

GRANHOLM GENEALOGY

**OUR LITTLE PRINCES AND
PRINCESSES**

INTRODUCTION

When we visited Johan Granholm and his children Aurora and Tommy last summer their grandma Maj-Britt told me how Aurora wished that she would have been a princess. She is the granddaughter of my cousin and childhood playmate Nicke. I told Maj-Britt this is no problem as among our ancestors we have many kings and queens and in one way their descendants could be called princes and princesses.

I have used Ancestry.com, Wikipedia, and other Internet information to go back in time to search for ancestors and in some cases it goes back to myths and fairytales but also to real historical persons. So I sent them a story, "Aurora to Aurora" about how many of Aurora Granholm's ancestors were kings and even going back to the goddess Aurora in the Greek mythology (or Eos in the Roman mythology). The story starts from the mythical times and continues into history. The reader may decide where the myth and legends end and the history begins.

One of many direct ancestral lineages is shown here. It goes via the mythical Aurora's son. This particular one goes via Memnon, who was an Ethiopian king, and to us via other kings and queens as well as other persons, of whom not much more than their names are known. They all, including our present-day family, are descendants of those illustrious personages. The closest royal lineage from the kings of Sweden to our ancestors in modern times is described in *En droppe kungablod. Skrifter utgivna av Helsingfors släktforskare r.f. (A drop of royal blood, published by a Helsinki genealogy society)*. For each person there is an Internet link on top of the page for additional Wikipedia information and for information in other languages, such as Swedish and Finnish.

These are our great-great - etc. grandfathers and grandmothers shown on the list. For some persons, additional text, **highlighted** in the list, has been included here with references from Internet. Thus all their children and descendants of these royalties can, at least to a small extent, consider themselves a prince or a princess. The numbers for each person refer to my computer program, which I can provide to those who have any genealogy computer program.

In addition to these direct ancestors, their children are our cousins. An example of this is a young famous girl in Russia by the name of Anastasia, who was murdered in 1918 with her entire family. The tragic Russian Princess Anastasia, for example, is shown as being Aurora Granholm's 16th cousin. Details of this relationship are delineated here along with some pictures of Aurora's famous cousin.

Aurora's younger brother Tommy probably does not care much about that his sister is a princess. But he may be happy to find out that he is a Viking prince. His 35th great-grandfather was Rurik, the Viking who founded Russia. Information about Rurik and other Viking ancestors from many countries is included in this book and a list of how Rurik and Tommy are related.

Lars Granholm, March 2011

Direct Lineage from: Aurora/Eos Goddess of dawn to: Aurora Ellen Katriina Granholm

- 1 **Aurora, Goddess of dawn** #17654
- m. **Tithonus of Troy** #17655
- 2 **Memnon (mythology) King of Ethiopia** #17650
- m. Troana Ilium (Iliona/Sobil) Princess of Troy #17651
- 3 **Thor King of Thrace** #17649 m. Sif #17754
- 4 **Loridi (Hloritha)** #17647
- 5 **Einridi Lordiesson** #17646 b. abt 340 BC
- 6 **Vingethorr** #17641
- 7 **Vingener** #17640
- 8 **Moda** #17639
- 9 **Magi** #17638
- 10 **Seskef** #17637
- 11 **Bedweg** #17636
- 12 **Hwala** #17635
- 13 **Athra (Hathra)** #17634
- 14 **Itermon (Itormann)** #17633
- 15 **Heremod** #17632 b. 60 BC
- 16 **Sceafa** #17631
- 17 **Scealdea King in Denmark** #17630
- 18 **Beowa King in Denmark** #17629
- 19 **Tecti (Taewa)** #17628
- 20 **Geata** #17627
- 21 **Godwulf** #17626
- 22 **Flocwald** #17625 b. 100
- 23 **Finn** #17623
- 24 **Frithuwulf** #17622 b. 122
- 25 **Frealaf of Asgard** #17621 b. 160
- 26 **Frithuvald of Asgard** #17620 b. 190 m. Beltsa #17619 b. 194
- 27 **Woden (Odin) of Anglo-Saxon mythology** #17722, m. **Frigg**
- 28 **Wecta (Waegdaeg) the Jute** #16641 b. 280 d. 350
- 29 **Witta the Jute** #16640 b. 336 d. 384
- 30 **Wihtgils the Jute** #16639
- 31 **Hengest Ruler of Kent** #16638 b. 420 d. 488
- 32 **Hartwaker of Saxony** #18176 b. 442 d. 480
- 33 **Hattwigate (Hutugast) Duke of Saxony** #18177
- 34 **Childeric Duke of Saxony** #18178
- 35 **Budic Duke of Saxony** #18179
- 36 **Berthold Duke of Saxony** #18180
- 37 **Sigismund (Sigehard) Duke of Saxony** #18181
- 38 **Theodoric Duke of Saxony** #18182
- 39 **Warnechin (Werner) Duke of Saxony** #18183
- 40 **Wittikind (Widukind) I Duke of Saxony** #18323 m. Geva Eysteinsdatter of Westfold #18332 b. 755
- 41 **Hasalda Duchess of Saxony** #18322
- 42 **Bruno Duke of Saxony** #18320 m. Gisla von Verla #18321
- 43 **Liudolf Duke of Saxony** #18318 b. 805 d. 864 m. Oda Billung #18319 b. 820 d. 913
- 44 **Otto I the Illustrious Duke of Saxony** #15750 b. 851 d. 30 November 912
- m. Hedwiga Countess of Franconia #15751
- 45 **Henry I the Fowler Duke of Saxony King of Germany** #15746
- m. Saint Matilda of Ringelheim **Queen of Germany** #15747 b. 895 d. March 14, 968
- 46 **Otto I the Great King of Germany** #15745 b. 23 November 912 d. 7 May 973
- m. Saint Adelaide **Queen of Italy** #15744 b. 931 d. 16 December 999
- 47 **Otto II the Red Emperor of Holy Roman Empire** #15742 b. 955 d. December 7, 983
- m. **Theophanu Princess of Byzantium** #15743 b. 960 d. June 15, 991
- 48 **Matilda of Saxony** #15739 d. 1025
- m. Ezzo (Erenfried) Count of Palatine of Lotharingia #15738 b. 955 d. 21 March 1034
- 49 **Richeza of Lotharingia Queen of Poland** #15737 d. March 21, 1063
- m. Mieszko II Lambert King of Poland #15736 b. 990 d. 1034
- 50 **Casimir I Karol King of Poland** #15232 b. 25 Jul 1016 d. 28 Nov 1058
- m. ABT 1039 Dobronegra Mariya Princess of Kiev #15231 b. ABT 1011 d. 1087

- 51 **Wladislaw I Herman Duke of Poland** #15233 b. ABT 1042 d. 4 Jun 1102
- m. 1080 Judith (Premyslid) I Princess of Bohemia #15234 b. 1057 d. 25 Dec 1085

52 **Boleslaw III The Wrymouth Duke of Poland** #15235 b. 20 Aug 1085 d. 1138
 m. 1133 Salome of Berg-Schelklingen #15236 b. 1097 d. 27 Jul 1144

53 Richia Sventoslava of Poland Queen of Sweden #15229 b. 12 Apr 1116 d. aft 1156
 m. 1135 Volodar Glebovitj of Minsk Prince of Russia #15228 b. ABT 1123 d. AFT 1139

54 **Sofiya Vladimirovna Princess of Russia** #15216 b. 1140 d. 5 May 1198
 m. **Valdemar I the Great King of Denmark** #15215 b. 14 Jan 1131 d. 12 May 1182

55 **Richiza Valdemarsdotter Princess of Denmark** #15217 b. ABT 1178 d. 8 May 1220
 m. **Erik X Knutsson King of Sweden** #15218 b. 1180 d. 10 Apr 1216

56 **Märtha Eriksdotter Princess of Sweden** #15219 b. ABT 1213
 m. Nils Sixtensson Sparre av Tofta #15220 b. ABT 1188

57 **Sixten Nilsson Sparre av Tofta** #15204 d. 1310
 m. Ingrid Abjörnsdotter #15205 b. Abt 1220

58 **Abjörn Sixtensson Sparre av Tofta** #15201 b. ABT 1240 d. 1310
 m. Ingeborg Ulfsson Ulf #15202 b. ABT 1258 d. AFT 1307

59 **Ulf Abjörnsson Sparre** #15199 b. 1348
 m. 1330 Kristina Sigmundsdotter Tre Klöverblad #15200 b. 1295

60 **Karl Ulfsson Sparre av Tofta** #15085
 m. Helena Israelsdotter #15086 b. 1340 d. 1410

61 **Margareta Karlsdotter Sparre av Tofta** #15031 d. 1429
 m. Knut Tordsson Bonde #15030 b. ABT 1377 d. 1413

62 **Karl VIII Knutsson Bonde King of Sweden** #15029 b. 1409 d. 15 May 1470
 m. **Unknown**

63 **Karin Karlsdotter Bonde** #15028
 m. Erenigisle Björnsson Djäkn #15027 d. bef 1447

64 **Märta Erenigisledotter Djäkn** #15026
 m. Johan Henriksson Fleming #15025 b. 1465 d. AFT 1514

65 **Anna Johansdotter Fleming** #15024 b. 1435 d. 1505
 m. Olof Pedersson (Wildeman) Lille #15022 d. 1535

66 **Karin Olofsdotter Wildeman** #15021 b. 1465 d. 1535
 m. Ludolf Boose #15020 b. 1465 d. 1535

67 **Johan Ludolfsson Boose** #15018 b. 1526 d. 1596
 m. Ingeborg Henriksdotter #15019

68 **Kirstin Johansdotter Boose** #15017 b. 1576 d. 1646
 m. Bertil von Nieroht #15016 b. 1582 d. 1652

69 **Maria Bertilsdotter von Nieroht** #15013 b. 1612 d. 1682
 m. Carl Henriksson Lindelöf #15012 b. 1605 d. 1668

70 **Carl Carlsson von Lindelöf** #15010 b. 1642 d. 1712
 m. N.N. Laurisdotter Laurentz #15011

71 **Anna Maria Carlsdotter von Lindelöf** #14993 b. 1670 d. 1 Feb 1747
 m. Ericus Christierni Orenius #14815 b. ABT 1658 d. 2 Mar 1740

72 **Margareta Eriksdotter Orenia** #15008 b. 16 Jan 1710 d. 1804
 m. Johan Urnovius #15009 b. 1706 d. 1783

73 **Christina Margareta Urnovia** #15006
 m. 20 Dec 1781 Johan Flinck #15007

74 **Johan (Flinck) Årenius** #12394 b. 12 Jan 1787 d. 6 Nov 1823
 m. 15 Mar 1810 Ulrika Abrahamsdotter Sevon #12395 b. 9 Jun 1784

75 **Johan Gustaf Johansson Årenius** #12390 b. 5 Jun 1810
 m. Johanna Carolina Röring #581 b. 24 Jun 1802 d. ABT 1839

76 **Charlotta Constantia Renlund** #323 b. 4 Jun 1830 d. 28 Jan 1905
 m. 19 Mar 1854 Erik Eriksson Kåll #322 b. 24 Jun 1829 d. 23 Jan 1905

77 **Johanna Karolina Eriksdotter Kåll** #208 b. 9 Jan 1863 d. 8 Nov 1934
 m. 24 Mar 1887 Karl-Johan Granholm #207 b. 14 Mar 1866 d. 22 Jun 1920

