyadat and Kassia come out and he signals his men to take Bjorn, Sinric, and Halfdan, they are placed on their knees with swords put to their necks. Kassia approaches them as a sandstorm quickly approaches, but Kassia shouts for them to kill them.

The Message

Season 5
Episode Number: 55
Season Episode: 6

Originally aired:	Wednesday December 27, 2017
Writer:	Michael Hirst
Director:	Ciarán Donnelly
Show Stars:	Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Peter Franzen (Harald Fairhair), Jasper Pääkkönen (Halfdan the Black), Moe Dunford (Aethelwulf), Alex Høgh (Ivar), Marco Ilsø (Hvitserk), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe), Jonathan Rhys Meyers (Bishop Heahmund)
Recurring Role:	Josefin Asplund (Astrid), Ida Marie Nielsen (Margrethe), Ferdia Walsh-Peelo (Alfred the Great), Georgia Hirst (Torvi), Jennie Jacques (Judith), Frankie McCafferty (Sinric)
Guest Stars:	Khaled Abol Naga (Ziyadat Allah), Adam Copeland (Kjettil Flatnose), Kris Holden-Ried (Eyvind), Karima McAdams (Kassia), Darren Cahill (Aethelred), Ben Roe (Guthrum), Leah McNamara (Aud), Jack McEvoy (Helgi the Lean), Laurence O'Fuarain (Hakon), Mei Bignall (Thorunn), Kelly Campbell (Ingvild), James Craze (Bul), Elijah Rowen (Asbjorn), Donna Dent (Rafarta), Rob Malone (Thorgrim), Scott Graham (V Frodi), Tallulah Belle Earley (Jorunn)
Summary:	Lagertha is betrayed, and Bjorn must find a way to support the distraught queen; Floki and his settlers arrive in a new land, but it is far from what they expected.



The episode begins with Kassia ordering the men to behead Bjorn Ironside, Halfdan the Black, and Sinric; but as a sandstorm approaches, Kassia seeks shelter with Ziyadat-Allah inside the tents as the Vikings are surrounded. When the sandstorm takes over, the rush to the camels and escape.

King Harald Finehair and Astrid are enjoying each other's company when the horns sound announcing the arrival of Ivar and his fleet of ships. Ivar reveals that he and Ubbe had a falling out and he returned to Kattegat, but Hvitserk sided with him. King Harald informs them that

Astrid is his Queen now. Ivar says they are there to support him to take over Kattegat, but wants him to allow Ivar to remain king of Kattegat until he dies, as it only matters that he gains the kingdom back from the murderous bitch Lagertha.

Harald wants to meet Bishop Heahmund and he is brought in on his knees; Ivar says he is a great warrior and he will not kill him as he admires him, hoping he will fight for them rather than be crucified. Heahmund says he will do nothing, and begins to preach God's word to Harald and Astrid. Harald doesn't understand him, saying praying to his God won't do him any good.

King Aethelwulf doesn't want to run and hide anymore, his wife, Judith agrees with him. Alfred the Great goes into the chapel and prays, talking to his grandfather, King Ecbert's grave. He promises that he will fight and restore the kingdom to its former glory, to realize his dream of becoming king of all of England or perish trying.

King Harald watches as Ivar slices a fish in half, saying it is the Bishop's sword, feeling it is a magical sword, the metal is stronger than theirs, killing many men with it and never bending it. King Harald says the sword gives him a great advantage, like Odin's spear. Ivar says all he wants is revenge. He wants revenge for her killing his beautiful mother. Ivar asks him what it's like being married to Lagertha's lover, and hopes it is worth it.

Lagertha arrives, and discovers Floki's betrayal, as some of the villagers are loading boats preparing to go to the land he has told them about; the land of the gods. Lagertha says he deserves to be punished as she has done nothing to deserve this betrayal. She confronts Kjetill and Aud the Deep-Minded who says she has to accept her fate that it wasn't Floki calling her, but the gods and she will accept whatever is coming.

Lagertha says she will allow them to go and hopes that Floki has found what he has found because not only is he the boat builder but also the trickster! Floki touches her face and bids her farewell, as she rides off with Torvi. Margarethe tells Ubbe that this proves that Lagertha is losing power or she would have never let them go.

Ivar talks to the Bishop, offering him a choice of either fighting alongside him, or he will kill him. Heahmund says he is not afraid to die for his faith but Ivar reminds him he is simply asking him to kill more of those he calls heathens, admitting he is jealous of him and his strength. He wants to be a great warrior and wants Heahmund to fight alongside him because he is a great warrior.

Floki laughs as they approach the land; the others look at each other, saying not to worry as it can't be as bad as it looks.

Hvitserk talks to Ivar who has no idea if the Bishop will fight with them. Ivar admits that he really didn't make any arrangements with King Harald which makes Hvitserk wonder what Ivar has planned for him. Ivar says it is best for them to pretend there is a plan because it suits everyone for the moment. Hvitserk is growing weary of Ivar, as he says he wants to be the greatest man who ever lived; much greater than their father, Ragnar. He wants it to be that no one will forget Ivar the Boneless! The Bishop prays on his knees while he is chained in the dark room.

Hvitserk and Ivar celebrate as they talk to King Harald who says they are finishing the repairs of the ships and then they will take over Kattegat. It is a full moon that night, Ivar suggests they attack within two full moons time. Harald questions Astrid about attacking Kattegat as a Queen now and he stands and says if anyone breaks their agreement, they will deserve to die!

Judith finds Alfred packing, he has decided to go on a pilgrimage. He wants to go to help him understand things. He says he needs to follow in his father's footsteps and find out who he really was, and where he came from. Judith will not deny him the journey. Outside, King Aethelwulf watches as Prince Aethelred is sparring, he says he has the makings of a great warrior and a great king.

Astrid talks to Hakon, the captain of a fishing crew. She talks to him about fishing close to Kattegat, then takes him to a hut where she asks him to deliver a message to someone in Kattegat. He understands that it is dangerous and she agrees to make it worth his while, with enough jewels for him and his crew to never go whaling again. He promises to not betray her, but on top of the jewels, he wants to have sex with her because she is the Queen.

Floki brings the Vikings with him, who are getting angry with him, saying this is barren; but Floki tells them they need to walk for a few more days. Kjetil wants to know why they didn't settle on the coast. Floki tells them they will have to work so hard and will curse the land and the man who brought them there but in the end, they will thank him for bringing them to the land of the gods.

Astrid is sharpening her knife when Harald puts his hand around her neck as he walks past. She remembers Lagertha is in bed. She returns to the docks as a young boy watches her go into a hut, she gives Hakon the treasure. She tells him to tell Lagertha that the attack will come in two moons time, he swears on the gods to deliver the message. As she tries to leave he pulls her back in saying the sex is part of their agreement but she shows no interest in it. The boy is watching and Astrid sees him, when Hakon is finishing, his crew comes in and all want to have sex with her. She refuses and one by one they attack her, when she fights back Hakon orders her to stop or he will tell King Harald how she is betraying him.

Lagertha receives the message that Astrid sent to her; Ubbe and her learn that Ivar has joined forces with King Harald. When Hakon is escorted out, Lagertha says they need to decide whether to wait there for attack or choose another place to do battle. She tells Ubbe that he will lead their

army; he is upset that this will rip their father's legacy apart but Lagertha reminds him the Seer told them it will tear their world apart. Torvi says they must all prepare for it, as everyone leaves Lagertha orders Margrethe to stay back. She tells her if she continues to give counsel against her, to question her judgment, authority and competence; she needs to cease to do it as the stakes are too high and if she hears it one more time, she will cut out her tongue and enslave her once more. Margrethe says Ubbe might have something to say about that and Lagertha reminds her that Ubbe doesn't rule Kattegat and as long as she rules there, she will do as she says!

Bjorn and Halfdan race towards the open seas. Meanwhile, Bishop Heahmund is pushed and taunted by the Vikings. Ivar orders them to be quiet, telling him to decide whether he will fight with them or he kills him. Heahmund, all beaten and bruised asks Ivar for the knife, and Ivar gives it to him. The Bishop turns towards the crowd who shout for him to die; he stabs one of the men through the throat instead as Ivar laughs and claps, saying he will fight with us!

Full Moon

Season 5

Episode Number: 56

Season Episode: 7

Originally aired:	Wednesday January 3, 2018
Writer:	Michael Hirst
Director:	Jeff Woolnough
Show Stars:	Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Peter Franzen (Harald Fairhair), Jasper Pääkkönen (Halfdan the Black), Alex Høgh (Ivar), Marco Ilsø (Hvitserk), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe), Jonathan Rhys Meyers (Bishop Heahmund)
Recurring Role:	Josefin Asplund (Astrid), Ida Marie Nielsen (Margrethe), Ferdia Walsh-Peelo (Alfred the Great), Georgia Hirst (Torvi)
Guest Stars:	Adam Copeland (Kjettil Flatnose), Kris Holden-Ried (Eyvind), Bosco Hogan (Lord Abbot), Ryan Henson (Hali), Svea Killoran (Asa), Ben Roe (Guthrum), Leah McNamara (Aud), Jack McEvoy (Helgi the Lean), Mei Bignall (Thorunn), Kelly Campbell (Ingvild), James Craze (Bul), Elijah Rowen (Asbjorn), Donna Dent (Woman), Rob Malone (Thorgrim), Scott Graham (V) (Frodi), Lulubelle Earley (Jorunn), Anthony Brophy (King Svase), Dagny Backer Johnsen (Snaefrid)
Summary:	Bjorn returns to Kattegat to learn that an attack is to take place during the next full moon. Meanwhile, Ivar must decide if he can place his trust in a former enemy on the battlefield.



Ivar the Boneless looks at the sky saying, when the moon waxes full again, they will seize their fame and fortune again and fight such a battle that the world will tremble, and the winner shall inherit the Earth. He leaves the room and Bishop Heahmund in his chains.

Bjorn Ironside Lothbrok and Halfdan the Black approach Kattegat, as the horns sound. They wonder if this is even home any more, as Halfdan says it appears the gods are not interested in fairness. Bjorn is greeted by Torvi and his children, as some of the villagers are happy to see him, but some do not look

pleased.

Floki leads the Vikings that followed him to the land of the gods. Aud the Deep Minded silences those doubting him, saying what he speaks about, exists as she saw it in a dream. Floki won't speak to them because he says they wouldn't understand.

Bjorn enters the great hall where he is greeted by his mother, Queen Lagertha; she quickly informs him that King Harald and Ivar plan to attack them during the next full moon. She presents Bjorn to King Svase, who will be joining them in the fight against King Harald, he gently kisses him on either cheek and says it is a great honor. He presents him his daughter, Princess Snaefrid and Torvi isn't pleased with their exchange.

Halfdan and talks to Lagertha about their trip to the desert as Bjorn talks to Ubbe about preserving their father, Ragnar's legacy as much as they can as they fight against their brothers, Hvitserk and Ivar; Lagertha is concerned about Halfdan's alliances. She tells him about Harald's

lies and wants to know if he is lying but Bjorn defends him, saying he believes he will fight against Harald. Bjorn gives Guthrum the knife from Commander Euphemius, saying he is dead but perhaps he will see the other world one day himself.

Floki shows the Vikings their new settlement. Eyvind is furious that there is no houses there, and just as he threatens to cut off Floki's head/* a spout of water shoots out of the ground, everyone is mumbling. Aud tells them to stop their stupid talk, this is water the gods have provided for them to wash their clothes, and even bake bread. She leads them towards Floki as Eyvind continues to have his doubts.

At the great hall, Bjorn watches Princess Snaefrid; Torvi tells him she isn't jealous as she knows their love is over but just wants him to promise to always take care of the children and he does. He gives her a piece of jewelry but when she tells him to give it to another, he wants her to have it, she kisses him but flees after calling him "sweet Bjorn." Lagertha approaches him and he says he wants the Princess, Lagertha is concerned about Torvi but he says it is finished between him and her, she cautions him that he knows nothing about the Princess. Lagertha sits with the King and tells him that Bjorn wants to sleep with his daughter.

Outside, Ubbe finds Torvi crying and offers her comfort. She doesn't blame Bjorn, she gets up and tells Ubbe to give Ubbe the piece of jewel to Margrethe but he refuses and kisses her instead; Margrethe watches them from the distance.

Afterwards, Margrethe confronts Ubbe in the bedroom, reminding him that Lagertha is weak. She climbs on top of Ubbe, telling him not to fight Ivar, let him come and overthrow her. He is the oldest son of Ragnar, and he will be the King of Kattegat and she will have gone from slave to Queen.

Meanwhile, Lagertha talks to Bjorn about how much she misses Ragnar, how they came from farmer to ruler, she wants to go back to being a farmer, watching the sunrise and watching the sunset in the evening. Bjorn says she deserves it and is proud of all she has achieved. She informs him that King Harald stole Astrid and now her life is full of ghosts. He reminds her that she doesn't look back, she always faces what is to come. He makes her laugh, saying she will be like Ragnar and Ivar will be like the wolf with fire dancing in his eyes and surely she would not want to miss that, she agrees.

Ivar and the Bishop play chess, while they talk about the war against his brothers Ubbe and Bjorn. Ivar laughs as he asks about his brothers frightening him. He admits that Bjorn might scare him a little bit because he is a great warrior as they call him Bjorn Ironside. He tells him that Lagertha knows she is going to die but she doesn't know how bad it will be. Bishop Heahmund is surprised that Ivar is willing to trust him with creating a strategy; he agrees saying he chooses to fight for them believing that God has a plan for him. Hvitserk disagrees with Ivar saying he doesn't know about being on Ivar's side was fate or free will.

Astrid vomits into the water at the harbor as Harald comes to find her. He reveals that he saw her being sick, she admits she doesn't think she is ill but believes she could be with child. She is beginning to cry but he is thrilled and holds her, saying she has just made him the happiest man.

Floki asks the Allfather why he isn't showing himself to the people like he has shown himself to Floki. He says they believe and just need a sign. One couple celebrates that they are having the first child of the New World. Harald comes to see Ivar, announcing he is going to be a father.

In Kattegat, Bjorn goes to King Svase, saying he wants to marry his daughter. He says Princess Snaefrid is worth far more than he could ever give; the King says it is agreed if she wants to, the princess leaves and Bjorn follow her to another tent. She pulls down a rope with two balls on it and ties up Bjorn's hands to the wall and sits on him, she slaps him and then tells him they have a strange custom in the North. She begins to paint him, explaining how they tie up a deer and cut off their balls, but the women eat them. She leans down telling Bjorn that she told her father she would marry him the second she laid eyes on him, saying maybe she won't chew his balls but he will still have to work hard.

Floki giggles, saying it delights his eyes to see them all working hard together, where they can create a new earth where everyone is equal. He promises this is a new place and a new land and they must promise to be a better people, a different people than they were. Eyvind wants to know who will rule, Floki says no one, they will rule themselves; but Eyvind doesn't believe him feeling Floki is the one who wants to be King. The horns sound as the fleet of ships begins to arrive for Harald and Ivar.

Alfred the Great pauses at the sea before he enters the Monastery. Inside he sees the murals of the Vikings attacking. The Abbott leads him to the Scriptorium, saying if Aethelstan worked there at the time, his writing would have been there or his icons. The Abbott tells him about a monk that was taken by the Northmen and later returned to the shores, saying he abandoned God and embraced the Pagan way of life. Alfred won't reveal how he is connected Aethelstan, but shows him Aethelstan's cross, and that he got it from Ragnar.

Before Alfred leaves, he suggests to the Abbott that he shares everything in English since he is not a superior being, he should share the knowledge with the people who want to love and know God better.

Bishop Heahmund looks at the moon and recites Bible verses, talking about the Virgin Mary; Ivar scoffs, saying that there is no way a virgin could be a mother. Ivar insists that the serpent in the sea is true, but the Bishop laughs at Ivar's explanation too. Ivar implies that Heahmund can't be trusted but he defends himself, saying if Ivar kills him now, he will deny himself the chance to prove himself right. Ivar wants to simply believe there is someone in this world who doesn't lie, cheat nor ever compromises and is always noble. Heahmund looks at him square in the eyes and tells him he is the one and Ivar can believe in him!

Lagertha and Bjorn stand at their shores, happy to see their numbers are growing too. They gather inside to plan their strategy. Bjorn suggests they weaken the coming army by attacking the ships so Ivar is forced to keep some of his armies back with the ships; they also plan to fight elsewhere as Ivar likes to scope out the land before the attacks. Ubbe says this is great but, Ivar might have anticipated all of this but he might attack Kattegat by sea after all and in that case, none of them will be there and will simply take it over. Lagertha chooses to go with Bjorn's idea over Ubbe's.

Alfred talks to Aethelstan's cross, saying he can't promise to follow him his humble footsteps. He wants to say the Lord's Prayer with his father; halfway through the prayer, Alfred can hear his dad, Aethelstan saying the words with him. The Viking armies prepare for war!

Bjorn and Lagertha look at the full moon and say it is the time the end of their world is here!

The Joke

Season 5

Episode Number: 57

Season Episode: 8

Originally aired: Wednesday January 10, 2018
Writer: Michael Hirst
Director: Jeff Woolnough
Show Stars: Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Peter Franzen (Harald Fairhair), Jasper Pääkkönen (Halfdan the Black), Alex Høgh (Ivar), Marco Ilsø (Hvitserk), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe), Jonathan Rhys Meyers (Bishop Heahmund)
Guest Stars: Moe Dunford (Aethelwulf), Josefin Asplund (Astrid), Adam Copeland (Kjetill Flatnose), Kris Holden-Ried (Eyvind), Ida Nielsen (Margrethe), Ferdia Walsh-Peelo (Alfred the Great), Georgia Hirst (Torvi), Jennie Jacques (Judith), Ben Roe (Guthrum), Ryan Henson (Hali), Svea Killo-ran (Asa), Anthony Brophy (King Svase), Dagny Backer Johnsen (Snaefrid), Leah McNamara (Aud), Jack McEvoy (Helgi the Lean), Mei Bignall (Thorunn), Kelly Campbell (Ingvild), James Craze (Bul), Elijah Rowen (Asbjorn), Donna Dent (Rafarta), Rob Malone (Thorgrim), Scott Graham (Frodi), Lulubelle Earley (Jorunn), Darren Cahill (Aethelred)
Summary: The battle for Kattegat begins, and as the two armies line up to fight, the Great Heathen Army must decide between a final plea for peace or all-out war. Meanwhile, Floki faces discord among the settlers.



Hvitserk lifts his brother Ivar the Boneless onto the boat as he excitedly announces he can fulfill his promise to the gods that he will kill Lagertha; Hvitserk admits he is ready to avenge their mother, not because she was a good mother to him but because Lagertha deserves it. Ivar wonders if he is ready to kill Ubbe, but he assures him he will.

King Harald Finehair asks Astrid what she is doing, as she is loading one of the boats. She says even if she is carrying his child, she is still coming with him. He figures he should have known better, and agrees that she can sail with them. Ivar

calls over Bishop Heahmund, referring to him as "Your Grace," which the Bishop finds offensive. Ivar gives him back his own sword, saying it only works its magic for him, so he may have it.

In Kattegat, Lagertha walks with Bjorn Ironside, Halfdan the Black, and Ubbe towards the ships. Bjorn approaches Guthrum and tells him it is a proud day when a father takes his son to battle. He leaves without saying anything to Torvi or his other children, but does kiss Snaefrid goodbye.

Torvi hands her children to Margrethe promising them she will come back for them soon; Ubbe kisses Margrethe's forehead and walks with Torvi towards the ships. With Lagertha in the lead, and Bjorn right behind, the warriors and shield maidens of Kattegat leave, prepared to do battle.

Floki watches as the Vikings who went with him toil on the land he brought them to. They sit as he talks about the food they eat, water to drink and they all have reason to be satisfied with

what they have achieved so far. He says they need to build a temple since the gods have been so good to them and suggest Thor, god of the farmers, should be the main god of the temple and on the altar, they should make a fire that should never go out.

Aud says they must do it to give credit where credit is due and Kjetill Flatnose says they can build it on his land, and he will care for it. Eyvind objects but Aud says her father is doing nothing more than offering his services to their community, but Eyvind says Flatnose is only trying to lick Floki's ass. He warns that when they have finished eating all of their animals before the harsh winter, what will they do? Why should they build a temple before their own houses?

Asbjorn feels they have come there to die and is negative like his father but Flatnose says they came there to build something wonderful, and to live. They are there to praise the gods and Floki is right about that. Eyvind says the child that is to be born is his grandchild and he sees no future for it; and none of them can sail back. By following him here, they have abandoned their home and their queen and can never go back. Aud says they must make the best of it, tolerate and love each other. Put the settlement first.

On the field, Lagertha stands looking at Astrid, while King Harald looks at his brother, Halfdan; Ubbe looks sadly at his brother Hvitserk and the Bishop as Bjorn looks murderously at Ivar. Lagertha says "this is not right that the sons of Ragnar would try to slaughter each other, suggesting they send emissaries; Bjorn and Halfdan meet with Hvitserk and King Harald. In good faith they exchange brothers, saying they will fight if they have to.

Lagertha, Ubbe, and Bjorn question Hvitserk about the Bishop Saxon being in their camp. Lagertha tells him they want to avoid slaughter and asks for his help. King Harald wants to know why Halfdan would fight for Lagertha and Bjorn and Ivar says he gives too much importance to Bjorn saving his life. King Harald says he doesn't want to kill his brother. Ivar says he only cares about winning this war and tells him he has to choose between a friend and a brother and the answer should be obvious. Bishop Heahmund begins to pray to God about the war upon them.

Ubbe warns Hvitserk not to sacrifice his life for Ivar's. He doesn't want to meet him face to face in battle and kill him; he pleads with him to stay. King Harald begs Halfdan to do the same thing,

The following morning, there is a meeting between Bjorn, Lagertha, Ubbe and Hvitserk, King Harald and Ivar. Bjorn and Ubbe want a peaceful resolution. Lagertha says she is the rightful Queen of Kattegat and they should be discussing how to combine their great armies and how to direct them to new lands, conquests, and new opportunities. She feels its a pity to kill their young men for a piece of land that is already theirs.

Lagertha is happy to see Astrid and doesn't want to fight with her. Astrid informs her she is married now and is King Harald's wife. Lagertha calls her Queen Astrid now. Halfdan doesn't want to fight but King Harald says they can gain the world. Bjorn says it is up to Ivar, and if they unite as brothers, they can make an accord and King Harald could never stop them. Ubbe pleads for Ivar not to do this because of their father Ragnar. Ivar stands up in front of Lagertha, says brings hoards of meat, saying they will celebrate as there will be no battles today nor tomorrow, as he will not fight against his brothers as he still hates himself for killing Sigurd. He doesn't want to kill Lagertha, saying she can have it. He walks to Ubbe, saying they will be all right, as they are all songs of Ragnar and asks him for forgiveness.

While they share a celebratory drink, Ivar throws his drink in Ubbe's face and says he can never break a promise. He shoves Ubbe asking how he can forgive her for killing their mother and promises he will kill Lagertha. She pours out her drink and tells Ivar he can try! Ivar tells Ubbe he is no longer his brother, he was once his legs but he isn't anymore. King Harald starts to laugh as Ubbe says this was a waste of time.

Ivar says she can surrender Kattegat now. He tells them not to put their men to the test, they can just leave this place, but everyone draws their swords. Lagertha holds Ubbe back and says "not now!" Both armies retreat, knowing the great battle is coming, but not before King Harald notices how Astrid and Lagertha look at each other. King Harald asks Halfdan if he is sure and he tells him that Bjorn saved his life. Harald punches him and promises to kill him.

King Aethelwulf is sparring while Judith talks to Alfred the Great about his journey. He said he wasn't impressed and said they should teach more in English, than in Latin. He says the Abbott was too set in his ways to listen. Alfred talks about how they can prepare for another Viking attack and they should build a Navy; Judith suggests he talks to his father about that, feeling it is a good idea, but Alfred feels he won't listen because he is too busy teaching his

brother, Aethelred to be king.

Flatnose talks to Aud, saying it appears that Eyvind and his family truly don't want to be involved in this community. She feels back for Floki because it was his hope that brought people to this island.

Ivar and Bishop Heahmund agree that today is the day the Lord has given them to take the blood of many Pagans. The two great armies are setting up when King Harald asks Ivar what he is thinking. He thinks that Bjorn could possibly be keeping part of his army reserve, and suggests holding back a third of their army to protect their boats. King Harald forces Astrid on Ivar's chariot as she protests that she wants to fight. King Harald and Bishop Heahmund proceed forward together, Heahmund, kneels and prays as Bjorn shouts that this is in the name of Odin and the name of his father — the battle begins.

Ivar stops as he hears the army cries, he needs to know if he is right or wrong as Hvitserk and his men are ambushed in the woods, just as Ivar suspected. His group fire off arrows but the people just disappear into the bushes. Hvitserk orders his group to get back but they are taken by a mysterious group with reeds and darts, and nooses in the trees.

King Harald suddenly sees Lagertha and her group of warriors coming from the rear and he tells his men to face the rear as Bjorn rushes from the front. Astrid wants to go but Ivar tells her they should wait, as good things happen to those who wait. The horn sounds and Astrid tell Ivar they need them but suddenly the horn stops.

Astrid says they need them to Ivar but he shouts at her that it is too late. The battle is gruesome as it appears most have gone down. Suddenly the Bishop is struck down and King Harald is shouting for everyone to retreat. Ubbe, Bjorn, Lagertha, and Torvi watch as King Harald and his few remaining warriors rush off. Harald informs Ivar that they lost and that his Christian Heahmund is dead. Hvitserk joins him on his chariot and he rides off angrily towards the ships.

Lagertha finds Heahmund's sword and learns he is the Saxon priest. She turns him over and learns he is alive. Ubbe is about to kill him and Lagertha orders him to save him; she doesn't know why but thinks maybe the gods know why. They carry him off the battlefield to see if they can save his life.

A Simple Story

Season 5

Episode Number: 58

Season Episode: 9

Originally aired:	Wednesday January 17, 2018
Writer:	Michael Hirst
Director:	Daniel Grou
Show Stars:	Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Peter Franzen (Harald Fairhair), Jasper Pääkkönen (Halfdan the Black), Moe Dunford (Aethelwulf), Alex Høgh (Ivar), Marco Ilsø (Hvitserk), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe), Jonathan Rhys Meyers (Bishop Heahmund)
Recurring Role:	Josefin Asplund (Astrid), Adam Copeland (Kjettil Flatnose), Kris Holden-Ried (Eyvind), Ida Marie Nielsen (Margrethe), Ferdia Walsh-Peelo (Alfred the Great), Georgia Hirst (Torvi), Jennie Jacques (Judith)
Guest Stars:	Leah McNamara (Aud), Jack McEvoy (Helgi the Lean), Mei Bignall (Thorunn), Kelly Campbell (Ingvild), James Craze (Bul), Elijah Rowen (Asbjorn), Donna Dent (Woman), Rob Malone (Thorgrim), Scott Graham (V) (Frodi), Lulubelle Earley (Jorunn), Orlaith Doherty (Rider), Ben Roe (Guthrum), Dagny Backer Johnsen (Snaefrid), Anthony Brophy (King Svase), Ryan Henson (Hali), Svea Killoran (Asa), Darren Cahill (Aethelred), Jonathan Delaney Tynan (Lord Cuthred), David Shannon (Ealdorman 1), Christopher McHallem (Ealdorman 2), Malcolm Douglas (Ealdorman 3), Eamonn Draper (Bishop)
Summary:	The army leaders consider their options in the aftermath of the battle. Meanwhile, in Floki's camp, all hopes of binding the community together are dashed as tragedy unfolds.



Hundreds of Vikings are dead and wounded, after the great battle for Kattegat. Queen Lagertha walks among the people, as they are being tended to. Torvi informs her that Bishop Heahmund wounds will heal and leaves them alone so they can talk. He thanks Lagertha who acknowledges that he is a Christian priest. She asks what it is about life that he loves so much; he says the joy and pain.

She asks if he loves human beings, but he talks about God's love. She wants to know if he feels the same about men and women. He says he isn't God, but he

loves women, and not just spiritually. She says their gods encourage the love between man and woman too, which marvels him, as he envies the lack of guilt. He confesses to spending many years of living in sin. He wants to know why she didn't kill him, but she doesn't know.

King Harald Finehair tells Ivar the Boneless they had the advantage, but they still lost. Ivar reminds him that he approved the plan, but Harald says next time he won't be so quick to endorse his plans. Hvitserk tells Ivar that their Uncle Rollo told him that if they ever needed his support, all they had to do was ask. When Harald questions Ivar on whether he wants the French to help them, he tells Harald that he is to leave at first light tomorrow.

Floki talks with Kjetill Flatnose who wonders why Eyvind truly stays. He is sure that Eyvind wants to be the king of the new land and is working on turning everyone against Floki. Floki, says he is trying to provoke a reaction and wants them to fall into violence and chaos, so he can rise to power and the mustn't give him that satisfaction.

King Harald asks Astrid if she is thinking about their child when he sees her deep in thought. She tells him, if they go to war again he cannot tell her not to fight and he is to let her do what she needs to do. She wants their child to hear the cries of battle and wants him to be a warrior. She tells him she isn't happy because so many people have died and they just lost a battle, how can he expect her to be happy?

At the new land, an argument begins when Eyvind's sons refuse to help build the temple and admit they won't be paying taxes either. When name calling starts, Flatnose steps in and tells them to step back, but the name calling continues and a physical fight ensues; both Eyvind and Flatnose grab their axes but Aud the Deep-Minded orders them to put their weapons down, as Floki watches from the tower.

The leaders meet, as Bjorn Ironside and Queen Lagertha learn that many ships filled with Franco soldiers have arrived. Ubbe is surprised that Rollo would send soldiers to fight with Ivar and Hvitserk; Bjorn suggests going over to see if Rollo is there and to speak to him, Lagertha wants to go with him but Bjorn wants to go alone and try to negotiate something. Lagertha worries that they are in a position of strength now.

Hvitserk tells Ivar that Rollo was too busy with other things to come, but will celebrate when they are done; he did have one request though. He wants them to spare Bjorn's life; Ivar smiles and says perhaps they will.

The Vikings in the new land begin their sacrifice and dedicate the temple to the gods as they drink the blood of the lambs and animals. Eyvind's sons interrupt the ritual and pour the blood all over one of the other young men; Floki violent grabs him and is about to kill him but Aud stops him. He drops the ax and runs off as Flatnose and Eyvind look on.

The Bishop makes his way through the Vikings' camp, as they repeatedly knock him to the ground. He rises up with his staff in front of Lagertha, who asks what he is doing. He wanted to talk to her about everything. He feels she may have some of the answers believing that fate brought them together. She tells him not to flatter himself. He says they are equals, he is interested and fascinated with her and thinks they have more in common than she knows.

He tells her they are going to fight again, and soon. She says he doesn't have to fight for her, but he says of course he does. He says he will fight for her and die for her. He claims to have known her his whole life; she asks him if he really wants to sin again and blows out the last candle.

Ubbe sits with Torvi, who says he shouldn't have married Margrethe as she was too young. Torvi worries because she left her children in her care, but Ubbe says she won't hurt them. Ubbe says they are going to battle soon and either one of them could die and he doesn't want to die without saying that he wishes it was her that carried his child. Torvi walks over to him, sits on his lap and kisses him.

Margrethe looks at the deck and sees Torvi and Ubbe kissing, but suddenly is called back by Torvi's children. She calls them stupid, saying that their mother is dead or has died in battle and advises them to forget about her and to never imagine she is coming back, except as a ghost.

Bjorn meets with Ivar and Hvitserk, who tell him Rollo sends his love, and Rollo sent his forces to them because he sees justice in their cause. Ivar says that Lagertha murdered their mother and doesn't deserve the kingdom. Ivar feels he must avenge his mother's murder and Bjorn would do the same if it was him. Bjorn pleads with him, saying for the sake of their father and everything he believed in, he asks him not to put their people's lives at risk.

Ivar feels the only reason he is saying this is because he sees all the "might" gathering against him, and if he thought he could win, he wouldn't be there. Bjorn insists he isn't afraid and this changes nothing. Several men approach to kill Bjorn and King Harald stands and orders them to stop as this is not their way; Ivar says it was worth a try but then waves them to sit back down. Bjorn is sorry Rollo had to get involved with this quarrel, sure that he had worlds of his own to conquer.

In Wessex, King Aethelwulf meets with the lords, telling them the great Heathen army was just a precursor of more attacks; they have raiding fleets attacking Scotland and Ireland and now them. He says they are now a threat to every English Kingdom, and since their land and

faith is in the greatest peril he has summoned them; they are going to figure out the best way to deal with this threat.

After the meeting, Aethelwulf takes off his crown and begins reading some of the books and gets stung by a bee. He is taken to his bed, where Aethelred is already at his side. Judith returns with Alfred the Great. King Aethelwulf's face is severely swollen as he talks about their sins being washed away by the blood of Christ; he tells them to love on another and do what is best for Wessex. He reaches for Alfred, and tells them both to care for their mother and listen to her as she is wiser than both of them. He calls for "sweet Judith" and tells her not to wait for him as the angels are already there; he asks if they can see them, and he dies as his sons cry on his chest.

Halfdan the Black learns from Bjorn that they won't make a deal. He reminds them in the end, they are all fighting for Ragnar's legacy — a young farmer from Norway, risked his life to explore the world so their people could farm, that was his life's purpose and ambition and Bjorn wants them to achieve that. If Ivar wins than Ragnar's dreams are lost; Ubbe says they should prepare but Lagertha says they cannot leave Kattegat exposed. Bjorn explains how many Francs he saw as Halfdan says the gods already decided the outcome of the battle.

Judith tells Alfred and Aethelred that tomorrow the lords will select a new king, she is sure that Aethelred will be the one who is chosen as they have seen that King Aethelwulf was the one he has been training. Judith orders him to refuse the crown, saying these times need a different time of king. Judith says Alfred was sent to Rome to be blessed by the Pope because King Ecbert saw in Alfred the gifts and abilities that Aethelred didn't have. He equipped him to be the future king. After the uncomfortable discussion, Judith works her way bribing some other Lords to choose Alfred over Aethelred.

The following day, the Lords gather as Prince Aethelred announces his father has died. Judith and Prince Alfred join him as the Lords must choose who the new King is. Aethelred is chosen, but he silences the group and thanks them for the nomination, saying it would be a great honor, even in these times of great danger, unfortunately, he declines the honor saying he isn't fit to be their king and tells them to choose someone else. Not a single person agrees to Prince Alfred becoming King but Aethelred silences them and nominates his brother himself, and everyone agrees after that.

Bishop Heahmund walks among the Vikings who no longer push him. The coronation of King Alfred takes place while in the new lands, there is a massive fire burning down the new temple. Heahmund walks to Lagertha and kneels down and offers her his loyalty and sword, as Floki's heart is broken when the temple collapses. Alfred accepts the crown on his head, Judith pleased with the developments. Flatnose's son accuses Eyvind's son of setting the temple on fire, he stabs him in the back of the neck, killing him; Floki begins to sob. Everyone in Wessex chants "long live the King!" except for Aethelred, who stares angrily at his brother who takes his place on the throne.