78 **Uno Leo Granholm** #216 b. 4 May 1900 d. 11 Aug 1977
 m. 25 Aug 1923 Martta Emilia Markus #1343 b. 29 Apr 1901 d. 26 Jul 1981

79 **Nils Gustav Granholm** #1346 b. 15 May 1932 d. 13 Dec 2008
 m. Maj-Britt Haldin #1413 b. 30 Mar 1935

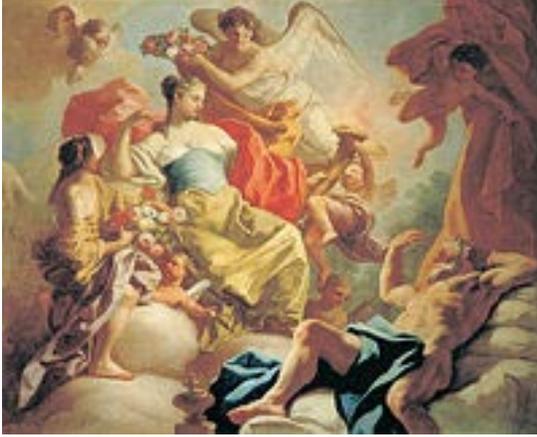
80 **Johan Arne Gustav Granholm** #1414 b. 10 Aug 1962
 m. Salla Katriina Vääätäjä #12243 b. 18 May 1966

81 **Aurora Ellen Katriina Granholm** #14446 b. 15 Nov 1999

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aurora_\(mythology\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aurora_(mythology))

Aurora (mythology) (78th great grandmother)

Aurora and Titone: Aurora, goddess of the morning and Tithonus, Prince of Troy, by [Francesco de Mura](#)



Aurora is the [Latin](#) word for dawn, the [goddess of dawn](#) in [Roman mythology](#) and Latin poetry. *Aurora* is comparable to the [Greek](#) goddess [Eos](#).

In [Roman mythology](#), Aurora, goddess of the dawn, renews herself every morning and flies across the sky, announcing the arrival of the sun. She has two siblings, a brother ([Sol](#), the sun) and a sister ([Luna](#), the moon).

A myth taken from the Greek Eos by Roman poets tells that one of her lovers was the prince of [Troy](#), [Tithonus](#). Tithonus was a mortal, and would age and die. Wanting to be with her lover for all eternity, Aurora asked [Zeus](#) to grant [immortality](#) to Tithonus. Zeus granted her wish, but she failed to ask for eternal youth for him and he wound up aging eternally. Aurora turned him into a grasshopper.

Aurora, by [Guercino](#), 1621-23: the ceiling fresco in the [Casino Ludovisi](#), Rome



Aurora Taking Leave of Tithonus
1704, by [Francesco Solimena](#)



[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Memnon_\(mythology\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Memnon_(mythology))

Memnon (mythology) (77th great grandfather)

Memnon, king of the Ethiopians and conqueror of the East.
3130: Engraving by Bernard Picart, 1673-1733.



Bernard Picart 1673-1733: Memnon. Photo © Maicar Förlag - GML

Eos lifting up the body of her son Memnon.



In [Greek mythology](#), **Memnon** was an [Ethiopian](#) king and son of [Tithonus](#) and [Eos](#)/Aurora. As a warrior he was considered to be almost Achilles' equal in skill. At the [Trojan War](#), he brought an army to [Troy](#)'s defense and was killed by [Achilles](#) in retribution for killing [Antilochus](#). After Memnon's death, [Zeus](#) was moved by Eos' tears and granted her immortality. Memnon's death is related at length in the lost epic *Aethiopsis*, composed after *The Iliad* circa the 7th century BC.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry_I_the_Fowler

Henry the Fowler (King of the Germans)

(34th great grandfather)

Henry I the Fowler ([German](#): *Heinrich der Vogler*;) (876 – 2 July 936) was the [Duke of Saxony](#)



from 912 and [King of the Germans](#) from 919 until his death. First of the [Ottonian Dynasty](#) of German kings and emperors, he is generally considered to be the founder and first king of the medieval German state, known until then as [East Francia](#). An avid hunter, he obtained the epithet "the Fowler" because he was allegedly fixing his birding nets when messengers arrived to inform him that he was to be king.

Born in [Memleben](#), in what is now [Saxony-Anhalt](#), Henry was the son of [Otto the Illustrious](#), Duke of Saxony, and his wife [Hedwiga](#), daughter of [Henry of Franconia](#) and Ingeltrude and a great-great-granddaughter of [Charlemagne](#).

Henry died of a cerebral stroke on 2 July 936 in his palatium in [Memleben](#), one of his favourite places. By then all German tribes were united in a single kingdom. Henry I is therefore considered the first German king and the founder of the eventual [Holy Roman Empire](#).

The crown of Germany is offered to Henry

His son [Otto](#) succeeded him as Emperor. His second son, [Henry](#), became Duke of Bavaria. Henry's daughter [Gerberga of Saxony](#) married King [Louis IV of France](#). His youngest daughter, [Hedwige of Saxony](#), married Duke [Hugh the Great](#) of [France](#) and was the mother of [Hugh Capet](#), the first [Capetian](#) king of France.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Matilda_of_Ringelheim

Matilda of Ringelheim, Queen of Germany

(34th great grandmother)

Saint Mathilda or **Saint Matilda** (c. 895 – March 14 968) was the wife of [Henry I](#), King of the [East Franks](#) and the first ruler of the Ottonian or [Liudolfing dynasty](#). Their son, Otto, succeeded his father as [King \(and later Emperor\) Otto I](#).



St. Mathilda was the daughter of the [Westphalian](#) count Dietrich and his wife Reinhild, and her biographers traced her ancestry back to the Saxon hero, [Widukind](#) (c. 730 - 807). As a young girl, she was sent to the convent of Herford, where her reputation for beauty and virtue is said to have attracted the attention of [Duke Otto of Saxony](#), who betrothed her to his son, [Henry the Fowler](#).

St. Mathilda was celebrated for her devotion to prayer and almsgiving; her first biographer depicted her leaving her husband's side in the middle of the night and sneaking off to church to pray.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Otto_the_Great

Otto I, Holy Roman Emperor (33rd great grandfather)

The Magdeburger Reiter: a tinted sandstone equestrian monument, c. 1240, traditionally intended as a portrait of Otto I, [Magdeburg](#)



Otto I the Great (23 November 912 in [Wallhausen](#) – 7 May 973 in [Memleben](#)), son of [Henry I the Fowler](#) and [Matilda of Ringelheim](#), was [Duke of Saxony](#), [King of Germany](#), [King of Italy](#), and "the first of the Germans to be called the emperor of Italy" according to [Arnulf of Milan](#). On 2 February 962, Otto was crowned Emperor of what would later become the [Holy Roman Empire](#).

Married to [Eadgyth](#) of England in 929, Otto succeeded his father as king of the Saxons in 936. After his death in 973 he was buried next to his first wife [Edith of Wessex](#) in the [Cathedral of Magdeburg](#).



Grave of Otto I in [Magdeburg](#)

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adelaide_of_Italy

Saint Adelaide of Italy, Holy Roman Empress

(33rd great grandmother)

Saint Adelaide of Italy, also called **Adelaide of Burgundy** (931/932 – 16 December 999) was Holy Roman Empress and perhaps the most prominent European woman of the 10th century.

Bertha of Swabia, by Albert Anker, 1888

She was the daughter of Rudolf II of Burgundy and **Bertha of Swabia**. (34th great grandmother) Her first marriage, at the age of fifteen, was to the son of her father's rival in Italy, Lothair II, the nominal King of Italy; the union was part of a political settlement designed to conclude a peace between her father and Hugh of Provence, the father of Lothair. They had a daughter, Emma of Italy.



Marriage to Otto I

Adelaide and her second husband Otto I the Great



The [Calendar of Saints](#) states that her first husband was poisoned by the holder of real power, his successor, [Berengar of Ivrea](#), who attempted to cement his political power by forcing her to marry his son, [Adalbert](#); when she refused and fled, she was tracked down and imprisoned for four months at [Como](#). She escaped to the protection, at [Canossa](#), of [Adalbert Atto](#), where she was besieged by Berengar. She managed to send an emissary to throw herself on the mercy of

[Otto the Great](#) of [Germany](#). His brothers were equally willing to save the heiress of Italy, but Otto got an army into the field: they subsequently met at the old [Lombard](#) capital of [Pavia](#) and were married in 951; he was crowned [Emperor](#) in Rome, 2 February 962 by [Pope John XII](#), and, most unusually, she was crowned [Empress](#) at the same ceremony. Among their children, four lived to maturity: Henry, born in 952; Bruno, born 953; [Matilda, Abbess of Quedlinburg](#), born about 954; and [Otto II](#), later [Holy Roman Emperor](#), born 955.

She retired to a monastery she had founded in c. 991 at [Selz](#) in [Alsace](#). Though she never became a nun, she spent the rest of her days there in prayer.

Otto II, Holy Roman Emperor (32nd great grandfather)



Otto II (955 – December 7, 983, [Rome](#)), called **the Red**, was the third ruler of the [Saxon](#) or [Ottonian](#) dynasty, the son of [Otto the Great](#) and [Adelaide of Italy](#).

He received a good education under the care of his uncle, [Bruno, archbishop of Cologne](#), and his illegitimate half-brother, [William, archbishop of Mainz](#). At first only co-reigning with his father, he was chosen German king at Worms in 961, crowned at [Aachen Cathedral](#) on May 26, 961, and on December 25, 967 was crowned joint emperor at Rome by [Pope John XIII](#).

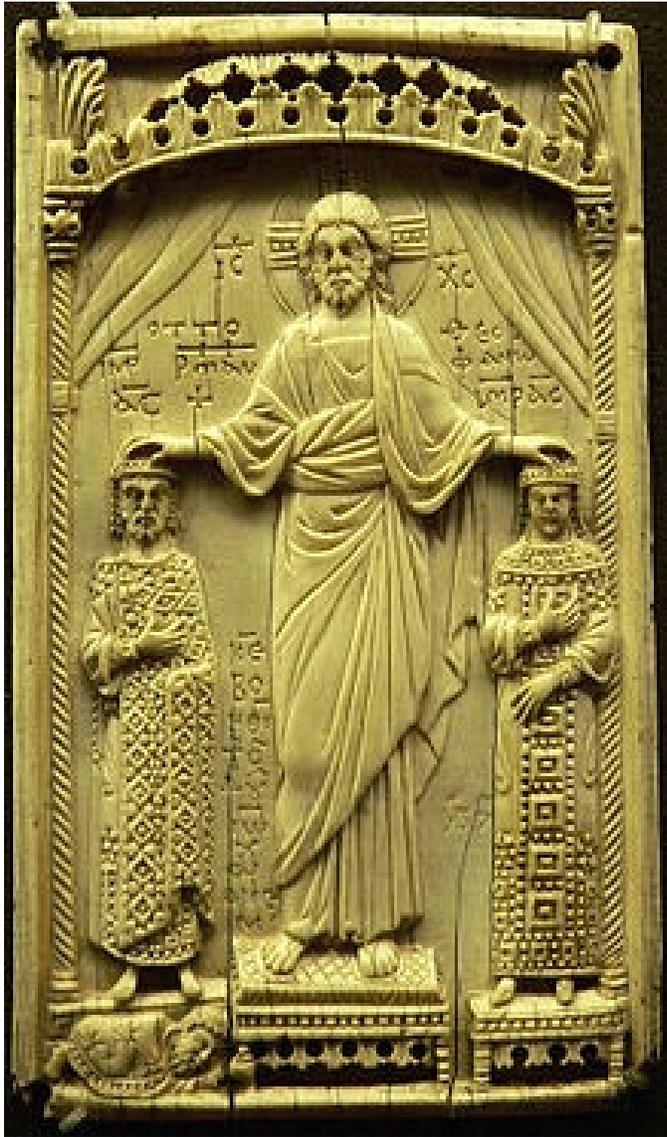
He married [Theophanu](#), niece of the Eastern Roman Emperor [John I Tzimisces](#), on April 14, [972](#). After participating in his father's campaigns in Italy, he returned to Germany and became sole emperor on the death of his father in May 973, without meeting any opposition.

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Theophanu>

Theophanu, Princess of Byzantium

(32nd great grandmother)

Otto II and Theophano



Theophanu (960 – June 15, 991) was born in [Constantinople](#), and was the wife of [Otto II, Holy Roman Emperor](#).

[Otto I, Holy Roman Emperor](#) had requested a [Byzantine](#) princess for his son, Otto, to seal a treaty between the [Holy Roman Empire](#) and the [Eastern Roman Empire](#). Theophanu arrived in 972, arriving in grand style with a magnificent escort and bearing great treasure.

Theophanu accompanied her husband on all his journeys, and issued diplomas in her own name as Empress. It is known she was frequently at odds with her mother-in-law, [Adelaide of Italy](#), and this caused an estrangement between Otto II and Adelaide.

[Albert of Metz](#) describes Theophanu as being an unpleasant and talkative woman. Theophanu was also criticized for her decadence, which manifested in her bathing once a day and introducing luxurious garments and jewelry into Germany. She is credited with introducing the [fork](#) to [Western Europe](#) - chronographers mention the astonishment she caused when she "used a golden double prong to bring food to her mouth" instead of using her hands as was the norm.

Otto II died suddenly on December 7, 983 and was buried in Rome. That Christmas Theophanu had their three-year-old son crowned as Otto III, with herself ruling as Empress Regent on his behalf. [Henry II, Duke of Bavaria](#) seized Otto in spring 984, but was forced to surrender the child to his mother. Theophanu reigned until her death in 991. She was buried in the [Church of St. Pantaleon](#) at [Cologne](#).

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richeza_of_Lotharingia

Richeza of Lotharingia, Queen of Poland

(30th great grandmother)

Richeza of Lotharingia (also called *Richenza* and *Rixa*; b. ca. 995/1000 - d. [Saalfeld](#), 21 March 1063), was a German noblewoman by birth member of the Ezzonen dynasty and by marriage [Queen of Poland](#). After she returned to [Germany](#) after the deposition of her husband in 1031, she became later a nun and today is reverenced as [Blessed Richeza of Lotharingia](#).

Through her three known children, she became in the direct ancestress of the eastern rulers of the [Piast](#), [Rurikid](#) and [Árpád](#) dynasties. Three of her Árpád descendants were Saints: [Elisabeth, Landgravine of Thuringia](#), [Kinga, Duchess of Kraków](#) and [Princess Margaret of Hungary](#), and one was Beatificated like her: [Jolanta Helena, Duchess of Greater Poland](#).

Queen Richeza of Poland. Portrait by [Wojciech Gerson](#), 1891.



She was the daughter of the [Ezzo](#) (also called Ehrenfried), Count Palatine of [Lotharingia](#) by his wife Mathilde, daughter of [Emperor Otto II](#). On Christmas Day, Mieszko II and Richeza were crowned King and Queen of Poland.

The reign of Mieszko II however, was short-lived: in 1031, the invasion of both German and Kievan troops against Poland forced him to escape to [Bohemia](#), where he was imprisoned by orders of [Duke Oldrich](#). Mieszko II's half-brother Bezprym took the government of Poland and began a cruel persecution against the followers of the former King.

The Brauweiler Chronicle indicated that soon after the escape of her husband, Richeza and her children fled to [Germany](#) with the [Polish royal crown and regalia](#), who was given to [Emperor Conrad II](#) and since them, she played an important role in mediating a peace between Poland and the Holy Roman Empire.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Casimir_I_of_Poland

Casimir I the Restorer (29th great grandfather)

Casimir I the Restorer (b. 25 July 1016 - d. 28 November 1058), was a [Duke](#) of [Poland](#) of the [Piast dynasty](#) and the *de facto* monarch of the entire country since 1034 until his death.



He was the only son of [Mieszko II Lambert](#) by his wife [Richeza](#), daughter of Count Palatine [Ezzo](#) of [Lotharingia](#) and granddaughter of [Emperor Otto II](#).

Casimir is known as *the Restorer* mostly because he managed to reunite all parts of the [Polish Kingdom](#).

At the time of his father's death, Casimir was in [Germany](#) in the court of his uncle [Hermann II](#), [Archbishop of Köln](#). In 1037 both the young prince and his mother attempted to seize the throne and returned to Poland. This precipitated a rebellion, which forced Casimir and Richeza to flee to Saxony.

However, soon Casimir returned to Poland and in 1038, once again, tried to regain power with the aide of his influential mother. This also failed and he had to flee again, this time to the [Kingdom of Hungary](#) where he was imprisoned by Stephen I.

Casimir the Restorer returning to Poland, by [Gerson](#)

Casimir could escape from Hungary and went to [Germany](#), where in 1039 his relative the [Emperor Henry III](#) gave him military and financial support. Casimir received a troop of 1,000 heavy footmen and a significant amount of gold to restore his power in the country. With such support, Casimir returned to Poland and managed to retake most of his domain.



http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/W%C5%82adys%C5%82aw_I_Herman

Władysław I (28th great grandfather)

Władysław I Herman (c.1042-1102) Duke of Poland from 1079 until 1102. Second son of Casimir I the Restorer and Maria Dobroniega, the daughter of Vladimir the Great, Grand Duke of Kiev.

As second son of Casimir I the Restorer, Władysław was not destined for the throne, however due to his brother's flight from [Poland](#) in 1079, Władysław was elevated to the rank of [duke](#) of Poland. In 1080, in order to improve Polish Czech relations, he married [Judith Premyslid](#), the daughter of the king of [Bohemia](#), Vratislaus II. Władysław had a son from this marriage called Bolesław, later to be known as [Bolesław III Wrymouth](#).

Władysław I Herman, pencil drawing by Jan Matejko



http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boleslaw_III_of_Poland

Bolesław III Wrymouth (27th great grandfather)

Bolesław III Wrymouth. Drawing by [Jan Matejko](#).

Bolesław III Wrymouth; 1085 – 1138 was Duke of [Poland](#) from [1102](#). He was the son of Duke [Władysław I Herman](#) and [Judith of Bohemia](#), daughter of [Vratislaus II of Bohemia](#). His wife was [Salome von Berg-Schelklingen](#).

Before his death in 1138, Bolesław Wrymouth published his testament dividing his lands among four of his sons.

A great migration of [Jews](#) from Western Europe to Poland began circa 1096, around the time of the [First Crusade](#). The tolerant rule of [Władysław I Herman](#) attracted the Jews who were permitted to settle throughout the entire kingdom without restrictions. The new Jewish citizens soon gained trust of the gentiles during the rule of Bolesław III.



Reception of Jews in Poland in 1096, Painting by Jan Matejko

Valdemar I of Denmark (25th great grandfather)



Valdemar I of Denmark (14 January 1131 – 12 May 1182), also known as **Valdemar the Great**, was King of [Denmark](#) from 1157 until 1182.

He was the son of [Canute Lavard](#), a chivalrous and popular Danish prince, who was the eldest son of [Eric I of Denmark](#). Valdemar's father was murdered days before the birth of Valdemar; his mother, [Ingeborg of Kiev](#), daughter of [Mstislav I of Kiev](#) and [Christina Ingesdotter of Sweden](#), named him after her grandfather, [Vladimir Monomakh](#) of [Kiev](#).

In 1146, when Valdemar was fifteen years old, King [Erik III Lamb](#) abdicated and a civil war erupted. The civil war lasted the better part of ten years.

In 1157, the three agreed to part the country in three among themselves. Sweyn hosted a great banquet for Canute, Absalon, and Valdemar during which he planned to dispose of all of them.

Canute was killed, but Absalon and Valdemar escaped. Valdemar returned to Jutland. Sweyn quickly launched an invasion, only to be defeated by Valdemar in the [Battle of Grathe Heath](#). He was killed during flight, supposedly by a group of peasants who stumbled upon him as he was fleeing from the battlefield. Valdemar, having outlived all his rival pretenders, became the sole King of Denmark.

The Battle of Grathe Heath, by [Lorenz Frølich](#)



Richeza of Denmark, Queen of Sweden

(24th great grandmother)



Richeza of Denmark (Swedish: **Rikissa Valdemarsdotter**; 1190-1220) was a medieval [queen consort](#) of [Sweden](#), spouse of King [Eric X of Sweden](#) and mother of King [Eric XI of Sweden](#).

Richeza was a daughter of King [Valdemar I of Denmark](#) and [Sophia of Minsk](#). She received her first name in honor of her maternal grandmother, the late [Richeza of Poland](#).

In c. 1210 the new king [Eric X of Sweden](#), who had deposed his predecessor [Sverker II of Sweden](#), desired to build cordial and peaceful relations with Denmark, which had traditionally supported the [House of Sverker](#), against the Norwegian-supported dynasty of Eric. That was why Richeza, sister of the then reigning [Valdemar II of Denmark](#), was married to king Eric.

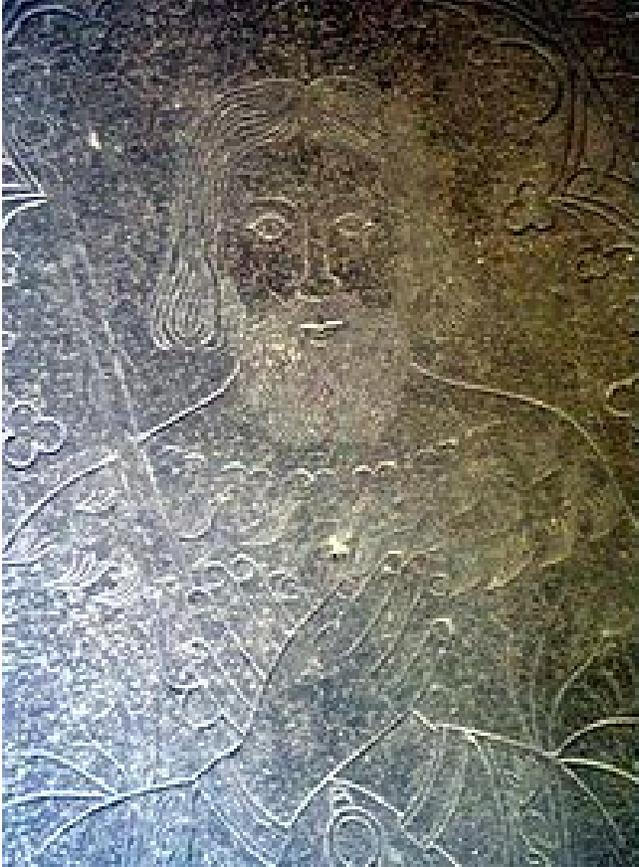
When she arrived at the Swedish coast, the [legend](#) says, she expressed her surprise that she was expected to ride and not travel by carriage, as she had been used to in her birth country, and the Swedish noblewomen and [ladies-](#)

[in-waiting](#) had encouraged her to adapt the customs of her new home country instead of trying to establish her own "Jutian" customs.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Erik_X_of_Sweden

Eric X of Sweden (24th great grandfather)

King Eric on his gravestone



Eric "X" of Sweden, [Swedish](#): *Erik Knutsson*; [Old Norse](#): *Eiríkr Knútsson* (c. 1180 – 1216) was the [King of Sweden](#) between 1208 and 1216. He was the son of [Knut Eriksson](#) and his queen of an unknown name, who probably was [Cecilia Johansdotter](#). He was born around 1180 in Eriksberg royal manor.