Moments of Vision

Season 5

Episode Number: 59

Season Episode: 10

Originally aired: Wednesday January 24, 2018
Writer: Michael Hirst
Director: Daniel Grou
Show Stars: Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Peter Franzen (Harald Fairhair), Jasper Pääkkönen (Halfdan the Black), Moe Dunford (Aethelwulf), Alex Høgh (Ivar), Marco Ilsø (Hvitserk), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe), Jonathan Rhys Meyers (Bishop Heahmund)
Guest Stars: John Kavanagh (Seer), Clive Standen (Rollo), Josefin Asplund (Astrid), Adam Copeland (Kjetill Flatnose), Kris Holden-Ried (Eyvind), Ida Nielsen (Margrethe), Georgia Hirst (Torvi), Dagny Backer Johnsen (Snaefrid), Kieran O'Reilly (White Hair), Anthony Brophy (King Svase), Ryan Henson (Hali), Svea Killoran (Asa), Ben Roe (Guthrum), Mabel Hurley (Young Lagertha), Ross Matthew Anderson (Lagertha's Father), James Craze (Bul), Leah McNamara (Aud), Jack McEvoy (Helgi the Lean), Mei Bignall (Thorunn), Kelly Campbell (Ingvild), Rob Malone (Thorgrim), Scott Graham (Frodi), Donna Dent (Rafarta), Elijah Rowen (Asbjorn), Lulubelle Earley (Jorunn)
Summary: A sense of doom looms over Kattegat as bloodshed ensues, but as the defeated army flees in the face of the victors, a legendary warrior makes his way home.



The episode begins with several of the different warriors singing to their gods, as the fog rolls in and they prepare for the biggest battle of their lives. Bishop Heahmund kneels and prays to his God as well. The drums sound as Queen Lagertha leads her army with Bjorn Ironside and Ubbe by her side; she has black paint over her eyes as they stand at the top of the hills overlooking the French soldiers lined with Ivar the Boneless. She raises her sword from its sheath and drops it.

Lagertha is sitting in the forest and kisses a necklace she is holding when

Bishop Heahmund approaches her. She says if they live, they might find some happiness but if they die, she doubts she will ever see him again; as he will be in his heaven which is not part of this world. He has no intention of dying, She finds it hard to believe that he still thinks it is up to him whether he lives or dies but thinks she might die today. She asks him to kiss her one last time, he does and she says "now I can die!"

We return to the battlefield, where Hvitserk is screaming as he kills people. He flashes back to when Ivar is asking him what he fears most. Ivar feels he regrets jumping out of Ubbe's ship that day to stay with him, but Hvitserk says his only regret is not having any children, jokingly he says him and Ivar are in the same boat in that sense. Ivar says that is nonsense, as he will have children and his children will populate the earth; when Hvitserk laughs, Ivar grabs his hair;

but quickly apologizes saying he is anxious about the battle and tells him he is sorry Hvitserk jumped ship as he regretted it ever since. Hvitserk finally admits that he regrets it sometimes and Ivar feels he never loved him; their disagreement is interrupted when King Harald Finehair calls them, saying the war drum is sounding.

Hvitserk is laying on the battlefield wounded and keeps looking back to the moment when Ivar has the knife to his throat and how Ivar feels he regrets being at his side. He jumps back up and ready to fight when the next warrior he faces is his brother Ubbe. Ubbe swings his sword but stops it at Hvitserk's neck, he shouts and is about to do it again but cannot bring himself to killing his own brother. He turns around and kills another Vikings warrior as Hvitserk looks on.

Bjorn thinks of Snaefrid, who he just married and left with her father. She is tiny but quick as she is able to hide among the trees and able to kill many of the enemies but she is devastated when she finds her father killed, and is quickly murdered herself. Bjorn sits with Halfdan the Black, saying he heard him singing with his brother, and this must be hard for him. Halfdan admits he owes his brother much but owes Bjorn far more, and if he has to die today, he is ready for Valhalla.

Back in the fight for their lives, Halfdan hears as it is Viking versus Vikings; suddenly it is complete silence and he is back in the sandy desert. He grabs fists full of sand but comes back to reality and begins to fight again. He flashes between being in the desert alone and sitting in a green field alone. He kills a shield maiden and then faces his own brother, King Harald who shouts at him that he didn't want to kill him. Harald swings his sword and hits him right in the neck; Halfdan kisses his ax as he says, "This is life and this is death brother." Harald tells him he will see him in Valhalla and holds him to the ground. King Harald returns to the war.

Margrethe goes into the water and retrieves a block of wood. She lays it before Torvi and Bjorn's children and tells them, "This one is dead. Soon they all will be dead!" and walks away from them.

The Bishop fights alongside Lagertha. King Harald asks Astrid to cut his hair. She hesitates, but he says that now that the woman of his dreams has married him, she should cut it. She isn't happy, even after she has cut it so he pleads with her to tell him what saddens her; with her face half painted blue, she tells him she cannot.

Lagertha watches as the battle is vicious. Torvi turns just as Hvitserk kills Guthrum, she can't believe he would kill her and Bjorn's "son". Lagertha flashes back to when she was a child, and her father was reassuring her that the gods would take care of them, and he gave her the necklace with the hammer on it for Odin to always take care of her.

Astrid sits among the warriors by the fire and Lagertha is suddenly alone in the green pasture. Astrid walks up with her shield and sword. Astrid drops them, telling Lagertha to kill her, or else they will kill her; Lagertha reveals that she knows she didn't betray her. Astrid says she has to die because she cannot have this child. Lagertha is shocked that she is pregnant and looks back at the battle and all the dying Vikings, she sticks her sword through Astrid's belly and holds her as she dies. Lagertha kisses her, saying may Freya lift you up and take her gently to her home.

In the new world, Eyvind is laying his son in the boat for the ceremony, after he was murdered for the fire of the temple. Floki approaches him, saying he knows his sadness, as he lost his only child and then his wife. He promises him that he doesn't fool him and his sole desire is to give them the chance of a whole new world; he begs him to listen and not avenge the death of his son because if he does, then he will set in motion a cycle of revenge that will never end; just like the war that is happening now in Kattegat, the hopes and dreams of a new and different world will be gone forever. He tells him he can have all the power and authority he wants on the condition that they will not have that same cycle of violence here in the new world.

Ivar and his army scream as he throws his crutch and he asks if they are afraid of death. He is sure they don't intend to die as old men and victory is so much better when it is a hard battle to win. He reminds them that Valhalla awaits them and sends the Viking warriors ahead. Ivar does not want to forget the real reason they are going into battle this day — Lagertha! Bishop Heahmund sees Ivar's face and nods to him, but Ivar can only see Lagertha and skeletons fighting all around her, she looks at him and points her sword at him. Bjorn looks towards him and everyone on the field shoots their arrows towards Ivar and his men, Ivar just shouts as they fly in the air at him.

Margrethe visits the Seer, who says he has also seen that the sons of Ragnar are dying. He says even the gods are weeping. He calls her "Slave Girl" and Ubbe will never rule Kattegat and

she will never be Queen. She insists he doesn't know everything and she has both of Bjorn's children in his care and if she kills them, then Ubbe will be closer to the crown. He says that is true, but he says Ubbe won't be the ruler of Kattegat but doesn't want to be dug up by mad people anymore. He implies that mad people might inherit the earth.

Bjorn fights hard in the field as he remembers kissing his wife as he bends down and hugs Guthrum, saying he will get to live in Valhalla, with his brave and great father. He takes the ax out of his chest, yelling for them to use their arrows to kill the others. Ivar shouts as the arrows fly towards him; Bjorn looks shocked as Ivar smiles and laughs as he calls for his French and Viking warriors to attack. Lagertha and Harald run back hopelessly towards their own people.

Ivar watches as the day comes to an end. He talks to himself, calling Lagertha a coward, begging her to come and fight him.

Aud the Deep-Minded finds Floki and brings him to the hot springs, and shows him a body inside. Floki goes to see Ketill Flatnose and his family, revealing to him and his family that his son is dead. Eyvind watches from his home.

The dead bodies are everywhere in the forest too. Bjorn finds his dead wife. In the New World, Floki says he knows too well what is going to happen next. He tells them this is not how he imagined everything, and there is no doubt he is a fool. He says they have failed the gods by behaving like humans. They gave them every opportunity to be better and have failed, the only way they can fix things is to offer a sacrifice, something special and suggests that he offers himself as the sacrifice; everyone is shocked as he walks away.

Bjorn is shattered as he returns to Kattegat. Torvi calls for Margrethe, asking for her children; she takes her sword out of her sheath but walks into the room and finds them quietly in the room. Bjorn tells Ubbe to gather his things as they don't have long. He finds Lagertha sitting in the corner quietly.

A French ship is coming to the harbor and Rollo is in it.

The Revelation

Season 5

Episode Number: 60

Season Episode: 11

Originally aired: Wednesday November 28, 2018
Writer: Michael Hirst
Director: Ciarán Donnelly
Show Stars: Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Peter Franzen (Harald Fairhair), Jasper Pääkkönen (Halfdan the Black), Moe Dunford (Aethelwulf), Alex Høgh (Ivar), Marco Ilsø (Hvitserk), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe), Jonathan Rhys Meyers (Bishop Heahmund)
Guest Stars: Clive Standen (Rollo), Alicia Agneson (Freydis), Orlaith Doherty (Female Rider), Georgia Hirst (Torvi), Jack McEvoy (Helgi The Lean), Leah McNamara (Aud the Deep Minded)
Summary: On the run after being defeated by Ivar the Boneless in Kattegat, Torvi tells her son the story of his legendary father, Viking warrior and explorer Bjorn Ironside, to ensure their family saga lives on.



The episode begins with Ivar leading his Viking army home to Kattegat with Hvitserk and King Harald Finehair behind him. He announces he is Ivar the Boneless, son of Ragnar and their new King. Inside the great hall, they all celebrate as Ivar urinates on Lagertha's throne; both he and Harald worry how long the others can hide from them. Harald feels hollow after losing his wife and child, but Ivar tells him that life goes on and to pick another beautiful woman.

Across the lands, Floki talks about how their temple is burnt and sons have been killed; they have fallen back to old

ways, proving possibly that they cannot change. He orders them to stop this vicious cycle of revenge or their young will surely perish. He is willing to sacrifice his body and blood in favor of the gods, but that they must all decide together. Aud says they cannot do it but Eyvind feels they should since he is the one who led them there and they don't even know if this truly is the land of the gods. He reminds them that Floki is only a man and it is a mistake for them to be there in this shit place as the gods are watching and laughing at them; Floki deserves to die for his lies with the majority of them agreeing.

Harald watches from the tower as a fleet of ships come towards Kattegat, with King Rollo in them. Rollo is welcomed back and thanked for his help; he says it was important to make an alliance as it is an important trading place. He reveals he is there to make a trade deal that is extremely favorable to him and also make an alliance for their mutual defense and they will send warriors to support him if he ever needs it. He talks about the old days and however Ragnar entertained his guests.

The voting is equal regarding Floki, but one. He is told to vote with family but he goes against his father Eyvind, saying Floki is more important to them alive and reminds his father that his family is his wife and child now.

Rollo tells Ivar he was jealous when he heard of the civil war Ivar and Hvitserk were getting into as he is too important and no longer allowed to fight. Hvitserk reveals that Ubbe spared his

life. Harald reveals that one brother may have saved the other but Harald killed his own brother, Halfdan the Black. Rollo learns that Ubbe and Bjorn are still alive, he says that of course, he is, since Rollo is the one who trained him. Ivar gets serious saying Lagertha lives too, but they have no idea where they plus Torvi are. Rollo wishes them luck finding them.

Lagertha refuses to accept this is the end of her story; she will not be captured, humiliated and killed by Ivar. She believes she is worth more. Ubbe believes there is somewhere they could go and Bishop Heahmund suggests they go to England, willing to intercede on their behalf with King Aethelwulf. He would accept them but expect them to fight on his behalf; Lagertha doesn't want to leave her country and her home. She is tired of fighting but wants to go to England.

Rollo wakes up one of his men and takes off in the middle of the night, Torvi brings food for a chained up Margrethe, who demands to see her husband Ubbe. Torvi says she will ask him, but Margrethe throws the bowl calling them witches. Ubbe comes out saying it is too dangerous to set her free, but she warns them that no chains will bind her. Ubbe knows it isn't her fault as Torvi asks what he wants to do with her.

Lagertha talks to Bishop, who admits he wants to go back and Aethelwulf will restore him as Bishop but in his faith, he will have to celibate and cannot openly live with her. She hopes deserting her makes him sad. He touches her face and says he cannot renounce her as she is an incredible woman and God has meant for them to meet.

Two riders arrive at the village, shocking them as they realize it is Rollo, who comes face to face with Lagertha!

In Wessex, Alfred the Great takes the throne as king for the first time. He orders building fleets of news ships but also fears for the souls of his people and orders that all monasteries and religious houses within his realms to teach prayers and lessons in English; despite the protest, he is told that isn't his right. He recognizes the supreme authority of the Holy church but the gift of knowledge belongs to all men. He returns to talking about being raiding by Northmen and assigns Prince Aethelred to guide them.

Rollo talks to Lagertha, saying he is trying to save her and Bjorn's life and neither Harald nor Ivar can stop him. Lagertha is furious that he joined them against her and this doesn't make sense but he feels she knows that he has always loved her and that Bjorn is his son. She tries to deny it but he gets right to her face and she can't deny it to his face.

Bjorn interrupts them, wondering why they have been so long. Rollo tells him he is offering them safe passage to France, revealing that Bjorn is his son. Bjorn says he heard this before but he looks and has principles just like Ragnar, so undoubtedly Ragnar is his father. He doesn't want to have a lifelong battle with him like Ragnar did. Rollo insists there is no battle between them and wants to bring him to France where life for him would be so sweet. He asks him to do it for the love he bears for Lagertha. Bjorn coldly tells him that he made his stance clear when he stood with Ivar.

Bjorn talks to Ubbe about it and when Lagertha tries to talk; Bjorn says he is going to kill him because he betrayed them and she nearly died because of him. Rollo meets Bishop, who says he tries to follow God's commandments and walk in mercy and forgiveness. Bjorn is furious asking any of them if they have any pride as he isn't afraid to die. Rollo begs for forgiveness from Bishop, who performs a prayer. Bjorn tells Lagertha if he kills Rollo he will die a happy man, but Ubbe and Lagertha pull him back. Rollo begs him to do it if he wants but Bjorn stops, saying he isn't worth cleaning the blood off his knife and spits on him when he apologizes. Rollo leaves telling Lagertha they will never meet again.

Rollo returns to Kattegat, telling Ivar he has found them but before he reveals their location he wants their deal done. Ivar laughs at his conditions, while Harald stands up behind him. Ivar tells him he is asking for a very high price, but Rollo says he is in the position to do so. Later, Ivar arrives at the camp and finds it empty and the firepit cold. Rollo and his ships leave the port as Ivar finds Margrethe shaking in the pig sty. Meanwhile, Bjorn, Ubbe, Torvi, and Lagertha return to Kattegat and steal one of the boats, sneaking out in the dark of night.

Judith talks with Alfred, reminding him that a king has many enemies and few friends. She suggests that he consolidate his rule before it can be truly threatened by producing heirs and creates a dynasty, just like King Ecbert did. She tells him not to concern himself with it as she will find him a suitable bride.

At Alre River, Winchester Aelthered leads his men viciously into battle, where he seems to enjoy his control.

Ivar returns on his chariot with a bound Margrethe in the back; Harald learns she is tied up because she is "mad." Hvitserk remembers her and unties her, but Ivar tells him that she will kill him as some evil spirit has possessed her. Harald watches with concern when Ivar says she might kill him too.

They stop the boat for the day, Lagertha asking Bishop about whether he would protect them or not. He says he wouldn't lie, but she says once they are back in England it makes everything different. She says she isn't afraid he would betray her, she just wonders. He says he wouldn't betray her because he loves her!

Ivar's legs are being straightened and he almost kills the man, ordering him to make no more mistakes. The woman he noticed earlier is standing outside and he asks her to come in and sit. She is not married since he freed her, she lives freely with no ties. She reveals her name is Freydis and he says that he has never forgotten what she told him.

She says it is still true. He is a very special person, but he finds it hard to believe that as his whole life has been a struggle. She reminds him of all he has accomplished, the gods have marked him out and he is favored; above all men. He says he is in daily danger of being killed and feels like he can speak freely with her; she says he can trust her and would give her life for him if he'd ask. She wants to know what he wants her to do.

As the boat comes down the river, Bishop Heahmund shouts out to Aethelred, asking if he recognizes him and tells them not to shoot their flaming arrows at them. He orders them to put down their weapons. Bishop learns Aethelwulf is dead and Alfred is now King, not sure what that means for all of them now. Bishop is met with cheers as Lagertha, Bjorn, Torvi, and Ubbe are brought in by cage into the city. Bjorn looks around as people scream at them.

Murder Most Foul

Season 5

Episode Number: 61

Season Episode: 12

Originally aired: Wednesday December 05, 2018
Writer: Michael Hirst
Director: Ciarán Donnelly
Show Stars: Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Peter Franzen (Harald Fairhair), Jasper Pääkkönen (Halfdan the Black), Moe Dunford (Aethelwulf), Alex Høgh (Ivar), Marco Ilsø (Hvitserk), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe), Jonathan Rhys Meyers (Bishop Heahmund)
Guest Stars: Kris Holden-Ried (Eyvind), Ida Nielsen (Margrethe), Ferdia Walsh-Peelo (Alfred the Great), Georgia Hirst (Torvi), Jennie Jacques (Judith), Roisin Murphy (Elsewith), Ryan Henson (Hali), Svea Killoran (Asa), Darren Cahill (Aethelred), Alicia Agneson (Freydis), Jonathan Delaney Tynan (Lord Cuthred), Jack McEvoy (Helgi the Lean), Mei Big-nall (Thorunn), Elijah Rowen (Asbjorn), Scott Graham (Frodi), Leah McNamara (Aud), Mark Lavery (Ivar's Male Slave), Damien Devaney (Wilfred), Matthew Ralli (Spy)
Summary: Bjorn, Lagertha and Ubbe face an uncertain fate as Heahmund's loyalty is tested; Floki fights to understand the will of the gods in Iceland; Ivar may have met his match in Kattegat.



The episode begins with Bishop Heahmund brought before King Alfred and his brother Aethelred. He greets Judith as he talks about the war between the sons of Ragnar and how Ivar the Boneless won the war. Bishop says he has returned with the sons who were defeated as he has offered them safe passage.

Ubbe and Bjorn tell Lagertha that the bishop has betrayed them, but they cannot be certain of that. She doesn't believe he betrayed them but Bjorn can't believe the famous Lagertha is a fool for love;

Torvi mocks him, saying he has never been a fool for love, has he? Ubbe reminds them all this is where Ragnar was betrayed and it's where they will all die too. Alfred toasts to Bishop Heahmund for being a man of God and accomplishing his mission as they sit for dinner.

In Iceland, Floki doesn't understand how the gods continue to spare him and why the people are so blind. He doesn't know why they don't answer him nor show themselves like they used to and begins to question whether they ever did.

English soldiers arrive and take Lagertha, Bjorn, Torvi, and Ubbe to see King Alfred, who acknowledges their potential for their kingdom and if they are willing to fight against his countrymen; he will honor his grandfather's pledges. Lagertha accepts his offer as Alfred reveals it was Bishop who suggested the wise idea and he will honor it; now his servants are their servants. Everything is theirs too, they fought against each other and now together. King Ecbert loved King Ragnar and he knows Ecbert would approve.

Once they leave, the Bishop assures him that he can trust Lagertha; he wants his Bishop ring back but Aethelred says they found a replacement for him when they thought he was dead. He

laughs at who replaced him, and since he isn't dead he can renounce the decision but Alfred wishes he could but Lord Cuthbert is tight with the men and he doesn't have enough power to sway the vote back to Heahmund as everyone knows he didn't die; joining the Norsemen, fighting in the name of Pagan gods. Bishop says he will always fight in the Name of their Lord, but he must prove himself to everyone again before he makes himself Prince of their Holy Church.

Back in Kattegat, Ivar introduces Freydis to the crowd as the woman he has chosen as his wife and soon they will know her as the new Queen of Kattegat. King Harald feels this is all about the kingship, telling Hvitserk this is his plan to produce an heir and ensure the leadership forever. Margrethe smirks, revealing that Ivar cannot reproduce, which makes Harald smile.

Everyone leaves the great hall as Harald tells Ivar he wishes the gods smile on his happiness. Ivar wakes up a drunk Hvitserk, who tells Ivar he insults the gods. Freydis tells Ivar she wants him, and the two go to bed. He says he is not able to, but she tells him gods can do anything and to her, he is a god. She pleads for him to love her the way she loves him and she will have his child. He reminds her that the gods never had children with humans, but she tells him about Odin having a child with a woman. She cuts his hand and says by his blood she will bear him a son, who will be a god like him. He will be the embodiment of him, in times of war, peace and in time of treachery. She drinks the blood from his hands.

Bishop rides off to his old church, where he is greeted by Bishop Cuthbert. He finds it strange to find him on such a sacred stage as Cuthbert says God works in a mysterious way. Heahmund wonders if he would sacrifice himself anyway God wanted him to, as he would. God knows his struggles, revealing he struggled in the depths of hell like their Lord did, but at least his struggles are spiritual. Heahmund grabs his head, saying this is HIS place and the true Bishop as Cuthbert is a hypocrite who should step aside before the Lord finds him out! Cuthbert says him and others are looking out for the future of their country and seek Alfred's overthrown. He didn't have to say those exact words but Heahmund knows what he meant.

In Iceland, Eyvind complains how the gods are ruining the crops. Once again, the opposing sons begin to fight and Eyvind warns him if he returns again he will have his head. Aud visits Floki, feeling people may be right that he is insane; wondering if all this is in his head and the gods are not there.

Freydis grabs someone in Kattegat and quickly has sex with him in one of the buildings. Meanwhile, Lagertha talks to Heahmund who reveals he went to his old church where he used to be Bishop. He reveals that the church and people want to kill the King.

Judith walks out to greet a Princess, introducing her to Althelred as a potential bride. Bjorn talks to Alfred about the lands promised to his father, saying they don't need to prove anything as they have the legal right to the lands signed by King Ecbert. Alfred reveals Ecbert had already relinquished the lands to his father Aethelwulf before he did it. Ubbe says that he is now the king and can grant them the lands right now.

He says important people don't want him to grant the lands, so Ubbe and Bjorn want to know why they should fight for him if everything is a lie? He tells them not to presume more on his charity as they have thrown themselves on his mercy, but in the meantime, he needs to go meet his future wife. Everyone sits for dinner, after introductions; Alfred talks about the princess's father and how he saved Alfred's life.

He reveals the Northman, at his dining table, are fighting alongside them. She has heard tales of Bjorn Ironside as Aethelred reveals Heahmund went to the Bishop but lies saying he was there about taxing and is working with the pagans, insisting he takes this seriously. Bjorn watches the conversation closely.

Outside, Torvi and Ubbe practice with the swords, something the Princess is curious to see a woman fight equally with a man. She never believed Shield maidens really existed; she is chastised saying they are evil and should be put violently put to death, not treated as guests! Bishop Heahmund and Lagertha take the horses for a ride but are observed sharing intimate time together.

Ubbe comes to see Alfred as per his request. He admits that Bjorn feels betrayed, but wants to know what he can do since for the time being, he cannot grant them the lands. He suggests they publicly renounce their pagan gods and be baptized as Christians. He is talking about Ubbe doing it, not Bjorn and if he does it, part of his burden will be lifted. He feels of all of Ragnar's sons, Ubbe is the one closest to him and Ragnar was close to letting go of the Pagan gods and Ragnar's death destroyed his grandfather, Ecbert. Ubbe asks for time.

Freydis returns to bed, telling Ivar she is with a child. He begins to cry as she tells him that it is his child. He says he loves her and she stabs him in the chest; he looks in her face and its Margrethe. Ivar jumps up from his sleep to see Freydis sleeping beside him. Ivar demands to know what Harald and Hvitserk are going to do with Margrethe; he says she will only kill him. He grows paranoid about Harald staying, but he assures him he doesn't want to kill him because he doesn't want the mess. He plans on raiding England with the others. Harald congratulates him on Freydis being pregnant but reminds him that it doesn't always work out.

Heahmund and Lagertha are followed to the private place, where the man with the scarred face watches them have sex. Alfred finally finds time to talk to the princess, asking if she wants to marry him; Bjorn continues to observe their time together. Once Alfred leaves, the princess orders people to leave her alone so she can have her own thoughts and she approaches Bjorn. She initially tells him to go away but instead, they go to the barn where he leans her against the wall and kisses her.

Bishop Cuthbert is informed of what Heahmund and Lagertha were up to, saying his passions are going to destroy him. He needs to write so that he knows he will never again be Prince of the Church.

Hvitserk finds Magrethe crying on the floor in the cold cabin. She says she saw the Queen of Kattegat, and knowing she cannot have children has broken her head. She wants to be Queen, but Ubbe is a coward who betrayed her with Torvi. She tells him that Ivar is not kind to him and he must kill Ivar and then she will be queen. He says she is not mad, she simply needs some rest. He kisses her forehead, saying he will see her soon. She begins to sing to herself, alone in the cold room.

Bjorn lays in his bed when the princess arrives. She says God will punish her for being there, but he says his gods won't. She joins him, revealing she is a virgin and he wraps her in his arms, kissing her.

Margrethe wakes up to several hooded men in the room. She pleads for them to go away, but they begin to throw knives at her. She says she loves Ivar and is harmless but they slit her throat. Heahmund receives the letter that there is proof of him fornicating with a Pagan woman, thus his sins are multiplied and Cuthbert plans to reveal everything to the King.

Heahmund rushes over to the church to confront Cuthbert, he pulls out his dagger, saying he has forced him to use this violence in this sacred place. He begs him not to commit a crime in the eyes of the Lord. Cuthbert pulls a knife from his own sleeve as Heahmund calls him a troublesome priest. Heahmund is able to get him first as Cuthbert damns him to hell. Heahmund begins to beat him, stabbing him through the eyes and then several times through the heart. Bishop Heahmund does the sign of the cross and throws his blade before exiting the church.

A New God

Season 5

Episode Number: 62

Season Episode: 13

Originally aired:	Wednesday December 12, 2018
Writer:	Michael Hirst
Director:	Ciarán Donnelly
Show Stars:	Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Peter Franzen (Harald Fairhair), Jasper Pääkkönen (Halfdan the Black), Moe Dunford (Aethelwulf), Alex Høgh (Ivar), Marco Ilsø (Hvitserk), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe), Jonathan Rhys Meyers (Bishop Heahmund)
Guest Stars:	John Kavanagh (Seer), Adam Copeland (Kjetill Flatnose), Kris Holden-Ried (Dom), Georgia Hirst (Torvi), Ferdia Walsh-Peelo (Alfred the Great), Alicia Agneson (Freydis), Mei Bignall (Thorunn), Simon Boyle (Priest), Darren Cahill (Aethelred), Kelly Campbell (Ingvild), Donna Dent (Rafarta), Damien Devaney (Wilfred), Malcolm Douglas (Ealdorman 3), Lulubelle Earley (Jorunn), Scott Graham (Frodi), Jennie Jacques (Judith), Mark Lavery (Ivar's Male Slave), Tomi May (Jarl Olavson), Jack McEvoy (Helgi The Lean), Chris McHallem (Ealdorman 2), Leah McNamara (Aud the Deep Minded), Roisin Murphy (Elsewith), Michael Power (Ivar's Bodyguard), Dean Ridge (Magnus), Elijah Rowen (Asbjorn), Clive Standen (Rollo)
Summary:	Heahmund must convince King Alfred that his actions are in defense of the crown; Ubbe and Torvi strengthen the position of the Vikings, but not all in the Viking camp support their strategy; another settler disappears in Iceland.



The episode sees King Alfred having to deal with the fallout from Heahmund killing Lord Cuthred in last week's episode, as recapped by the Inquisitr. Heahmund professes that he only killed Cuthred because he was involved in a plot against the king. While Alfred's brother, Aethelred, thinks Heahmund's bishopric should not be reinstated, Alfred does it anyway because he considers Heahmund true to his own cause.

Heahmund is determined to find out who else is involved in this plot against the king and he discusses with Lagertha the possibility that Alfred's brother,

Aethelred, could also be mixed up in it. Then later Aethelred is seen arriving at a secret meeting with what appears to be members of the group who are conspiring against the king. In addition, Aethelred seems determined to marry Cuthred's daughter, rather than allow his mother to arrange a marriage, further evidence that Aethelred may be conspiring against his own brother.

While the king of Wessex is sorting out the messy situation, the Vikings headed by Lagertha are not sure how safe their position is now that Heahmund's motive is being called into question. As a result of this, Ubbe and Torvi decide that being baptized might help strengthen their position at King Alfred's side and, therefore, keep them alive in the hostile environment. There

are hostilities from both sides with the baptism of Ubbe and Torvi. However, overall, it is likely the only thing that they can do given the situation.

While King Alfred is having to deal with the hostilities and potential plot against his rule, he is also dealing with a betrothal. Considering he hadn't had a lot of time spare for Princess Elsewith, he lays everything out on the table for Elsewith to see. Even though he presents a daunting position in a kingdom that is far from peaceful, Elsewith still agrees to marry Alfred. Whether this has anything to do with her laying with Bjorn last week and a fear that she may be with child is yet to be seen.

Of course, Bjorn Ironside isn't impressed with the wedding, just as he isn't impressed with his brother's conversion to Christianity. So, the potential for unrest with this Viking is great. And, this is something that is noticed by someone present at the wedding of King Alfred and Princess Elsewith.

That person turns out to be Magnus, the grown son of Queen Kwenthrith.

Magnus introduces himself to Bjorn and starts discussing how they both have a bone to pick with King Alfred. While Magnus is determined to bring down the king, Bjorn appears to be hedging his bets and allowing Magnus to speak freely. However, whether Bjorn is truly in agreement with Magnus and his story is yet to be seen.

Meanwhile, in Kattegat, Freydis covers her tracks by having the real father of her child killed before he can reveal the truth.

Ivar the Boneless also convinces King Harald Finehair to leave Kattegat and head to England rather than have him sitting around and potentially challenging his own position in Kattegat.

Harald agrees and when he gets to York, where Ivar has a stronghold, he convinces Jarl Olavsson, who is overseeing York on Ivar's behalf, to side with Harald against Ivar when he eventually returns to Kattegat to challenge Ivar's rule there.

Hvitserk calls Ivar out for killing Margrethe. In front of everyone present in the great hall, he points out that Ivar killed Margrethe because she knew that he couldn't father children.

Ivar then goes on to talk about how he is literally a god and that there needs to be a very important sacrifice in Kattegat to celebrate this fact. Giving Hvitserk the side eye, it seems possible that Hvitserk will be that sacrifice. And this is not the first time Ivar has slaughtered one of his brothers in Vikings.

Finally, in Iceland, things go from bad to worse for Floki the pregnant Thorunn missing.

The Lost Moment

Season 5

Episode Number: 63

Season Episode: 14

Originally aired: Wednesday December 19, 2018
Writer: Michael Hirst
Director: Steve Saint Leger
Show Stars: Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Peter Franzen (Harald Fairhair), Jasper Pääkkönen (Halfdan the Black), Moe Dunford (Aethelwulf), Alex Høgh (Ivar), Marco Ilsø (Hvitserk), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe), Jonathan Rhys Meyers (Bishop Heahmund)
Guest Stars: John Kavanagh (Seer), Adam Copeland (Kjetill Flatnose), Kris Holden-Ried (Eyvind), Ferdia Walsh-Peelo (Alfred the Great), Georgia Hirst (Torvi), Jennie Jacques (Judith), Ragga Ragnars (Gunnhild), Dean Ridge (Magnus), Eimear O'Grady (Shield Maiden), Eve Connolly (Thora), Alicia Agneson (Freydis), Leah McNamara (Aud), Jack McEvoy (Helgi the Lean), Kelly Campbell (Ingvild), Elijah Rowen (Asbjorn), Donna Dent (Rafarta), Scott Graham (Frodi), Lulubelle Earley (Jorunn), Mei Bignall (Thorunn), Tomi May (Jarl Olavson), Darren Cahill (Aethelred), Ann Skelly (Ethelfled), Jim Roche (Saxon Scribe), David Shannon (Ealdorman 1), Chris McHallem (Ealdorman 2), Malcolm Douglas (Cyneheard), Michael Power (Ivar's Bodyguard)
Summary: King Harald and his army approaches Wessex while Aethelred is about to make a huge decision about his brother's fate.



The episode begins with Kattegat preparing for their big sacrifice to the gods. King Ivar the Boneless presents a woman, saying she is Lagertha; but the people say it isn't her and shout, "Hail Lagertha!" Ivar orders for them to be taken away as Hvitserk is approached and asked why he isn't at the celebrations. Ivar convinces the people that the woman is the evil witch Lagertha and shall be sacrificed in the name of Odin and his fellow gods, to cleanse the kingdom of its evil spirits. She is chained upside down, and her throat slit; her blood collected in a bowl and her body set on fire.

Back in the great hall, Ivar presents the blood to everyone as Lagertha's but Hvitserk contradicts him saying he knows it isn't her blood, she isn't dead and Ivar is not a god. Freydis defends Ivar as he cheers to the thunder and lightning outside, saying Thor is acknowledging him as a god. Hvitserk goes outside where Thora suggests they leave, but Hvitserk jumped ship on his brother Ubbe. He doesn't understand why, but one day he will.

In Iceland, both Eyvind and Kjetill Flatnose reassure they have been looking everywhere for their pregnant daughter as Aud tries to stop them. One of the women comes forward saying she didn't want to bring a child into this terrible world and was going to make sure it didn't happen.

Floki sits alone in the rain, but the fire when Thorunn tells him Thor wants to see him at the waterfall. She reveals that Asbjorn was there and told her she couldn't have the child, hitting her

over the head with a stone, revealing where her body is. Floki gets her to point where the trench is, but when he opens his eyes again Thorunn is gone.

King Harald Finehair goes with his men towards Wessex, learning that Lagertha, Ubbe, and Bjorn are possibly there. He believes they have ancient reasons to be there but he has unfinished business with Lagertha as she killed his wife and child. He believes the gods never intend for him to be happy and married but a Shield Maiden denies that saying she feels it in her gut; he smirks at her comment.

In Wessex, King Alfred reveals a huge Viking army is heading towards them, led by King Harald; he tells Ubbe, Bjorn, Lagertha, Torvi and Bishop Heahmund they will fight alongside Aethelred and if they refuse, they will be killed. He reminds them of the huge personal risk he made for them and hopes they won't betray them; Ubbe immediately agrees to stand with him. Alfred dismisses them after he notices that Bjorn cut off all his hair. He asks Ubbe for a favor.

In the forest, Ubbe tells King Alfred not to be afraid and stand against the tree. He says if he is afraid to fight than he is already dead. Alfred puts his back against the tree as Ubbe hurls the ax at him. He tells him not to be afraid and throws another one.

Floki brings everyone out to the trench that Thorunn told him about and they find where the ground has been disturbed; they find her body. Flatnose learns from Floki that Thorunn told him where she was, and when asked who did it; Floki tells Asbjorn to admit his guilt but his father tells him to stay quiet as there is no proof but Thorunn's husband attacks him. Floki tells them they have to make a decision.

Bjorn walks with his brother, Magnus who says his anger is what kept him alive. He feels he is Viking and as Ragnar's son, revenge is everything; that is all he cares about. He admits he hates Alfred, suggesting they don't need to fight on Alfred's side as King Harald is on his way with a great army.