When Eric's father, King Canute I, died peacefully in 1195, all his sons were only children. Eric apparently was not the eldest of them. Due to the influence of the mighty second-of-the-realm, Jarl [Birger Brosa](#), Sverker II, the head of the rival dynasty was chosen as King of Sweden, over the underaged boys.

King Canute's sons continued to live in the Swedish royal court, until 1203, when his brothers and family brought forward claims to the throne, and Sverker did not acquiesce, at which point Eric and his brothers escaped to Norway. In 1205, the brothers returned to Sweden with Norwegian support, but lost the

[Battle of Älgarås](#), where three of Eric's brothers were killed.

In 1208 Eric returned to Sweden with Norwegian troops and defeated Sverker in the [Battle of Lena](#). Eric became thus chosen the king of Sweden.

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Karl_Knutsson_\(Bonde\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Karl_Knutsson_(Bonde))

Charles VIII of Sweden (17th great grandfather)

Charles II of Sweden, Charles I of Norway, also **Carl**, **Swedish**: *Karl Knutsson (Bonde)*, was king of [Sweden](#) (1448 – 1457, 1464–1465 and from 1467 to his death in 1470) and king of [Norway](#) (1449–1450).



At the death of Christopher in 1448, without a direct heir, Charles was elected king of Sweden on June 20 and on June 28 he was hailed as the new monarch at the [Stones of Mora](#), not far from [Uppsala](#), mostly due to his own military troops being present at the place, against the wishes of regents Bengt and Nils Jönsson (Oxenstierna). His election as king of Sweden resulted in an effort to reestablish the [Kalmar Union](#), this time under Swedish initiative, and in 1449 he was elected king of Norway and received the coronation at [Trondheim](#) on November 20. The Danish had in September 1448 elected [Christian I](#) as their new monarch. Soon, in 1450, Charles was forced to cede Norway to Christian. From 1451, Sweden and Denmark were in state of war against each other.

From 1442 he was the military governor, *hövitsman*, at [Vyborg](#) in [Finland](#) ([margrave of Viborg](#)). Charles acquired extensive fiefs, for example in Western Finland. His first seat was in Turku. Soon, Christopher's government began to take back fiefs and positions and Charles was forced to give up the [castle of Turku](#). Charles's next seat was the [castle of Vyborg](#), on Finland's eastern border, where he kept an independent court, taking no heed of Christopher and exercising his own foreign policy.



Carl's 16th century grave monument

Relationship Chart

1

Anastasia Romanov Grand Duchess Of Russia is the 16th cousin 5 times removed of Aurora Ellen Katriina Granholm

Common Ancestor



Produced by Legacy

Relationship Chart

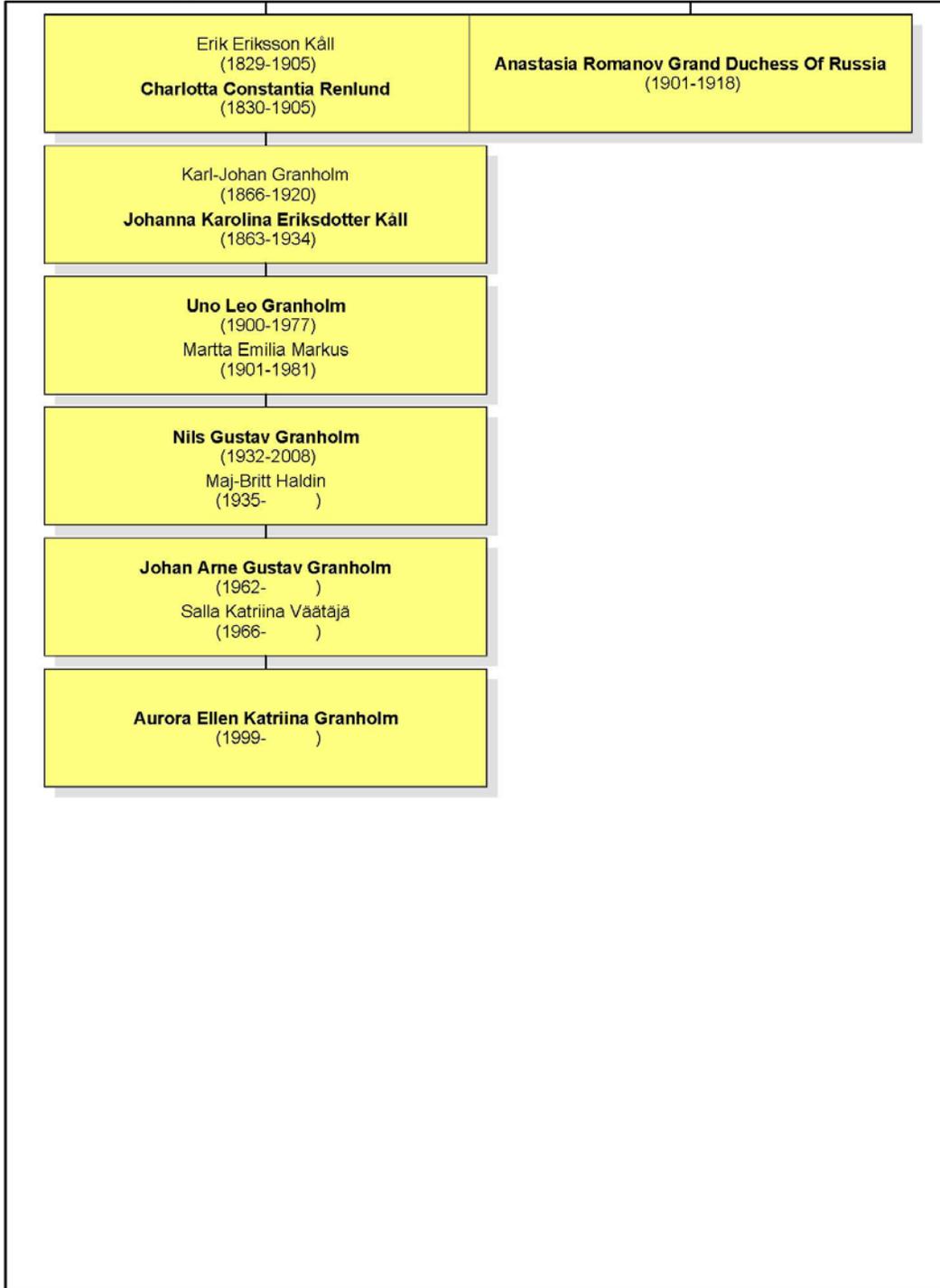
2



Produced by Legacy

Relationship Chart

3



Produced by Legacy

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grand_Duchess_Anastasia_Nikolaevna_of_Russia

Grand Duchess Anastasia of Russia

Grand Duchess Anastasia Nikolaevna of Russia, (June 18, 1901 – July 17, 1918), was the youngest daughter of Tsar [Nicholas II of Russia](#), the last sovereign of [Imperial Russia](#), and his wife [Alexandra Fyodorovna](#).

Anastasia was a younger sister of [Grand Duchess Olga](#), [Grand Duchess Tatiana](#) and [Grand Duchess Maria](#), and was an elder sister of [Alexei Nikolaevich, Tsarevich of Russia](#). She was murdered with her family on July 17, 1918 by forces of the [Bolshevik secret police](#),



Use the link below to see her family

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ip7xgaBHvcE&feature=related>

Anastasia knitting in her mother's boudoir



Relationship Chart

1

Rurik Ruler Of Kievan Rus is the 35th Great-Grandfather of Tommy Granholm

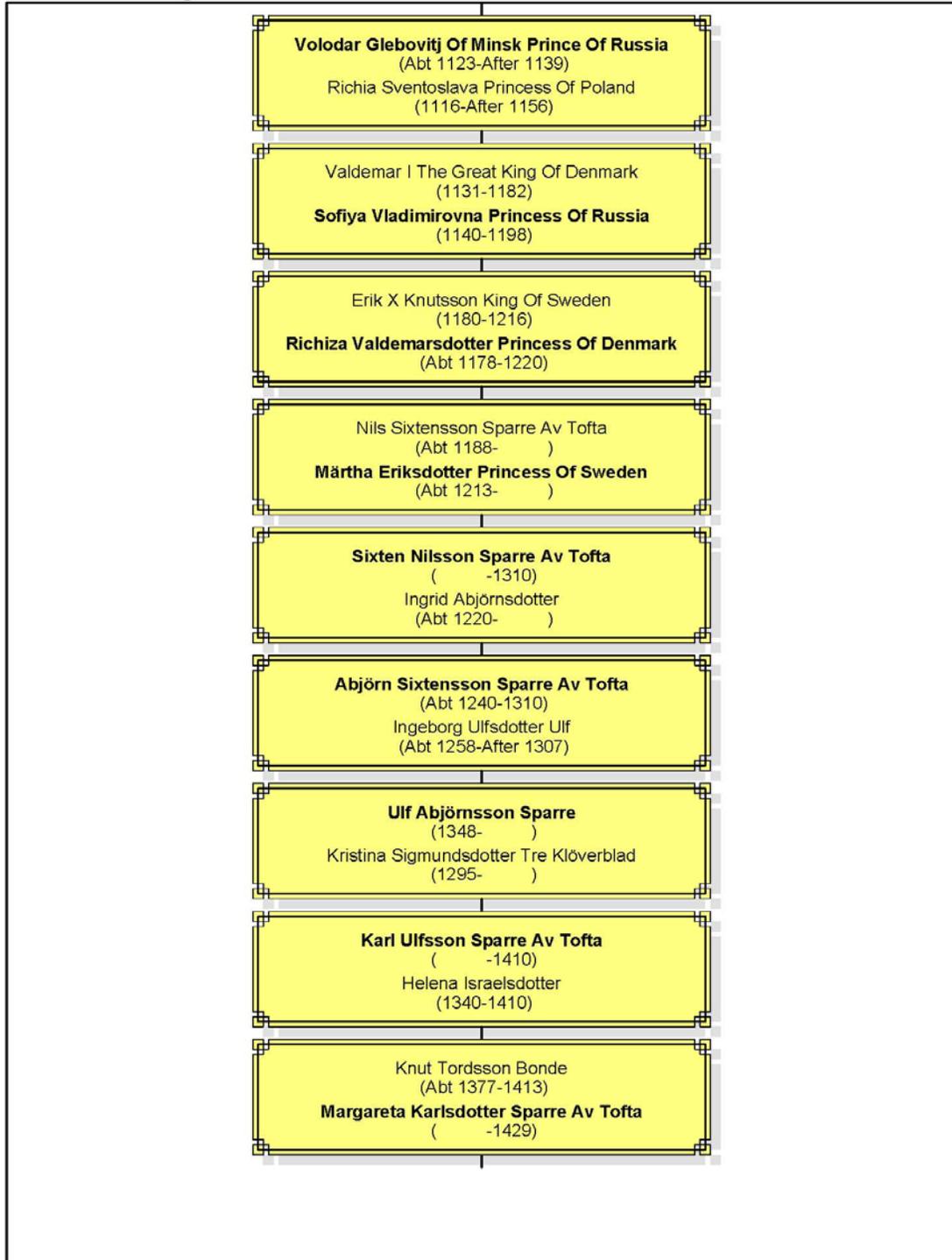
Common Ancestor



Produced by Legacy

Relationship Chart

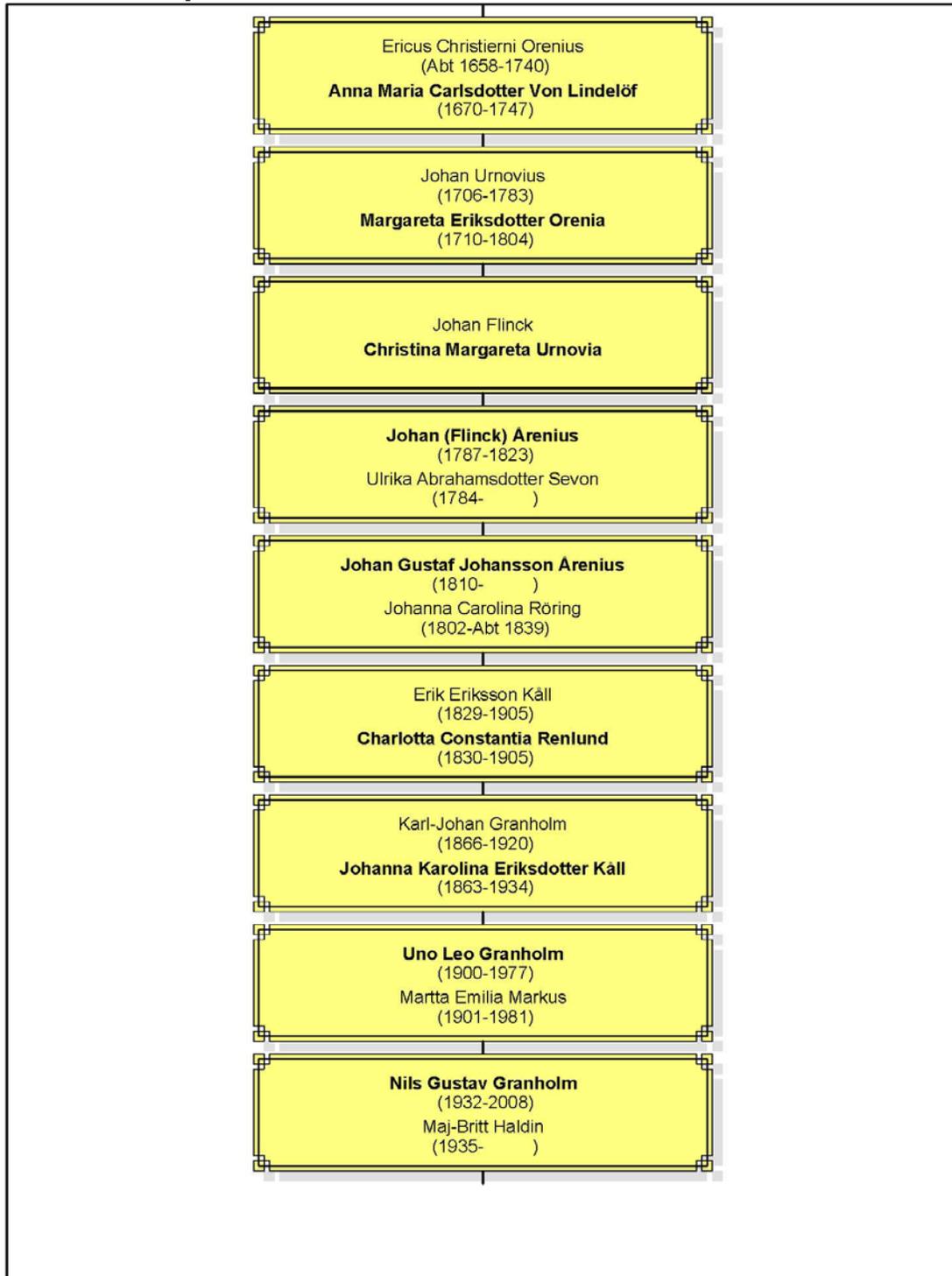
2



Produced by Legacy

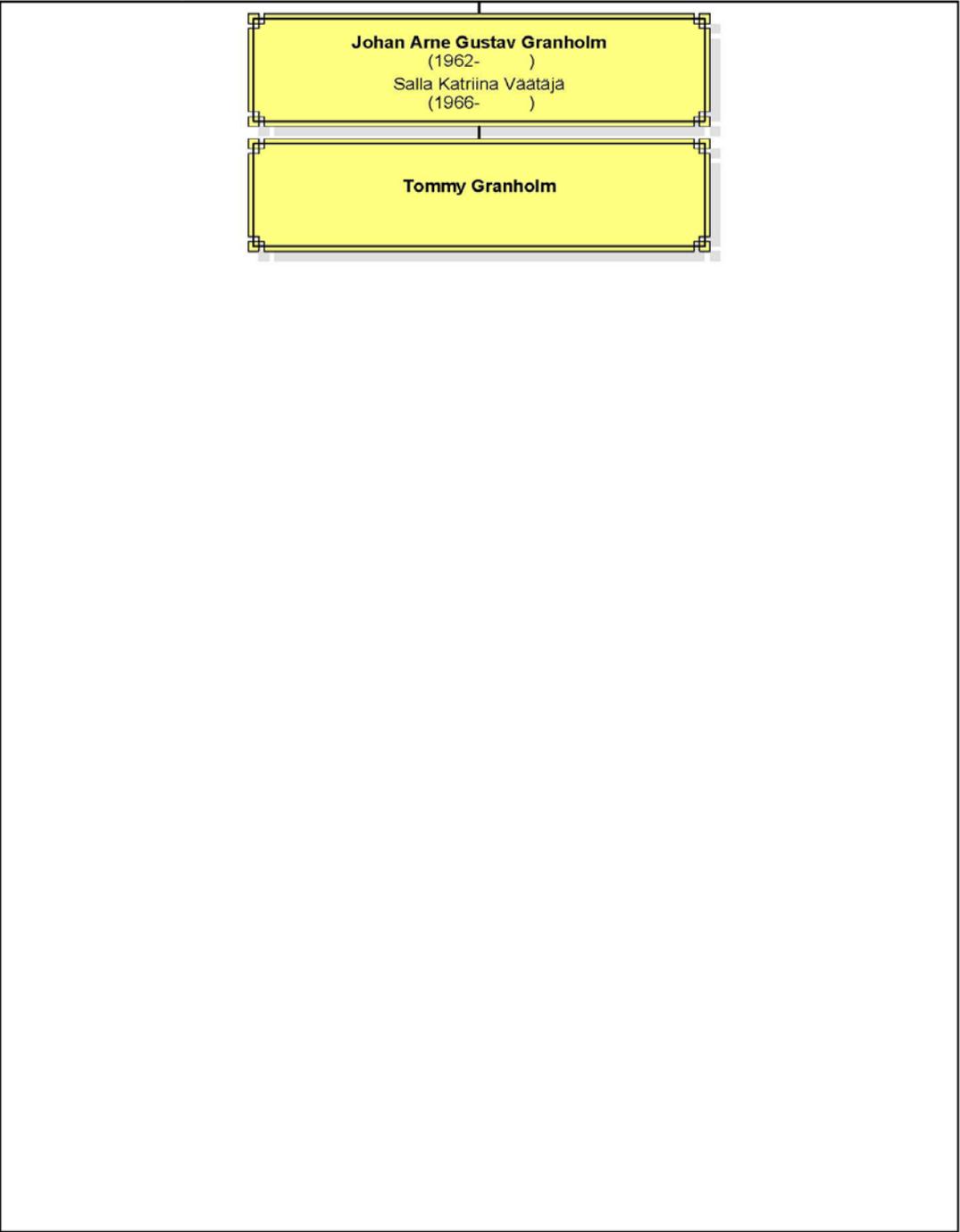
Relationship Chart

4



Produced by Legacy

Relationship Chart



<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Riurik>

Rurik (35th great grandfather)

Rurik, or **Riurik** (Old East Norse: *Rørik*, meaning "famous ruler"; c. 830 – c. 879), was a Varangian chieftain who gained control of Ladoga in 862, built the Holmgard settlement near Novgorod, and founded the Rurik Dynasty which ruled Kievan Rus and then Galicia-Volhynia until the 14th and Muscovy until the 16th century.

*The runes **ruRikr** representing the Old Norse name Hrørekr on the Viking Age runestone in the church of Norrsunda, Uppland,*



Rurik and his brothers arrive at Lake Ladoga

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rollo_of_Normandy

Rollo and Poppa (33rd great grandfather and grandmother)

Rollo, occasionally known as **Rollo the Viking**, (c. 860 - c. 932) was the founder and first ruler of the **Viking** principality in what soon became known as **Normandy**.

Norwegian historians identified Rollo with **Ganger Hrolf** (Hrolf, the Walker) a son of **Rognvald Eysteinnsson**, Earl of **Møre**, in **Western Norway**. The nickname came from being so big that no horse (or at least not the Norwegian ponies of that era) could carry him.

Rollo and Poppa, captured daughter of Berenger Count of Bayeaux became his wife



In 885, Rollo was one of the leaders of the Viking fleet which **besieged Paris** under **Sigfred**. Legend has it that an emissary was sent by the king to find the chieftain and negotiate terms. When he asked for this information, the Vikings replied that they were all chieftains in their own right. In 886, when Sigfred retreated in return for tribute, Rollo stayed behind. Later, he returned to the **Seine** with his followers (known as Danes, or Norsemen). He

invaded the area of northern **France** now known as **Normandy**.

In 911 Rollo's forces were defeated at the **Battle of Chartres** by the troops of King **Charles the Simple**. In the aftermath of the battle, rather than pay Rollo to leave, as was customary, **Charles the Simple** understood that he could no longer hold back their onslaught, and decided to give Rollo the coastal lands they occupied under the condition that he defend against other raiding Vikings. King Charles granted Rollo the lower **Seine** area, today's upper Normandy.