Ethelfled comes to see her husband, Alfred, but he is too busy; promising when he returns he will perform his duties as a husband. Aethelred speaks with the Bishops who feel Alfred is a weak and feeble leader, who leaves his fate in Heahmund's hands. They want to place all their faith and trust in Aethelred, the one true heir; advising to have a meeting with Alfred and Heahmund at the same time, so they can kill them all at once and Aethelred will be anointed King of Wessex and King of kings. He agrees and tells them to call the council.

Ivar talks to Freydis about names for his son; she tells him that she believes their son is so strong he will crawl out of her legs soon. He says if he is fully formed, he prefer him to be walking. They are interrupted when the rebels are brought forth before him. Ivar smacks one of them, demanding why they would want to rebel as they are especially privileged to be ruled by a god. He says he is merciful god and tells the rebel to cover himself in ashes and beg his forgiveness, he will let him live. He spits on Ivar's face, who only laughs at him. He tells his men to hang all of them and let their bodies be shown to all the people, saying hatred must never take the place of love!

The following day, Hvitserk sees all the bodies and goes to see the Seer. He tells Hvitserk he will accomplish what others have failed to accomplish but the cost will be too high. He says he can try to sail away. He says everything is becoming darker and he is afraid; that is the only thing he knows is he is afraid of going into the dark.

Lagertha sneaks into a room to see Heahmund. He calls her "my love" and kisses her, saying they are going to fight Harald and her own kind. She says Harald has always been her enemy but he thanks God that she is fighting beside him, whether they live or die together; calling himself a miserable sinner. He admits he fears the Lord, but at this moment he desires her more; saying she is beautiful and alive as he would go to hell for her.

Harald knows they are about to fight the legendary sons of Ragnar, who are close to gods; but his guard reminds him they are only human and the ax will kill them too. Harald wonders if Gunnhild believes fate brought them together but she doesn't want to betray anyone, just feels right to be there — inevitable. She knows her life is about to change.

The Bishops and Noblemen gather as Aethelred and Alfred sit together and talk. Alfred informs his brother that he plans to lead the army himself, but requires his support more than ever; hoping he believes in him as Alfred tells him he loves him. Alfred stands before his men, talking about how he is going to lead them into battle, along with Ubbe, the Christian son of Ragnar, Lagertha, and Bjorn. Aethelred says he cannot do it as Alfred leaves with his mother, Judith.

After the meeting, Bjorn introduces Lagertha, Torvi, and Ubbe to Magnus; they know who he is. He feels, at last, he belongs somewhere as Bjorn explains Alfred is betraying them with no intention of granting them the lands. Lagertha questions him about ever meeting Ragnar as Ubbe says Ragnar insisted he never slept with his mother. Magnus tells them what his plan is. Lagertha also says Ragnar never slept with the Queen, but Bjorn says they should believe in him. Magnus leaves when the only one who believes him is Bjorn. Ubbe says they have choices to make.

Floki reveals he has made a decision but Eyvind tells him that he is the lawgiver. Floki reminds him that with the death of Thorunn, he has avenged his son's death, three times over. Helgi is told to shut up and stop weeping like a woman. Aud tells them Floki is right as he tells them Eyvind and his entire family, including Hegi are expelled from the settlement. He orders them to leave and find another place far away from there. When he says winter is approaching and the food is scarce, Floki says it isn't his plight. Eyvind says they could fight, but Floki tells him that he will lose. Eyvind holds his ax to Floki's throat but Floki says he cannot kill him no matter how hard he tries and he pulls away.

Harald and his men arrive on land, while Eyvind and his family depart the Iceland settlement in the rain. Ivar talks to the Seer, saying these are days of rejoicing and cannot deny Ivar's divinity. He tells him that he should have welcomed Ivar into his house and his time here will be full of praise and glory. The Seer refuses to tell anything other than what he truly sees. He tells Ivar that he is Ivar the Boneless, son of Ragnar. Ivar insists he is a god, but the Seer says they will all go into the dark. The light is as broken as his legs and a snake has settled in Ivar's skull and his eyes betray him. He screams out about the horror as he sees a terrible vision but Ivar takes his ax to the Seer's head and kills him.

Hell

Season 5

Episode Number: 64

Season Episode: 15

Originally aired:	Wednesday December 26, 2018
Writer:	Michael Hirst
Director:	Steve Saint Leger
Show Stars:	Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Peter Franzen (Harald Fairhair), Jasper Pääkkönen (Halfdan the Black), Moe Dunford (Aethelwulf), Alex Høgh (Ivar), Marco Ilsø (Hvitserk), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe), Jonathan Rhys Meyers (Bishop Heahmund)
Guest Stars:	John Kavanagh (Seer), Ferdia Walsh-Peelo (Alfred The Great), Georgia Hirst (Torvi), Jennie Jacques (Judith), Roisin Murphy (Elsewith), Ragga Ragnars (Gunnhild), Dean Ridge (Magnus), Michael Power (Ivar's Bodyguard), Alicia Agneson (Freydis), Darren Cahill (Aethelred), Cian Gallagher (Saxon Servant), Ann Skelly (Ethelfled), Jim Roche (Saxon Scribe), Malcolm Douglas (Cyneheard), Tomi May (Jarl Olavsonn)
Summary:	Bishop Heahmund is wracked with guilt as he fights to renounce his passions. Viking will clash with Saxon on the battlefield leaving a key figure lost in the balance.



In Kattegat, the Seer's body is taken away in the dead of night and burned in a pit. Meanwhile, when Hvitserk finds blood in the Seer's hut — and then questions Ivar the Boneless about the disappearance of the holy figure — Ivar insists that he will find out what happened. Hvitserk, however, implores that "he knows," likely suggesting that he knows Ivar had a hand in the Seer's death, and this appears to startle Ivar.

Regardless, Ivar then goes on to insist to the people of Kattegat that he will find the person responsible for the Seer's disappearance, promising to bring down jus-

tice upon them.

Besides this small aside to Kattegat, most of the action occurs in Wessex. Alfred is getting ready to fight against King Harald Fairhair. As preparations for the battle continue, Ubbe also shows Alfred the Frankish catapult, which impresses the king. However, he is concerned that an idea Ubbe has will cause the death of his men. Ubbe, however, insists that Alfred needs to trust him if he wants to win the war.

Bishop Heahmund awakes from a terrible vision of hell, and insists to Lagertha that it is time for their relationship to come to an end. Lagertha is visibly upset at this, and calls him out for loving his god over her all along. Heahmund cannot argue with this, and she leaves him for the battle.

Torvi wants Ubbe to wear his armband as he heads into battle — but Ubbe insists that the pagan gods will not protect him while he wears the Christian cross. Therefore, he wants to go into battle wearing only the cross.

As Alfred's group leaves for battle, there is one last matter to attend to regarding his people. It is time to arrest Cyneheard on that pesky matter of treason. It is then up to Alfred's mother, Judith, to torture out of him the others who are involved.

Ubbe is also tasked with meeting with Harald prior to the battle, and they discuss religion during this time. Ubbe also passes on the message to Harald that Alfred is ready to pay the Vikings off in order for them to leave Wessex peacefully. Harald tells Ubbe that he will think about how much gold is required for this — and they agree to meet up on the next day.

Magnus also wanders into Harald's camp. While Harald is wary of Magnus and his claims, he allows Magnus to fight on his side against the Saxons, placing Magnus at the very front of the action when they finally reach the battlefield.

The Viking poseur also gives Harald some very vital information. Although, it seems unlikely that Magnus did this on purpose. Regardless, Harald now knows that Alfred is fighting with his army.

Then, when Harald waits for Ubbe on the next day — and Ubbe doesn't show up — Harald realizes that the offer of gold and silver was likely just a stalling tactic.

And, sure enough, it was. Harald is then confronted by Alfred's army from a position that puts the Saxons at an advantage. The area is also set up so that when Ubbe lights the grass in front of them, it surrounds Harald's army. They cannot presently retreat, even if they wanted to.

And so, the battle begins in earnest.

It doesn't take long for Olavsson to fall in battle. His wife, Gunnhild is disgusted with her fellow Vikings, insisting they fight harder.

Alfred gives the battle his best, but manages to get himself into a spot of trouble. Luckily, his brother, Aethelred is there to help out — and there is a moment between the two brothers in the midst of a bloody war.

Meanwhile, Heahmund, distracted by the beauty of Lagertha fighting, manages to get struck by several arrows. Lagertha, seeing this, tries to reach him. She is then also injured, getting slashed across her leg. She watches as Heahmund dies.

Alfred gives a speech after the battle, and it is obvious they were victorious. He talks of Bishop Heahmund and of how he is now with the Lord. Alfred says that no one will ever be worthy to carry his sword, and so it will be buried alongside him.

It is at this point that we also discover that Lagertha is missing. Bjorn is searching the battlefield for his mother, but comes up empty-handed.

While the victory feast is commencing, Judith has some startling news to tell Alfred. She has managed to get further details from Cyneheard regarding the traitorous group. She looks visibly shocked — and so does Alfred — when she reveals that Aethelred is the leader of this group.

The Buddha

Season 5

Episode Number: 65

Season Episode: 16

Originally aired: Wednesday January 02, 2019
Writer: Michael Hirst
Director: Steve Saint Leger
Show Stars: Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Peter Franzen (Harald Fairhair), Jasper Pääkkönen (Halfdan the Black), Moe Dunford (Aethelwulf), Alex Høgh (Ivar), Marco Ilsø (Hvitserk), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe), Jonathan Rhys Meyers (Bishop Heahmund)
Guest Stars: Adam Copeland (Kjetill Flatnose), Ferdia Walsh-Peelo (Alfred The Great), Georgia Hirst (Torvi), Jennie Jacques (Judith), Roisin Murphy (Elsewith), Ragga Ragnars (Gunnhild), Dean Ridge (Magnus), Jim Roche (Saxon Scribe), Darren Cahill (Aethelred), Ann Skelly (Ethelfled), David Shannon (Ealdorman 1), Chris McHallem (Ealdorman 2), Ben McKeown (Crowbone), Malcolm Douglas (Cyneheard), Leah McNamara (Aud), Kelly Campbell (Ingvild), Scott Graham (Frodi), Jack McEvoy (Helgi the Lean), Chooye Bay (Old Man in Market), Alicia Agneson (Freydis), Simon Boyle (Priest), Allan Keating (Saxon Priest), Eve Connolly (Thora), Aidan O'Hare (Clergyman), Michael O'Flaherty (Clergyman 2)
Summary: Ubbe achieves one of Ragnar's dreams; Ivar hatches a new plan in Kattegat, while preparing for a divine arrival; a settler in Iceland returns in a terrible state; King Alfred faces his greatest threat yet.



The episode begins with Lagertha staring at Bishop Heahmund's corpse and the battle raging around them. Bjorn returns to Torvi and Ubbe, saying no one has seen Lagertha and if she is still alive, she has vanished.

King Alfred gives Bjorn the treaty that his grandfather had promised Ragnar. He warns them there are farmers around the settlement, but wants them to be wary, promising to protect them. He seals the treaty, welcoming them formally as allies and as friends. Ubbe stands behind King Alfred, saying business isn't done as he orders his guards to arrest the traitors;

Judith seems pleased as Aethelred watches in shock.

King Harald Finehair tells the furious Vikings to trust in their leaders, but he is told he will not give second chances to fools and failures; shoving Harald. He tells them he will live and learn as they begin to slaughter people, with Magnus by his side. He announces who Magnus is and with him by their side, they will accomplish great things, begin with the city of York. He promises they will take over the entire empire with Ragnar's son by their side; everyone cheers.

Bjorn confronts Gunnhild about fighting with King Harald. She says her husband was killed in battle as Bjorn reveals he lost his mother in the battle and tells her he is Bjorn Ironside. He says he could take advantage of her, but they are equals. He will cut her ropes if she can

tell him Lagertha left on her own or against her will; she is unable to help him. He cuts off her binds, saying she is a free woman and can do whatever she'd like. She slaps him, saying she was exercising her right of freedom and tells him he can leave now.

Bjorn worries about what happened to his mother, wondering how she just disappeared. He insists that Lagertha doesn't just run away, right in the middle of a battle. He doesn't even know why he is talking to Ubbe, who didn't even like her after she killed his mother. Torvi feels Lagertha has simply come to the end of reason. Judith is concerned about Alfred, who has already forgiven his brother. She insists that he has to tell the truth before he can forgive him. She needs to know why asking if she can speak to him so she can perhaps forgive him too.

Outside the traitors are hung on public display while Aethelred looks on with disgust; dozens of men lay dead after being hung.

In Iceland, Floki and the others are trying to eat the rotten food, when Kjetill Flatnose finds Helgi close to death. He reveals everyone has died or is dying. He begs them to save his family, even though they don't deserve it. Floki heats up his axe as he cuts off Helgi's frostbitten fingers.

Aethelred joins Judith, who says the Lord has confessed everything. He admits he was still angry about losing the crown to Alfred and he did agree to go along with the coup. Judith confronts him about being involved, even though he refused in the end. He promises he will never betray Alfred again.

Hvitserk walks through the village where he finds a statue of the Buddha; he is told it isn't a god but Buddha. When he asks who Buddha is, he is laughed at. Meanwhile, Ivar reveals Harald was defeated by Alfred with the help of Lagertha and Ivar feels now is the time to return to England. Ivar explains that when he was in England with Ragnar, he played chess with Alfred and now he wants to again, except now he wants it on the battlefield.

Mass is held in England, as Ubbe and Torvi, along with Alfred accept communion before they head off to their new settlement. Ubbe tells Bjorn to look at this treasure as he holds the rich soil in his hands.

In Iceland, the Northern Lights are bright and beautiful as Floki talks to everyone, including Helgi about his family's betrayal. He pleads for them to help them anyway, but Floki feels their settlement is starting to work and now they want to bring these people back who won't listen. Helgi assures him that his family has learned his lesson and has changed; reminding him that is the whole reason they went there in the first place.

The church bells ring, led by Alfred. Bjorn and Gunnhild refuse to go inside as they worship a false god. Once alone, Bjorn talks about losing Ragnar and Lagertha, yet this is his father's dream right here. He finds it strange that this is what his father wanted for them as he stares at the church. Gunnhild joins him at the window, reassuring him that everything will be all right, and they begin to kiss.

Guards rush in with King Alfred lying in the cart. Judith orders them to fetch the physicians and everyone else to leave. Ethelfled reveals she believes she is with the child but they are interrupted when Aethelred comes in, insisting his brother must live.

Hvitserk enjoys his sex with Thora as he holds the Buddha, not really knowing what that means. The following day, Ivar speaks to Hvitserk that they will wait until the Spring to head to York as he wants to wait for the birth of his divine child. Ivar worries about how cynical Hvitserk has become and shows him that Freydis looks more like Freya every day, the goddess of fertility. Ivar feels Hvitserk is a little crazy, just like Margrethe, reminding him what happened to her.

Bjorn feels they should have made a sacrifice, and ask the gods for their blessing on their new lands. He is furious that Ubbe and Torvi wear the Christian cross around their necks and feels he has to do something for himself, but when asked he tells Gunnhild he wants to take Kattegat back from Ivar. He says King Harald has an army and will persuade him to help. Gunnhild says Harald plans on attacking Kattegat anyways, so either he will side with Bjorn, or kill him.

Floki talks to Flatnose, saying he will leave the decision to him. Flatnose says he must live with hope for the future of his family; saying they must try to save them, believing Helgi is telling the truth about his father and if necessary he will carry Eyvind on his own back. Several of them travel through the wretched weather and torturous terrain to find his family.

Bjorn informs Ubbe that he has made up his mind to try to regain Kattegat, but Ubbe says they need to stay there and defend Ragnar's dream. He feels they are all going to follow his dream, just in different ways. Ubbe calls him his brother and hero as Bjorn tells Torvi he knows she has always looked after their children, never spiteful nor revengeful. She admits she loves

Lagertha, believing she is alive and a survivor like him. She promises she loves their children and will always make them proud of him. He thanks her and leaves.

The Lords gather as Judith talks about the King's collapse, promising he will recover. With Aethelred at her side, he says Alfred has suffered these attacks before and has survived. When questioned on not being able to afford a sick king, Aethelred talks to them to trust him; Judith worries about how popular Aethelred has become. She confronts him as he pulls her down, demanding she doesn't question what he says and to make some porridge for his poor, sick brother.

Judith wanders through the forest collecting mushrooms and makes her own concoction with them. Meanwhile, Aethelred finishes having sex, where he says if his brother dies that he will become king. She laughs and hopes that Alfred dies, leaving Aethelred smirking.

Bjorn and Gunnhild arrive, as Magnus is happy to see his brother. Harald says he is happy to see them, saying it looks like fate has brought him and Gunnhild together again. Magnus doesn't care, he is just happy his brother is there and they shall attack Kattegat together.

Aethelred learns there is no change in Alfred's condition, sharing she has made some potions in the hope it will ease his suffering like before. Aethelred says she is a wonderful woman, as she says she knows at least she knows how much he cares about his brother. She says the nobles are not real Christians, with no charity in their souls as they simply want to get rid of Alfred. He admits it is true but she should understand their fear for Wessex and England.

Aethelred suddenly is unable to breathe and holds his throat. Judith says she completely understands but surely they can see Alfred is ever strong and if they care about Wessex and England, they must care about Alfred. She doesn't believe Aethelred ever accepted Alfred as king and never would. She thinks he will always be a danger to him. Aethelred realizes she has poisoned him, demanding to know what kind of mother is she. He smashes his head on the table as he falls to the ground.

Harald watches as Bjorn and Gunnhild talk very intimately; not too pleased. A mournful Judith holds her dead son in her arms as she weeps.

The Most Terrible Thing

Season 5

Episode Number: 66

Season Episode: 17

Originally aired: Wednesday January 09, 2019
Writer: Michael Hirst
Director: Helen Shaver
Show Stars: Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Peter Franzen (Harald Fairhair), Jasper Pääkkönen (Halfdan the Black), Moe Dunford (Aethelwulf), Alex Høgh (Ivar), Marco Ilsø (Hvitserk), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe)
Guest Stars: Adam Copeland (Kjetill Flatnose), Ferdia Walsh-Peelo (Alfred The Great), Alicia Agneson (Freydis), Eve Connolly (Thora), Erik Madsen (King Hemming), Jack McEvoy (Helgi the Lean), Leah McNamara (Aud the Deep Minded), Ragga Ragnars (Gunnhild), Dean Ridge (Magnus)
Summary: An unexpected turn among the settlers leaves Floki powerless. King Alfred confronts Judith. Bjorn must strike a deal with Harald. Wessex is once again threatened by a Viking force, but who will lead the Saxon army to defend the Realm?



The episode begins with a funeral mass, King Alfred walks in to learn that his brother Aethelred is dead. Judith says no one knows how he died as it was so sudden. He crouches down and weeps over his brother's body, bidding him farewell.

In Iceland, Floki walks with Helgi and Kjetill Flatnose back to his family where Eyvind is grateful for them, saying Floki is right that they need to change.

Meanwhile, King Ivar the Boneless, with Freydis welcomes them to Kattegat, the greatest trading station in the world. He says his father, Ragnar wanted this and their father, Odin has given him this

responsibility and they cannot give everyone the power to vote as he has a duty to protect it so they need to change the rules.

Judith packs up Aethelred's wife's belongings, saying since her husband is dead, she needs to return to her mother and she is young enough to find another husband. She prays the next mother is nothing like Judith, as she shows no remorse or compassion for her dead son.

Ivar says the people whom he trusts will vote on land issues, and he will lead them as it is important to know who is with them and who is against them. He feels it is time to find those who are against them and threatening to them; suggesting it might be people they know, a neighbor, a brother or a son. He says people talk about him being the enemy but they are the enemy as people shout that they want Ivar to protect them and destroy their enemies; everyone shouts out Ivar, except for Hvitserk and Thora.

Judith talks to Alfred, saying she had to deal with the traitors while he was sitting and possibly they still are. She admits she had to deal with his brother, explaining that Aethelred's death was not natural. Alfred orders her to explain and quickly. She says she knew as long as he was alive he would join any plot or conspiracy to make him king as he never forgave him for overstepping him. She reveals she poisoned him, killing one of her sons to save the other; asking God to forgive

her. Alfred destroys the whole dining area, once he settles she orders him to behave like a king and asking he must be prepared to do terrible things if he wants to survive.

Hvitserk sits in his place, while Ivar talks to Freydis about how much his brother hates him; but if he kills him who else would stand against him. Freydis feels it would be a mistake as a merciful God will always be more popular among the people than a vengeful god. She wants to know if he would rather be loved than feared, but he doesn't know the answer.

Floki stares at the raging ocean before returning to Eyvind's place. He wants to know why they are not getting ready but Flatnose says they are ready and attacks Helgi and the entire family as Eyvind watches. Floki tries to stop it but he is held back with a knife to his throat as Flatnose says his only ambition is revenge. He orders for Eyvind and Helgi to go outside as they will deal with them in the morning, leaving Floki and Flatnose inside, staring at each other.

Hvitserk is startled awake by Ivar who says he has been thinking about him. He feels Hvitserk can be more useful to him and needs a more important role, telling him he needs to leave Kattegat and go build an alliance for the coming war. He is told he cannot refuse and introduces himself to Thora, who says Hvitserk and her love each other. Ivar says it would be a pity if he had to burn her alive as Hvitserk holds a knife to his throat. Ivar promises he will not do that if he agrees to leave Kattegat first thing in the morning.

In the pouring rain, Helgi apologizes for bringing the men to his father; but he tells him not to snivel as they are just meat. Inside the hut, Floki doesn't understand Flatnose, who explains that it isn't possible for him to forgive them for what they had done; he reminds Floki that they are what they are as the gods had made them so. Floki says he cannot kill Helgi as none of this is his fault and at least spare him for loving his daughter. Flatnose says if Helgi is still alive in the morning, they will consider saving him, as it would make them all feel better.

In the morning, Eyvind is brought to Flatnose, who chants, saying his death is on his way. He raises his ax as Helgi is brought back inside. Eyvind says he is not afraid of the ax and spits on Flatnose; who raises the ax.

Helgi pleads with Floki to let him live, who assures him that Flatnose knows he has always been by his side. Helgi is called outside as Floki tears up. Helgi sees his father beheaded as Flatnose continues to chant that "each must die someday." Later a raven is seen on top of one of the 3 heads on spikes.

In York, Bjorn sings along with all the Vikings, who are singing "death is on its way!" King Harald Finehair watches Gunnhild who is busy beating several of the men. Bjorn stands next to Harald, saying they need to make a plan as he is growing impatient. Harald doesn't want to go because at this time of year there are many storms, but Bjorn feels it is safe as his father had told him in a dream. They both admire Gunnhild as Harald says that Ragnar chose him over Ivar and he will rule Kattegat. Harald tells him about the arrangement he has with Ivar that if he dies Harald will be king of Kattegat. Ragnar tells him that he needs to start giving the orders and send out the ships, promising him Gunnhild with no consequence to him. Harald smirks, saying Bjorn will have his ships.

A soldier rushes off his horse informing Alfred that the ships of a large Viking army have been seen in West Wales and will arrive on their borders within days. Ubbe and Torvi learn they are Danes and crossing with at least 300 ships. Alfred says they will have 2000 people but the Danes will have at least 1000 more. Torvi says the Danes won't be frightened to see who is in front of this army as she has a terrible habit of telling the truth. Ubbe advises that Alfred makes him the head of his army, he will find a way of dealing with the Danes.

York prepares weapons as Gunnhild wants to know why Harald hides in the shadows as he is king. Harald reminds her that fate has brought them together, even she said that while she was married. She says she is no longer the person she was, but Harald disputes that, saying inside they will always be the same. She says that Bjorn has not claimed her as no man will claim her. She tells him she doesn't know about the gods, asking if he wants to be king of all of Norway; and she tells him she would like to be queen then.

Judith is interrupted as one of her ladies asks what she is doing, but she won't tell her. Back in Iceland, Floki returns with Flatnose and a few other men as Aud wants to know from Floki what happened. He reveals Flatnose and the others killed her entire family and he couldn't stop them. She weeps, hoping they didn't at least kill Helgi; but they are all dead. He apologizes, saying he should never have brought them all to this place, asking her if she ever saw the gods. She just stares at him.

Hvitserk says farewell to Thora, warning her to be careful of his brother. The horns sound and Hvitserk leaves Kattegat. Meanwhile, Gunnhild joins Bjorn who reveals he knows about the offer King Harald has for her. She admits he has said they are fated to be together, but she reveals no one knows their fate. She says Harald still wants to be the king of Norway as Bjorn says he is a man who always wants to be in love and wishes he could have his heart instead of his. He tells her he has never been in love, but thinks of her all the time; perhaps he is in love but she could be in love with King Harald who could make her queen of Norway.

He admits he is afraid to ask if she loves him, which surprises her since he is one of the most feared men in the world. She stands up and says she respects him even more for saying it and will take her words forever in her heart. She holds his hand to her heart, asking him to say it. Bjorn stands up to her as she repeatedly asks him to say it. He finally says he loves her and kisses her; the two lie on the bed and kiss. King Harald sits on his throne, holding Astrid's necklace and waits.

Aud climbs high and wanders to the cliffs overlooking the waterfall. She stares downward as Floki looks on, shouting at her. He drops to his knees as he watches her leap down into the watery depths below. He sits up and stares out at the waterfall.

Baldur

Season 5

Episode Number: 67

Season Episode: 18

Originally aired: Wednesday January 16, 2019
Writer: Michael Hirst
Director: Helen Shaver
Show Stars: Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Peter Franzen (Harald Fairhair), Jasper Pääkkönen (Halfdan the Black), Moe Dunford (Aethelwulf), Alex Høgh (Ivar), Marco Ilsø (Hvitserk), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe)
Guest Stars: Adam Copeland (Kjetill Flatnose), Ferdia Walsh-Peelo (Alfred The Great), Georgia Hirst (Torvi), Jennie Jacques (Judith), Steven Berkoff (King Olaf), Alicia Agneson (Freydis), Eve Connolly (Thora), Jamie Maclachlan (Aldwin), Erik Madsen (King Hemming), Ragga Ragnars (Gunnhild), Dean Ridge (Magnus), Markjan Winnick (King Angantyr)
Summary: Hvitserk is severely tested. Floki makes an amazing discovery. Freydis gives Ivar a surprise. Ubbe negotiates with the three Danish Kings that have massed their armies in Reading, but the negotiations may have a perilous outcome.



The episode begins with the Viking settlement celebrating in the great hall when Hvitserk walks in, revealing he is the son of Ragnar Lothbrok. He is looking for the hospitality of an ally. He is told he can go meet King but he first must remove his clothes.

Bjorn and Gunnhild marry while King Harald watches from his throne, remembering his nights with her. Harald congratulates her but questions her about wanting to be the Queen of Norway; she bites back saying she never said who she wanted to be King. Magnus hugs Harald, thrilled that he is at the wedding of his

brother, and he has King Harald to thank for that.

Harald congratulates Bjorn, even though he knew Harald wanted her. Bjorn says Harald always wanted to be Ragnar and didn't understand why people followed Ragnar and not him. Bjorn says he will never be king of Norway simply because it isn't the gift of the gods. Harald is happy for him today and envies him; Bjorn believes that won't stop them from working together as Harald agrees there are greater things at stake than just a woman. Bjorn remind him that Gunnhild is not just a woman!

Hvitserk is brought naked to see the king, who has been expecting him. He tells Olaf to get their guest something to eat. He feels another son of Ragnar coming to see him is respect. Hvitserk believes the king is who they call "Buddha". He simply laughs in the steam room.

Ivar rides his chariot to the middle of the Kattegat and sees how the statue has been split in half. Everyone is ordered back as the men take Thora to Ivar, who insists he is trying to rule well for the benefit of their people. He wants to know why she hates him. She says in Ragnar's time, everyone was free and do what they wanted; above all, he never forced people to worship him as he knew he was only human like the rest of us. Ivar says she has spoken well and tells her to go. He remembers his father as a good man and one of them.

The King is excited to travel to England along with his brother, wanting to know what kind of ruler Ivar is. Thora begins to walk out of the great hall, paranoid about the men following her, while she has a massive blood streak down her cheek. She runs out the gate into the forest as Hvitserk reveals Ivar has declared himself to be a god and no longer the brother he knew. Thora comes upon the scene of her father's place burning and they cry out to each other as she is captured too. Hvitserk admits he has come for them to attack Ivar and become the king of Kattegat, but he chooses to go with his original plan. Thora is forced to watch her entire family burn, just before they light her on fire as well. Hvitserk is also taken captive as Ivar watches the fire burn in front of him knowing he sent his brother to his death.

Floki buries the bodies in Iceland. He confronts Kjetill Flatnose about not digging his own daughter's grave, but Flatnose feels she become more of Floki's daughter than his own. Flatnose tells Floki that he is the same as the rest of them, but Floki refuses to kill him or hit him with the spade.

He says had he been the old Floki he would have put the spade in him just enough to incapacitate him then force him to watch as he burned his wife alive and then he would force his one remaining son to chop off his balls and make him eat them; then the last thing he would see as he bled out was Floki raping his son, never knowing if he would show him any mercy. Floki smiles, saying he won't do any of that, even though he and Eyvind don't believe it, he will change himself and intends to stay this way. Floki tells him that he can do with this place as he likes as he is done with humans!

Judith goes to see a witch doctor, of sorts but ignores pleas to leave when she discovers a "Crazy woman" cowering in the corner, it turns out to be Lagertha. Judith has her brought back to the castle, while she lives her own hell in her head. She looks down, envisioning the snakes that were placed in the pit that killed Ragnar. She cries as she witnesses Ragnar's last words, she makes eye contact as he falls. She is now in the cage, as she hears him tell her, "I will always be with you and she has given him her heart." She cries out for Ragnar as life becomes more clear. She learns from Judith that she is in Wessex, only saying Ecbert's name.

What Happens in the Cave

Season 5

Episode Number: 68

Season Episode: 19

Originally aired:	Wednesday January 23, 2019
Writer:	Michael Hirst
Director:	David Wellington
Show Stars:	Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Peter Franzen (Harald Fairhair), Jasper Pääkkönen (Halfdan the Black), Moe Dunford (Aethelwulf), Alex Høgh (Ivar), Marco Ilsø (Hvitserk), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe)
Guest Stars:	Steven Berkoff (King Olaf the Stout), Ferdia Walsh-Peelo (Alfred the Great), Georgia Hirst (Torvi), Jennie Jacques (Judith), Erik Madsen (King Hemming), Roisin Murphy (Elsewith), Ragga Ragnars (Gunnhild), Dean Ridge (Magnus), Simon Boyle (Priest), Marcus Lamb (Physician), Markjan Winnick (King Angantyr), Gavan O'Connor-Duffy (King Frodo), Sandra Voe (Witch), Alicia Agneson (Freydis), Kristy Dawn Dinsmore (Amma), Kieran O'Reilly (White Hair), Ryan Henson (Hali), Svea Killoran (Asa), Adam Winnick (Black Dane Viking)
Summary:	Ubbe is forced into hand-to-hand combat. Floki reaches new depths and is met by a shocking sight. Bjorn sets off for Scandinavia with an old rival.



The episode begins with Floki climbing the depths of the cave to see what is down there. Meanwhile, Alfred mourns the death of his mother, Judith as Lagertha reminds him that she succeeded her duty here and now his duty is to become the great king she wanted him to be.

Ubbe walks with Torvi as he fights against King Frodo to the death. They are both blessed by the gods as Torvi nods to Ubbe just before the fight begins. King Hemming and King Angantyr watch the duel unfold. Both men take quite a beating, Torvi looks frightened for Ubbe as he lays on the ground reciting the Lord's

Prayer. Frodo grabs his weapon but before he can use his ax, Ubbe kills him with his blade.

Lagertha walks the halls, as she remembers Bishop Heahmund being killed in the battlefield and how she escaped. She recalls the witch who took care of her, saying she is in Wessex and at the point of death when she found her. She is reborn and she must forget her old life. She cuts off Lagertha's hair, burning it, saying it is the beginning of her new life.

Floki wanders the caves of Iceland, saying he knows they are there, deep inside as he can feel and hear them. Floki can hear the waterfall through the rocks.

Someone in the crowd draws his sword and Torvi kills him, she checks on Ubbe who draws breathe and she yells that the son of Ragnar has won, everyone chants his name. Ubbe is brought back to Wessex, where Alfred says to bring him back to his chamber; Torvi says he prevented the war. Torvi is happy to see Lagertha but more concerned for Ubbe.

Freydis is furious with Ivar, demanding to know what he has done with their son. He blames her for not giving him a beautiful son, but he slaps her when she screams at him. In the meantime, Bjorn travels with King Harald, Gunnhild and Magnus struggle through the storm.

Floki finds a cross in the middle of the cave and begins to laugh hysterically and then he screams out in disappointment as the rocks around him begin to crumble and erupt like a volcano.

Bjorn's fleet arrives to a land where he thinks he recognizes the mountains. He believes beyond the mountains is Kattegat; but argues with Harald who says this is still his army. Harald says if he makes a deal with Ivar, he will have to kill Bjorn; they both know the stakes. Harald doesn't believe Bjorn is protected by the gods and bleeds like any other man; they draw their swords and begin to fight right on the beach in the rain. Gunnhild slaps Bjorn, saying they are both stupid, saying they both want the same thing and if they have to, fight later!

Torvi walks into Ubbe's room, where nuns are praying for him. Back on the beach, Magnus is questioned why he called out to the Christian God when he is Viking. He says he had to in order to make them believe him; he is angry that Bjorn had someone look out for him. Bjorn is shocked to learn that his little brother is a Christian. On the mountain top, the fleet is observed.

Alfred rides with Torvi and Lagertha, where she is shown the land that Ragnar was promised. Alfred says this is the lands are blessed by their God and gods; the Vikings step forward to enjoy the lands, as Lagertha touches the soil, asking if Ragnar can see this, watching their dream happen.

Ivar enters the great hall, while everyone looks at him he tells them all to "carry on". He returns to their home where Freydis reveals hunters have found part of their son, saying he was eaten by foxes, wondering if he was eaten alive. Ivar eats his apple, as Freydis wants to know if Ivar killed their son. He demands to know what she has done for him, wanting to know if he was really his son; was that poor crippled bastard was his son, accusing her of being a liar. He begins to strangle her as she shakes her head saying "no".

Hvitserk walks with King Olaf the Stout who still questions whether he made the right decision going with Hvitserk. He says Ivar appears to be powerful and believes fate is on his side, but all he knows is that the gods work in mysterious ways. He worries that he is marching willingly to their own death but laughs about it.

Lagertha walks into the church as Torvi returns to check on Ubbe. He says it is good to be alive. She tells him that he has realized his father's dream as 3000 Danes have moved into the settlement. He says he is glad. Torvi orders everyone to leave them, wanting to know what is wrong. He wants the cross, saying something has changed inside of him but not sure if it was during the fight or after. The cross means nothing more than a broach to him. He only wanted what Christian could do for him and his people, saying he believes in the old ways. He was filled with the spirit of Odin and Thor as they were familiar spirits, he called for them and they answered him.

Lagertha washes, as she sees the scar on her face and neck in the reflection. Ubbe gathers his children in the wagon and is ready to go to the settlement, bidding farewell to Alfred and his wife. Lagertha would like to go with Ubbe, who quickly agrees as she says it is time to go home.