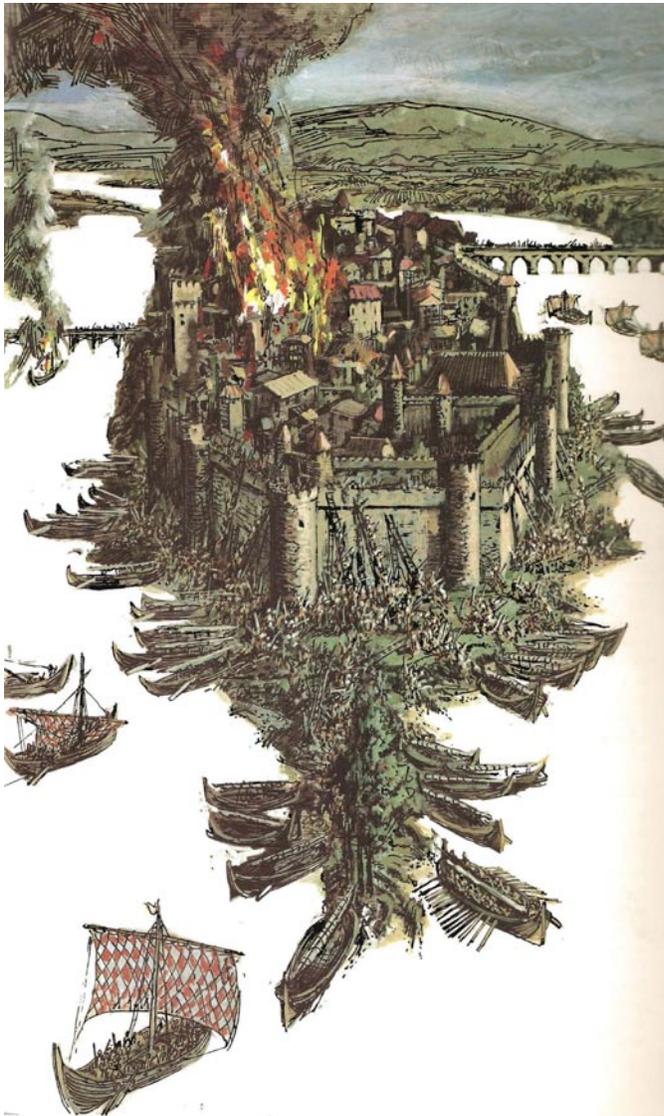
According to legend, when required to kiss the foot of King Charles, as a condition of the treaty, he refused to perform so great a humiliation, and when Charles extended his foot to Rollo, Rollo ordered one of his warriors to do so in his place. His warrior then lifted Charles' foot up to his mouth causing him to fall to the ground.

Rollo is a direct ancestor of **William the Conqueror**. Through William, he is a **direct ancestor and predecessor of the present-day British royal family**.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ragnar_Lodbrok

Ragnar Lodbrok, King of Sweden (35th great grandfather)

Ragnar was a great Viking commander and the scourge of France and England. A perennial seeker after the Danish throne, he was briefly 'king' of both Denmark and a large part of Sweden. A colorful figure, he claimed to be descended from [Odin](#), was linked to two famous [shieldmaidens](#), [Lathgertha](#) in the Gesta Danorum, and Queen [Aslaug](#) according to the [Völsungasaga](#).



into a pit of vipers.

He told people he always sought greater adventures for fear that his sons, who included such notable Vikings as [Björn Ironside](#) and [Ivar the Boneless](#) would eclipse him in fame and honor. Ragnar raided France many times, using the rivers as highways for his fleets of [longships](#). By remaining on the move, he cleverly avoided battles with large concentrations of heavy Frankish cavalry, while maximizing his advantages of mobility and the general climate of fear of Viking unpredictability.

His most notable raid was probably the raid with a fleet of 120 ships upon Paris in 845 AD, which was spared from burning only by the payment of 7,000 lbs of silver as [danegeld](#) by [Charles the Bald](#). To court his second wife, the Swedish princess Thora, Ragnar traveled to Sweden and quelled an infestation of venomous snakes, famously wearing the hairy breeches whereby he gained his nickname. He continued the series of successful raids against France throughout the mid 9th century, and fought numerous civil wars in Denmark, until his luck ran out at last in Britain. After being shipwrecked on the English coast during a freak storm, he was captured by [Anglian](#) king [Ælla of Northumbria](#) and put to death in an infamous manner by being thrown

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aslaug>

Aslaug (Kraka), Queen of Sweden

(35th great grandmother)

King Heimer and Aslaug



Aslaug, *Kraka* or *Randalin*, was a queen of [Scandinavian mythology](#) who appears in [Snorri's Edda](#), the [Völsunga saga](#) and the saga of [Ragnar Lodbrok](#).

Aslaug was the daughter of [Sigurd](#) and the [shieldmaiden Brynhildr](#), but was raised by Brynhild's fosterfather Heimer. At the death of Sigurd and Brynhild, Heimer was concerned about Aslaug's security, so he made a harp large enough to hide the girl. He then travelled as a poor harpplayer carrying the harp containing the girl.

Once they arrived at [Spangereid](#) at [Lindesnes](#) in [Norway](#), where they could stay for the night in the house of Åke and Grima. Åke believed that he saw precious items stick out from the harp, which he told his wife Grima. Grima then convinced him of murdering Heimer as he was sleeping. However, when they broke the harp, they discovered a little girl, who they raised as their

own, calling her Kraka (Crow). In order to hide her noble origins, they forced the girl always to be dirty and to walk in dirty clothes.



However, once as she was bathing, she was discovered by some of [Ragnar Lodbrok's](#) men, who had been sent ashore to bake bread. Confused by Kraka's beauty, they allowed the bread to be burnt, and when Ragnar enquired about this mishap, they told him about the girl. Ragnar then sent for her, but in order to test her wits, he commanded her neither to arrive dressed nor undressed, neither hungry nor full and neither alone nor in company. Kraka arrived dressed in a net, biting an onion and with only the dog as a companion. Impressed, Ragnar married her and she gave him the sons, [Ivar the Boneless](#),

[Björn Ironside](#), [Hvitserk](#) and [Ragnvald](#).

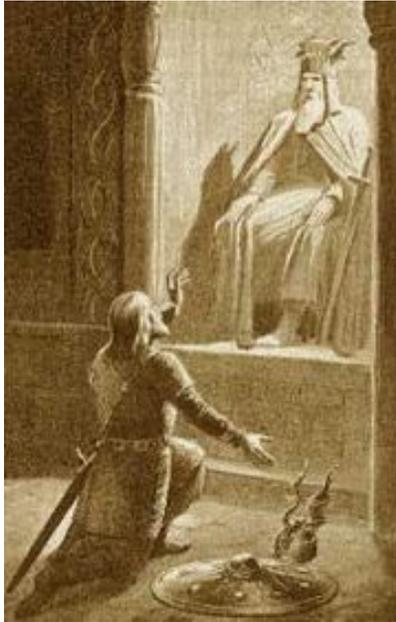
Kraka by [Mårten Eskil Winge](#), 1862

Eric the Victorious, King of Sweden

(31st great grandfather)

Eric praying to [Odin](#) before the [Battle of the Fyrisvellir](#).

c 985, by [Jenny Nyström](#).



Eric I the Victorious Modern Swedish: *Erik Segersäll*, (945- c 995), was the first [Swedish king](#) (970-995) about whom anything definite is known.

Eric allied himself with the [Polish prince Boleslav](#) to conquer Denmark and chase away its king [Sweyn Forkbeard](#). He proclaimed himself the king of [Sweden](#) and [Denmark](#) which he ruled until his death which would have taken place in 994 or 995. Adam says that Eric was baptised in [Denmark](#), but later returned to the [Norse gods](#).

Before this happened, his brother Olof died, and a new co-ruler had to be appointed, but the Swedes refused to accept his rowdy nephew Styrbjörn the Strong as his co-ruler. Styrbjörn was given 60 longships by Eric and sailed away to live as a Viking. Styrbjörn would become the ruler of [Jomsborg](#) and an ally and brother-in-law of the Danish king [Harold Bluetooth](#). Styrbjörn returned to Sweden with a major [Danish](#) army, which Eric defeated in the [Battle of the Fyrisvellir](#) at [Old Uppsala](#). His success was due to the fact that he allied with the peasants against the nobility, and it is obvious from archeological findings that the influence of the latter diminished during the last part of the tenth century.

Styrbjörn is lifted into a wagon after the [Battle of Fyrisvellir](#), by [Mårten Eskil Winge](#) (1888).



http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gorm_the_Old

Gorm the Old, King of Denmark (32nd great grandfather)

Gorm learns of the death of his son Canute



Gorm the Old ([Old Norse](#): *Gormr gamli*), also called Gorm the Sleepy, was King of [Denmark](#) from c.900- c.940.

The son of Danish king [Harthacnut](#) Gorm was born in the late 9th century, and died in 958 according to [dendrochronological](#) studies of the wood in his burial chamber.

Gorm's name appears on the Jelling Stones and that was definitive proof historians of the past needed. Gorm married [Thyra](#), the daughter of one of the regional chiefs, probably from southern Jutland. Gorm raised one of the great burial mounds at Jelling for her and the oldest [Jelling stones](#) to her. Gorm was the father of two sons, Canute (*Knud*) and Harald, later King [Harald Bluetooth](#).

Of his two sons, Gorm preferred the eldest, Canute, to Harald to the extent that he made an oath that the messenger who brought news of

Canute's death would be executed. The two sons were Vikings in the truest sense, departing Denmark each summer to raid and pillage. Harald came back to the royal enclosure at Jelling with the news that Canute had been killed in an attempt to capture Dublin, Ireland. Canute was shot with a coward's arrow while watching some games at night. No one would tell the king in view of the oath the king had made. Queen Thyra ordered the royal hall hung with black cloth and that no one was to say a single word. When Gorm entered the hall, he was astonished and asked what the mourning colors meant. Queen Thyra spoke up: "Lord King, You had two falcons, one white and the other gray. The white one flew far afield and was set upon by other birds which tore off its beautiful feathers and is now useless to you. Meanwhile the gray falcon continues to catch fowl for the king's table." Gorm understood immediately the Queen's metaphor and cried out, "My son is surely dead, since all of Denmark mourns!" "You have said it, your majesty," Thyra announced, "Not I, but what you have said is true." According to the story Gorm was so grieved by Canute's death that he died the following day.

His skeleton is believed to have been found at the site of the first Christian church of Jelling. During the reign of Gorm, most Danes still worshipped the [Norse gods](#), but during the reign of Gorm's son, [Harold Bluetooth](#), Denmark officially [converted to Christianity](#). Harald left the hill where Gorm had originally been interred as a memorial.

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thyra>

Thyra, Queen of Denmark (32nd great grandmother)



Thyra, Queen (890 – 935) was the consort of King [Gorm the Old](#) of [Denmark](#). She is believed to have led an army against the [Germans](#). Gorm and Thyra were the parents of King [Harald Bluetooth](#).

While [Gorm the Old](#) had disparaging nicknames, his wife Thyra was referred to as a woman of great prudence. [Saxo](#) wrote that Thyra was mainly responsible for building the [Danevirke](#) on the southern border.