Ivar tells his people that Spring is coming and everything changes, revealing his wife gave birth to a child that was beautiful as Odin, the Sun God. His love for the child overflowed but the gods cut his life short, but it is hard for a mother to accept those things but the will of the gods cannot be denied, and with all humility, they have to accept their choices. He talks about their plan to go after York, he was expecting a great army with Hvitserk and King Harald but unfortunately, they are not there, so things have changed.

Bjorn meets with Hvitserk, asking where he is going with such a large army. He reveals he is attacking Kattegat with King Olaf and with him; Bjorn grabs him and says this is the happiest day of his life. They are sad to kill Ivar, but it is not a shame before the gods. Hvitserk says he always questioned the gods about how he let Ivar humiliate him but now he knows his fate is to kill Ivar; together they toast to killing him.

Ivar says they are not going to attack York, but instead, renew and strengthen the defenses of Kattegat as no one will overcome Kattegat as the gods are with them!

Ragnarok

Season 5

Episode Number: 69

Season Episode: 20

Originally aired: Wednesday January 30, 2019
Writer: Michael Hirst
Director: David Wellington
Show Stars: Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn), Peter Franzen (Harald Fairhair), Jasper Pääkkönen (Halfdan the Black), Moe Dunford (Aethelwulf), Alex Høgh (Ivar), Marco Ilsø (Hvitserk), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe)
Guest Stars: John Kavanagh (Seer), Steven Berkoff (King Olaf the Stout), Ragga Ragnars (Gunnhild), Dean Ridge (Magnus), Alicia Agneson (Freydis), Kristy Dawn Dinsmore (Amma), Travis Fimmel (Ragnar), Ryan Hanson (Hall), Svea Killoran (Asa), Martin Maloney (Vigrid), Kieran O'Reilly (White Hair)
Summary: A new battle for Kattegat is on and only the gods know who will emerge victorious.



The episode begins with Ivar learning of how they are collecting taxes and have raised 60 soldiers for his army. He summons the blacksmith who knows exactly what he has to do. Ivar is brought to the great hall where he learns that two armies are headed to Kattegat, one led by Bjorn and King Harald; the other led by two kings they did not recognize, along with Hvitserk. Ivar turns to Freydis, as her fellow gods allowed him to see his fate and now all his brothers are against him.

Bjorn, Hvitserk, Harald, and King Olaf realize that Ivar has been preparing for their siege; Olaf wondering if they should

negotiate with him. Both Bjorn and Hvitserk agree that it is useless to negotiate with him.

Torvi climbs over the sleeping people, asking Lagertha what being between life and death teach her. She knows that life is about suffering and there is no escape from it. Torvi doesn't know how she is supposed to tell her children that life is all about suffering, but Lagertha says they will find out for themselves.

Olaf talks to Magnus, Gunnhild and Bjorn, speaking how one small brother will fight against brother and the world will be wrecked. This war will last 3 winters as brothers will slaughter sons, women will abandon their menfolk to seduce their own sons. This is the winters of all winters; Bjorn says he knows the gods of Valhalla as Olaf says Odin and the wolf will be the first to engage but the battle will be fearsome but in the end the wolf will swallow the All-father — the death of Odin. Harald joins them saying this is Ragnarok, and it is only a story.

Blacksmiths are busy everywhere, preparing weapons of war. Soldiers line the walls of Kattegat, while Harald, Bjorn, and Olaf discuss strategy, painting their faces so they will know each other from the opposing army.

Freydis wakes up to see Ivar staring at her. He needs to know that she has forgiven him for all the things he does. He apologizes and loves her as she tells him she loves him and forgives him. Before he can say anything else, the horn sounds and men rush off to battle. Ivar kisses her, saying he needs to go and she must take care of herself. She calls him "beloved".

Ivar climbs the wall to see Bjorn, leading his army on the ground. They have a massive group as the people of Kattegat are told to line the walls. Ivar is completely unaware of Hvitserk and all his men hiding behind the hills. The war cry is sounded as the battering ram is brought forward; Ivar's men launch their arrows into the people; both brothers determined to get at each other. Ivar laughs as he diverts arrows launched at him.

Hvitserk and his army throw burning arrows at the pillars, then using wagons to jump onto the wall. Magnus hides against the wall, begging to know why he has been forsaken. Ladders are brought to the wall, Hvitserk is able to get on the wall, desperate to get to his brother, Ivar. Ivar yells at Bjorn that he has come far too late, laughing from his perch. His people pour oil all over them as he orders for them to be burned alive. Olaf screams for them to see the death of humanity. Spilled guts and scorched flesh as they tear each other's throats out. He shouts for everyone to come and see!

King Harald narrowly escapes death as he drops from the wall. Hvitserk climbs back down the wall, hiding with King Harald under the cart. Harald says they cannot run away now, Bjorn is already at the gate. Everything is burning around them as Bjorn continues to ram the gate. Ivar repeatedly throws fire at Bjorn who is finally able to break through the gate. Ivar watches from the inside and once Bjorn is inside, he drops rocks, sealing a small bunch of Bjorn's army inside. He calls for his archers, but Shield Maiden Gunnhild climbs the wall able to kill many people. She is a savage, waiting for Bjorn to join her; together they are able to escape and Bjorn orders everyone to retreat. Ivar jeering at them. Magnus rises from the ground, saying Odin is with him as he is Ragnar's son. He shoots an arrow and then attempts to climb the wall but Harald grabs him. Magnus says he was never a spy but didn't know who he was until now. He is shot with an arrow and dies in Harald's arm.

Bjorn shouts at the people, saying he is Ragnar's oldest son and he is not their enemy but Ivar is. He rules with cruelty and tyranny. Ivar shouts that he is lying, attempting to kill him, but Bjorn stops it, saying to everyone, "You know me!" before he walks away.

Harald finally joins, Bjorn, Gunnhild, Hvitserk, and Olaf. He feels they will not be able to attack the walls again. Olaf says if this were him, he would walk away and everything they have thought if, Ivar has thought about. Hvitserk says him and Bjorn are sons of Ragnar and do not give in. Harald reminds him that Ivar is a son of Ragnar too.

Ivar screams at his army, saying Bjorn is not their friend and if he and Harald succeed in their ambitions, they will have great plans for Kattegat but they do not involve these people and Ivar is the only one who speaks for them; promising to live and die for each one of them. He simply wants their absolute loyalty, otherwise, they will all perish together.

Gunnhild learns Bjorn is thinking about Kattegat, Ragnar and everything. Gunnhild reveals she had thoughts and dreams too as she lost a husband and never had children. Bjorn questions if she wanted children, but she says she is there to give pleasure to men and doesn't want to do anything, nor be trapped as she wants to fight and ride wild horses. She asks if she is crazy and Bjorn has an idea that she might be. She wants to have sex, as they both might die tomorrow but if possible she would like to be with child.

Ivar and his people celebrate in the great hall, but Freydis doesn't see any happiness in it. She leaves by horse, where she is questioned. Hvitserk confronts her as she reveals Thora is dead when Ivar burned her alive along with many others. She apologizes, saying Ivar killed their baby and he is a monster. She tells them there is a secret way into town, she will show the scout where it is and they need to be ready for her to open it in the morning. She wants to see Ivar strung up in a tree. Harald doesn't know if they can trust her but Bjorn feels they don't have any other choice.

Hvitserk and Bjorn stand in the dark of the forest, watching Freydis sneak back into Kattegat. She tries to sneak back into bed, but Ivar notices. Freydis says they are attacking the walls again, but he isn't even sure he needs to get out of bed; he rises to find Bjorn, Hvitserk and their army inside attacking everyone. Bjorn shouts for them to stop, informing the people of Kattegat that they have come for Ivar only. He insists they stay inside as they are there to set them free.

Bjorn walks toward the rows of soldiers and shouts out Ivar's name, who stands behind them all. One soldier approaches Bjorn, who takes them on by himself. Ivar turns around to his home, looking for Freydis, telling her to come to him as he needs her. He knows someone betrayed him and let them in, she isn't going to deny it; saying on the body of their dead son, she let them in. Ivar throws down his crutch, kisses her; but after he tells her he loves her, as she is the

most beautiful thing that has ever happened to him. A part of him will always love her, but he strangles her; saying he doesn't have time but he will wait for her. He repeats how much he loves her as she draws her last breath and he cries.

Ivar can hear the battle rage outside in the village. Bjorn is knocked to the ground as an ax is drawn on him. Harald looks at Gunnhild and viciously attacks the man on top of Bjorn. Harald is severe bleeding, but they continue to shout determined to take over Kattegat.

Bjorn and Hvitserk make it into the great hall, calling out for Ivar and his surrender. They barge into the house, finding Freydis and their son's skull and bones beside her; both brothers get emotional but storm out of there more determined than ever to find Ivar. The throne sits empty as they walk through a battle-torn Kattegat. Olaf approaches them, handing him a flag, saying this is for the new year and Bjorn Ironside.

Ubbe walks in and hugs Bjorn but doesn't greet Hvitserk. Everyone's eyes are drawn behind him as Lagertha walks in with a sword in hand. Bjorn is shocked to see her alive as she hands him the sword of kings; hailing him Bjorn, King of Kattegat. Everyone begins to chant, "Hail King Bjorn!" as he stares into his father's sword. He notices the sun behind the sword, which is covered in blood.

Ragnar is asking him what he is fighting for as he sits on top of the hillside, remembering his dad asking him what he sees. Ragnar reminds him that Power is dangerous, it tricks the worst and corrupts the best. It is only given to those who pretend to love themselves. The Seer's voice sounds, saying it has come to pass, the future foretold of the dark raven and the wolf who bears the bones of its corpses. He tells Bjorn to make use of this new world as he can.

Bjorn wants to know what his role and what will become of him. Seer tells him no one will forget the name Bjorn Ironside, greater than Ragnar; but warns him that the war is not over. He puts his finger to his lips, silencing Bjorn before he vanishes.

Ivar is on one of the wagons and handed a sharp knife as he is escorted away from Kattegat; hiding his face.

Season Six

New Beginnings

Season 6

Episode Number: 70

Season Episode: 1

Originally aired:	Wednesday December 04, 2019
Writer:	Michael Hirst
Director:	Steve Saint Leger
Show Stars:	Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn Ironside), Peter Franzen (Harald Fairhair), Alex Høgh (Ivar the Boneless), Marco Ilsø (Hvitserk), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe)
Guest Stars:	Andrei Claude (Ganbaatar), Alicia Agneson (Freydis), Kristy Dawn Dinsmore (Amma), Stav Dvorkin (Collaborator), Georgia Hirst (Torvi), Danila Kozlovsky (Oleg of Novgorod), Charlie Kranz (Rus Engineer), Blake Kubena (Prince Askold), Renars Latkovskis (Russian Guard), Marko Leht (Torturer), Colin Malone (Axe Man), Martin Maloney (Vigrid), Lucy Martin (Ingrid), Kathy Monahan (Eira), Colin R Murphy (Saxon Soldier), Kieran O'Reilly (White Hair), Bryan Quinn (One-Eyed Man), Cathal Sheahan (Earl 2), Ferdia Walsh-Peel (Alfred the Great), Ragga Ragnars (Gunnhild), Danny O'Connor (Messenger A), Michael Johnston (Messenger B), Serena Kennedy (Anna)
Summary:	Bjorn struggles with the responsibilities of kingship and he finds he can't rely on his mother, Lagertha; Ivar falls into the hands of the Kievan Rus, and in their ruthless and unpredictable ruler, Prince Oleg, he may finally have met his match.



Silk Road — The episode begins with Ivar on the Silk Road. On the run, he is forced to live among the vagabonds. No longer a great king and utterly defeated, he travels the strange lands and encounters people from all walks of life. Unknown and with nothing to lose, he stays under the radar as he goes from city to city. Along the way, he notices a man who appears to be following them.

As they continue their travels, soldiers attack the group. As Ivar defends himself, one of the men notices that Ivar travels differently than the other people on the road, and asks who he is. The strange

man who has been following them offers some information for a price. The man reveals to the soldiers that Ivar is a 'Viking King.' Amused that the disabled person could be a king, the soldier decides to take him as a prisoner to their capital, Kiev. Ivar finds out from this man who happens to speak Old Norse that they are Rus and their ruler is Prince Oleg, the Prophet.

Kiev — As they enter the hall, Prince Oleg is wiping some blood off an ax, and they throw Ivar in front of the bloody mess on the floor. The men tell Prince Oleg that they have found a Viking who claims to be a king. As Ivar explains that he has a disability, he takes note that Prince Oleg speaks Old Norse. Prince Oleg explains he is Rus Viking and that he has heard of Ivar the Boneless. The Prince wonders why Ivar is traveling like a thief, and Ivar explains that he has nothing. He has no plans and did not mean to trouble the Prince with his presence. Prince Oleg decides to let Ivar stay.

Ivar stares through the window of his room as he is more of a prisoner than a guest. Meanwhile, the Rus tortures his companion so Prince Oleg can get some information. When he gets frustrated with the lack of proof, the tortured man tells him that Ivar is a god. This statement amuses the prince but does not satisfy his need to know what Ivar truly wants. As a result, Prince Oleg has his men kill Ivar's companion right in front of him by tearing him apart. This act ends up shocking Ivar.

Prince Oleg then decides to take Ivar on an adventure in the sky. Ivar and the Prince are strapped to the balloon ropes and set loose above the city of Kiev. He tells Ivar that he brought him up there because Ivar is a god. This statement hits Ivar as tears well up in his eyes. He did believe he was a god. As the balloon starts to descend, they both panic. Luckily, 'the God' and 'the Prophet' come crashing down safely and laugh with sheer delight.

Later, Prince Oleg takes Ivar to the mausoleum of his dead wife, who he had killed because she had been unfaithful. This revelation prompts Ivar to commiserate. He understands the feeling of being betrayed by someone so close. They share a poignant moment where each man displays a sliver of vulnerability.

Ivar's arrival is an omen for Prince Oleg, and he decides it's time to look west to Kattegat, the place of his ancestors.

After bonding in the mausoleum, a play is put on by puppeteers. The story is of love and betrayal. Ivar is keenly aware that the story bears an eerie resemblance to the story he had just heard Prince Oleg tell of his wife's death. At the end of the play, Prince Oleg tells Ivar he has to travel to see his brother and deal with some family business.

When the group arrives at Prince Oleg's brother's place, Ivar and the Prince wait for his brother. While they wait, Prince Oleg tells Ivar why he is called "The Prophet." His tale reveals that amid a power struggle, he was invited to a feast. The night before, he dreamt that he was going to be poisoned by wine. He took that as a warning, and when he went to the feast, he decided not to drink the wine. His friends did not do the same, and they died a horrible death.

As he says this, he carefully puts his wine down on the table. Ivar takes note of the indirect action. Just at that moment, Prince Oleg's brother, Prince Askold, and the young heir of their kingdom arrive in the hall. There is some apparent tension between the Prince and his brother. Despite the awkwardness, they all sit down for a meal. They raise their glasses to a toast, and Ivar notices that Prince Oleg does not drink from his glass, so he pauses. At that moment, they hear fighting from outside. Prince Oleg jumps and demands they play music as he dances in the middle of the room. His brother starts to choke, then and bleed. Ivar sees what is happening and puts his wine down.

As Prince Askold dies in the middle of the room, Prince Oleg's men rush in. Everyone stares in fear as Prince Oleg grabs the young boy, Igor, and takes him outside. He does not seem phased by killing his brother, along with all his men.

The following morning, Prince Oleg's other brother, Prince Dir, arrives. He is furious over the murder of their brother, Prince Askold. Prince Oleg reminds him that he is 'The Prophet,' and he foresees his death unless he lets them safely leave. Since Ivar does not have a choice in what happens, he looks to befriend young Igor by way of magic tricks which the child seems to enjoy.

The time then comes for Prince Dir to make a decision. To test his brother and his abilities as a prophet, he asks him to reveal the identity of his new wife's name. To make his point, Prince Oleg not only tells the name of the new bride, but he also brings her into the room. Disturbed by this, Prince Dir gives in and releases his brother, Ivar, and Igor.

The Prophet

Season 6
Episode Number: 71
Season Episode: 2

Originally aired: Wednesday December 04, 2019
Writer: Michael Hirst
Director: Steve Saint Leger
Show Stars: Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn Ironside), Peter Franzen (Harald Fairhair), Alex Høgh (Ivar the Boneless), Marco Ilsø (Hvitserk), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe)
Guest Stars: Alicia Agneson (Freydis), Danila Kozlovsky (Oleg of Novgorod), Lenn Kudrjawizki (Prince Dir), Martin Maloney (Vigrid), Lucy Martin (Ingrid), Kathy Monahan (Eira), Ferdia Walsh-Peelo (Alfred the Great), John Kavanagh (Seer), Adam Copeland (Kjetill Flatnose), Georgia Hirst (Torvi), Ragga Ragnars (Gunnhild), Andrei Claude (Ganbaatar), Will Guppy (Chamberlain), Oran Glynn O'Donovan (Igor), Blake Kubena (Prince Askold), Ryan Henson (Hali), Elodie Curry (Asa), Kieran O'Reilly (White Hair)
Summary: Messengers arrive in Kattegat with news that presents Bjorn with a dilemma. As Bjorn attempts to do the right thing as ruler of Kattegat, Prince Oleg of Kiev seems untroubled by his conscience.



Kattegat — The city celebrates its victory as King Bjorn takes his throne. He reiterates that he will be nothing like his predecessor.

He wishes for the city to open its doors and grow through trade. Unlike his brother, King Bjorn encourages his people to speak with him and ensures that he will dutifully listen.

During the celebration, the men who sided with Ivar were brought in as prisoners. Hvitserk calls them out on their cruelty while in support of Ivar's evil doings. King Bjorn decides to banish the prisoners for life rather than put them to death.

They brand the men and strip them of everything they own. As one of the men charges at King Bjorn, Ubbe swiftly smacks him down. While Lagertha believes that her son did the right thing, Hvitserk does not.

Later, as King Bjorn sits with his family, he shares with them his plans for Kattegat and asks for their support. Lagertha surprises everyone when she tells King Bjorn that she will support him, but she will not be around.

She explains that she wishes to go back to the simple life and build a farm like she once had with their father, Ragnar. Ubbe can't believe that she can go back to being a farmer. With her mind made up, King Bjorn has no choice but to accept her wish, and they all raise their glasses.

Ubbe and Torvi travel with Lagertha and locate a piece of land where she decides to build her new home. They offer to help Lagertha settle in before heading out. Torvi reveals that she and Ubbe are expecting.

Back in the great hall, men arrive with news of King Harald, who last we saw was injured after the great battle. Gunnhild indicates that they thought he had died of those injuries, but the men

informed them that King Olaf had saved King Harald and taken him back. While King Harald was ill, King Olaf took over his lands. The men ask King Bjorn to help rescue King Harald out of obligation and as a man of honor.

King Bjorn decides to think about it. He is at a critical juncture as a new King, and this decision will be crucial.

Meanwhile, Lagertha takes her sword and buries it amid the trees as she gives up her shield maiden past and looks to a peaceful future. Little does she realize that the traitors that King Bjorn had let go are quietly lurking in the woods.

A while later, to Ubbe's surprise, Kjetill Flatnose arrives in Floki's boat. Ubbe quickly inquires about their quest to find a new settlement. Kjetill tells him about the hardships of discovering new lands in Iceland, but he is optimistic that they will succeed. It seems he has conveniently left out what actually happened.

King Bjorn is still torn between saving King Harald and staying in Kattegat. He sits with Ubbe and Hvitserk to get their thoughts, but in the end, they don't seem to be much help. Hvitserk is fixated on finding Ivar while Ubbe does not wish to choose. He's just happy he's not a King.

After talking with his brother, Ubbe then goes into the hall and tries to get more information from Kjetill about Floki. Kjetill tells Ubbe that he's recruiting more settlers. He also says to him that Floki got tired of a settlement that wasn't working and left everyone without any word. They tried looking for him but couldn't find him. Ubbe seems to question this, but quickly changes the subject and asks about a wanderer who sailed far west and found an island. It just so happens that Kjetill knows who that wanderer is and that he is in Iceland. Ubbe then decides to go to Iceland to find that wanderer and Floki.

Back in the Lagertha's home, Ubbe returns from Kattegat and tells them that he ran into Kjetill. He tells him that he is going to go to Iceland with him to find the wanderer and Floki.

Since no one was able to help King Bjorn decide what to do about King Harald, he goes up into the mountains and talks to The Seer in the wind. The Seer leaves him with one warning.

He then goes to visit his mother, Lagertha, and his kids. There he tells them that he has decided to save King Harald. Since Hvitserk is battling his demons, he is not the right person to watch over Kattegat while King Bjorn is away. He asks Ubbe to watch over Kattegat so it won't be left unprotected. They can then go to Iceland with his blessing once he returns. Torvi and Ubbe reluctantly agree.

King Bjorn returns home and tells Gunhild he is going. He then sets out to find Kjetill. King Bjorn doesn't believe Kjetill's story and that Floki just left. He strongly recommends that Kjetill join him and his army. Kjetill knows that this is not a choice and agrees.

Ghosts, Gods and Running Dogs

Season 6
Episode Number: 72
Season Episode: 3

Originally aired: Wednesday December 11, 2019
Writer: Michael Hirst
Director: Steve Saint Leger
Show Stars: Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn Ironside), Peter Franzen (Harald Fairhair), Alex Høgh (Ivar the Boneless), Marco Ilsø (Hvitserk), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe)
Guest Stars: Danila Kozlovsky (Oleg of Novgorod), Adam Copeland (Kjetill Flatnose), Lenn Kudrjawizki (Prince Dir), Georgia Hirst (Torvi), Steven Berkoff (King Olaf the Stout), Ragga Ragnars (Gunnhild), Lucy Martin (Ingrid), Conn Rogers (Canute), Oran Glynn O'Donovan (Igor), Serena Kennedy (Anna), Eve Connolly (Thora), Aine Hayden (Old Woman), Alicia Gerard (First Woman), Deborah Wiseman (Second Woman), Kristy Dawn Dinsmore (Amma), Ryan Henson (Hali), Elodie Curry (Asa), Kieran O'Reilly (White Hair), Danny O'Connor (Messenger 1), Michael Johnston (Messenger 2)
Summary: Lagertha is forced to take action; In Kiev, although Oleg continues to be friendly, Ivar is aware of the threat which Oleg poses to the vulnerable young heir to the throne; Bjorn has answered the call and come to the aid of an old enemy.



King Olaf's Kingdom — King Olaf is keeping King Harald as his prisoner. King Olaf summons his prisoner and provides him food. The old King begins to rant about fate and the plans that the gods have for them. He fears that the Christian god will be the end of them, and he wants to make sure that he reaches Vallaha.

He's not sure whether to let King Harald live or die and with that, King Harald is taken back to his prison. He later tries to make a deal in exchange for freedom with the man who brings him his meal, but it does not work. The one thing that does come out of that conversation is that

King Harald finds out that King Bjorn has arrived.

King Bjorn hears that King Harald is still alive, but they are not sure for how long. The messengers who brought this news stay with King Bjorn and his men when they make their move at the request of King Bjorn.

That night King Bjorn and his men waded through the waters to get to shore so they can silently sneak up on King Olaf's men. As they cross, through the waters, the two messengers quickly swim away, which draws suspicion from Kjetill. As the rest of the men continue, they notice that there is something in the water. Just then, a fire blazes throughout the water and arrows shower down from above. King Bjorn calls for his men to retreat quickly, as King Oleg screams from above.

Kiev — Prince Oleg, Ivar, and young Igor leave Prince Dir and his wife. As they travel, Ivar discovers that Price Oleg was bluffing about the prophecy that he told his brother. Ivar then

questions how Prince Oleg knew about the wife, and the Prince reveals that Anna used to be his mistress. He had given her permission to marry his brother. She was only acting scared.

Ivar later inquires about the invasion of Kattegat. Prince Oleg insists that these things take time for proper preparation. Besides, he still needs to deal with his brother, Prince Dir. As they talk, his men attack Prince Dir and take him as his prisoner. Prince Oleg no longer can trust his brother because he feels that his brother wants Igor to gain power. Despite Prince Dir's every effort to persuade him otherwise, Prince Oleg decides to torture him and keep him prisoner.

Meanwhile, Ivar and Igor begin to bond as Ivar teaches the young heir Old Norse. They are interrupted when there is some disturbance outside. When Ivar and Igor go to see what it is, they discover a chained up Prince Dir, who has had a ring seared through his cheek. Even though Igor seems unphased by this gruesome visual, there is a slight look of concern on Ivar's face as he sees how vicious Prince Oleg can be.

Kattegat — King Bjorn gets more curious about his wife's servant, Ingrid. She makes her move on him and tells him that every man she's been with has had good luck and fortune. He initially rejects her advances, seemingly to stay faithful to his wife. Later in the episode, however, he ends up in her arms.

Hvitserk, meanwhile, has gotten considerably worse. He begins to hallucinate and see the burnt version of his beloved, Thora. Thora was the young woman who Ivar had burned for defying him. Gunnhild tries to talk to him but is unable to console him. Ivar, Thora, and Hvitserk's mother haunt him. As they talk, Hvitserk notices that Gunnhild is pregnant and thinks about how he always wanted children. As he cries in Gunnhild's arms, he sees Ivar staring back at him.

Bjorn, meanwhile, prepares to leave, and he lets Gunnhild know that Ubbe and Torvi will help watch over the city since Hvitserk is not well enough for that task. He also reassures her that he doesn't want to keep exploring as he used to.

Although his words indicate that his response is sincere, the look in his eyes makes us wonder if this is truly content.

Ubbe and Torvi take their seats in the Great Hall alongside Gunnhild and assures everyone that their presence is temporary until King Bjorn returns. He will continue the pursuit of boosting trade on behalf of King Bjorn. Ubbe notes that Hvitserk will go on a trade mission along the Silk Road. He believes as Vikings; they are travelers and traders.

He is irritated that Hvitserk failed to be present for this moment and asks Amma to find him. She discovers him in his home half out of his mind. He continues to see visions of Thora, who watches him.

Lagertha's Farm — Back in Lagertha's village, a group of women arrives at her home. They heard the famous shieldmaiden lived nearby and wanted to see for themselves. Many of them no longer have their husbands and sons since they lost them in the battles and storms. They show great respect to Lagertha, who welcomes them.

During a meal, Lagertha talks with Torvi and Ubbe about their expedition, and eventually, the trio decides to leave Torvi and Bjorn's children with Lagertha. As a result, Ubbe then suggests that Torvi also stay behind since she is pregnant, which prompts Torvi to fire back.

Lagertha watches in amusement. It is clear that she is very proud of Torvi's strength, and they raise their glasses — Skål! Finally, the village prepares to bless Lagertha's new home with a traditional Viking ritual. Afterward, Ubbe and Torvi say goodbye to the children as they head back to the city of Kattegat.

Later in the night, the men banished by King Bjorn attack the village while Lagertha tells a tale to the children before bedtime. The next day, the women run to Lagertha and tell her what the men did to them and their loved ones. They look for her guidance on what to do if they come back.

She ultimately realizes she has no choice but to go back and retrieve the sword she buried. She will do anything to protect the people she loves.

All the Prisoners

Season 6

Episode Number: 73

Season Episode: 4

Originally aired:	Wednesday December 18, 2019
Writer:	Michael Hirst
Director:	David Frazee
Show Stars:	Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn Ironside), Peter Franzen (Harald Fairhair), Alex Høgh (Ivar the Boneless), Marco Ilsø (Hvitserk), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe)
Guest Stars:	Danila Kozlovsky (Oleg of Novgorod), Adam Copeland (Kjetill Flatnose), Lenn Kudrjawizki (Prince Dir), Georgia Hirst (Torvi), Steven Berkoff (King Olaf the Stout), Ragga Ragnars (Gunnhild), Oran Glynn O'Donovan (Igor), Danny O'Connor (Messenger 1), Owen Barton (Warrior), Gina Costigan (Runa), David Sterne (Gudmund), Sandy Kennedy (Sylvi), Kathy Monahan (Eira), Conn Rogers (Canute), Ryan Henson (Hali), Elodie Curry (Asa), Kristy Dawn Dinsmore (Amma), Per Fredrik Asly (Envoy), Kieran O'Reilly (White Hair), Oisín Murray (Tarben), Aoibheann McCann (Skadi)
Summary:	Lagertha leads her village's response to the recent attacks but despite her best efforts, when the inevitable attack comes, the consequences are tragic. Olaf has a bold new plan for the future of Norway. In Kiev, although Ivar discusses Oleg's ambitions for Scandinavia, he's actually more interested in the plight of Igor, the young heir who Oleg controls.



King Olaf's Kingdom — King Bjorn's men locate the traitor, who brings a message from King Olaf. The old King wishes to speak with King Bjorn; however, King Bjorn has one condition before granting his request. He wants to see that King Harald is alive.

When the three kings are in the hall, King Olaf points out that they are both his prisoners and that King Bjorn's army is not strong enough to win. However, King Bjorn doesn't back down and lets King Olaf know that his army will be just as weak and, as a result, unable to keep King Harald's lands. King Olaf decides to

think about how to handle this puzzle, so he sends King Harald back to his prison and King Bjorn to his camp, where he will remain surrounded. He does, however, graciously offer to allow for provisions to get through to his men.

While King Bjorn waits in his camp, he decides to probe Kjetill for the truth of what happened to Floki. Kjetkill tells him the story of the two warring families and admits that he did not heed Floki's instructions and retaliated against Eyvind and his family for what had happened. King Bjorn still doesn't believe that this would have caused Floki to give up and leave, and he accuses Kjetkill of perhaps killing Floki and then burying the body to hide his actions, but Kjetkill quickly denies it.

Unfortunately for Kjetill, King Bjorn still does not believe his story. Kjetkill is upset by his accusation and is left seething in anger.

King Olaf has been contemplating what to do about their situation. He then summons King Bjorn and King Harald because he has come to a decision. He tells both men that he feels that the small wars between their kingdoms will be their people's downfall. King Harald points out that King Olaf is one who perpetuates this cycle of battles among their people. King Olaf accepts that and tells both men that the gods have revealed something to him.

Consequently, he believes that the best person for this role is the eldest son of Ragnar Lothbrok, King Bjorn. Naturally, all the Kings and Queens would need to agree to this, so he tells both men to think about this proposal.

After much contemplation, both King Harald and King Bjorn agree to his plan.

Kiev — Ivar visits Prince Igor in his room. It seems they have begun building a friendship. Both have learned each other's native tongue. Ivar reveals to the young Prince that he is the heir of all of Rus and everything in it belongs to him. He doesn't believe him and says that it belongs to Prince Oleg. Ivar lets him know that Prince Oleg doesn't rule anything and that it's Igor.

Prince Igor visits Ivar later in the night and asks if what he had told him earlier was true, is he the true heir? Ivar tells him that he is. Then Ivar goes to Prince Oleg, who has summoned him. Prince Oleg tells him that he has begun gathering his army for the invasion of Scandinavia and that Ivar will be a great asset to him as a son of Ragnar Lothbrok. Moreover, he tells Ivar that no one will argue with his legitimacy when he places him on the throne. This proposal gives Ivar some pause. Ivar doesn't want to be his puppet. He does not want to answer to Prince Oleg, and as he points out that he is a god, Prince Oleg angrily fires back.

At night, Ivar quietly goes to see Prince Dir in his cage. He brings him some food to keep him on friendly terms because one day he might go free. Prince Dir offers to give Ivar anything he wants if he helps him. All Ivar wants is the chance to overthrow Prince Oleg.

Kattegat — Amma and Ubbe discover Hvitserk in a rundown shack. Ubbe tells him that he wants to give Hvitserk some responsibility. He is hopeful that this news will pull him out of whatever he is going through.

He tells him about the expedition along the Silk Road. Hvitserk is overcome with gratitude and lets him know that he won't disappoint him. As he cries in Ubbe's arm, it is clear that Ubbe is worried about the mental state of his brother. Afterward, they attempt to force Hvitserk to sober up in a shed; however, he can't handle it and gets out. Amma locates Hvitserk back in the drug den and brings him back to Ubbe, who is severely disappointed that Hvitserk could not get clean. As a result of his setback, Ubbe sends his men on the Silk Road without Hvitserk. In his anger, he also turns Hvitserk away. Hvitserk has no options but to wander the city alone and with nothing but his hallucinations.

Meanwhile, Gunnhild, wakes from a disturbing nightmare where she saw an attack on a village. The following day, she tells Torvi about her dream. She believes it might be Lagertha's village, and this worries Torvi. As a result of the vision, Gunnhild wants to visit Lagertha to make sure. Additionally, Torvi wants to join, but Ubbe can't let her go because they have responsibilities in Kattegat.

Lagertha's Village — Lagertha gives a speech to the village people to rouse them to prepare and be ready to fight. The villagers carry out specific tasks. Despite Lagertha's confidence, they are nervous that they will not be able to fight against the bandits.

The villagers diligently prepare as the bandits get closer. As they close in, the lookouts quickly enact the warning system. Additionally, people rush to get into their places as the bandits begin their attack. Lagertha's grandchildren run and hide, and so does the rest of the people. When the bandits arrive, they start searching for everyone. As they break through the barricade, the villagers launch their assault on the men.

Lagertha encourages everyone to fight for their lives and that they have nothing to fear. Lagertha spots the leader of the bandits as the men retreat. However, just then, Lagertha's grandson, Hali, runs to grab a sword, and as she sees this, the bandit spots him too. He charges at the child and strikes him down. Lagertha rushes to Hali's side. The poor child is afraid that he didn't do enough. He asks if he is dying, so she tells him the truth.

As a consequent of his injuries, Hali dies in Lagertha's arms. Afterward, the village buries their dead, and Lagertha tells everyone she is sure they will come back. Therefore, people have a choice. They can abandon everything to run and hid, or they can stay and defend their dead. The people of the village decide to stay and fight.

The Key

Season 6
Episode Number: 74
Season Episode: 5

Originally aired:	Wednesday January 01, 2020
Writer:	Michael Hirst
Director:	David Frazee
Show Stars:	Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn Ironside), Peter Franzen (Harald Fairhair), Alex Høgh (Ivar the Boneless), Marco Ilsø (Hvitserk), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe)
Guest Stars:	John Kavanagh (The Seer), Danila Kozlovsky (Oleg of Novgorod), Adam Copeland (Kjetill Flatnose), Lenn Kudrjawizki (Prince Dir), Georgia Hirst (Torvi), Steven Berkoff (King Olaf the Stout), Ragga Ragnarars (Gunnhild), Lucy Martin (Ingrid), Alicia Agneson (Katya), Fredrik Hiller (Jarl Thorkell), Elodie Curry (Asa), Aoibheann McCann (Skadi), Kristy Dawn Dinsmore (Amma), Gina Costigan (Runa), Kathy Monahan (Eira), Eve Connolly (Thora), Amy De Bhrún (Jarl Hrolf), Mishaël Lopes Cardozo (King Hakon), Oran Glynn O'Donovan (Igor), Neil Keery (Alexei), Serena Kennedy (Anna), Patrick O'Donnell (Dealer), Pellek (Envoy)
Summary:	Norway's Kings and Jarls arrive at Harald's territory for the election of the King of all Norway, while King Olaf is confident of the result, the election may not run as smoothly as he thinks.



King Olaf's Kingdom — King Olaf summons all the Kings and Earls. He seeks to unite all of Norway under one King. While the other leaders are wary of losing their power, he is adamant that they need this. There is too much infighting that weakens them against their common external enemies.

Rather than elect King Bjorn without contest, they feel there should be a real election where anyone of the other leaders can also campaign for votes. King Bjorn agrees with this.

As more ships arrive for the election, King Olaf is looking forward to seeing his

vision for Norway come to fruition. They gather all the Kings and Earls, but before the election ceremony begins, Kjetkill stops King Bjorn to tell him something; however, he hesitates and wishes him good luck instead.

Each of the leaders begins to place their vote in front of the people.

Kiev — Since Ivar and Prince Igor have become better friends, Ivar feels comfortable enough to bring him in on one of his plans.

Ivar and Prince Igor use Prince Dir's wife to distract the guards while they quietly help him escape his prison. Consequently, when Prince Oleg finds out that he is gone, he beheads the guards and serves them to Ivar and Prince Igor. He was not able to get much out of them before their deaths and is suspicious of everyone.

Despite this unfortunate event, he has some big news to share. He is getting married again. Prince Oleg then introduces Ivar and Prince Igor to his bride-to-be, Princess Katya, who looks exactly like his dead wife, Freydis. Ivar can't help but stare in utter disbelief.

Later, Ivar approaches the Princess in the market and lets her know that he believes Prince Oleg is playing games with him. He thinks she is Freydis, to whom he was married. When he tells her this, she doesn't believe him, but she doesn't seem to be thrown by the statement either.

Kattegat — Ubbe, Torvi, and the rest of the Kattegat watch Hvitserk behaving irrationally. Despite Amma's efforts, Hvitserk attempts to protect himself from Ivar. He continues to hallucinate and see his dead girlfriend, who tells him that she wants him to kill Ivar for her.

Hvitserk can't stop his addiction to drugs but has no money to pay his dealer. Because he has no other choice, he gives up the bracelet that was given to him by his father, Ragnar.

Meanwhile, Torvi notices Gunnhild's servant, Ingrid, sitting by the docks. As they talk, she learns that she is waiting for her lover, King Bjorn. Ingrid doesn't believe that Torvi could understand what she is going through, but Torvi sets her straight.

Ingrid states that it will be different with her. However, Torvi knows this is not the case.

Later, one of the men that Ubbe had sent on a mission to the Silk Road returns to Kattegat with some important news from Rus. While they were on their trading mission, they learned that Ivar was staying in Kiev with Prince Oleg. This information confirms that Ivar survived the battle. Ubbe instructs Amma to tell Hvitserk — for better or worse, he should know.

Lagertha's Village — Gunnhild arrives at Lagertha's place and learns that her dream was real and that Hali has died. Lagertha tells Gunnhild that the bandits attacked. She is sure that they will return since they were unable to get what they wanted. Even though Gunnhild has her shieldmaidens, Lagertha is not confident that it will be enough.

Death and the Serpent

Season 6

Episode Number: 75

Season Episode: 6

Originally aired: Wednesday January 08, 2020
Writer: Michael Hirst
Director: David Frazee
Show Stars: Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn Ironside), Peter Franzen (Harald Fairhair), Alex Høgh (Ivar the Boneless), Marco Ilso (Hvitserk), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe)
Guest Stars: Alicia Agneson (Katya), Andrei Claude (Ganbaatar), Gina Costigan (Runa), Amy De Bhrún (Jarl Hrolf), Kristy Dawn Dinsmore (Amma), Aoibheann McCann (Skadi), Ferdia Walsh-Peelo (Alfred the Great), Ian Gerard Whyte (Viking King), Jordan Coombes (Shield Maiden), Orlaith Doherty (Shield Maiden), Karin Floengard Jonsson (Shield Maiden), Jinny Lofthouse (Hild)
Summary: Bjorn is forced to act quickly in the aftermath of the election for the King of all Norway. The bandits attack Lagertha's village again, confident of victory. But when the defense boils down to single combat with Lagertha, victory for the bandits looks less certain. Back in Kattegat, haunted and paranoid, Hvitserk continues to unravel.



King Olaf's Kingdom — Last week, elections had just begun with King Olaf and King Harald placing their votes for King Bjorn. As the Kings and Earls cast their choices, not only is King Bjorn among the candidates, but so is King Harald.

King Olaf is not too pleased. As each vote is cast, it seems King Harald is catching up with King Bjorn. The leaders' selection surprises King Bjorn. Perhaps King Harald is not truly on his side as he so had claimed?

Kjetill watches intently along with the rest of the people. Even those who claimed loyalty start betraying King

Bjorn. The final vote places King Harald in the lead. It seems becoming King of all of Norway may not be in the cards for King Bjorn.

King Olaf has no choice and addresses the crowds. He anoints King Harald as the first King of all of Norway, while Bjorn fumes over the results and King Harald's betrayal.

While the crowd celebrates, King Bjorn begins to walk away, as King Harald shouts after him.

He tells King Bjorn that he will need him by his side in the months and years to come. King Bjorn offers his services and then walks away.

King Harald celebrates with everyone. He had no intention of letting the son of Ragnar being King. Meanwhile, King Olaf sits alone as his plan has severely backfired. He knows that King Harald was up to something and made promises to everyone to gain their support.

Later, King Harald and Kjetill talk in the corner. It is apparent that Kjetill had ulterior motives and advised King Harald. In return, he wants King Harald to make him King of Iceland. During their conversation, King Harald notices that King Bjorn is not present. When Kjetill also sees this, he runs to King Bjorn and warns him to leave quickly because King Harald has sent men to

kill him. Before King Bjorn can figure out what Kjetill is yelling about, men charge into the room, and King Bjorn has to fight his way out. Kjetill is struck and falls to the ground. Consequently, men surround King Bjorn, but right then, another man rushes to his defense and tells him that he has a boat. King Bjorn grabs Kjetill, and they make a run for it.

King Bjorn tends to Kjetill's wounds on the boat. He thanks Erik for saving him. Erik reveals that he did it for King Bjorn. Whether that is the truth or not, we shall see.

Lagertha's Village — The inevitable has come with the sounds of the horn warning the villagers of danger. The villagers all rush to their designated stations to prepare for the attack. This time Gunnhild's shield-maidens are ready with them.

Lagertha takes a moment to tell Gunnhild that she approves of her for King Bjorn. Is she worried that this will end badly?

One lone villager walks to the gates and antagonizes the raiders. The raiders shoot multiple arrows into him, and he goes down. The village archers on the hill are attacked from behind before they can even let loose their arrows.

The raiders then enter a maze that the villagers had built. One by one, as they go through, the villagers attack and kill them. Some of the men are lit on fire while swords and combat kill the others inside the labyrinth.

Gunnhild comes face-to-face with their leader, White Hair. He injures her and runs with Lagertha in pursuit. The time has come for them to battle. The death of Hali is undoubtedly on her mind.

White Hair screams that this is revenge for what he lost when King Bjorn banished him. Lagertha fires back.

White Hair then lunges for Lagertha, and they begin fighting.

Lagertha gets a couple of good swings in, as does White Hair. She then taunts him. As the people approach to help her, Lagertha instructs them to stay back. This fight is hers to finish, and she wants to end it on her terms. However, White Hair comes at her hard, and she loses her sword. She fearlessly dares him to strike, and just as he does, she swiftly grabs his sword and kills him. Like a true legend, she brings him down. The rest of the village watched in awe, and Gunnhild declares the significance of what they all witnessed.

As Lagertha undresses by herself, she sees that her wound from her fight with White Hair is deep. She later tells Gunnhild that she must go back to Kattegat, so they know what has happened. Lagertha doesn't want Gunnhild to go with her because she also is wounded and pregnant. Instead, Lagertha asks that she look after Asa.

Kiev — While King Bjorn and Lagertha fight for their lives, Prince Oleg and Princess Katya are married. Ivar is in attendance as the likeness of the bride to Freydis still strikes him. Despite how things ended, there is a part of him that loved her more than anything he ever knew.

It seems that Katya divulged to Prince Oleg what Ivar had told her about the resemblance to his wife. She then asks to take her dress off and requests Ivar's help. Prince Oleg abruptly takes her right in front of Ivar. He makes Ivar watch, knowing that it is probably killing him to see them together. This act of pure dominance will most likely not sit well with Ivar.

Kattegat — Ubbe and Torvi are having dinner in the Great Hall as they listen to a performer sing. The song appears to be about Lagertha. At the same time, Lagertha arrives in Kattegat on a horse, barely alive.

She falls from her horse and struggles to get to the Great Hall. In the pouring rain, The Seer comes to her. This vision is ominous considering The Seer has been dead himself and only seems to appear in critical times throughout our characters' journeys.

Meanwhile, Hvitserk sits in his home engulfed with paranoia. He fears that Ivar is coming for him. As Amma tries to reason with him, he strikes her and rushes out into the rain. As he wanders the city, he spots the tail of a serpent slithering away and follows.

When he reaches the creature, he begins stabbing it with such anger. When he finally stops, he sees that it is not the evil snake that he has killed, but Lagertha herself. She falls to the ground and reaches for Hvitserk.

She forgives him as she has lived a full life and knows that she will reunite with Ragnar in the halls of the Gods. Lagertha then dies in Hvitserk's arms. He lays her on the ground and fearfully runs.

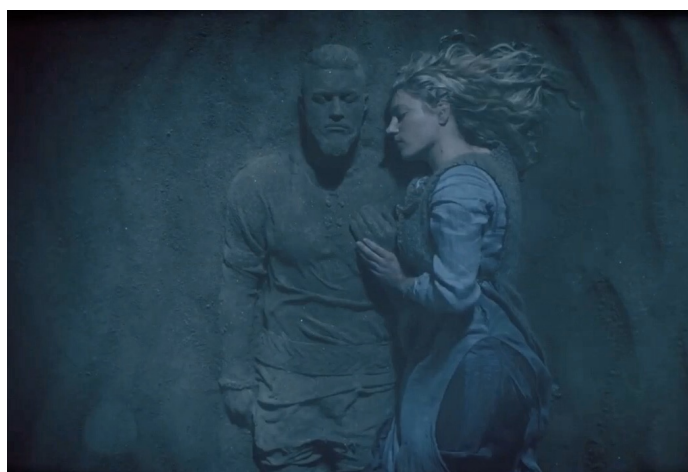
The Ice Maiden

Season 6

Episode Number: 76

Season Episode: 7

Originally aired: Wednesday January 15, 2020
Writer: Michael Hirst
Director: Steve Saint Leger
Show Stars: Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn Ironside), Peter Franzen (Harald Fairhair), Alex Høgh (Ivar the Boneless), Marco Ilsø (Hvitserk), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe)
Guest Stars: John Kavanagh (The Seer), Eric Johnson (Erik), Danila Kozlovsky (Oleg of Novgorod), Adam Copeland (Kjetill Flatnose), Georgia Hirst (Torvi), Steven Berkoff (King Olaf the Stout), Ragga Ragnars (Gunnhild), Lucy Martin (Ingrid), Alicia Agneson (Katya), Adam Behan (Warrior 1), Adam Traynor (Warrior 2), Kristy Dawn Dinsmore (Amma), Patrick O'Donnell (Dealer), Mishaël Lopes Cardozo (King Hakon), Bobby McGlynn (Blind Beggar), Elodie Curry (Asa), Oran Glynn O'Donovan (Igor), Niall Ó Sioradáin (Chief Priest), Emma Willis (Gyda), Nicolas Van Beveren (Stranger), Alex Mills (First Young Viking), Niall O'Brien (Second Young Viking), John Hogg (Third Young Viking), Karen Connell (Angel of Death), Jordan Coombes (Shield Maiden), Karin Floengard Jonsson (Shield Maiden), Michelle O'Flaherty (Shield Maiden), Laura Sibbick (Shield Maiden)
Summary: Bjorn returns to Kattegat; Harald gains a measure of revenge on Olaf; in Kiev, interesting news reaches Ivar and Igor about Prince Dir.



Kattegat — Lagertha's lifeless body lies in the great hall. While Torvi cries over her death, her thoughts turn to her children. She decides to head for Lagertha's village to find her children and Queen Gunnhild.

Meanwhile, as King Bjorn sleeps aboard the boat, he abruptly wakes. He senses something is wrong and instructs the men that they must head back to Kattegat.

Amid the discovery of Lagertha, Ubbe realizes that Hvitserk is missing and has his men search for him. Although he and Lagertha have history, he too is affected

by her death.

Ubbe watches Torvi sail for Lagertha's village. His men then notify him that they still can't find Hvitserk. Therefore Amma heads out to search for herself. As Ubbe walks away, he stops to talk to Ingrid. Torvi had revealed to him the relationship between King Bjorn and Ingrid. He makes sure to let her know that he is aware of this and that hopefully, she does not bear King Bjorn's wife, Gunnhild, any harm. Ingrid reassures him that she does not.

As with all of Ragnar's sons, Ubbe also has a moment where he converses with The Seer.

He asks that The Seer tell him who is responsible for her death, and The Seer responds with a warning.

When he hears Hali's name, he realizes that it must mean that Hali is also dead.

While Ubbe finds out about Hali through The Seer, Torvi arrives at Lagertha's village and meets her daughter, Asa, who tells her of Hali's death. They visit Hali's resting place, and Torvi says goodbye. She then goes to Queen Gunnhild and sees that she is wounded.

Queen Gunnhild asks about Lagertha, and Torvi tells her that even though she reached there, someone killed her. Queen Gunnhild then tells her that Lagertha rushed to Kattegat to give them news about White Hair and his bandits. She also wanted to tell Torvi about Hali's courage. She regrets not going with Lagertha because perhaps she could have done something to help her. Despite Gunnhild's injuries, she is determined to head back with Torvi.

Meanwhile, as funeral arrangements are underway, Amma enters the woods searching for Hvitserk. She finally tracks him down. He is nearly frozen as he sits in a total daze. He is distraught after what he did. Even after being questioned by Ubbe, he is unable to speak of what happened. The guilt eats at him.

As Torvi and Queen Gunnhild return with Asa, Ubbe apologizes to Torvi and tells her that he also loved Hali. Queen Gunnhild then asks for a sacrifice to help Lagertha ascend to Valhalla. As everyone offers themselves, Torvi also raises her hand, but Queen Gunnhild will not allow it as Torvi is pregnant. The Gods select a young girl, Gyda, instead, and they prepare her for her voyage with Lagertha. During the ritual, the Angel of Death plunges a knife into her. She then comforts her as she dies in her arms.

As the ceremony begins, Ubbe, Torvi, and Queen Gunnhild say their goodbyes. Each of them lays down an offering for Lagertha's journey.

Ubbe wishes that she will be reunited with his father, Ragnar. While Queen Gunnhild hopes Lagertha will teach her more in the afterlife. However, it was Torvi's sentiment that was especially heartbreaking since her relationship with Lagertha was so special.

King Bjorn arrives in Kattegat just in time. As they get off the boat, they notice the eerie silence surrounding the port. There is no one around, and King Bjorn knows something drastic has changed.

As the shield-maidens begin to pull the ship out, King Bjorn walks through the crowd towards Ubbe. Ubbe starts to talk, but King Bjorn stops him. He already knows what has happened.

King Bjorn was the one person that was closest to Lagertha, and therefore his heartbreaking farewell was the most poignant. He vowed to punish her murderer.

The funeral comes to an end as the shield-maidens pull the ship, and the ice breaks below it. Little Asa runs to the frozen water and looks below the ice. There she sees a vision of Lagertha floating below among the Valkyries. She lands next to her love, Ragnar.

Kiev — Prince Oleg and Ivar bide their time as they wait for winter to pass. Prince Igor has many things that he wants to do, as does Princess Katya. She continues to taunt Ivar.

Prince Igor enjoys the winter weather by skating. While Ivar watches him, a messenger quietly stands near him and gives him a message from Prince Dir. He is still recovering and hopes to help Ivar fulfill his ambition as they are the same as his. The messenger gives Ivar a pendant of a cross as a token of Prince Dir's friendship.

Even though Ivar is miles away from Kattegat, he too senses that something has changed as a result of Lagertha's death.

Vestfold — With King Bjorn gone, King Harald takes his elected place as King of Norway and demands that King Olaf pledge his allegiance. However, King Olaf can't and will not do it. He wanted King Bjorn to be the King of Norway.

Because King Olaf refuses to comply, King Harald throws King Olaf into prison until he comes to his senses or dies. King Olaf accepts they he will most likely die there since he has no intention of changing his mind.

Only a few episodes remain after tonight, and the fate of our characters all hang in the balance! The characters will all feel the loss of Lagertha's presence as they struggle to move on. What will happen to Hvitserk when King Bjorn figures out what happened? Will King Harald come after King Bjorn? What could Prince Oleg and Princess Katya be planning?

The visuals of the Lagertha's final journey to Valhalla was terrific. We couldn't have asked for a better way to say goodbye to a pivotal character. We can only hope that she and Ragnar have reunited in Valhalla and will spend eternity together again.

Valhalla Can Wait

Season 6

Episode Number: 77

Season Episode: 8

Originally aired:	Wednesday January 22, 2020
Writer:	Michael Hirst
Director:	Katheryn Winnick
Show Stars:	Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn Ironside), Peter Franzen (Harald Fairhair), Alex Høgh (Ivar the Boneless), Marco Ilsø (Hvitserk), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe)
Guest Stars:	Eric Johnson (Erik), Danila Kozlovsky (Oleg of Novgorod), Adam Copeland (Kjetill Flatnose), Georgia Hirst (Torvi), Steven Berkoff (King Olaf the Stout), Ragga Ragnars (Gunnhild), Lucy Martin (Ingrid), Alicia Agneson (Freydis), Kelly Campbell (Ingvild), Kristy Dawn Dinsmore (Amma), Elodie Curry (Asa), Oran Glynn O'Donovan (Igor), Adam Winnick (Rangvald Harald's Captain), Chris Powell (Rus Captain), Michael Judd (Village Elder), Emma Eliza Regan (Aoife), Keith Ward (Blacksmith), Scott Graham (Frodi), Mark Quigley (Viking)
Summary:	Bjorn faces a difficult decision. Ubbe and Torvi leave Kattegat, in search of new lands and perhaps old friends. Oleg's plans for the invasion of Scandinavia are taking shape, and King Harald is baffled by the origin of a mysterious raiding party.



Kattegat — Hvitserk is chained and brought to King Bjorn. He admits to killing Lagertha. When asked why he tells him that he thought it was Ivar. King Bjorn unleashes his wrath on his brother. Hvitserk knows that what he did is unforgivable and is willing to accept the consequences. King Bjorn declares Hvitserk guilty and has him taken away.

Ubbe goes to give Hvitserk some water and tells him that he should ask for forgiveness. However, Hvitserk tells him that he did what they all promised they would do for the death of their mother. It was his fate.

King Bjorn sits with the family to discuss what has happened. Amma pleads with King Bjorn that it wasn't Hvitserk's fault. However, King Bjorn is too angry to listen. He not only mourns the loss of his mother, Lagertha, but also his son. Queen Gunnhild lets him know that Hali risked his life for the village. This statement doesn't ease Bjorn's hurt, and the guilt on Torvi's is apparent.

He decides to burn Hvitserk the following day. This decision weighs heavily on him. He thinks back to all the advice he has gotten over the years as he struggles with what to do.

The following morning, men take Hvitserk to the pier, where they tie him to the stake. The entire city of Kattegat watches as the fire burns. Although Hvitsterk is ready to accept his fate, King Bjorn has something else in mind. Just as the sky opens and the sun comes through, Bjorn gives a knowing nod to Ubbe, who takes his ax and throws it towards Hvitserk. It hits the rope that has him tied to the stake, and he falls into the water. Ubbe jumps in after him and brings him onto the dock. King Bjorn grabs Hvitserk to tell him the reason he spared his life.

Ubbe sadly states that he won't survive the winter. King Bjorn's men take Hvitserk out of the city gates. He then tells the people that King Harald is the King of Norway, and he believes

he will attack soon because Kattegat is a valuable conquest. King Bjorn then asks his people that knowing this, do they still want him to rule, or they can join King Harald and save Kattegat from another brutal battle. Since there is only silence after King Bjorn's speech, Queen Gunnhild steps in and speaks for her husband. She rallies the people of Kattegat to show their support of him, of which they do.

Later Ubbe visits Kjetill who is still healing from his wounds. Ubbe wants Kjetill to go with him to Iceland. He wants him to introduce him to the wanderer and help him find Floki. Without much choice, Kjetill agrees.

While King Bjorn lies with his mistress Ingrid, Queen Gunnhild walks through the streets of Kattegat. He states he needs to end this because he doesn't want to lie to Queen Gunnhild, who deserves better. Unfortunately for him, his mistress steers him from this idea. Just then, Queen Gunnhild walks in and confirms their betrayal. She tells King Bjorn that she is not a jealous person. Queen Gunnhild sees that he is in love with her and so she releases Ingrid from servitude and suggests that she marry King Bjorn. She points out that it is not uncommon for a King to take on multiple wives. Ragnar had even attempted this, although Lagertha did not go along with it.

Queen Gunnhild proposes that Ingrid and King Bjorn marry, and they all live together. This suggestion surprises King Bjorn and Ingrid. Queen Gunnhild doesn't seem to let this get to her, however as she leaves them, she tells Bjorn that even great men make mistakes. After all his mother was killed by the men he banished — a subtle way to let King Bjorn know that he is not above making poor judgments.

Despite being winter, Ubbe, along with Torvi and Kjetill, prepare to leave for Iceland. Bjorn doesn't want them to go, but Ubbe wants to get a head start before the ice forms. When King Bjorn tells Torvi that she shouldn't go since she is pregnant, the look on her face tells him this is not a fight he will win. He then says goodbye to his daughter. Torvi and Queen Gunnhild also have a moment together where they both let each other know that they have great admiration and respect for one another.

King Bjorn is sad that they are all separating again, but he hopes that they will all meet one day in Valhalla.

Kiev — Prince Igor and Ivar head to see Prince Oleg. They are not sure why he wants to see them. When they arrive in the dinner hall, Prince Oleg tells Ivar that before they can invade, he needs to know more about the area. Prince Oleg wants to send small raiding parties to collect intel and prisoners who can provide helpful information. Ivar agrees that this is a smart and strategic move.

Ivar invites Prince Igor to go along with him, however, when Prince Igor consults his puppet, this infuriates Prince Oleg. Prince Igor fires back, telling him that he owns everything, and Prince Oleg corrects him.

He tells Prince Igor that he will cut out his tongue if he ever makes fun of him again.

Ivar watches in disbelief. He knows that Prince Oleg is more dangerous than him. Prince Oleg then brings up his child, which causes Ivar to leave abruptly. He instead goes comfort Prince Igor who is crying in his room.

Vestfold — King Harald sends for King Olaf. When he enters the hall, he asks where the warriors are going. King Harald lets him know that they are patrolling the borders. He doesn't trust the other Kings, despite winning the elections. King Olaf then asks about King Bjorn and what King Harald has in plans for him. King Bjorn holds a special place, and King Harald knows that when he does finally kill him, only then can he be the true King.

He then tells King Olaf that he plans to keep him around. King Harald believes that the old ruler's ranting might have some sage advice, and he doesn't want to miss out on that. King Harald orders his men to remove the shackles. This gesture takes King Olaf by surprise.

Meanwhile, Prince Oleg's men attack a small village near Vestfold. The Viking men do their best to protect the people but are defeated. As King Harald's warriors arrive onsite, they see an older man weep over the body of a dead girl. When they ask what happened, the man points to a flag that was set down by the raiders.

They return to tell King Harald what happened, and even though he laughs it off, he seeks King Olaf's advice. King Olaf warns them that they will return with an army.

Iceland — Kjetkill, Ubbe, and Torvi arrive in Iceland. The villagers welcome them. However, Kjetkill doesn't seem to be entirely happy to be back.

Resurrection

Season 6

Episode Number: 78

Season Episode: 9

Originally aired: Wednesday January 29, 2020
Writer: Michael Hirst
Director: Daniel Grou
Show Stars: Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn Ironside), Peter Franzen (Harald Fairhair), Alex Høgh (Ivar the Boneless), Marco Ilsø (Hvitserk), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe)
Guest Stars: Alicia Agneson (Freydis), Kristy Dawn Dinsmore (Amma), Eric Johnson (Erik), Lucy Martin (Ingrid), Ferdia Walsh-Peelo (Alfred the Great), Andrei Claude (Ganbaatar), Georgia Hirst (Torvi), Ragga Ragnars (Gunnhild), Danila Kozlovsky (Oleg), Ray Stevenson (Other), Adam Copeland (Kjetill), Kelly Campbell (Ingvild), Scott Graham (Frodi), Niall O'Sioradain (Chief Priest), Ryan Henson (Hali), Per Fredrik Asly (Envoy), Elodie Curry (Asa), Oran Glynn O'Donovan (Igor), Gerard Miller (The Stranger)
Summary: In Iceland, Ubbe and Torvi finally meet a mysterious wanderer. Bjorn is forced to re-think who his enemies are when Erik returns from a scouting mission with worrying information. Bjorn will need allies, but he may not be able to convince his old foe, King Harald, to join forces in the face of the new threat. Ivar is reunited with someone close to him.



Iceland — The settlers celebrate the arrival of Ubbe and Torvi. As they eat and drink, the man they call 'The Wanderer' or Other arrives. Kjetill introduces him to Ubbe, who is interested in the new land that he discovered to the west of Iceland.

Other reluctantly tells the story of how he came upon the land. He discovered it by accident as a result of a storm that blew him off course. He describes a fantastic sight of nature and earth. The tides were too strong that he couldn't get to the land, and he ended up back in Iceland. Ubbe asks that Other come with them to rediscover that land, and he

agrees. Ubbe's thoughts then turn back to Floki. He still wants to find him. After Ubbe and Torvi retire to rest, Kjetill tells everyone at the table that Ubbe does not need to know everything.

Torvi meanwhile goes into labor, and it turns out to be difficult, which worries Ubbe. Other comes to pray for them. As Torvi realizes they may have to cut the baby out of her, she sees Hali, who summons her. She tells him that it is not time. Thankfully, she delivers the child naturally, and they name the baby, Ragnar. Ubbe realizes that the prayers that Other uttered were Christian. He knows this from his time in England.

When Ubbe confronts Other, he tells him that his original name was Athelstan and that he was once a missionary. This revelation surprises Ubbe. He took the name of a Danish man named Other. Ubbe feels he is an enemy of their Gods and should die. However, Torvi talks some sense into him. She reminds Ubbe that he was once baptized and also prayed to the Christian God.

Later, Othere gives Ubbe Floki's wedding ring, and Ubbe interrogates him on how he got it. Othere says he left cause he had no hope left for humanity, and before going gave him his most precious possession.

Kattegat — After getting banished from Kattegat, Hvitserk is barely holding on as he roams the forest. Back in the city, King Bjorn weds Ingrid in a big ceremony. Although it was Queen Gunnhild's idea that they should marry, she is still not happy about it. Queen Gunnhild tells Ingrid the story of Freya and lets her subtly know that it is she who is really in charge.

Later in the night, King Bjorn admits that he didn't want to hurt Queen Gunnhild. She tells him that he must live with his decisions, and since it is his wedding night, he is free to go to his new bride. With her permission, he heads out. As he leaves, Queen Gunnhild cries to herself.

Later, King Bjorn ask Erik to prepare the men to be ready for King Harald. As Erik leads a troop of men, they come across the Rus soldiers. They quietly sneak up on the men but are ambushed. Erik and the rest of his party have to fight their way out. He finds another one of their flags and takes it back to King Bjorn.

They realize these men are the same ones that his traders ran into, and that Ivar is staying with their Prince. King Bjorn knows that they are scouting and probably looking to invade. Erik is worried that they will not be able to defend themselves. They have until spring to decide what to do. Queen Gunnhild points out that King Bjorn will need to reach out to King Harald for assistance. It is the only way that they will be able to survive. When King Bjorn finds out that the Rus are also Christians, it enrages him even more.

Vestfold — Erik arrives in King Harald's kingdom. He tells him that King Bjorn wants to join forces. King Harald remembers Erik as the outlaw, and he has no interest in working with a man who is technically one of his subjects. He has his men capture Erik and sentences him to death for his past crimes. King Olaf, meanwhile, watches all this with some concern.

Afterward, King Olaf goes to King Harald and implores him to listen to Erik. He is telling the truth about the coming dangers of the Rus invasion. King Harald reluctantly agrees. When he talks to Erik again, Erik tells him that there is no way out of what is going to happen.

King Harald will only agree if King Bjorn brings his men to King Harald's kingdom.

Kiev — Meanwhile, Ivar's men had encountered his brother, Hvitserk. After they got reacquainted, Ivar ended up taking Hvitserk back with him as he sees that he is not doing well. He was also happy to see a familiar face.

Back in Kiev, Ivar and Prince Igor help Hvitserk get well. Hvitserk reveals to Ivar that he is the one who finally killed Lagertha. This news pleasantly surprises Ivar. As Hvitserk basks in the glory of what he has done, Ivar smiles and walks away.

Later, Ivar introduces Hvitserk to Prince Oleg and Princess Katya. Prince Oleg points out that he is reclaiming his homeland and asks if Hvitserk will be joining them. He says that he will.

After the introduction, Ivar asks Hvitserk if Princess Katya reminds him of anyone. He then tells his brother that she is Freydis. Ivar is sure that it is her, but Hvitserk does not believe him. The brothers are later visited by Prince Dir's messenger with a message. Prince Dir wants them to join him in overthrowing Prince Oleg once they have finished invading Scandinavia. With a subtle nod, Ivar agrees.

At the end of the episode, Prince Oleg gathered all of his people to behold a parade. As his impressive fleet of soldiers, walks by, he tells the group that this is the end of their Christian enemies.

This last statement worries Ivar, and in a rare moment, it shows through. Ivar loves his Gods.

The Best Laid Plans

Season 6

Episode Number: 79

Season Episode: 10

Originally aired: Wednesday February 05, 2020
Writer: Michael Hirst
Director: Daniel Grou
Show Stars: Katheryn Winnick (Lagertha), Alexander Ludwig (Bjorn Ironside), Peter Franzen (Harald Fairhair), Alex Høgh (Ivar the Boneless), Marco Ilsø (Hvitserk), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe)
Guest Stars: Ragga Ragnars (Gunnhild), Eric Johnson (Erik), Danila Kozlovsky (Oleg of Novgorod), Steven Berkoff (King Olaf the Stout), Lucy Martin (Ingrid), Alicia Agneson (Katia), Elshka Lane (Katia's Servant), Fredrik Hiller (Thorkell), Oran Glynn O'Donovan (Igor), Andrei Claude (Ganbaatar), Hannah Behan (Shield Maiden)
Summary: While Ivar and Igor continue to plot against Oleg, Kings Harald and Bjorn make frantic preparations to defend against the invasion, but the efforts of their quick work remain to be seen.



Kiev — Ivar asks if Hvitserk is ready to fight against King Bjorn with him and the Rus. He replies that he is. Later, a servant summons Ivar to go to Princess Katya's bedchambers, where she is waiting with a blonde wig. She begins to kiss him, but he resists her.

Later, Ivar and Princess Katya talk in the streets, and she informs Ivar that she risked her life by doing what she did. She also told him that she knows Prince Dir is alive, thanks to Ivar. She also declares that she is not in love with Prince Oleg. Without giving much away, Ivar merely tells her that they should continue to talk

some more. He also tells her that he is falling in love with her despite not knowing who she is.

Ivar and Prince Oleg begin to plan their attack. He suggests that they go in from the beach. He is well aware that his brother will be waiting there, but he has a plan to get onshore from the river and over the mountain as well.

Vestfold — Bjorn and Queen Gunnhild arrive at King Harald's capital. King Harald is confident they will win, but Erik tells the group that they have no idea what is coming. He fears it is the end.

They begin to strategize on a defense plan, assuming the Rus will attack from the sea and head for the capital. Erik tells King Bjorn and Queen Gunnhild that King Harald has summoned the other Kings and warriors; however, he doesn't believe they will come.

At the docks, Queen Gunnhild helps with the preparations. Erik tells her that she doesn't have to work, but she stubbornly doesn't listen. Consequently, she doubles over in pain and falls into the water. Erik quickly jumps in to get her. Queen Gunnhild ends up losing the baby.

That night as the group dines, King Bjorn asks Erik to send for the other Kings and Earls in his name instead of King Harald. The Rus could already be at sea, and they need help. On the other side of the room, King Harald stares at King Bjorn's wives and tells King Olaf that he

doesn't understand why King Bjorn takes everything for himself. King Olaf's response irritates him.

Afterward, King Harald's men forcibly bring Ingrid to him. Earlier, Ingrid had rebuffed his proposition to make her Queen of Norway. He is jealous of King Bjorn and decides to have her. She attempts to fight him off but is unable to. The next day, Ingrid comes across King Olaf. She cries over what happened, and as he holds her, he tells her to cry for all of them.

The Rus vs. Vikings — The day has arrived, and as the Viking army waits along the shore, they see the Rus boats approach. Queen Gunnhild kisses her husband before she takes her position. The horns blare as the Rus fleet arrives, each side carefully watching each other.

As soon as the Rus army land on the shores, the battle begins, and soldiers fall on each side. While a majority of their men fight along the beach, a small group enter the rivers alongside the city. The Vikings are also waiting for them there and attack as they get off their boats. Unfortunately, it isn't enough, and the Rus army manages to get through the barricade.

Queen Gunnhild fights her way to one of the boats. Ivar spots her as he protects Prince Igor. He watches as Prince Oleg slashes her leg. Fortunately, she manages to jump off the boat quickly. Ivar, Hvitserk, and Prince Oleg continue to forge their way forward, climbing up a mountain.

Meanwhile, King Harald and his army are still protecting the beaches. Unfortunately, they are unable to keep the Rus as bay. King Harald yells for his army to retreat and is struck and falls to the ground. When Erik rushes to him, King Harald tells him to save himself, and he watches as Erik grabs his crown and runs. King Bjorn is also fighting off men from all sides. Surprisingly, the son of Ragnar, who was once protected by the Gods, is suddenly stabbed. In his vision, he sees the attacker taking the form of his brother, Ivar.

In the end, it appears that the Rus have won. Ivar, Hvitserk, and Prince Oleg celebrate their victory.

Amid the battle, there is a quiet, dreamlike moment where Bjorn and Ivar have a conversation on the beach. Bjorn tells Ivar that he has betrayed their father. Although Ivar believes that their father picked him, King Bjorn reveals to him that it was only after the rest of the brothers refused to go to Wessex, that their father finally asked Ivar.

Ivar feels their father chose him because Ragnar knew that Ivar would be the only one to stay loyal to him. Ivar tells King Bjorn that he has preserved his legacy, which is to defeat their Gods. Despite Ivar's claims and the rising body count of the Viking warriors, King Bjorn still believes he will prevail.