Runic stone for Thyra, front side



The Danevirke today



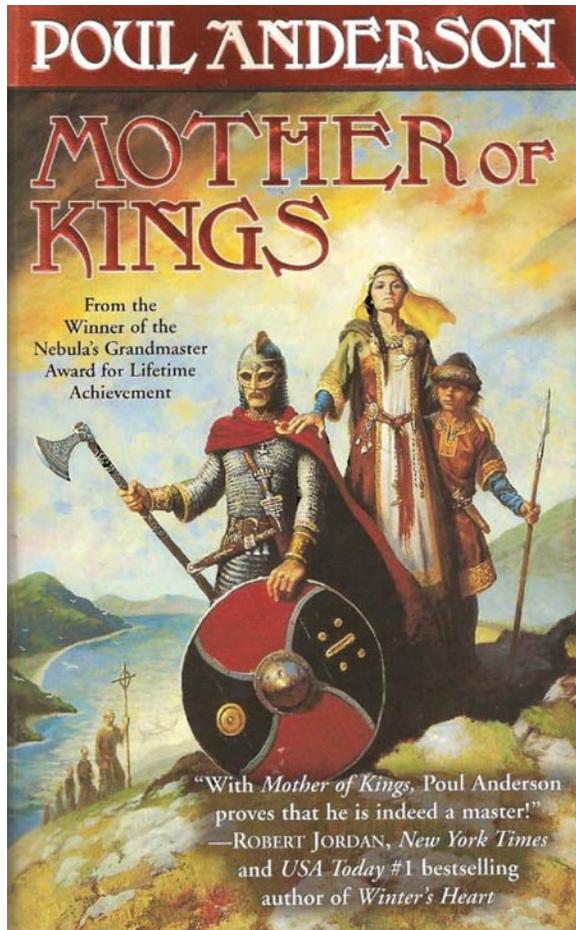
The Danevirke is about 30 km long overall, with a height varying between 3.6 and 6 m. During the [Middle Ages](#), the structure was reinforced with [palisades](#) and masonry walls, and was used by Danish kings as a gathering point for Danish military excursions.

Gorm raised a [memorial stone](#) to Thyra at [Jelling](#), which refers to her as *tanmarka but*, the 'Pride' or 'Ornament' of Denmark.

Gorm and Thyra were buried under one of the two great mounds at Jelling and later moved to the first Christian church there. This was confirmed when a tomb containing their remains was excavated in 1978 under the east end of the present church.

According to popular tradition, her daughter Gunnhild was captured by [trolls](#) and carried off to a kingdom in the far north beyond [Halogaland](#) and [Biarmaland](#).

Gunnhild, Mother of Kings (31st great grandmother)



Gunnhild konungamóðir (*mother of kings*) or **Gunnhild Gormsdóttir** (c. 910 – c. 980) is a character that appears in the [Icelandic Sagas](#), according to which she was the wife of [Eric Bloodaxe](#) ([king of Norway](#) 930–34, "[king](#)" of [Orkney](#) c. 937–54, and king of [Jórvík](#) 948–49 and 952–54).

Gunnhild was the daughter of [Gorm the Old](#), king of [Denmark](#).

The sagas relate that Gunnhild lived during a time of great change and upheaval in Norway. Her father-in-law [Harald Fairhair](#) had recently united much of Norway under his rule. Shortly after his death, Gunnhild and her husband were overthrown and exiled. She spent much of the rest of her life in exile in [Orkney](#), [Jorvik](#) and [Denmark](#). A number of her many children with Erik became co-rulers of Norway in the late tenth century.

Heimskringla relates that Gunnhild lived for a time in a hut with two [Finnish](#) wizards and learned [magic](#) from them. The two wizards demanded sexual favors from her, so she induced Erik, who was returning from an expedition to [Bjarmland](#), to kill them. Erik then took her to her father's house

and announced his intent to marry Gunnhild. The older *Fagrskinna*, however, says simply that Erik met Gunnhild during an expedition to the [Finnish](#) north, where she was being "fostered and educated ... with Mottull, king of the [Finns](#)".

Gunnhild was widely reputed to be a *völva*, or [witch](#). Prior to the death of [Harald Fairhair](#), Erik's popular half-brother [Halfdan Haraldsson the Black](#) died mysteriously, and Gunnhild was suspected of having "bribed a witch to give him a [death-drink](#)." Shortly thereafter, Harald died and Erik consolidated his power over the whole country. He began to quarrel with his other brothers, egged on by Gunnhild, and had four of them killed, beginning with [Bjørn Farmann](#) and later [Olaf](#) and [Sigrød](#) in battle at [Tønsberg](#). As a result of Erik's tyrannical rule (which was likely greatly exaggerated in the sagas) he was expelled from Norway when the nobles of the country declared for his half-brother, [Haakon the Good](#).

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canute_IV_of_Denmark

Canute IV of Denmark (27th great grandfather)

Canute (or Knut) IV (c. 1043 – [July 10, 1086](#)), also known as **Canute the Saint** and **Canute the Holy**, was [King of Denmark](#) from 1080 until 1086. Canute was an ambitious king who sought the English throne, attempted to strengthen the Danish monarchy, and devoutly supported the [Roman Catholic Church](#). Slain by rebels in 1086, he is recognized by the [Roman Catholic Church](#) as [patron saint](#) of Denmark.

"The Death of Canute the Holy" by [Christian von Benzon](#)



Canute was the son of [Sweyn II Estridsson](#). Before he became king of Denmark, the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle reports that Canute was one of the leaders of a Viking raiding expedition against England in 1075. On its return from England, the Danish raiders' fleet stopped in the [County of Flanders](#). Because of its hostility toward [William I of England](#), Flanders was a natural ally for the Danes.

In 1080, Canute succeeded his brother, [Harald III](#), to the throne of Denmark. On his accession, he married [Adela](#), daughter of [Robert I, Count of Flanders](#). She bore him one

son, Charles. The boy later became Count of Flanders and was known as [Charles the Good](#), ruling from 1119 to 1127. Like his father, he was martyred in a church by rebels (in [Bruges](#) in 1127).

A peasant revolt broke out in southern [Jutland](#), where Canute was staying, in early 1086. Canute and his men took refuge inside the wooden Church of St. Alban's in [Odense](#). But the rebels stormed into the church and slew Canute, along with his brother Benedict and seventeen of their followers, before the altar on July 10, 1086. Canute's abortive invasion of England "marked the end of the Viking Age." For it was the last time a Viking army was to assemble against Western Europe.

Because of his "[martyrdom](#)" and advocacy of the Church, Canute was [canonized](#) as a saint. In 1300, his remains and those of his brother were interred in the new [Saint Canute's Cathedral](#).

Harald I King of Norway and Queen Snofrid

(32nd great grandfather and grandmother)

Harald Fairhair or **Harald Finehair**, (c. 850 – c. 933) was the first king (872–930) of [Norway](#).

In 866, Harald made the first of a series of conquests over the many [petty kingdoms](#) which would compose Norway, including [Värmland](#) in Sweden, and modern day south-eastern Norway, which had sworn allegiance to the Swedish king [Erik Eymundsson](#). In 872, after a [great victory at Hafrsfjord](#) near [Stavanger](#), Harald

found himself king over the whole country. He is credited with having unified Norway into one kingdom.



When he grew old, Harald handed over the supreme power to his favourite son [Eirik Bloodaxe](#), whom he intended to be his successor. Eirik I ruled side-by-side with his father when Harald was 80 years old. Harald died three years later due to age in approximately 933. Twelve of his sons are named as kings, two of them over the whole country.

King Harald Fairhair met the Sami woman Snøfrid when he was celebrating Yule at the Tofte farm at the foot of the Dovre mountains.

Harald married Snofrid Svåsesdotter from Finland, who thus became the first Queen of Norway.

King Harald, one winter, went about in guest-quarters in the Uplands, and had ordered a Christmas feast to be prepared for him at the farm Thoptar. On Christmas eve came Svase to the door, just as the king went to table, and sent a message to the king to ask if he would go out with him. The king was angry at such a message, and the man, who had brought it in, took out with him a reply of the king's displeasure. But Svase, notwithstanding, desired that his message should be delivered a second time; adding to it, that he was the Fin whose hut the king had promised to visit, and which stood on the other side of the ridge. Now the king went out, and promised to go with him, and went over the ridge to his hut, although some of his men dissuaded him. There stood Snaefrid, the daughter of Svase, a most beautiful girl; and she filled a cup of mead for the king. But he took hold both of the cup and of her hand. Immediately it was as if a hot fire went through his body; and he wanted that very night to take her to his bed. But Svase said that should not be unless by main force, if he did not first make her his lawful wife. Now King Harald made Snaefrid his lawful wife, and loved her so passionately that he forgot his kingdom, and all that belonged to his high dignity. They had four sons: the one was Sigurd Hrise; the others Halfdan Haleg, Gudrod Ljome and Ragnvald Rettilbeine. Thereafter Snaefrid died; but her corpse never changed, but was as fresh and red as when she lived. The king sat always beside her, and thought she would come to life again. And so it went on for three years that he was sorrowing over her death, and the people over his delusion. ..."

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harald_II_of_Norway

Harald II of Norway (30th great grandfather)

Harald II Greycloak (died 970) was a King of Norway

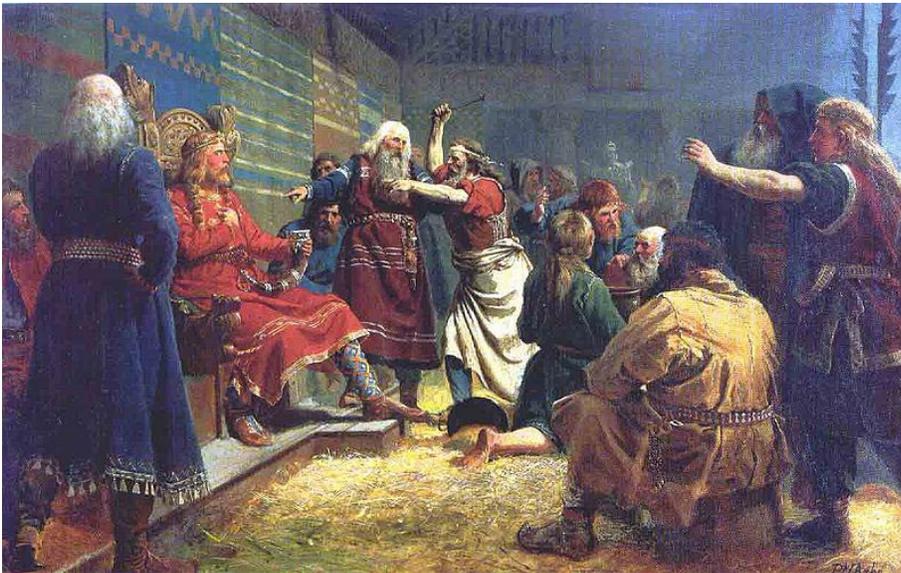
Harald Greycloak was the son of [Eirik Bloodaxe](#) and a grandson of [Harald Fairhair](#). His mother was [Gunnhild Gormsdatter](#), the daughter of King [King Harald Gormsonof](#) Denmark.

After his father's death in 954, Harald and his brothers allied with their grandfather, King Harald Gormson against King [Haakon I of Norway](#). They fought several battles against King Haakon including the [Battle of Rastarkalv](#) near [Frei](#) in 955 and the [Battle of Fitjar](#) in 961.

After King Haakon's death at [Fitjar](#), Harald and his brothers became kings of [Norway](#), but they had little authority outside Western Norway. Harald, by being the oldest, was the most powerful of the brothers. In 961, their uncle King [Harald Bluetooth](#) of Denmark traveled to Norway and declared Harald Greycloak to be his vassal king in Norway.

Harald moved to strengthen his rule by killing the local rulers including [Sigurd Haakonsson](#), [Tryggve Olafsson](#) and [Gudrød Bjørnsson](#). Harald Greycloak thus took power over the country up to and including [Hålogaland](#). Harald established control over the trade route along the Norwegian coast. He also undertook a Viking expedition to [Bjarmaland](#), today the area of [Arkhangelsk](#) in northern [Russia](#).