King of Kings

Season 6

Episode Number: 80

Season Episode: 11

Originally aired:	Wednesday December 30, 2020
Writer:	Michael Hirst
Director:	Daniel Grou
Show Stars:	Alex Høgh Andersen (Ivar the Boneless), Marco Ilsø (Hvitserk), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe), Ragga Ragnars (Gunnhild), Eric Johnson (Erik the Red), Danila Kozlovsky (Oleg the Prophet), Peter Franzén (Harald Finehair), Ray Stevenson (Other), John Kavanagh (The Seer), Georgia Hirst (Torvi)
Guest Stars:	Adam Copeland (Kjetill Flatnose), Steven Berkoff (King Olaf the Stout), Lucy Martin (Ingrid), Kelly Campbell (Ingvild), Oran Glynn O'Donovan (Igor), Andrei Claude (Ganbaatar), Kristy Dawn Dinsmore (Amma), Scott Graham (Frodi), Mishaël Lopes Cardozo (King Hakon), Stephen Cromwell (Kattegonian), Gary Kane (Rus Sentry 1), Luke McQuillan (Rus Sentry 2), Amy De Bhrún (Jarl Hrolf)
Summary:	In Iceland, Ubbe learns the truth about Kjetill and has a difficult decision to make. Back in Norway, the battle against the Rus has had grave consequences. But re-enforcements have arrived, and Bjorn has an idea that may yet save the day.



The episode begins with Bjorn being sailed out into the sea. He's presumed dead or dying at this stage. Meanwhile, Prince Oleg is celebrating with Ivar the Boneless, but Ivar cannot be sure that he killed Bjorn. And then King Harald and King Olaf are dragged into Prince Oleg's room in chains. Olaf recognises Ivar the Boneless immediately, stating his name is legendary. Prince Oleg wonders how both men can be useful, but King Harald does not want to be of use and believes death is a bliss. Olaf is not in a rush to

die.

Bjorn is lifted onto land with both of his wives walking in front of him. Crowds gather, and there's a lot of uncertainty — "King Of Kings" flits to Iceland. Ubbe wants to begin preparations to sail West. He wants the settlers to choose for themselves if they want to join them to the golden lands. Meanwhile, Bjorn is alive, and he is aided in bed. Ingrid kisses him, but he's struggling, gasping for breath. "King Of Kings" prolongs the inevitable, but in a way that is effective.

Prince Oleg decides to spare the life of Harald. But he does not want to spare Olaf. Ivar the Boneless remarks that he may have made a different decision. Harald calls Olaf a lucky bast*rd. Meanwhile, Ingrid tells Gunnhild that King Harald raped her. Gunnhild vows to cut off Harald's head, but they must stay by their husband for now. Ingrid feels guilty as she promised to give Bjorn good luck, but she's only given him pain.

Before Olaf's execution, he claims someone is beside him. He states he has resurrection and life and he will be beside them "always". Prince Oleg chooses to ignore him. Olaf is burned alive. As he burns to death, he puts both hands together to pray. Afterwards, Ivar is irritated because King Harald has escaped. Bjorn doesn't think he will make it

Bjorn tells Ingrid that he will not be able to make amends for all his wrongs. He believes he's going to die and will not see the child he has made with Ingrid. She comforts him and asks him to accept the judgements of the Gods. She lays next to him and sobs, stating that her heart is breaking. Have you forgotten the Gods?

Bjorn is alerted that the Rus have arrived after their scouts see them. They are massively outnumbered. Bjorn is disgusted at Erik the Red for being defeatist and forgetting about the Gods. Erik asks for forgiveness after Bjorn writhes in pain.

After, Gunnhild tells Bjorn that the Rus are at the gates and that he must accept death. As Bjorn leans forward to hug her, Gunnhild sobs but she vows to continue his legacy as she gives him his farewell. This moment leads to an emotional experience for the audience — one that ends Bjorn's legacy in the flesh but has spiritual ramifications.

One of the Kings of Norway visits Prince Oleg and tells him that Bjorn Ironside is dead. He gives his allegiance to the Prince and kneels on the floor. The King is murdered, and Prince Oleg asks the news to spread — "The great hero is dead and Kattegat is at our mercy". Little did he know what was about to happen...

The message received is wrong. As the Rus army stand prepared, Bjorn rides out on his horse, still severely wounded and gasping for air. There's confusion in the air. One of the men shoots Bjorn with multiple arrows in his chest. Bjorn pulls the arrows out, and there's shock amongst the Rus army. A flashback shows Bjorn asking Gunnhild to put his armour on, one last time. Ivar believes this is impossible because he's not a God. Bjorn lifts his sword, and his army gathers behind him on foot. It's a mixture of men, women and children.

Gunnhild narrates that the Kings and Queens of Norway answered Bjorn's call to save their country because he was truly the King of Norway. "King Of Kings" ends with a battle. Ivar the Boneless asks the army to retreat. Gunnhild and Ingrid fight. Bjorn slowly dies, but his message has been clear — even in death, he was victorious.

All Change

Season 6

Episode Number: 81

Season Episode: 12

Originally aired: Wednesday December 30, 2020
Writer: Michael Hirst
Director: David Frazee
Show Stars: Alex Høgh Andersen (Ivar the Boneless), Marco Ilsø (Hvitserk), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe), Ragga Ragnars (Gunnhild), Eric Johnson (Erik the Red), Danila Kozlovsky (Oleg the Prophet), Peter Franzén (Harald Finehair), Ray Stevenson (Othere), John Kavanagh (The Seer), Georgia Hirst (Torvi)
Guest Stars: Adam Copeland (Kjetill Flatnose), Lenn Kudrjawizki (Prince Dir), Lucy Martin (Ingrid), Kelly Campbell (Ingvild), Alicia Agneson (Katia), Oran Glynn O'Donovan (Igor), Tim Fellingham (Viking Messenger), Ciara Ivie (Young Iceland Woman), Scott Graham (Frodi), Elodie Curry (Asa), Daniel Paton (Rus Officer #1), Steven Blades (Rus Officer #2), Katherine Devlin (Natasha), Elshka Lane (Katia's Servant)
Summary: Oleg isolates Ivar when the Rus army returns to Kiev; Dir confirms that he's mustering a force to overthrow Oleg.



Prince Oleg and Ivar return to their town and there's shock amongst the people. Oleg's wife looks disappointed as she looks on. Later in the evening, Oleg confirms to Katia that a dead man defeated them — he compares Bjorn to a resurrected Christ. He does not believe it is possible to be defeated and tells Katia that it will never happen again.

Prince Oleg is slowly losing control... it seems.

Prince Oleg is furious and trashes Igor's residence. He tells Igor that he's destroyed his innocence and that he will no longer protect him. Igor cries, but Oleg believes he's

readying him to be King. Ubbe learns of the news

A message is delivered to Ubbe — Bjorn, his brother, is dead. Ubbe wants full information about how his brother died. He's given a full debrief of the battle with Rus and how he scared them into platforming a resurrection. Ubbe raises a glass to his brother and states he was a hero. He wants to still find this new land despite a sad moment. Ubbe's story remains unchanged.

Erik tells Gunnhild that they need a new ruler as another Rus attack is imminent. He tells her that she's a great shieldmaiden. Gunnhild does not believe she is popular enough and feels she does not deserve to be Queen. Erik tells her that fate is already written. Gunnhild sees The Seer later on and he tells her not to "listen to all of the voices".

Gunnhild decides to call for a meeting for a new ruler. Erik wants a token of friendship for his support for Gunnhild — he desires her.

Kjetill Flatnose asks Ubbe why he does not return to take Bjorn's place as King while he vows for King of Norway. Ubbe tells him he does not wish to be King. Kjetill looks unnerved by Ubbe's words. Later, Torvi sees Kjetill arguing with Othere — she tells Ubbe about what she saw. "All Change" sees an urgency from Torvi — she knows Ubbe has to resolve conflicts before going on a dangerous voyage.

Prince Oleg gathers his most important officers of the army and asks them to dig ditches. He wants to remind them to be humble. Ivar, Hvitserk, and Igor look on with concern. Igor does not want to look, but Oleg tells them that they do not deserve to be spared after their behavior in the battle. The officers are slain and thrown into the ditches — Igor watches with panic. One of the officers begs Oleg not to kill him. Oleg asks Igor to show the officers what happens to traitors. An officer begs for mercy and references his wife and children — before Igor kills him, Ivar nods at him. He has no choice. Ivar needs Oleg to continue trusting Igor.

Prince Dir visits Ivar and Igor secretly and tells them that he has gathered an army. He wants them to join him and take part in his plans. Dir tells Igor that he will be the rightful King.

Oleg calls a meeting with Hvitserk. He tells him that he loves Ivar, but does not trust him. Oleg expresses his desire to capture a more attractive target. Hvitserk remains silent. Katia then feeds Oleg and Hvitserk a steaming liquid that is apparently poppyseed that makes you happy. The last thing that Hvitserk needs is drugs. A pattern is repeating, and Oleg is taking advantage of him.

Ubbe talks separately with Othere and Kjetill and persuades him to join him with the promised land. He strikes deals with both of them, vowing that he needs people he can trust on this voyage.

Erik speaks to Ingrid; she reveals she has Bjorn's child. He tells her that they cannot wait for her child to be the ruler of Kattegat. He then implies that she has a chance to be Queen, and Ingrid agrees. The thirst for power is immediate after Bjorn's death; there's no messing around.

Katia asks Ivar the Boneless what his deceased wife looked like. He describes her as looking like Katia but blonde — he remarks that he trusted her. Katia listens to him, intently. Ivar tells Katia that he doesn't believe that she wants to betray Oleg. Katia wants to prove herself and tries to kiss him, but Ivar walks off. How he resisted temptation here is a miracle.

Gunnhild asks Ingrid if she would stand for Queen. Ingrid reveals she is carrying Bjorn's child — this obviously changes everything. Gunnhild is shocked and asks if it is Harald's child as the man raped her, but Ingrid claims she knew she was pregnant before the rape. Gunnhild is irritated, stating it should have been her child. Both women will want to be Queen now, but Ingrid being pregnant with the heir makes it a complex and tense situation.

Later on, Katia meets Ivar again, this time with blonde hair to represent his wife. She locks the doors and calls herself Freydis. Ivar is conflicted and confused. Katia strips off her clothes and then pulls off his pants before giving him oral. She then climbs on top of him and Ivar gives in. She asks if he believes her.

After sex, Katia tells Ivar that she knows that Prince Dir is still alive and asks where he is. Ivar gives her the information and states that Igor is the future. A risky move by Ivar that may or may not work for him.

Gunnhild goes to bed and asks Erik if he'd like to come with her. The pair have sex. Afterwards, Erik chooses not to stay in bed with her. When she asks what he really wants, he says, "I think you know".

The Signal

Season 6

Episode Number: 82

Season Episode: 13

Originally aired: Wednesday December 30, 2020
Writer: Michael Hirst
Director: David Frazee
Show Stars: Alex Høgh Andersen (Ivar the Boneless), Marco Ilsø (Hvitserk), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe), Ragga Ragnars (Gunnhild), Eric Johnson (Erik the Red), Danila Kozlovsky (Oleg the Prophet), Peter Franzén (Harald Finehair), Ray Stevenson (Other), John Kavanagh (The Seer), Georgia Hirst (Torvi)
Guest Stars: Adam Copeland (Kjetill Flatnose), Brent Burns (Skane), Lucy Martin (Ingrid), Kelly Campbell (Ingvild), Alicia Agneson (Katia), Ivo Alexandre (Bishop Leon), Ciaran McMahon (Rus Official), Elodie Curry (Asa), Scott Graham (Frodi), Tristan McConnell (Grey Viking), Ciaran O'Grady (Kattegat Defender), Renars Latkovskis (Rus Guard), Oran Glynn O'Donovan (Igor), Guy Carleton (Patriarch / Russian Priest)
Summary: It's Election Day in Kattegat and all eyes are on the voting. But strangers arriving at the harbormay force a very unexpected outcome. Meanwhile, Ivar receives the signal from Prince Dir that his forces are ready to challenge Oleg.



Ivar wants an audience with Oleg, but he's not allowed as the guards refuse to let him in. He talks to Hvitserk and asks him why he's standing in the way — Ivar wants access to Igor. There is tension between both brothers. Hvitserk claims Oleg treats him well and is the future ruler of the world. The brothers end up in a fight. Ivar ends up on the receiving end of Hvitserk's beating. Oleg watches on and laughs with Katia. "The Signal" sees Ivar with a momentous job to carry out Dir's plans — he's up against his

brother and Oleg at the start of the chapter. Gunnhild and Ingrid declare that they are running for Queen

Gunnhild tells the people that they need to be ready for a new ruler and that she intends to stand and vows to build their defenses. Ingrid also gives a speech and reveals she is carrying Bjorn's child, so she is carrying on the throne's legitimacy. Gunnhild asks Erik who he intends to support in the election. Erik surprisingly says he has not made up his mind. This seems like a blow to Gunnhild — especially after sleeping with the man.

Oleg asks to see Ivar who has been hurt by his brother Hvitserk — he tells him he has neglected him and he asks Ivar for forgiveness. Ivar accepts. The reason for Oleg's words is because his wife Katia told him he has been harsh. Oleg asks Ivar if he'd like Hvitserk killed. Ivar says he's the only one who should kill his brother. This scene proves one thing; Katia is well and truly working for Ivar, whispering in her husband's ear.

Ingrid visits Bjorn's tomb and performs a ritual, asking for the ghosts to help her. She paints her body and cuts herself to smear blood over her body. Erik watches the ritual from a distance — he now knows she is a witch. The next day, Erik tells Gunnhild that she and Ingrid are the

only candidates — it's about Bjorn's legacy. Gunnhild asks Erik who he supports, but still, no answer comes.

Ingrid knows Erik was watching the ritual and asks him to keep it a secret.

Katia and Ivar meet secretly again. She gives him a blade and tells him that Prince Dir is ready. Ivar then approaches his brother Hvitserk and tells him Oleg offered to kill him. He wants him to join Prince Dir's plan. Ivar wants to know how they can help Igor escape without raising the alarm.

Ubbe's voyage is getting drenched in a storm. It's their most challenging part of the journey so far. Torvi is confident that the storm will pass as everyone tries to withstand it. She gets frustrated as she loses Asa.

Suddenly there's a commotion at Kattegat and crowds gather. Erik calls Ingrid a witch as she says "he's come back" and Gunnhild overhears "witch". It's King Harald. He shouts to the crowd and claims he had a good relationship with Bjorn. He also brings an ally with him and tells the crowd he has come to rescue them all. Harald threatens Erik as he states he is a pirate and a murderer and will deal with him later. Gunnhild tells Harald that she doesn't appreciate his timing. Harald announces that he's still the King of all of Norway, meaning he is the king of all of them.

This was a fascinating scene to watch — both women are doing their utmost best to keep their faces expressionless as the crowds listen to King Harald's words.

Gunnhild tells Harald that he wants to be like Bjorn. Harald admits he does, as he loved Bjorn. Ingrid tells Harald that he doesn't care if people love him. Harald admits he used to be like that, but he's not jealous or angry anymore. He wants to work with both women to forge the future of Kattegat. This is an awful scene, especially as Harald touches Ingrid's shoulder — there was a chilling look on her face as her rapist got closer to her.

Ivar, Hvitserk, and Katia start their plans to free Igor under Oleg's nose. Meanwhile, Oleg is preparing for Good Friday. As Oleg starts the ceremony, Katia begins to sneak Igor out. Ivar, Katia, Hvitserk, and Igor attempt to leave the gates in a horse and carriage.

Suddenly, Prince Oleg realizes that Igor is not present at the ceremony and the chapter ends, leaving it on a tense cliffhanger.

Lost Souls

Season 6

Episode Number: 83

Season Episode: 14

Originally aired:	Wednesday December 30, 2020
Writer:	Michael Hirst
Director:	Helen Shaver
Show Stars:	Alex Høgh Andersen (Ivar the Boneless), Marco Ilsø (Hvitserk), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe), Ragga Ragnars (Gunnhild), Eric Johnson (Erik the Red), Danila Kozlovsky (Oleg the Prophet), Peter Franzén (Harald Finehair), Ray Stevenson (Other), John Kavanagh (The Seer), Georgia Hirst (Torvi)
Guest Stars:	Adam Copeland (Kjetill Flatnose), Brent Burns (Skane), Lenn Kudrjawizki (Prince Dir), Lucy Martin (Ingrid), Kelly Campbell (Ingvild), Alicia Agneson (Katia), Ivo Alexandre (Bishop Leon), Guy Carleton (Patriarch / Russian Priest), Oran Glynn O'Donovan (Igor), Scott Graham (Frodi), Tristan McConnell (Greenland Settler), Ciaran O'Grady (Greenland Settler), Finn Gillespie (Young Viking), Noella Brennan (Gudrid), Moah Madsen (Gunnhild's Servant), Isabelle Connolly (Anna), Lee Bennett (Eastern Rus Noble), Aisling Reid (Harold's Servant), Emily Fox (Harold's Servant), Katie McCann (Harold's Servant), Muireann Bird (Harold's Servant), Niall Ó Sioradáin (Chief Priest)
Summary:	Prince Igor receives a heroes welcome in Novgorod but back in Kiev the mood is darker: Prince Oleg will not be giving up the fight. Ubbes settlers are overjoyed to find land, but its not the Golden Land they expected.



As the Good Friday ceremony continues, Prince Oleg senses that Igor is gone and asks that he is found. Oleg joins in on the Good Friday ritual and is whipped repeatedly as they reimagine Jesus Christ's torture. Igor and others continue to ride by the ceremony and hold their breath, hoping they are not caught. Eventually, they are let through. This was a way easier escape than the story initially implied.

As for Ubbe and the voyage, the seas have settled. They find the land they were looking for and sail towards it. When they

reach the land, it is bare. It looks scarce of resources. It's not the land they imagined.

Harald tells Gunnhild that she would have made a great Queen. He doesn't want them to forget their past. He tells Gunnhild that he, her, and Bjorn belong together. Harald proposes that they marry so she can be Queen of Kattegat — he doesn't expect an immediate answer. Gunnhild tells him that she lost Bjorn's child. Harald tells her she can still have children. Harald is securing his seat at Kattegat by diplomatically talking to those involved and enabling trust — but of course, he's not to be trusted.

When Igor reaches Novgorod, he is hailed by the locals and Prince Dir greets him with glee. Dir announces that they will plan their attack on Kiev — he wants to prepare but first, celebrate. Meanwhile, Oleg tells his first wife's tomb that it's become a custom for his wives to betray him and that those who stabbed in the back will suffer.

Othere throws doubt that this is the land he saw years ago. Kjetill defends the land, stating it is free and they can colonize it. Ubbe agrees and suggests that they look for other inhabitants. Ubbe speaks to Torvi about Asa, but she doesn't want to talk about it. They lost her at sea, and you can see the grief etched on her face.

Harald asks Ingrid why she wanted to be Queen. Ingrid confirms she is carrying Bjorn's child. Harald grabs her by the back of the neck and tells her the child is his. He then calls her a witch and believes she is concocting either a love potion or poison. He drinks it anyway. "Lost Souls" leaves both women who were once propelled to the possibility of rulers, having to compromise their positions and everything they believe.

Oleg holds a council and tells them that his wife and Igor are missing. He also confirms that Ivar has joined forces with Dir. He wants to plan an attack and believes a victory is assured.

Harald sits with Erik. He tells Erik he knows who he is; he wants to know what he wants. Erik states he likes to be an outsider and that he has changed. Harald asks Erik if he'd like to be his new bodyguard as he does not trust his current one.

Afterward, Harald's supposed ally Scoti (apologies, the name was not clear with the subtitles at the time) proposes to Erik that they kill Harald. At this stage, Erik has a choice to make — stand with Harald, or change the course of the future.

Kjetill tells Ubbe and the others that the land can be promising as the conditions improve. The next step is to separate the land amongst different families. Kjetill believes they should call it Greenland. Ubbe speaks to Othere and tells him he believes that this is not the land that he saw. Ubbe wakes up in the middle of the night, and he hears voices; the Seer tells him he should leave their new place.

Ingrid tells Harald that Gunnhild wants to meet him and she takes him to a specific location. He's attacked by his ally Scoti — Erik helps him and cuts off Scoti's head. Erik has chosen his allegiance with this action. Soon afterward, Harald is announced as king of Kattegat. Harald then tells the crowd that he intends to marry both Ingrid and Gunnhild. He's following in Bjorn's footsteps in having two wives — he wants the same legacy as the former ruler.

Gunnhild asks Ingrid if she is certain of carrying Bjorn's child. Ingrid states she is not certain. Gunnhild doesn't understand why she would marry a man that raped her. Ingrid states she has no advantages and no way of making her life better, apart from using her wits and sex — she points out that Gunnhild is a known shieldmaiden, while she is nothing. Gunnhild visits Bjorn's tomb and tells her dead husband that to retain her status, she must marry Harald — she wonders if the Vikings' golden age is gone. Gunnhild vows not to compromise herself or Bjorn — "I will do the right thing". It's not clear what she means by these words, keeping the audience on tenterhooks.

On the new land, Kjetill's son Frodi has made a discovery and asks everyone to follow him. He has found a whale, strewn on the land, dead in the area that their family has claimed. Ubbe believes that there's enough food for everyone, but Kjetill states the whale landed in his area and believes the God sent it to him for his family. Torvi calls it luck and Ubbe is dismayed that they are not in this together. It did not take long for this voyage for new land to fall apart!

All at Sea

Season 6

Episode Number: 84

Season Episode: 15

Originally aired:	Wednesday December 30, 2020
Writer:	Michael Hirst
Director:	Helen Shaver
Show Stars:	Alex Høgh Andersen (Ivar the Boneless), Marco Ilsø (Hvitserk), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe), Ragga Ragnars (Gunnhild), Eric Johnson (Erik the Red), Danila Kozlovsky (Oleg the Prophet), Peter Franzén (Harald Finehair), Ray Stevenson (Othere), John Kavanagh (The Seer), Georgia Hirst (Torvi)
Guest Stars:	Adam Copeland (Kjetill Flatnose), Lenn Kudrjawizki (Prince Dir), Lucy Martin (Ingrid), Kelly Campbell (Ingvild), Alicia Agneson (Katia), Scott Graham (Frodi), Finn Gillespie (Young Viking), Noella Brennan (Gudrid), Oran Glynn O'Donovan (Igor), Isabelle Connolly (Anna), Lee Bennett (Eastern Rus Noble), Gabriel Constantin (Commanding Officer), Maria Guiver (Oleg's First Wife), Niall Ó Sioradáin (Chief Priest), Guy Carleton (Patriarch / Russian Priest)
Summary:	Ubbe, Torvi, and Othere barely escape with their lives when a fight breaks out in Greenland; however, they are faced with a new dilemma.



On the new land now named Greenland, Ubbe talks to Othere about Kjetill — Othere tells Ubbe that Kjetill killed Floki — he cannot prove it, but he is sure. This is a defining moment in the voyage for new land. Ubbe knows he will likely have to defend himself — his dream to find the golden land is nearly over.

"All At Sea" also sees a potential new battle brewing — Prince Dir, Ivar, Igor, and Hvitserk ride out with their army to Kiev, ready to take on Oleg.

Ingrid remembers that Erik sold her once as a slave and brings it up to him. Erik is alarmed that she remembers. Ingrid doesn't believe he has any power over her as Harald is not bothered that she is a witch. After an entire chapter of Erik playing with both women, it seems to have backfired greatly.

Tensions rise on Greenland; Ubbe is angry at Kjetill for losing his mind. Kjetill declares himself as the king, and he's acting manically, believing that God delivered the whale to him. Everyone starts fighting as Kjetill defends his whale. This is the last thing Ubbe wanted. Othere grabs Ubbe and tells everyone to run towards the boats. This has quickly turned into a failed voyage as many people clamber on the boat and leave Kjetill on the land. There is no food on the boat, but Othere reassures everyone that they will be okay. Kjetill manically continues to announce himself as King of Greenland. This is a huge blow for Ubbe, who wanted an entirely new life for himself and his family and it was dismantled within days.

When Prince Dir and co reach the gates of Kiev, it's empty. Ivar states it is a trap, but then they claim the place and celebrate. Flashbacks show Oleg hanging himself on a cross. He declares himself as the son of God. It all seems too simple for Dir. And surprisingly, there are no more twists — it is that simple.

Oleg comes from his room and shows himself to the crowds. He asks that they all live in peace together as God intended — he requests that they put their differences aside. He talks to Igor

and Ivar like family, but Dir tells them to ignore him as he's a liar. Ivar gives Igor a bow and arrow and asks him to kill his uncle.

As Ivar offers to kill Oleg, Igor grabs the bow and kills his uncle while apologizing to him. A new legacy has dawned. Another character is dead.

King Harald carries out a marriage ceremony. Ingrid walks down the aisle to start the union. However, there's an odd silence as Gunnhild takes a while to turn up. She does eventually cloaked in a white dress with a hood — she wishes Harald and Ingrid a happy marriage and tells the King she cannot marry him as she's still married to Bjorn in her heart. Gunnhild has a consuming smile on her face — we can sense that she feels free as she's made a defining choice that keeps her principles intact. She declares she is off to go see her love in Valhalla.

This is a brave moment from Gunnhild, who does not want to compromise and betray Bjorn or herself. She strips off her dress and looks out to the sea and dives. She reaches the surface of the water as Harald and Ingrid look on, a little stunned as she swims away. Gunnhild lays in the water, allowing it to consume her as she slowly goes back under it, ready to drown and join her husband, Bjorn.

This was wonderfully directed; it presents how there is so much belief, religiously and spiritually in our history — Gunnhild was so confident to lose her life, and the belief was etched all over her face. It was beautiful and tragic in many ways; she was free in her mind.

While on the boat, and back to safety, Ubbe asks Othere how he learned to fight. Othere explains how he has been alongside warriors, but Torvi and Ubbe are getting annoyed at his stories. Suddenly, Othere sees clouds ahead, and they have rain to hydrate. Everyone is excited to finally see rain and take it in. There's hope that they will survive.

At Kiev, celebrations are in full swing. Katia asks Ivar what his plans are now. He seems to have his focus on her, but Katia tells him that her family is more important than him. Ivar looks a little devastated but says he has other ambitions. Katia does not want Ivar to blame her for carrying his child — a moment of shock for Ivar; it was subtly delivered in the party's ambiance.

The next phase of the celebration is the blessing of Oleg's death. Katia is dressed in black as the widowed wife, and she kisses his dead body. Ivar asks Hvitserk if he wants to stay in Kiev and reveals that Katia is carrying his child. Hvitserk states he has no idea what has happened in Kattegat since Bjorn has died. Ivar highlights that they are still destined to kill each other. Both brothers still accept that they are fated to hurt each other.

The next day, Ivar plans to leave. Katia says goodbye to him; she promises him that their child will be blessed and know that his father is Ivar the Boneless and a great King. Katia tells Ivar that he does not love her, and mistakes her for his deceased wife — "But I am not her". She doesn't want to disappoint him and tells him to go. As Ivar leaves, Igor is emotional and shouts after him. He sees him as a brother. In a flashback, Ivar tells Igor that he's no longer a child and that everyone loves him. In the present day, Ivar smiles at him and rides off. Hvitserk tells his brother that he has changed.

The Final Straw

Season 6

Episode Number: 85

Season Episode: 16

Originally aired: Wednesday December 30, 2020
Writer: Michael Hirst
Director: Paddy Breathnach
Show Stars: Alex Høgh Andersen (Ivar the Boneless), Marco Ilsø (Hvitserk), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe), Ragga Ragnars (Gunnhild), Eric Johnson (Erik the Red), Danila Kozlovsky (Oleg the Prophet), Peter Franzén (Harald Finehair), Ray Stevenson (Othere), John Kavanagh (The Seer), Georgia Hirst (Torvi)
Guest Stars: Noah Syndergaard (Thorbjorn), Lucy Martin (Ingrid), Finn Gillespie (Young Viking), Noella Brennan (Gudrid), Ian Lloyd Anderson (Naad), Alexander Campbell (Second Warrior), James Oliver Wheatley (First Warrior), Jerry-Jane Pears (Idun), Shane Robinson (Kattegonian Man), Gail Brady (Wife of Drunk), Shane Lynch (Moneylender)
Summary: Ubbe and his settlers are at the mercy of the harsh elements out at sea; Ivar and Hvitserk return to Kattegat.



Ivar and Hvitserk return to Kattegat, and angry crowds heckle them. Ivar wonders if returning is a mistake — Erik offers to take them to King Harald, and Ivar is shocked at who is king. They bow to the king and queen. Hvitserk reminds Harald that they are Bjorn's legitimate line and that the townspeople will warm to them eventually. King Harald seems to welcome this and invites them to a feast. There's a glimmer in Harald's eye — he senses opportunity as part of his new reign.

At the feast, all eyes are on Ivar and Hvitserk. King Harald wants to celebrate their return home. He highlights how some people are not in favor of their return — he reminds them that the Gods forgive each other and regrets killing his own brother. King Harald brings up their mistakes but states they are sons of Ragnar and that they should enjoy their future in Kattegat. One of the people asks Ivar if he is truly a God — Ivar stands up and throws down his walking sticks and falls to the floor and laughs. The people laugh with him. It does not take long for the brothers to be welcomed back.

Later in the night, Ivar tells his brother that he's not sure where his destiny is. He feels no purpose or meaning. Hvitserk responds that he's been lost for so long that he isn't sure of the alternative. At this stage of the chapter, both brothers are lost — they are desperate to find their purpose.

Ubbe and the voyage are struggling. The water is rationed. Late in the night, Othere tells Ubbe that he hated everything about his childhood. Ubbe is growing tired of Othere's games and his refusal to be honest. Othere asks Ubbe if he's losing his faith. The next day, another man has died on the boat — he tried drinking seawater. "The Final Straw" shows how blind faith for a better life has put Ubbe in this situation, and the result is a genuine risk to his life and his family.

The Seer speaks to Ivar and tells him he is connecting 'nothing with nothing'. He tells him to look in his pocket. He takes out a chess piece from a game he played with his father. Hvitserk

visits Bjorn's tomb and speaks to the dead King — he lists all his failures and mistakes and believes the Gods despise him. Both brothers are feeling unaccomplished. A woman named Eden offers to spend the night with Hvitserk as he sits at the tomb.

King Harald tells Ivar and Hvitserk that he returned to Kattegat as he wanted to reinvent himself and rule. But he remarks that there is an illusion of power that induces madness and asks Ivar if it is true. Ivar agrees. Harald then wants to talk about love, but Ivar doesn't wish to talk about it, stating that their dead ones are all around us, listening to them. Harald hopes the Gods forgive him, but he doesn't feel it is possible. It seems all three men in this story are trying to find meaning.

While spending time with Eden, Hvitserk realizes she is the goddess who is blessed with eternal youth. He believes Odin has sent her to him. Eden tells Hvitserk that she has watched his life and seen his pain. She tells him to weep no more. They sleep together. Meanwhile, Ivar remembers his father's words and how he predicted great things for him.

The next morning, Hvitserk wakes up, and Eden is not there. He puts his hands out and into the rain and breathes in the air. He kneels in the rain and cries, which eventually turns into a laugh. Meanwhile, Ivar enters the King's hall and smashes his chess piece on King Harald's table — he announces that they still have a purpose and they need to go for Wessex. It looks like the brothers have done some soul searching and have found meaning.

With a storm hitting the boat, Ubbe loses control and attacks Othere. Torvi stops Ubbe from killing Othere and tells him they must not be the same people they were in their old lives, and that the Gods have spoken.

King Harald gathers his people and talks about their successful trading routes and influences. He suggests that they need to win more battles and take more territory. King Harald talks about Wessex in England and how they must fight for it. Ivar then speaks and tells the people that they should not grow comfortable. He brings up how his father died, and how he did not need any pity. Ivar tells them that the Christian plague is spreading and that they should conquer. The crowd erupts in agreement. This whole scenario sees three men unable to find purpose, and in their own comfortableness, they've decided to do what they are only familiar with — fighting.

The Raft of Medusa

Season 6

Episode Number: 86

Season Episode: 17

Originally aired:	Wednesday December 30, 2020
Writer:	Michael Hirst
Director:	Paddy Breathnach
Show Stars:	Alex Høgh Andersen (Ivar the Boneless), Marco Ilsø (Hvitserk), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe), Ragga Ragnars (Gunnhild), Eric Johnson (Erik the Red), Danila Kozlovsky (Oleg the Prophet), Peter Franzén (Harald Finehair), Ray Stevenson (Othere), John Kavanagh (The Seer), Georgia Hirst (Torvi)
Guest Stars:	Ferdia Walsh-Peelo (Alfred the Great), Lucy Martin (Ingrid), Roisin Murphy (Elsewith), Noella Brennan (Gudrid), Ian Lloyd Anderson (Naad), Ian Brooker (Bishop), Desmond Eastwood (Messenger), Bryan Larkin (Wiglaf), Jordan Coombes (Shield Maiden), Mark Quigley (Wessex Noble)
Summary:	Ragnar's sons steadily approach Wessex with their army; Alfred abandons his castle and sets out to meet them.



Ingrid asks Harald if he and Ivar have any intentions of returning after battling in Wessex — she senses a change in the mood. Harald does not answer as Erik intervenes in the conversation. He tells Erik to look after Kattegat as there's still a possibility that the Rus will attack — Harald wants Erik as temporary ruler, with Ingrid by his side. Harald believes things are coming to a conclusion. Ingrid and Erik will be joint rulers. This goes back to the previous episode of Harald, Ivar, and Hvitserk requiring purpose.

Ivar, Hvitserk, and Harald start their voyage to Wessex; they conduct a strategy meeting and agree on the best place to fight King Alfred. A place he'd be least comfortable with. Back at Kattegat, Erik tells Ingrid that he should join her in bed as he does not feel Harald will return. Ingrid asks Erik to take off his shirt and turn around; she whips him repeatedly and tells Erik that she wants to see the marks. Afterward, she tells Erik to join her in bed. She's demonstrating how the roles have reversed — she has the power as she is Queen.

Ingrid tells Erik that she wants to make him happy. Erik believes life is perfect as he rules Kattegat and has her. Little did he know what was to come.

King Alfred is warned that Vikings are heading their way. He is alarmed that they accompany the sons of Ragnar. The King decides to abandon his Royal Villa because he admits they are weak and surrounded by enemies. He tells his Queen there is no point in lying about their strength, and to be practical. The Queen is irritated that these are the same Vikings that killed his father and grandfather; she says that the Vikings always make deals even in defeat and that he is too keen on peace, and falling for promises Vikings cannot keep. She fears the same thing will happen again. There's plenty to peel away at this conversation — a King who is not stubborn and believes in ideals, and a Queen who is dismayed at accepting weakness. It makes a fascinating exchange of dialogue.

The Saxons attack the Vikings, and the first battle begins. Ivar does his best to command his squad after they've been ambushed. Hvitserk eventually arrives with his unit to fight. The Saxons retreat, knowing they have suffered a defeat. Ivar and Hvitserk celebrate their victory.

After abandoning their Royal Villa, the Queen tells King Alfred that she's confused as to why he's left. He tells her it's only properties and it's more important that he remains alive.

Erik wakes up, and he is half-blind. Ingrid asks what has happened, but he does not know. Ingrid is using witchcraft on him. Erik gets more erratic, and Ingrid looks on, with a sly smile. He is now fully blind. She's punishing him — she finally has her revenge, and this is an opportunity for her to be the single ruler.

On Ubbe's boat, some people have died, or many are extremely malnourished. Other continues to look out at sea, not giving up on hope. Ubbe then notices land in the distance and shows Torvi, but she cannot see anything. They have made it — they have found the golden land that Other often spoke about it. Ubbe tells Other to forgive him. Other tells Ubbe that he knew deep inside, he believed.

It's Only Magic

Season 6

Episode Number: 87

Season Episode: 18

Originally aired: Wednesday December 30, 2020
Writer: Michael Hirst
Director: Steve Saint Leger
Show Stars: Alex Høgh Andersen (Ivar the Boneless), Marco Ilsø (Hvitserk), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe), Ragga Ragnars (Gunnhild), Eric Johnson (Erik the Red), Danila Kozlovsky (Oleg the Prophet), Peter Franzén (Harald Finehair), Ray Stevenson (Other), John Kavanagh (The Seer), Georgia Hirst (Torvi)
Guest Stars: Ferdia Walsh-Peelo (Alfred the Great), Lucy Martin (Ingrid), Roisin Murphy (Elsewith), Wesley French (Peminuit), Phillip Lewitski (We'jitu), Noella Brennan (Gudrid), Ian Lloyd Anderson (Naad), Russell Balogh (Bishop Aldulf), Breffni Holahan (Sister Annis), Brendan McCormack (Leof), Dafhyd Flynn (Adam), Peter Michael Dillon (Alfred's Mounted Bodyguard), Dave Boyle (Saxon Warrior Scout 1), Sean Condren (Saxon Warrior Scout 2), Neil Watkins (Viking Council Noble), Tim Creed (Orlyg), Oliver Price (Galan)
Summary: Ubbe arrives in a new territory, but soon realizes that it's already occupied; King Alfred succeeds in assembling his troops.



Ubbe and his crew make it to what they deem the golden land. There's relief but exhaustion on everyone's faces as they slowly make it to the land. Other hands out freshwater and berries immediately. Torvi tells Ubbe to accept God's purpose. This is a stark difference to Greenland where it was barren land and a desperate attempt to make it work. This is a workable environment.

King Alfred feels weak, and his Queen tells him to stay strong in his body and soul. She's worried that he's falling easy

into a drowsy sickness. She gives him a rallying cry, to fight for her and everyone else. King Alfred cuts his hair to signal a new phase. He gives a speech to his army and tells them that the Pagans are only human and do bleed — he tells them it is inconceivable to lose this battle. He no longer believes in negotiating with them. He's now back to his strength, rallying his men to make them believe — this has all the hype of a good battle.

Ubbe and the others hunt, eat, and enjoy the resources that are available to them. There's joy amongst the group that they finally made it. Ubbe calls it "a new world". Other calls it paradise and Torvi wants to make a sacrifice to thank the Gods. They give the Gods a gift and perform a ritual. Late at night, Other tells Ubbe that he may not be like his father after all.

Hvitserk tells Ivar that his eyes have turned deep blue — it means he's in great danger of hurting himself. This comes after a conversation of hope between both brothers. Ivar does not seem irked by his brother's comments. He accepts death — a theme that runs proudly in the character.

Back at Ubbe's new land and Other is scouting the forest cautiously. He finds carvings and footsteps, which means they are not alone. Ubbe wants to leave gifts for whoever made the carvings — whoever lives on this land knows Ubbe and co. are here.

Ubbe and co. continue to investigate the inhabitants. They seem to have accepted the gifts and replaced them with new ones. But there is a slight hesitancy — after finding paradise, there's a worry their efforts could all be undone.

Ivar meets the Seer in a cave. They laugh about the Seer's immortality — the Seer believes death would be a blessed relief. The Seer tells Ivar that he's always known his fate. Ivar demands to know his fate, but the Seer explains that Ivar will try and evade it — he tells him he cannot escape it.

Ingrid and Erik welcome captains and earls in their counsel. Erik tells them that he is blind and he is not sure why. He wants to maintain their defenses against possible attacks. The captains ask if taxes need to be raised for defenses, and Ingrid assures them they need the money. The captains challenge it, and Erik tells them not to dare protest against Harald's wife. Ingrid warns them that a King has converted to Christian and their boat sailed close by — she argues this as a case to raise taxes. She's inducing fear into them.

Later on, Erik accuses Ingrid of making him blind. Ingrid tells Erik that his past is his own making, and the Gods did it to him. Erik tells her that he understands and thanks her. But you can tell the man is biding his time.

While riding on his horse, King Alfred becomes sick and falls off. The Queen lays him down and states that the King has this illness many times. She wants everyone to pray for Wessex.

After many prayers, Alfred wakes up and claims to feel better. Meanwhile, Ivar tells Harald and Hvitserk that he knows how to win — "I'm going to cripple them".

On the golden land, Othere and Ubbe do not want to sit around waiting — they believe that these inhabitants are just as curious as they are and agree to follow the carvings. When they follow the carvings they come across a settlement — Othere calls it a game of life and death. Suddenly, they are surrounded by a tribe who point arrows at them. What happens next is left on a cliffhanger.

A blind Erik asks one of his slaves to come closer to him in his bed. He asks the slave if he'd like to be free and wants a favor — undoubtedly Erik has a plan to hurt Ingrid.

The Lord Giveth...

Season 6

Episode Number: 88

Season Episode: 19

Originally aired:	Wednesday December 30, 2020
Writer:	Michael Hirst
Director:	Steve Saint Leger
Show Stars:	Alex Høgh Andersen (Ivar the Boneless), Marco Ilsø (Hvitserk), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe), Ragga Ragnars (Gunnhild), Eric Johnson (Erik the Red), Danila Kozlovsky (Oleg the Prophet), Peter Franzén (Harald Finehair), Ray Stevenson (Other), John Kavanagh (The Seer), Georgia Hirst (Torvi)
Guest Stars:	Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), Jasper Pääkkönen (Halfdan the Black), Ferdia Walsh-Peelo (Alfred the Great), Lucy Martin (Ingrid), Roisin Murphy (Elsewith), Wesley French (Peminuit), Carmen Moore (Pekitaulet), Ellyn Jade (Nikani), Phillip Lewitski (We'jitu), Noella Brennan (Gudrid), Ian Lloyd Anderson (Naad), Acahkos Johnson (Ne'pa'tes), Russell Balogh (Bishop Aldulf), Peter Michael Dillon (Alfred's Mounted Bodyguard), Breffni Holahan (Sister Annis), Dafhyd Flynn (Adam), Victoire Dauxerre (Nissa), Tim Creed (Orlyg), Dave Boyle (Saxon Warrior Scout 1), Sean Condren (Saxon Warrior Scout 2), Brendan McCormack (Leof), Seán McGillicuddy (Osric), Jay Cosgrove (Birthmark Viking), Steve Cash (Saxon Commander), Oliver Price (Galan), Mark Quigley (Saxon Soldier)
Summary:	Ubbe and his people must show diplomacy; the Vikings ambush the Saxons; Ingrid makes a play that strengthens her power.



On the new land, Ubbe and co are surrounded by the locals with arrows. The leader asks his men to lower their weapons. Torvi asks everyone to put down their weapons, and the diplomacy begins. She introduces herself to their leader. The local leader tells them that they would rather have peace. He asks them to meet their sagamaw Pekitaulet. They are introduced to a family who offers them assistance and friendship. There's a warmth amongst the community. Their fears are relieved.

King Alfred prepares for battle with his army and asks his scouts to ride up the hills to find evidence of the Vikings. Queen Elsworth is still irritated that they left the Royal Villa abandoned and believes the Vikings will find joy in it. Alfred believes they will be victorious for battle. But does he believe it? He is not as convincing as the Viking counterpart.

Ingrid asks Erik why he does not talk anymore. Erik is irritated that he's blind and that she doesn't share any information. Ingrid tells Erik that she has asked a man to go to Denmark to investigate and assassinate the King, who has converted to Christianity. Erik wonders if he had objected, would it have made a difference. Meanwhile, the male slave tells a female slave that he has to kill Queen Ingrid — they plot together how they can kill her.

Torvi tells Ubbe that she does not fear the locals, believing they don't mean any harm. They invite them to their side of the land. The tribe cross the waters and are greeted by Ubbe and

co. They partake in activities together, including practicing bow and arrow. Othere tells them his story.

Alfred and his army continue marching through the fog. One of their large Christian crosses falls, suggesting a bad omen. As they enter the forest, Alfred asks his army to hold. Harald's army faces them. Flashbacks show Ivar's plan — to cripple 500 Saxons so another 1,000 Saxons have to rescue them. He marks that Alfred is a Christian and he will care about them. In the present day, as Alfred's army moves forward, metal traps in the ground cripple Saxon soldiers' legs, injuring many of Alfred's men. Alfred asks his men to help them as predicted.

As Alfred's men help, Harald's men surface from the ground and start killing Alfred's men. Alfred asks his men to advance and engage in battle. Ivar watches on the sidelines as the battle goes into full swing — he's seeing his strategy come to fruition. In the flashback, Ivar plans to get the Queen by pretending to be Saxons. In the battle, Queen Elsworth is captured from her carriage. She's dragged away by her neck and is struggling to breathe. Alfred is wounded badly in battle, but he does not seem to be losing hope.

The fog worsens, and Ivar cannot see anything. Alfred refuses to retreat because he believes Jesus Christ is amongst them. As the battle continues, a sword is plunged into Harald's chest, and a Saxon looks down at him as he writhes in pain. He tells Harald that he will die alone and be forgotten. Valhalla awaits him. In his struggle, Harald still manages to kill the soldier who was complacent before he dies.

While Erik sleeps with the female slave, the male slave that Erik hired walks behind Ingrid. She asks him who asked him to kill her. She knows it is Erik. Meanwhile, the female slave kills Erik in a barn after he gets too rough during sex. The male slave that was ordered to kill Ingrid is hanged in front of crowds and Ingrid and the female slave smile at each other — she was one step ahead; Erik played with a witch and got what he deserved.

In the new land, Ubbe notices carvings on a tree, and it symbolizes Ragnar. He tells Torvi that this is their story. One of the locals then shouts "crazy man" up at a treehouse. A man leaves the treehouse above them — it's Floki.

The Last Act

Season 6

Episode Number: 89

Season Episode: 20

Originally aired: Wednesday December 30, 2020
Writer: Michael Hirst
Director: Steve Saint Leger
Show Stars: Alex Høgh Andersen (Ivar the Boneless), Marco Ilsø (Hvitserk), Jordan Patrick Smith (Ubbe), Ragga Ragnars (Gunnhild), Eric Johnson (Erik the Red), Danila Kozlovsky (Oleg the Prophet), Peter Franzén (Harald Finehair), Ray Stevenson (Othere), John Kavanagh (The Seer), Georgia Hirst (Torvi)
Guest Stars: Gustaf Skarsgård (Floki), Ferdia Walsh-Peelo (Alfred the Great), Lucy Martin (Ingrid), Roisin Murphy (Elsewith), Wesley French (Peminuit), Carmen Moore (Pekitaulet), Ellyn Jade (Nikani), Phillip Lewit-ski (We'jitu), Ian Lloyd Anderson (Naad), Peter Michael Dillon (Alfred's Mounted Bodyguard), Dafhyd Flynn (Adam), Brendan McCormack (Leof), Seán McGillicuddy (Osríc), Steve Cash (Saxon Commander), Achkos Johnson (Ne'pa'tes), Noella Brennan (Gudrid), Victoire Dauxerre (Nissa), Fiach Kunz (Viking Messenger), Ian Brooker (Bishop), Oliver Price (Galan), Jinny Lofthouse (Shield Maiden)
Summary: Tragedy strikes, not only in new territory, but also in England; Ragnar's sons set off in their journeys.



The episode opens up with Ubbe and Floki embracing each other — a significant moment, a finale-esque moment. Floki tells them that the locals have taken care of him, and when he arrived on the new land, they healed him. He tells them he left Iceland because the sadness became too much as it imprisoned him, and felt deserted by the Gods. He doesn't remember what made him sad. He's seemingly spiritual and neutral — there's no hint of hatred in him. It's a reunion that gives clarity to Ubbe and Torvi.

King Alfred and Ivar the Boneless stand in the middle of the Saxons and they greet each other — they've agreed on an armistice while they negotiate peace. Alfred notes how they are still fighting like their fathers did and desires an end to this endless war cycle. Ivar suggests negotiating peace for Alfred's sake. After Alfred looks at his Queen Elsworth, he rejects Ivar's offer and claims that he "fears to lose" — he doesn't believe Ivar wants true peace and feels his Gods have misled him. Ivar mocks his rejection statement and tells Alfred he is outnumbered. Alfred explains that his people fight for God's love and their land and suggests that he leaves. Ivar throws down the white flag to end the armistice and suggests the war continues. Was it going to go any other way in the Vikings final ever episode?

Othere tells Ubbe that the dark blood of revenge impacted Floki. He asks Ubbe what he sees when he looks at the new world. Ubbe says he sees opportunities — everything Ragnar dreamed of. Othere asks Ubbe if he wants to live in the "old ways". This scene was intimate in many ways — Othere is not forcing new ideologies on Ubbe, he's encouraging his imagination while looking out at a new beautiful world; it doesn't need to be about blood and war. They can enjoy a good

life. This is one of the strengths of Ubbe and Torvi's story — it looks beyond their cyclical way of doing things. They are teasing with humanity and peace.

One of Ubbe's men tries to find gold and sneaks into the locals' tents. He is caught and ends up slashing one of the local's throats before running off. This is what Othere was referencing — the "old ways" that keeps everything in a cycle — the ending of Vikings season 6 brings Ubbe a challenge to change. The locals bring the man to Ubbe, and they are dismayed at the death of one of their own. Ubbe does not condone or forgive what this man did. He offers to punish the man for his crimes. One of the women stares at Ubbe and notices he has blue eyes, which means danger.

The man lies to Ubbe and tells him that he was attacked and it was self-defense. Floki does not pass judgment, stating he has his own counsel. Othere believes he needs to be punished, but the man gets emotional. Ubbe believes this is a new world, and they need to adjust. He sentences the man to death — Othere tells the man he has an opportunity to go to Valhalla. This is not about sides anymore in the new world; it's about doing what is right for peace.

The battle in England continues after peace negotiations fall apart. Soldiers charge at each other, and Hvitserk is as determined as ever as strategist Ivar stands back and watches, but they are losing. An emotional Ivar struggles to walk forward as he watches his brother bravely fight while he's in agonizing pain. Alfred talks to his God and asks for answers; Ivar talks to his Gods as well — both men are relying on their faiths to get through this war. As Ivar struggles to move forward, his eyes light up bluer — he's in great danger.

Ivar grabs Hvitserk and requests that he leaves the battlefield. He tells his brother to go — he admits he can never kill him. Hvitserk tells Ivar that his eyes are blue and gets emotional. Both brothers put their heads together and say "I love you" repeatedly. This is it. The moment that Vikings season 6 has drummed up for twenty chapters — the ending for Ivar is here in the final ever episode, and it's done with raw emotion and respect.

Ivar then screams with his chest that he is "Ivar the Boneless" and that he will live forever. Alfred looks over at him as he begins killing soldiers. Hvitserk kneels next to his brother, injured from battle, and says, "One day, everyone will know of Ivar the Boneless," and his eyes well up. A Saxon soldier faces Ivar with nerves in his eyes — Ivar tells him, "Do not be afraid". The soldier stabs Ivar repeatedly after Ivar prompts him. Alfred continues to look on as blood leaves Ivar's mouth. Ivar looks back at his brother and collapses, his bones cracking. Hvitserk kneels over his brother, and Alfred tells his men to stop fighting.

Ivar tells his brother that he is afraid. Hvitserk tells him that no-one will forget him as he slowly dies. There's silence as Ivar lays there. Alfred kneels beside them both, and Hvitserk asks him to leave him alone with his brother. Alfred signals a cross on his chest — there's a deep respect for what has happened; the silence is more impactful than the fighting, more impactful than the music.

Back at the new land, Ubbe carries out the punishment on the man that killed one of the local tribe. He slits his neck in front of everyone. Torvi is told by one of the locals that they are "welcome to this place, but not welcome to possess it". What a great line, and the irony that it's thrown at a group of people that have always wanted to possess land.

Hvitserk talks to Ivar's grave and wishes him a good time in Valhalla. Meanwhile, King Alfred holds the chess piece that Ivar gave to him. Back at Kattegat, Ingrid and her people learn that Harald was slain and they lost the battle — but the biggest news that sends shockwaves is that Ivar the Boneless was killed. The people chant "long live the Queen". From slave to verified Queen — that's called progress.

Ingrid asks about Hvitserk, and then the scene flits to him in a Christian Church — he renounces his allegiance with Odin and all other "false Gods". He asks for baptism. Alfred welcomes him as a Christian Saxon prince and gives him a new name. Hvitserk smiles slightly — he has a new home.

Ubbe asks Floki for advice. He tells him to always take stones out of his shoe, which is an amusing piece of advice as both men sit on the beach. Ubbe ponders if he did the right thing coming to the new land, but he knows he didn't have a choice — he asks Floki if he feels the Gods on this land. Floki is neutral on the conversation and tells Ubbe that he doesn't need to know anything as it isn't important — "let the past go". Floki admits he remembers Ragnar, and he will not leave him alone, despite being dead.

Ubbe tells Floki that he loves him. They both look out at the sunset together in peace.

Actor Appearances

A

Alicia Agneson	24
0503 (Ivar's Slave Girl); 0505 (Freydis); 0511 (Freydis); 0512 (Freydis); 0513 (Freydis); 0514 (Freydis); 0515 (Freydis); 0516 (Freydis); 0517 (Freydis); 0518 (Freydis); 0519 (Freydis); 0520 (Freydis); 0601 (Freydis); 0602 (Freydis); 0605 (Katya); 0606 (Katya); 0607 (Katya); 0608 (Freydis); 0609 (Freydis); 0610 (Katia); 0612 (Katia); 0613 (Katia); 0614 (Katia); 0615 (Katia)	
Daniel Aherne	1
0101 (Viking Warrior)	
Jouko Ahola	3
0102 (Kauko); 0103 (Kauko); 0104 (Kauko)	
Ivo Alexandre	2
0613 (Bishop Leon); 0614 (Bishop Leon)	
Niamh Algar	1
0303 (Second Woman)	
Alex Høgh Andersen	1
0411 (Ivar)	
Ian Lloyd Anderson	5
0616 (Naad); 0617 (Naad); 0618 (Naad); 0619 (Naad); 0620 (Naad)	
Ross Matthew Anderson	1
0510 (Lagertha's Father)	
Richard Ashton	2
0204 (Thorvard); 0205 (Thorvard)	
Per Fredrik Asly	2
0604 (Envoy); 0609 (Envoy)	
Josefin Asplund	19
0411 (Astrid); 0412 (Astrid); 0413 (Astrid); 0414 (Astrid); 0415 (Astrid); 0416 (Astrid); 0417 (Astrid); 0418 (Astrid); 0419 (Astrid); 0501 (Astrid); 0502 (Astrid); 0503 (Astrid); 0504 (Astrid); 0505 (Astrid); 0506 (Astrid); 0507 (Astrid); 0508 (Astrid); 0509 (Astrid); 0510 (Astrid)	
Anna Astrom	1
0202 (Hild)	

B

Amy Bailey (II)	13
0208 (Princess Kwenrith); 0209 (Princess Kwenrith); 0301 (Princess Kwenrith); 0302 (Princess Kwenrith); 0303 (Princess Kwenrith); 0304 (Princess Kwenrith); 0307 (Princess Kwenrith); 0402 (Princess Kwenrith); 0403 (Princess Kwenrith); 0404 (Princess Kwenrith); 0405 (Princess Kwenrith); 0406 (Princess Kwenrith); 0408 (Princess Kwenrith)	
Bryan Baker (II)	1
0304 (Drunken Northman)	
Russell Balogh	2
0618 (Bishop Aldulf); 0619 (Bishop Aldulf)	
Eva Bartley	1
0306 (Midwife)	
Owen Barton	1

0604 (Warrior)	
Chooye Bay	1
0516 (Old Man in Market)	
Michelle Beamish	1
0109 (Female Servant 3)	
Ian Beattie	1
0301 (King Brihtwulf)	
Adam Behan	1
0607 (Warrior 1)	
Hannah Behan	1
0610 (Shield Maiden)	
Lee Bennett	2
0614 (Eastern Rus Noble); 0615 (Eastern Rus Noble)	
Steven Berkoff	10
0518 (King Olaf); 0519 (King Olaf the Stout); 0520 (King Olaf the Stout); 0603 (King Olaf the Stout); 0604 (King Olaf the Stout); 0605 (King Olaf the Stout); 0607 (King Olaf the Stout); 0608 (King Olaf the Stout); 0610 (King Olaf the Stout); 0611 (King Olaf the Stout)	
Nicolas Van Beveren	1
0607 (Stranger)	
Amy De Bhrún	3
0605 (Jarl Hrolf); 0606 (Jarl Hrolf); 0611 (Jarl Hrolf)	
Mei Bignall	8
0506 (Thorunn); 0507 (Thorunn); 0508 (Thorunn); 0509 (Thorunn); 0510 (Thorunn); 0512 (Thorunn); 0513 (Thorunn); 0514 (Thorunn)	
Muireann Bird	1
0614 (Harold's Servant)	
Steven Blades	1
0612 (Rus Officer #2)	
George Blagden	4
0401 (Athelstan); 0403 (Athelstan); 0406 (Athelstan); 0415 (Athelstan)	
Paul Booth (II)	2
0413 (Saxon Officer); 0414 (Saxon Officer)	
Maxim Boshell	2
0404 (Ivar's Axe Boy); 0405 (Ivar's Axe Boy)	
Dave Boyle	2
0618 (Saxon Warrior Scout 1); 0619 (Saxon Warrior Scout 1)	
Simon Boyle	3
0513 (Priest); 0516 (Priest); 0519 (Priest)	
Gail Brady	1
0616 (Wife of Drunk)	
Rachel-Mae Brady	1
0205 (Young Woman)	
Des Braiden	1
0102 (Father Cuthbert)	
Noella Brennan	7
0614 (Gudrid); 0615 (Gudrid); 0616 (Gudrid); 0617 (Gudrid); 0618 (Gudrid); 0619 (Gudrid); 0620 (Gudrid)	
Ian Brooker	2
0617 (Bishop); 0620 (Bishop)	
Anthony Brophy	4

0507 (King Svase); 0508 (King Svase); 0509 (King Svase); 0510 (King Svase)
 James Browne 1
 0202 (Messenger)
 Gary Buckley 2
 0418 (Vik); 0419 (Vik (Ellisif's Husband))
 Rick Burn 1
 0206 (Warrior)
 Brent Burns 2
 0613 (Skane); 0614 (Skane)

C

Darren Cahill 13
 0501 (Aethelred); 0502 (Aethelred); 0503 (Aethelred);
 0504 (Aethelred); 0505 (Aethelred); 0506 (Aethelred);
 0508 (Aethelred); 0509 (Aethelred); 0512 (Aethelred);
 0513 (Aethelred); 0514 (Aethelred); 0515 (Aethelred);
 0516 (Aethelred)
 Alexander Campbell 1
 0616 (Second Warrior)
 Kelly Campbell 15
 0506 (Ingvild); 0507 (Ingvild); 0508 (Ingvild); 0509
 (Ingvild); 0510 (Ingvild); 0513 (Ingvild); 0514
 (Ingvild); 0516 (Ingvild); 0608 (Ingvild); 0609
 (Ingvild); 0611 (Ingvild); 0612 (Ingvild); 0613
 (Ingvild); 0614 (Ingvild); 0615 (Ingvild)
 Mishaël Lopes Cardozo 3
 0605 (King Hakon); 0607 (King Hakon); 0611 (King
 Hakon)
 Guy Carleton 3
 0613 (Patriarch / Russian Priest); 0614 (Patriarch
 / Russian Priest); 0615 (Patriarch / Russian
 Priest)
 Des Carney 5
 0402 (Waerferth the Scout); 0403 (Waerferth the
 Scout); 0405 (Waerferth the Scout); 0407 (Waer-
 ferth the Scout); 0408 (Waerferth the Scout)
 Steve Cash 2
 0619 (Saxon Commander); 0620 (Saxon Comman-
 der)
 Martha Christie 1
 0409 (Roman Prostitute)
 Liam Clarke 1
 0413 (Gudmund)
 Andrei Claude 6
 0601 (Ganbaatar); 0602 (Ganbaatar); 0606 (Gan-
 baatar); 0609 (Ganbaatar); 0610 (Ganbaatar);
 0611 (Ganbaatar)
 Roanna Cochrane 1
 0106 (Slave Girl)
 Sean Condren 2
 0618 (Saxon Warrior Scout 2); 0619 (Saxon Warrior
 Scout 2)
 Declan Conlon 1
 0407 (Wigstan)
 Karen Connell 1
 0607 (Angel of Death)
 Rosalie Connerty 2
 0401 (Angrboda); 0402 (Angrboda)
 Eve Connolly 6
 0514 (Thora); 0516 (Thora); 0517 (Thora); 0518 (Thora);
 0603 (Thora); 0605 (Thora)
 Isabelle Connolly 2
 0614 (Anna); 0615 (Anna)
 Brendan Conroy 1
 0415 (Blind Driver)
 Gabriel Constantin 1
 0615 (Commanding Officer)
 Jordan Coombes 3

0606 (Shield Maiden); 0607 (Shield Maiden); 0617
 (Shield Maiden)
 David Coon 1
 0409 (Roman Relic Seller)
 Trevor Cooper 2
 0105 (Earl Bjarni); 0106 (Earl Bjarni)
 Adam Copeland 23
 0505 (Kjetill Flatnose); 0506 (Kjetill Flatnose); 0507
 (Kjetill Flatnose); 0508 (Kjetill Flatnose); 0509
 (Kjetill Flatnose); 0510 (Kjetill Flatnose); 0513
 (Kjetill Flatnose); 0514 (Kjetill Flatnose); 0516
 (Kjetill Flatnose); 0517 (Kjetill Flatnose); 0518
 (Kjetill Flatnose); 0602 (Kjetill Flatnose); 0603
 (Kjetill Flatnose); 0604 (Kjetill Flatnose); 0605
 (Kjetill Flatnose); 0607 (Kjetill Flatnose); 0608
 (Kjetill Flatnose); 0609 (Kjetill); 0611 (Kjetill
 Flatnose); 0612 (Kjetill Flatnose); 0613 (Kjetill
 Flatnose); 0614 (Kjetill Flatnose); 0615 (Kjetill
 Flatnose)
 Jay Cosgrove 1
 0619 (Birthmark Viking)
 Michelle Costello (II) 1
 0109 (Female Servant 1)
 Gina Costigan 3
 0604 (Runa); 0605 (Runa); 0606 (Runa)
 Simon Coury 1
 0104 (Saxon Priest)
 Elinor Crawley 6
 0104 (Thyri); 0105 (Thyri); 0106 (Thyri); 0108 (Thyri);
 0109 (Thyri); 0304 (Thyri)
 James Craze 5
 0506 (Bul); 0507 (Bul); 0508 (Bul); 0509 (Bul); 0510
 (Bul)
 Tim Creed 2
 0618 (Orlyg); 0619 (Orlyg)
 Stephen Cromwell 1
 0611 (Kattegonian)
 Carrie Crowley 5
 0103 (Ellisef); 0104 (Ellisef); 0201 (Ellisef); 0205
 (Elisef); 0209 (Elisef)
 Muiris Crowley 2
 0303 (Third Saxon Noble); 0305 (Third Saxon No-
 ble)
 Dave Curry 1
 0307 (Mercian Commander)
 Elodie Curry 9
 0602 (Asa); 0603 (Asa); 0604 (Asa); 0605 (Asa); 0607
 (Asa); 0608 (Asa); 0609 (Asa); 0612 (Asa); 0613
 (Asa)
 Niall Cusack 2
 0403 (Abbot Lupus); 0404 (Abbot Lupus)

D

Christopher Dane 1
 0101 (Condemned Man)
 Victoire Dauxerre 2
 0619 (Nissa); 0620 (Nissa)
 Donna Dent 8
 0101 (Woman); 0506 (Rafarta); 0507 (Woman); 0508
 (Rafarta); 0509 (Woman); 0510 (Rafarta); 0513
 (Rafarta); 0514 (Rafarta)
 Damien Devaney 3
 0108 (Priest 1); 0512 (Wilfred); 0513 (Wilfred)
 Alan Devine 1
 0203 (Ealdorman Eadric)
 Katherine Devlin 1
 0612 (Natasha)
 Peter Dillon 1
 0419 (Viking Scout)
 Peter Michael Dillon 3

0618 (Alfred's Mounted Bodyguard); 0619 (Alfred's Mounted Bodyguard); 0620 (Alfred's Mounted Bodyguard)

Kristy Dawn Dinsmore 11
 0519 (Amma); 0520 (Amma); 0601 (Amma); 0603 (Amma); 0604 (Amma); 0605 (Amma); 0606 (Amma); 0607 (Amma); 0608 (Amma); 0609 (Amma); 0611 (Amma)

Dianne Doan 7
 0401 (Yidu); 0403 (Yidu); 0404 (Yidu); 0405 (Yidu); 0406 (Yidu); 0407 (Yidu); 0408 (Yidu)

Orlaith Doherty 3
 0509 (Rider); 0511 (Female Rider); 0606 (Shield Maiden)

Josh Donaldson 1
 0418 (Hoskuld)

Malcolm Douglas 6
 0402 (Noble 3); 0509 (Ealdorman 3); 0513 (Ealdorman 3); 0514 (Cyneheard); 0515 (Cyneheard); 0516 (Cyneheard)

Alexander Downes 1
 0107 (Noble 5)

Joe Doyle 1
 0309 (1st Older Viking Man)

Sam Doyle 2
 0103 (Saxon 1); 0104 (Saxon 1)

Eamonn Draper 1
 0509 (Bishop)

Eddie Drew 2
 0101 (Odin); 0309 (Odin)

Gavan Duffy 1
 0106 (Housecarl 1)

Jay Duffy 1
 0202 (Ari)

Sean Duggan 1
 0308 (Monk)

Moe Dunford 22
 0203 (Aethelwulf); 0204 (Aethelwulf); 0205 (Aethelwulf); 0206 (Aethelwulf); 0207 (Aethelwulf); 0208 (Aethelwulf); 0209 (Aethelwulf); 0301 (Aethelwulf); 0302 (Aethelwulf); 0303 (Aethelwulf); 0304 (Aethelwulf); 0305 (Aethelwulf); 0306 (Aethelwulf); 0307 (Aethelwulf); 0309 (Aethelwulf); 0402 (Aethelwulf); 0403 (Aethelwulf); 0404 (Aethelwulf); 0405 (Aethelwulf); 0406 (Aethelwulf); 0409 (Aethelwulf); 0508 (Aethelwulf)

Stav Dvorkin 1
 0601 (Collaborator)

E

Lulubelle Earley 6
 0507 (Jorunn); 0508 (Jorunn); 0509 (Jorunn); 0510 (Jorunn); 0513 (Jorunn); 0514 (Jorunn)

Tallulah Belle Earley 1
 0506 (Jorunn)

Desmond Eastwood 1
 0617 (Messenger)

Eddie Elks 2
 0101 (Olafur); 0102 (Olafur)

Edvin Endre 22
 0202 (Erlendur); 0203 (Erlendur); 0204 (Erlendur); 0206 (Erlendur); 0207 (Erlendur); 0208 (Erlendur); 0209 (Erlendur); 0210 (Erlendur); 0304 (Erlendur); 0306 (Erlendur); 0307 (Erlendur); 0308 (Erlendur); 0309 (Erlendur); 0310 (Erlendur); 0401 (Erlendur); 0403 (Erlendur); 0404 (Erlendur); 0405 (Erlendur); 0406 (Erlendur); 0407 (Erlendur); 0408 (Erlendur); 0409 (Erlendur)

André Eriksen 1

0415 (Black Cloaked Figure)

Andre Eriksen 1
 0416 (Black Cloaked Figure)

F

Laurence Falconer 1
 0302 (Rider)

Lauren Farrell 1
 0503 (Female Slave)

Gary Farrelly 1
 0103 (Young Boy)

Robert Fawsitt 2
 0202 (Saxon 1); 0304 (Drunken Saxon)

Tim Fellingham 1
 0612 (Viking Messenger)

Travis Fimmel 2
 0411 (Ragnar Lothbrok); 0520 (Ragnar)

Mark Fitzgerald (II) 2
 0210 (Warrior); 0402 (Warrior)

Kevin Flood 1
 0105 (Old Man)

Dafhyd Flynn 3
 0618 (Adam); 0619 (Adam); 0620 (Adam)

Fionn Foley 1
 0203 (Bell Monk)

Robban Follin 1
 0404 (Berserker)

Christina Forbes 1
 0106 (Old Woman / Grim Giantess)

Michael James Ford 1
 0107 (Noble 2)

Brian Fortune 1
 0307 (Injured Noble)

Laurence Foster 4
 0307 (French Archbishop); 0308 (French Archbishop); 0309 (French Archbishop); 0310 (French Archbishop)

Emily Fox 1
 0614 (Harold's Servant)

Peter Franzén 1
 0505 (King Harald Finehair)

Wesley French 3
 0618 (Peminuit); 0619 (Peminuit); 0620 (Peminuit)

G

Cillian O' Gairbhi 1
 0107 (Saxon Warrior 2)

Chris Gallagher (II) 1
 0203 (Monk)

Cian Gallagher 1
 0515 (Saxon Servant)

Donal Gallery 1
 0417 (Second Viking)

Caoimhe Garvin 1
 0413 (Young Saxon Girl)

Peter Gaynor 2
 0106 (Lord Edgar); 0107 (Lord Edgar)

Degnan Geraghty 1
 0505 (Saxon Priest)

Alicia Gerrard 1
 0603 (First Woman)

Billy Gibson 1
 0101 (Ulf)

Finn Gillespie 3
 0614 (Young Viking); 0615 (Young Viking); 0616 (Young Viking)

Anton Giltrap 4

0411 (Gunthrum); 0412 (Gunthrum); 0417 (Gunthrum); 0418 (Gunthrum)

Adam Goodwin 5
0419 (Saxon Noble); 0420 (Saxon Noble); 0501 (First Scout); 0502 (First Scout); 0503 (First Scout)

Nathan Gordon 1
0102 (Monk)

Sinead Gormally 5
0416 (Tanaruz); 0417 (Tanaruz); 0418 (Tanaruz); 0419 (Tanaruz); 0420 (Tanaruz)

Scott Graham 16
0506 (Frodi); 0507 (Frodi); 0508 (Frodi); 0509 (Frodi); 0510 (Frodi); 0512 (Frodi); 0513 (Frodi); 0514 (Frodi); 0516 (Frodi); 0608 (Frodi); 0609 (Frodi); 0611 (Frodi); 0612 (Frodi); 0613 (Frodi); 0614 (Frodi); 0615 (Frodi)

Sarah Greene (II) 3
0207 (Judith); 0208 (Judith); 0209 (Judith)

Barbara Griffin 2
0207 (Sorceress); 0208 (Sorceress)

Rebecca Grimes 3
0109 (Female Servant 2); 0501 (Shield Maiden); 0502 (Shield Maiden)

Maria Guiver 1
0615 (Oleg's First Wife)

Jonathan Gunning 2
0306 (Priest); 0404 (Wessex Fool / Magician)

Will Guppy 1
0602 (Chamberlain)