Harald II Greycloak



In 970, he was tricked into coming to [Denmark](#) and killed in a plot planned by [Sigurd Haakonsson's](#) son [Haakon Sigurdsson](#), who had become an ally of Harald Bluetooth. Haakon Sigurdsson had become the [Jarl of Lade](#) after his own father was killed by Harald Greycloak's men in 961. The surviving brothers of Harald Greycloak fled the country after his death. With the death of

Harald Greycloak, King Harald Bluetooth won back power over Norway and he supported Haakon Sigurdsson as his vassal king

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Olaf_II_of_Norway

Olaf II of Norway (30th great half-granduncle)

Olaf Haraldsson (995 – [July 29, 1030](#)) was king of [Norway](#) from 1015 to 1028, (known during his lifetime as "**the Big**" and after his [canonization](#) as **Saint Olaf** or **Olaus**). His mother was [Åsta Gudbrandsdatter](#), and his father was [Harald Grenske](#), great-grandchild of [Harald Fairhair](#).

But Olaf's success was short-lived. In 1026 he lost the [Battle of the Helgeå](#), and in 1029 the Norwegian nobles, seething with discontent, rallied round the invading [Cnut the Great](#) of Denmark, forcing Olaf to flee to [Kievan Rus](#). During the voyage he stayed some time in Sweden in the province of [Nerike](#) where, according to local legend, he baptized many locals. On his return [a year later](#), seizing an opportunity to win back the kingdom after Cnut the Great's vassal as ruler of Norway, [Håkon Jarl](#), was lost at sea, he fell at the [Battle of Stiklestad](#), where some of his own subjects from central Norway were arrayed against him.

The [Battle of Stiklestad](#) in 1030 is one of the most famous battles in the history of [Norway](#). In this battle King [Olaf II of Norway](#) was killed.



At Stiklestad, Olav met an army of more than 7,000. He states that the battle cry of Olaf's men was "Fram! Fram! Kristmenn, Krossmenn, kongsmenn" (Forward, forward, Christ's men, Cross men, king's men), while that of the opposing army was "Fram! Fram! Bonder" (Forward, forward, farmers).

The battle took place on [July 29, 1030](#) and at the end of the day, Olav's army had lost. During the battle, Olav received three severe wounds -- in the knee, in the neck and the final mortal blow through the heart -- and died leaning against a large stone. His body was carried away and buried secretly in the sandy banks of the Nidelva river south of the city of [Trondheim](#). A spring is said to have begun to flow from the place where he was buried and those who drank of its waters were said to have been cured of their ailments. Later a well shaft to this spring would be incorporated into the wall of the cathedral built on this site.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harald_III_of_Norway

Harald III of Norway (30th great grandfather)

Harald Sigurdsson (1015 – [September 25, 1066](#)), later given the epithet **Hardrada** was the [king](#) of [Norway](#) from 1047 until 1066. Among English-speakers, he is generally remembered for his invasion of England in 1066. Harald's death is often recorded as the end of the [Viking Age](#).

In 1031 Harald and his men reached the land of the [Kievan Rus](#) where they served the armies of [Yaroslav I the Wise](#), the Grand Prince of the Rus whose wife Ingigerd was a distant relative of Harald. Sometime after this, Harald and his retinue of some five hundred warriors moved on to [Constantinople](#), capital of the [Byzantine Empire](#), where there had been at least since 1034 an elite royal guard composed largely of Scandinavian Rus and called the [Varangian Guard](#). Harald served in the guard until 1042. In the year 1045, in Russia, where he stayed two years before returning to Scandinavia, Harald married Elisabeth, daughter of Yaroslav.

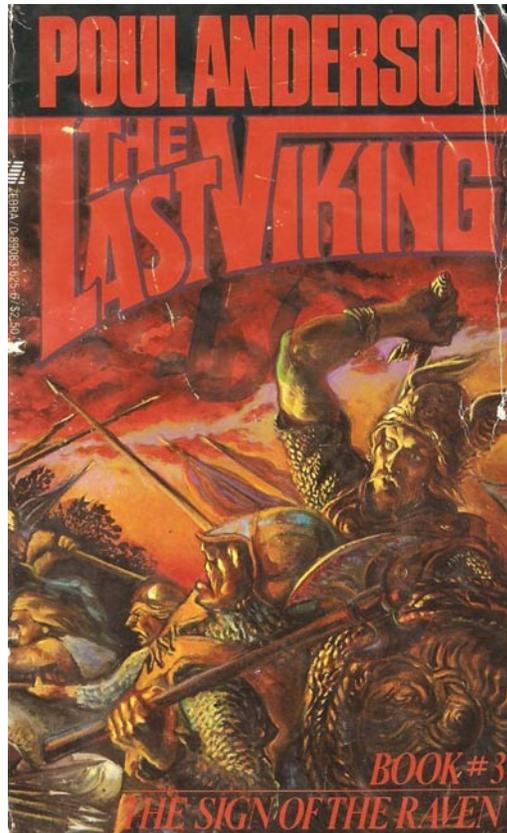
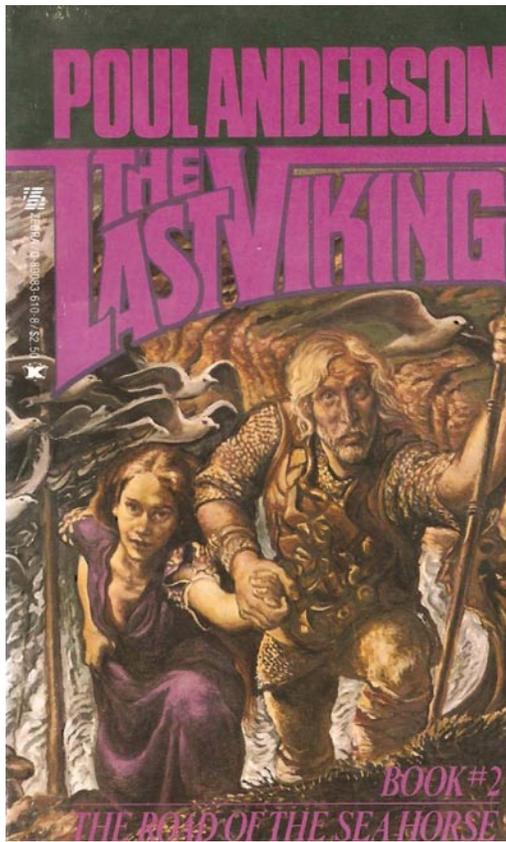
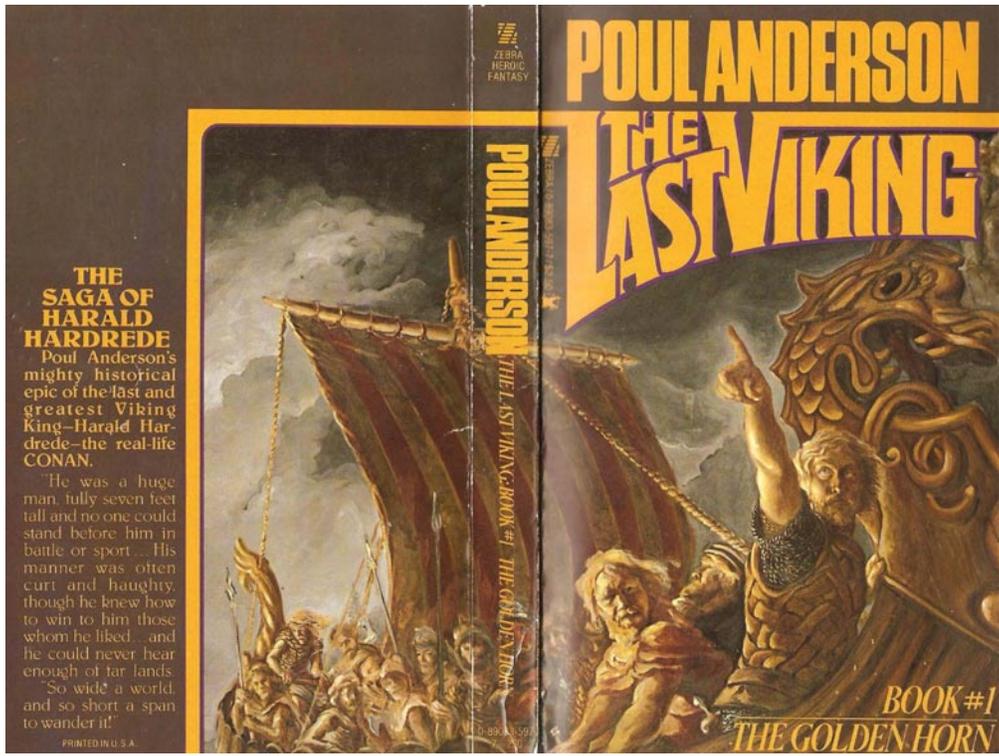
In September 1066, Harald landed in Northern England with a force of around 15,000 men and 300 [longships](#) (50 men in each boat). With him was Earl Tostig, son of Godwin of Wessex, who had promised him support.

At the [Battle of Stamford Bridge](#), outside York, on 25 September 1066, Godwinson's forces surprised Harald's as they collected the tribute from the locals. Godwinson's forces were heavily armed and armoured, and greatly outnumbered Harald's. Although one of Harald's men single-handedly blocked the English from the bridge for some time and was reported to have killed at least 40 Saxons, he fell after an Englishman sneaked under the bridge and stabbed upwards; King Harald's forces then easily broke through and both Harald and Earl Tostig were killed. Harald's army was so heavily beaten that only 24 of the 300 longboats used to transport his forces to England were used to carry the survivors back to Norway.

Battle of Stamford Bridge [Peter Nicolai Arbo](#)



Harald was the last great [Viking](#) king of Norway and his invasion of England and death at the [Battle of Stamford Bridge](#) in 1066 marked the end of the Viking age and beginning of the High [Middle Ages](#).



http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eric_II_of_Norway

Erik XII of Sweden (4th cousin 21 times removed)

Erik XII Magnusson (1339 – [June 21, 1359](#)) was rival king of [Sweden](#) to his father King [Magnus IV](#) from 1356 to his death in 1359. His mother was **Queen Blanche of Sweden and Norway**, (1320 – 1363). Together they had two sons, Erik and Haakon.

Queen Blanka" by [Albert Edelfelt](#)



Queen Blanka is one of the most interesting of Swedish/Norwegian medieval queens. Apparently, she was very politically and socially active and noticeable as a person and not only as a queen, as many stories and songs were written about her. In Sweden, queen Blanka is also remembered for the song: "*Rida rida ranka, hästen heter Blanka*" ("*Ride ride ranka, the name of the horse is Blanka*"), which can be seen on the famous historical painting by Edelfeldt of her and her son.

In 1343 Erik and his brother [Haakon](#) were elected heirs of [Sweden](#) respectively [Norway](#). In 1357 a rebellion had forced Magnus to share Sweden with his son Erik who got to rule most of Southern Sweden and [Finland](#). Sweden was reunited again in 1359 when father and son became reconciled, and co-ruled Sweden until Erik's death a few months later.

Historical map with the division of the country 1357 between Magnus Eriksson och Erik Magnusson