H

Jefferson Hall 20
0102 (Torstein); 0104 (Torstein); 0105 (Torstein); 0106 (Torstein); 0107 (Torstein); 0108 (Torstein); 0109 (Torstein); 0201 (Torstein); 0202 (Torstein); 0203 (Torstein); 0204 (Torstein); 0205 (Torstein); 0206 (Torstein); 0207 (Torstein); 0208 (Torstein); 0209 (Torstein); 0210 (Torstein); 0301 (Torstein); 0302 (Torstein); 0303 (Torstein)

Ryan Hanson 1
0520 (Hall)

Jill Harding 2
0305 (Judith's Maid); 0306 (Judith's Maid)

Thorbjørn Harr 9
0101 (Jarl Borg); 0109 (Jarl Borg); 0201 (Jarl Borg); 0202 (Jarl Borg); 0203 (Jarl Borg); 0204 (Jarl Borg); 0205 (Jarl Borg); 0206 (Jarl Borg); 0207 (Jarl Borg)

Karen Hassan 12
0308 (Therese); 0309 (Therese); 0310 (Therese); 0401 (Therese); 0402 (Therese); 0403 (Therese); 0404 (Therese); 0405 (Therese); 0406 (Therese); 0408 (Therese); 0409 (Therese); 0410 (Therese)

Aine Hayden 1
0603 (Old Woman)

Lenny Hayden 1
0302 (Viking 1 Farmstead)

Tristan Heanue 4
0412 (Blacksmith); 0417 (Blacksmith); 0501 (Blacksmith); 0502 (Blacksmith)

Aron Hegarty 1
0402 (Mercian Commander)

Ryan Henson 10
0507 (Hali); 0508 (Hali); 0509 (Hali); 0510 (Hali); 0512 (Hali); 0519 (Hali); 0602 (Hali); 0603 (Hali); 0604 (Hali); 0609 (Hali)

Jack Hickey 1
0305 (Warrior 3)

Eric Higgins 4
0101 (Knut); 0102 (Knut); 0103 (Knut); 0104 (Knut)

Fredrik Hiller 2
0605 (Jarl Thorkell); 0610 (Thorkell)

Georgia Hirst 49
0203 (Torvi); 0204 (Torvi); 0205 (Torvi); 0206 (Torvi); 0207 (Torvi); 0304 (Torvi); 0306 (Torvi); 0307 (Torvi); 0308 (Torvi); 0401 (Torvi); 0404 (Torvi); 0405 (Torvi); 0406 (Torvi); 0407 (Torvi); 0408 (Torvi); 0409 (Torvi); 0410 (Torvi); 0411 (Torvi); 0412 (Torvi); 0413 (Torvi); 0414 (Torvi); 0416 (Torvi); 0417 (Torvi); 0418 (Torvi); 0419 (Torvi); 0501 (Torvi); 0502 (Torvi); 0504 (Torvi); 0506 (Torvi); 0507 (Torvi); 0508 (Torvi); 0509 (Torvi); 0510 (Torvi); 0511 (Torvi); 0512 (Torvi); 0513 (Torvi); 0514 (Torvi); 0515 (Torvi); 0516 (Torvi); 0518 (Torvi); 0519 (Torvi); 0601 (Torvi); 0602 (Torvi); 0603 (Torvi); 0604 (Torvi); 0605 (Torvi); 0607 (Torvi); 0608 (Torvi); 0609 (Torvi)

Maude Hirst 38
0105 (Helga); 0106 (Helga); 0108 (Helga); 0201 (Helga); 0202 (Helga); 0204 (Helga); 0205 (Helga); 0206 (Helga); 0207 (Helga); 0208 (Helga); 0210 (Helga); 0301 (Helga); 0302 (Helga); 0303 (Helga); 0304 (Helga); 0305 (Helga); 0306 (Helga); 0307 (Helga); 0308 (Helga); 0309 (Helga); 0310 (Helga); 0401 (Helga); 0402 (Helga); 0403 (Helga); 0404 (Helga); 0405 (Helga); 0406 (Helga); 0407 (Helga); 0408 (Helga); 0410 (Helga); 0411 (Helga); 0412 (Helga); 0413 (Helga); 0416 (Helga); 0417 (Helga); 0418 (Helga); 0419 (Helga); 0420 (Helga)

Bosco Hogan 1
0507 (Lord Abbot)

Cameron Hogan 1
0414 (Magnus)

John Hogg 1
0607 (Third Young Viking)

Breffni Holahan 2
0618 (Sister Annis); 0619 (Sister Annis)

Kris Holden-Ried 8
0506 (Eyvind); 0507 (Eyvind); 0508 (Eyvind); 0509 (Eyvind); 0510 (Eyvind); 0512 (Eyvind); 0513 (Dom); 0514 (Eyvind)

Tom Hopkins 2
0404 (French Archbishop); 0410 (French Archbishop)

Michael Hough 2
0305 (Warrior 2); 0308 (Frightened Warrior)

Mark Huberman 2
0308 (Louis); 0309 (Louis)

Amy Hughes 1
0413 (Shield Maiden)

Nathan Hughes 1
0503 (Slave)

Lee Hunter 3
0419 (Saxon Scout); 0420 (Saxon Scout); 0503 (Second Scout)

Mabel Hurley 1
0510 (Young Lagertha)

Alex Høgh 1
0410 (Ivar)

I

Marco Ilsø 2
0410 (Hvitserk); 0411 (Hvitserk)

Will Irvine 2
0102 (Brother Cenwulf); 0103 (Brother Cenwulf)

Ciara Ivie 1
0612 (Young Iceland Woman)

J

Eddie Jackson (II) 1

0102 (Monk)	
Jennie Jacques	38
0301 (Judith); 0302 (Judith); 0303 (Judith); 0304 (Judith); 0305 (Judith); 0306 (Judith); 0307 (Judith); 0309 (Judith); 0402 (Judith); 0403 (Judith); 0404 (Judith); 0405 (Judith); 0406 (Judith); 0408 (Judith); 0409 (Judith); 0413 (Judith); 0414 (Judith); 0415 (Judith); 0416 (Judith); 0417 (Judith); 0418 (Judith); 0419 (Judith); 0420 (Judith); 0501 (Judith); 0502 (Judith); 0503 (Judith); 0504 (Judith); 0505 (Judith); 0506 (Judith); 0508 (Judith); 0509 (Judith); 0512 (Judith); 0513 (Judith); 0514 (Judith); 0515 (Judith); 0516 (Judith); 0518 (Judith); 0519 (Judith)	
Ellyn Jade	2
0619 (Nikani); 0620 (Nikani)	
Albano Jerónimo	1
0505 (Euphemius)	
Albano Jeronimo	1
0504 (Euphemius)	
Simon Jewell	1
0401 (Frankish Officer)	
Dagny Backer Johnsen	4
0507 (Snaefrid); 0508 (Snaefrid); 0509 (Snaefrid); 0510 (Snaefrid)	
Acahkos Johnson	2
0619 (Ne'pa'tes); 0620 (Ne'pa'tes)	
Eric Johnson	4
0607 (Erik); 0608 (Erik); 0609 (Erik); 0610 (Erik)	
Michael Johnston	2
0601 (Messenger B); 0603 (Messenger 2)	
Morgan Jones (III)	3
0201 (Law Giver); 0204 (Law Giver); 0205 (Law Giver)	
Karin Floengard Jonsson	2
0606 (Shield Maiden); 0607 (Shield Maiden)	
Maddy Joy	1
0505 (Guest Star)	
Michael Judd	1
0608 (Village Elder)	

K

Gary Kane	1
0611 (Rus Sentry 1)	
John Kavanagh	25
0101 (Seer); 0104 (Seer); 0106 (Seer); 0108 (Seer); 0109 (Seer); 0202 (Seer); 0204 (Seer); 0205 (Seer); 0206 (Seer); 0207 (Seer); 0210 (Seer); 0301 (Seer); 0302 (Seer); 0303 (Seer); 0305 (Seer); 0310 (Seer); 0409 (Pope Leo IV); 0510 (Seer); 0513 (Seer); 0514 (Seer); 0515 (Seer); 0520 (Seer); 0602 (Seer); 0605 (The Seer); 0607 (The Seer)	
Ivan Kaye	12
0104 (King Aelle); 0106 (King Aelle); 0107 (King Aelle); 0207 (King Aelle); 0209 (King Aelle); 0304 (King Aelle); 0404 (Aelle King of Northumbria); 0405 (Aelle King of Northumbria); 0409 (Aelle King of Northumbria); 0415 (King Aelle); 0417 (Aelle King of Northumbria); 0418 (King Aelle)	
Paul Kealyn	1
0102 (Blacksmith)	
Allan Keating	1
0516 (Saxon Priest)	
Neil Keery	1
0605 (Alexei)	
Andy Kellegher	1
0107 (Saxon Warrior 1)	
Charlie Kelly	3

0417 (Egil); 0418 (Egil); 0419 (Egil)	
Siobhan Kelly	1
0419 (Egil's Wife)	
Jonathon Kemp	2
0104 (Wigea); 0106 (Wigea)	
Rudi Kennedy	1
0108 (Young Man)	
Sandy Kennedy	1
0604 (Sylvi)	
Serena Kennedy	3
0601 (Anna); 0603 (Anna); 0605 (Anna)	
Edmund Kente	1
0203 (Bishop Switheren)	
Svea Killoran	7
0507 (Asa); 0508 (Asa); 0509 (Asa); 0510 (Asa); 0512 (Asa); 0519 (Asa); 0520 (Asa)	
Anthony Kinahan	1
0309 (Sentry)	
Danila Kozlovsky	9
0601 (Oleg of Novgorod); 0602 (Oleg of Novgorod); 0603 (Oleg of Novgorod); 0604 (Oleg of Novgorod); 0605 (Oleg of Novgorod); 0607 (Oleg of Novgorod); 0608 (Oleg of Novgorod); 0609 (Oleg); 0610 (Oleg of Novgorod)	
Charlie Kranz	1
0601 (Rus Engineer)	
Blake Kubena	2
0601 (Prince Askold); 0602 (Prince Askold)	
Lenn Kudrjawizki	7
0602 (Prince Dir); 0603 (Prince Dir); 0604 (Prince Dir); 0605 (Prince Dir); 0612 (Prince Dir); 0614 (Prince Dir); 0615 (Prince Dir)	
Vladimir Kulich	4
0101 (Eric); 0102 (Erik); 0103 (Erik); 0104 (Erik)	
Fiach Kunz	1
0620 (Viking Messenger)	

L

Duncan Lacroix	2
0203 (Ealdorman Werferth); 0204 (Ealdorman Werferth)	
Marcus Lamb	1
0519 (Physician)	
Conor Lambert	1
0419 (Viking Tradesr)	
Elishka Lane	2
0610 (Katia's Servant); 0612 (Katia's Servant)	
Bryan Larkin	1
0617 (Wiglaf)	
Charles Last	2
0413 (William Son of Rollo); 0417 (William Son of Rollo)	
Renars Latkovskis	2
0601 (Russian Guard); 0613 (Rus Guard)	
Mark Lavery	2
0512 (Ivar's Male Slave); 0513 (Ivar's Male Slave)	
Marko Leht	1
0601 (Torturer)	
Mark Lewis (II)	1
0203 (Old Warrior)	
Phillip Lewitski	3
0618 (We'jitu); 0619 (We'jitu); 0620 (We'jitu)	
Michael Liebmann	1
0106 (Messenger)	
David Lindström	2
0410 (Sigurd); 0411 (Sigurd)	
Jinny Lofthouse	2
0606 (Hild); 0620 (Shield Maiden)	
Alvaro Lucchesi	1
0201 (Pagan Priest)	

Alexander Ludwig 1
 0415 (Bjorn Lothbrok)
 Jens Christian Bushov Lund 1
 0205 (Olrik)
 Shane Lynch 1
 0616 (Moneylender)

M

Robert MacDomhnaill 1
 0101 (Viking Warrior)
 Angus MacInnes 2
 0106 (Tostig); 0107 (Tostig)
 Jamie MacLachlan 1
 0518 (Aldwin)
 Conor Madden 1
 0101 (Eric Trygvasson)
 Erik Madsen 3
 0517 (King Hemming); 0518 (King Hemming); 0519 (King Hemming)
 Moah Madsen 1
 0614 (Gunnhild's Servant)
 Marty Maguire 2
 0303 (Second Saxon Noble); 0305 (Second Saxon Noble)
 David Maine 1
 0418 (Royal Servant)
 Colin Malone 1
 0601 (Axe Man)
 Rob Malone 5
 0506 (Thorgrim); 0507 (Thorgrim); 0508 (Thorgrim); 0509 (Thorgrim); 0510 (Thorgrim)
 Martin Maloney 3
 0520 (Vigrid); 0601 (Vigrid); 0602 (Vigrid)
 James Quinn Markey 7
 0401 (Ivar); 0402 (Ivar); 0404 (Ivar); 0405 (Ivar); 0406 (Ivar); 0408 (Ivar); 0409 (Ivar)
 Connor Marren 1
 0202 (Saxon 2)
 Lucy Martin 18
 0601 (Ingrid); 0602 (Ingrid); 0603 (Ingrid); 0605 (Ingrid); 0607 (Ingrid); 0608 (Ingrid); 0609 (Ingrid); 0610 (Ingrid); 0611 (Ingrid); 0612 (Ingrid); 0613 (Ingrid); 0614 (Ingrid); 0615 (Ingrid); 0616 (Ingrid); 0617 (Ingrid); 0618 (Ingrid); 0619 (Ingrid); 0620 (Ingrid)
 Nabil Massad 1
 0404 (Papal Legate)
 Tomi May 3
 0513 (Jarl Olavson); 0514 (Jarl Olavson); 0515 (Jarl Olavsonn)
 Karima McAdams 3
 0504 (Kassia); 0505 (Kassia); 0506 (Kassia)
 Aonghus Og McAnally 1
 0307 (Messenger)
 Mark McAuley 1
 0207 (Envoy)
 Frankie McCafferty 8
 0306 (Sinric); 0307 (Sinric); 0309 (Sinric); 0310 (Sinric); 0401 (Sinric); 0503 (Sinric); 0504 (Sinric); 0506 (Sinric)
 Aoibheann McCann 3
 0604 (Skadi); 0605 (Skadi); 0606 (Skadi)
 Katie McCann 1
 0614 (Harold's Servant)
 Keith McCann 1
 0103 (Man in Kattegat)
 Gerard McCarthy 1
 0101 (Bronsted)
 Tristan McConnell 3

0107 (Saxon Warrior); 0613 (Grey Viking); 0614 (Greenland Settler)
 Brendan McCormack 3
 0618 (Leof); 0619 (Leof); 0620 (Leof)
 Dylan McDonough 1
 0409 (Papal Secretary)
 Gwynne McElveen 1
 0409 (Farmer's Wife)
 Keith McErlean 3
 0501 (Lord Denewulf); 0502 (Lord Denewulf); 0503 (Lord Denewulf)
 Jack McEvoy 12
 0505 (Helgi The Lean); 0506 (Helgi the Lean); 0507 (Helgi the Lean); 0508 (Helgi the Lean); 0509 (Helgi the Lean); 0510 (Helgi the Lean); 0511 (Helgi The Lean); 0512 (Helgi the Lean); 0513 (Helgi The Lean); 0514 (Helgi the Lean); 0516 (Helgi the Lean); 0517 (Helgi the Lean)
 Seán McGillicuddy 2
 0619 (Osric); 0620 (Osric)
 Bobby McGlynn 1
 0607 (Blind Beggar)
 Ciaran McGlynn 2
 0302 (Saxon 2 Farmstead); 0305 (Saxon 2 Farmstead)
 Barry McGovern 1
 0401 (French Archbishop)
 Pagan McGrath 1
 0201 (Woman)
 Brian McGuinness 1
 0309 (2nd Older Viking Man)
 Chris McHallem 3
 0513 (Ealdorman 2); 0514 (Ealdorman 2); 0516 (Ealdorman 2)
 Christopher McHallem 5
 0303 (First Saxon Noble); 0402 (First Saxon Noble); 0413 (Saxon Noble); 0414 (Saxon Noble); 0509 (Ealdorman 2)
 Ben McKeown 1
 0516 (Crowbone)
 Ross McKinney 1
 0409 (Frankish Farmer)
 Ciaran McMahan 1
 0613 (Rus Official)
 Dez McMahan 1
 0106 (Haroldson Kinsman)
 Adam McNamara 1
 0410 (Thorhall)
 Leah McNamara 12
 0505 (Aud the Deep Minded); 0506 (Aud); 0507 (Aud); 0508 (Aud); 0509 (Aud); 0510 (Aud); 0511 (Aud the Deep Minded); 0512 (Aud); 0513 (Aud the Deep Minded); 0514 (Aud); 0516 (Aud); 0517 (Aud the Deep Minded)
 Luke McQuillan 1
 0611 (Rus Sentry 2)
 Richard McWilliams 2
 0501 (Saxon Scout); 0502 (Saxon Scout)
 Seán T. O Meallaigh 1
 0409 (Prudentius)
 Ian Meehan 1
 0410 (Frankish Officer)
 Cormac Melia 14
 0202 (Ubbe); 0203 (Ubbe); 0204 (Ubbe); 0205 (Ubbe); 0206 (Ubbe); 0208 (Ubbe); 0209 (Ubbe); 0210 (Ubbe); 0301 (Ubbe); 0302 (Ubbe); 0303 (Ubbe); 0304 (Ubbe); 0305 (Ubbe); 0306 (Ubbe)
 John Merriman 1
 0303 (Second Mercian Archer)
 Gerard Miller 1
 0609 (The Stranger)

Alex Mills	1
0607 (First Young Viking)	
Aoife Molony	1
0504 (Chief Priestess)	
Aaron Monaghan	4
0301 (Burgred); 0302 (Burgred); 0303 (Burgred); 0304 (Burgred)	
Kathy Monahan	4
0601 (Eira); 0602 (Eira); 0604 (Eira); 0605 (Eira)	
Carmen Moore	2
0619 (Pekitaulet); 0620 (Pekitaulet)	
Elizabeth Moynihan	1
0210 (Gunnhild)	
India Mullen	1
0501 (Aethegyth)	
Deirdre Mullins	1
0107 (Peasant Woman)	
Colin R Murphy	1
0601 (Saxon Soldier)	
Ed Murphy	1
0413 (Gardar)	
Gary Murphy	3
0107 (Bishop Unwan); 0418 (Bishop Unwan); 0419 (Bishop Unwan)	
James Murphy (I)	1
0309 (Ansgar)	
Patrick Murphy	1
0415 (The Saxon)	
Roisin Murphy	9
0512 (Elsewith); 0513 (Elsewith); 0515 (Elsewith); 0516 (Elsewith); 0519 (Elsewith); 0617 (Elsewith); 0618 (Elsewith); 0619 (Elsewith); 0620 (Elsewith)	
Tadhg Murphy	8
0102 (Arne); 0103 (Arne); 0104 (Arne); 0106 (Arne); 0107 (Arne); 0108 (Arne); 0109 (Arne); 0201 (Arne)	
Carolyn Murray	1
0102 (Blacksmith's Daughter)	
David Murray (II)	1
0107 (Lord Aethelwulf)	
Oisín Murray	1
0604 (Tarben)	
Diarmaid Murtagh	6
0102 (Leif); 0103 (Leif); 0104 (Leif); 0106 (Leif); 0107 (Leif); 0108 (Leif)	

N

Kal Naga	1
0505 (Ziyadat Allah)	
Khaled Abol Naga	1
0506 (Ziyadat Allah)	
Ida Nielsen	5
0418 (Margrethe); 0419 (Margrethe); 0508 (Margrethe); 0510 (Margrethe); 0512 (Margrethe)	
Ida Marie Nielsen	12
0411 (Margrethe); 0412 (Margrethe); 0413 (Margrethe); 0414 (Margrethe); 0416 (Margrethe); 0417 (Margrethe); 0501 (Margrethe); 0502 (Margrethe); 0504 (Margrethe); 0506 (Margrethe); 0507 (Margrethe); 0509 (Margrethe)	
Belle Niloufar	1
0505 (Guest Star)	
Jack Nolan	2
0417 (Earl Jorgensen); 0418 (Earl Jorgensen)	

O

Colm O'Brien	1
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0309 (Tower Sentry)	
Matthew O'Brien (I)	1
0302 (Saxon 1 Farmstead)	
Niall O'Brien	1
0607 (Second Young Viking)	
Gavan O'Connor-Duffy	1
0519 (King Frodo)	
Danny O'Connor	3
0601 (Messenger A); 0603 (Messenger 1); 0604 (Messenger 1)	
Patrick O'Donnell	2
0605 (Dealer); 0607 (Dealer)	
Ceire O'Donoghue	1
0407 (Third Young Woman)	
Oran Glynn O'Donovan	13
0602 (Igor); 0603 (Igor); 0604 (Igor); 0605 (Igor); 0607 (Igor); 0608 (Igor); 0609 (Igor); 0610 (Igor); 0611 (Igor); 0612 (Igor); 0613 (Igor); 0614 (Igor); 0615 (Igor)	
Michael O'Flaherty	1
0516 (Clergyman 2)	
Michelle O'Flaherty	1
0607 (Shield Maiden)	
Laurence O'Fuarain	1
0506 (Hakon)	
Ciaran O'Grady	3
0309 (Viking Man); 0613 (Kattegat Defender); 0614 (Greenland Settler)	
Eimear O'Grady	1
0514 (Shield Maiden)	
Cathal O'Hallin	14
0202 (Hvitserk); 0203 (Hvitserk); 0204 (Hvitserk); 0205 (Hvitserk); 0206 (Hvitserk); 0208 (Hvitserk); 0209 (Hvitserk); 0210 (Hvitserk); 0301 (Hvitserk); 0302 (Hvitserk); 0303 (Hvitserk); 0304 (Hvitserk); 0305 (Hvitserk); 0306 (Hvitserk)	
Connor O'Hanlon	3
0402 (Alfred); 0405 (Alfred); 0409 (Alfred)	
Conor O'Hanlon	2
0404 (Alfred); 0406 (Alfred)	
Aidan O'Hare	1
0516 (Clergyman)	
Ruby O'Leary	8
0101 (Gyda); 0102 (Gyda); 0103 (Gyda); 0106 (Gyda); 0108 (Gyda); 0109 (Gyda); 0406 (Gyda); 0415 (Gyda)	
Jake O'Loughlin	1
0501 (First Saxon Boy)	
Seán T. O'Meallaigh	5
0402 (Prudentius); 0403 (Prudentius); 0404 (Prudentius); 0405 (Prudentius); 0406 (Prudentius)	
Lochlainn O'Mearain	3
0301 (First Noble); 0302 (First Noble); 0303 (First Noble)	
Nigel O'Neill	1
0302 (Viking 2 Farmstead)	
Kieran O'Reilly	8
0501 (White Hair); 0510 (White Hair); 0519 (White Hair); 0520 (White Hair); 0601 (White Hair); 0602 (White Hair); 0603 (White Hair); 0604 (White Hair)	
Kiernan O'Reilly	1
0502 (White Hair)	
Niall O'Sioradain	2
0418 (Pagan Priest); 0609 (Chief Priest)	
Cillian O'Sullivan	1
0401 (Eirik)	
Elijah O'Sullivan	8
0401 (Sigurd); 0403 (Sigurd); 0404 (Sigurd); 0405 (Sigurd); 0406 (Sigurd); 0407 (Sigurd); 0408	

(Sigurd); **0409** (Sigurd)

Isaac O'Sullivan 5
0414 (Alfred); **0415** (Alfred); **0417** (Alfred); **0419** (Alfred); **0420** (Alfred)

Philip O'Sullivan 20
0203 (Bishop Edmund); **0204** (Bishop Edmund);
0205 (Bishop Edmund); **0207** (Bishop Edmund);
0208 (Bishop Edmund); **0209** (Bishop Edmund);
0301 (Bishop Edmund); **0302** (Bishop Edmund);
0304 (Bishop Edmund); **0306** (Bishop Edmund);
0307 (Bishop Edmund); **0402** (Bishop Edmund);
0404 (Bishop Edmund); **0405** (Bishop Edmund);
0406 (Bishop Edmund); **0407** (Bishop Edmund);
0408 (Bishop Edmund); **0409** (Bishop Edmund);
0419 (Bishop Edmund); **0420** (Bishop Edmund)

Nathan O'Toole 13
0101 (Bjorn); **0102** (Bjorn); **0103** (Bjorn); **0104** (Bjorn);
0105 (Bjorn); **0106** (Bjorn); **0107** (Bjorn); **0108** (Bjorn);
0109 (Bjorn); **0201** (Bjorn); **0403** (Bjorn);
0406 (Bjorn); **0415** (Bjorn)

Jack Olohan 2
0412 (Viking Farmer); **0413** (Viking Farmer)

Greg Orvis 4
0306 (Siegfried); **0307** (Siegfried); **0308** (Siegfried);
0309 (Siegfried)

Tony Owen (II) 1
0303 (Older Man)

P

Huw Parmenter 14
0307 (Roland); **0308** (Roland); **0309** (Roland); **0310** (Roland);
0401 (Roland); **0402** (Roland); **0403** (Roland); **0404** (Roland);
0405 (Roland); **0406** (Roland); **0407** (Roland); **0408** (Roland); **0409** (Roland);
0410 (Roland)

Daniel Paton 1
0612 (Rus Officer #1)

Tamaryn Payne 1
0420 (Widow Ordla)

Jerry-Jane Pears 1
0616 (Idun)

David Pearse 6
0101 (Svein); **0102** (Svein); **0103** (Svein); **0104** (Svein);
0105 (Svein); **0106** (Svein)

Pellek 1
0605 (Envoy)

Martin Phillips 1
0102 (Old Monk)

Luke Pierucci 1
0409 (Frankish Farmer)

Søren Pilmark 2
0306 (Stender); **0401** (Stender)

Morgane Polanski 16
0307 (Princess Gisla); **0308** (Princess Gisla); **0309** (Princess Gisla);
0310 (Princess Gisla); **0401** (Princess Gisla); **0402** (Princess Gisla);
0403 (Princess Gisla); **0404** (Princess Gisla); **0405** (Princess Gisla);
0406 (Princess Gisla); **0407** (Princess Gisla); **0408** (Princess Gisla);
0409 (Princess Gisla); **0410** (Princess Gisla); **0413** (Princess Gisla);
0417 (Princess Gisla)

Amy Potter 1
0303 (Woman)

Chris Powell 1
0608 (Rus Captain)

Derry Power 1
0206 (Older Man)

Michael Power 4

0413 (Captain of the Guard); **0513** (Ivar's Bodyguard); **0514** (Ivar's Bodyguard); **0515** (Ivar's Bodyguard)

Frank Prendergast 1
0501 (Bishop Cynebert)

Oliver Price 3
0618 (Galan); **0619** (Galan); **0620** (Galan)

Jasper Pääkkönen 1
0619 (Halfdan the Black)

Q

Mark Quigley 3
0608 (Viking); **0617** (Wessex Noble); **0619** (Saxon Soldier)

Bryan Quinn 1
0601 (One-Eyed Man)

Cian Quinn 1
0101 (Olaf son of Ingolf)

R

Ragga Ragnars 16
0514 (Gunnhild); **0515** (Gunnhild); **0516** (Gunnhild);
0517 (Gunnhild); **0518** (Gunnhild); **0519** (Gunnhild);
0520 (Gunnhild); **0601** (Gunnhild); **0602** (Gunnhild);
0603 (Gunnhild); **0604** (Gunnhild); **0605** (Gunnhild);
0607 (Gunnhild); **0608** (Gunnhild); **0609** (Gunnhild);
0610 (Gunnhild)

Matthew Ralli 1
0512 (Spy)

Shashi Rami 1
0401 (Slave Trader)

Emma Eliza Regan 1
0608 (Aoife)

Aisling Reid 1
0614 (Harold's Servant)

Paul Reid 1
0504 (Mannel)

Dean Ridge 8
0513 (Magnus); **0514** (Magnus); **0515** (Magnus);
0516 (Magnus); **0517** (Magnus); **0518** (Magnus);
0519 (Magnus); **0520** (Magnus)

Shane Robinson 1
0616 (Kattegonian Man)

Jim Roche 5
0420 (Saxon Scribe); **0501** (Saxon Scribe); **0514** (Saxon Scribe);
0515 (Saxon Scribe); **0516** (Saxon Scribe)

Stephen Rockett 8
0401 (Hvitserk); **0402** (Hvitserk); **0403** (Hvitserk);
0404 (Hvitserk); **0405** (Hvitserk); **0406** (Hvitserk);
0407 (Hvitserk); **0408** (Hvitserk)

Lalor Roddy 1
0303 (Fisherman)

Ben Roe 8
0501 (Guthrum); **0502** (Guthrum); **0504** (Guthrum);
0506 (Guthrum); **0507** (Guthrum); **0508** (Guthrum);
0509 (Guthrum); **0510** (Guthrum)

Owen Roe 12
0307 (Odo Count of Paris); **0308** (Odo Count of Paris);
0309 (Odo Count of Paris); **0310** (Odo Count of Paris);
0401 (Odo Count of Paris); **0402** (Odo Count of Paris);
0403 (Odo Count of Paris); **0404** (Odo Count of Paris);
0405 (Odo Count of Paris); **0406** (Odo Count of Paris);
0407 (Odo Count of Paris); **0408** (Odo Count of Paris)

Conn Rogers 2
0603 (Canute); **0604** (Canute)

Riku Rokkanen	1
0101 (Viking (voice))	
Hillary Rose	1
0109 (Female Servant 4)	
Amber Jean Rowan	1
0102 (Floki's Slave Girl)	
Dave Rowe	1
0415 (Guard)	
Elijah Rowen	8
0506 (Asbjorn); 0507 (Asbjorn); 0508 (Asbjorn); 0509 (Asbjorn); 0510 (Asbjorn); 0512 (Asbjorn); 0513 (Asbjorn); 0514 (Asbjorn)	
Conor Ryan	3
0301 (Second Noble); 0302 (Second Noble); 0303 (Second Noble)	
Jonathan Ryan	1
0107 (Noble 3)	
Matt Ryan	1
0107 (Peasant Man)	
Rex Ryan (II)	1
0309 (Soldier)	

S

Caitlin Scott	2
0417 (Judith's Sister); 0418 (Judith's Sister)	
David Michael Scott	1
0109 (Nils)	
Carl Shaaban	1
0309 (Jesus)	
Luke Shanahan	8
0401 (Ubbe); 0402 (Ubbe); 0403 (Ubbe); 0404 (Ubbe); 0405 (Ubbe); 0406 (Ubbe); 0407 (Ubbe); 0408 (Ubbe)	
David Shannon	4
0402 (Noble 1); 0509 (Ealdorman 1); 0514 (Ealdorman 1); 0516 (Ealdorman 1)	
Cathal Sheahan	1
0601 (Earl 2)	
Anna Sheils-McNamee	1
0501 (Young Nun)	
Laura Sibbick	1
0607 (Shield Maiden)	
Niall Ó Sioradáin	3
0607 (Chief Priest); 0614 (Chief Priest); 0615 (Chief Priest)	
Niall Ó Sioradáin	1
0108 (Priest Uppsala)	
Niall O Siorad'ain	1
0404 (Pagan Priest)	
Gustaf Skarsgård	3
0415 (Floki); 0619 (Floki); 0620 (Floki)	
Ann Skelly	3
0514 (Ethelfled); 0515 (Ethelfled); 0516 (Ethelfled)	
Ben Smith-Short	1
0501 (Second Saxon Boy)	
Jordan Patrick Smith	1
0410 (Ubbe)	
Sam Smith (VIII)	2
0103 (Saxon 2 (Edwin)); 0104 (Saxon 2 (Edwin))	
Clive Standen	4
0415 (Rollo); 0510 (Rollo); 0511 (Rollo); 0513 (Rollo)	
Noni Stapleton	2
0207 (Priestess); 0418 (Pagan Priestess)	
David Sterne	1
0604 (Gudmund)	
Ray Stevenson	1
0609 (Othere)	
Morten Suurballe	3
0203 (Earl Sigvard); 0204 (Earl Sigvard); 0206 (Earl Sigvard)	

Noah Syndergaard	1
0616 (Thorbjorn)	

T

Sebastian Vermeul Taback	1
0102 (Osiric)	
Adam Traynor	2
0417 (First Viking); 0607 (Warrior 2)	
Sean Treacy	1
0107 (Egbert)	
Jonathan Delaney Tynan	6
0501 (Lord Cuthred); 0502 (Lord Cuthred); 0503 (Lord Cuthred); 0504 (Lord Cuthred); 0509 (Lord Cuthred); 0512 (Lord Cuthred)	

V

Sophie Vavasseur	2
0418 (Princess Ellisif); 0419 (Princess Ellisif)	
Tommaso di Vincenzo	1
0309 (Terrifying Creature)	
Sandra Voe	1
0519 (Witch)	

W

Steve Wall	7
0206 (Uncle Einar); 0208 (Uncle Einar); 0301 (Uncle Einar); 0302 (Uncle Einar); 0304 (Uncle Einar); 0305 (Uncle Einar); 0401 (Uncle Einar)	
Ferdia Walsh-Peelo	24
0501 (Alfred the Great); 0503 (Alfred the Great); 0504 (Alfred the Great); 0505 (Alfred the Great); 0506 (Alfred the Great); 0507 (Alfred the Great); 0508 (Alfred the Great); 0509 (Alfred the Great); 0512 (Alfred the Great); 0513 (Alfred the Great); 0514 (Alfred the Great); 0515 (Alfred The Great); 0516 (Alfred The Great); 0517 (Alfred The Great); 0518 (Alfred The Great); 0519 (Alfred the Great); 0601 (Alfred the Great); 0602 (Alfred the Great); 0606 (Alfred the Great); 0609 (Alfred the Great); 0617 (Alfred the Great); 0618 (Alfred the Great); 0619 (Alfred the Great); 0620 (Alfred the Great)	
Jack Walsh (VII)	1
0413 (Scotus)	
Rob Walsh	1
0419 (Aelle's Cleric)	
Keith Ward	1
0608 (Blacksmith)	
Paul Ward (II)	2
0108 (Priest 2); 0402 (Hairdresser)	
Neil Watkins	1
0618 (Viking Council Noble)	
Olga Wehrly	1
0419 (Saxon Woman)	
Gaia Weiss	13
0206 (Porunn); 0207 (Porunn); 0208 (Porunn); 0209 (Porunn); 0210 (Porunn); 0301 (Porunn); 0302 (Porunn); 0303 (Porunn); 0304 (Porunn); 0305 (Porunn); 0306 (Porunn); 0307 (Porunn); 0308 (Porunn)	
Lorena Weldon	1
0416 (Bjorn's Victim)	
James Oliver Wheatley	1
0616 (First Warrior)	
Cathy White	4
0107 (Ealswith); 0207 (Elsewith); 0417 (Ealswith); 0418 (Ealswith)	
Craig Whittaker	1

0102 (Hakon)	
Ian Gerard Whyte	1
0606 (Viking King)	
Emma Willis	1
0607 (Cyda)	
David Wilmot	1
0101 (Olaf Andwend)	
Steve Wilson (III)	1
0108 (Horik's Companion)	
Adam Winnick	2
0519 (Black Dane Viking); 0608 (Rangvald Harald's Captain)	
Markjan Winnick	2
0518 (King Angantyr); 0519 (King Angantyr)	
Deborah Wiseman	1
0603 (Second Woman)	

Z

Lauterio Zamparelli	1
0308 (Officer)	