KEN FOLLETT’S
EDGE OF ETERNITY

MEDIA PACK

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In the third and last book of Ken Follett’s Century Trilogy, *Edge of Eternity*, the tumultuous events of the final years of the twentieth century are seen through the eyes of the members of five linked families - one American; one English; one German; one Russian and one Welsh.

These families, who also appear in the first and second books of the trilogy, *Fall of Giants* and *Winter of the World*, are now caught up in the social, political, and economic upheavals of the 1960s; the 1970s and the 1980s. Through them, we experience the civil rights movement; the assassinations of major world leaders; the emergence of mass political movements; the war in Vietnam; the Cuban Missile Crisis; Presidential impeachment; the Berlin Wall – and the rise of rock and roll.

In *Edge of Eternity* Ken Follett takes us back to a time we all thought we knew, but that will now never seem the same again. In *Edge of Eternity*:

- East German teacher Rebecca Hoffman discovers that she has been spied on by the Stasi for years and commits an impulsive act that will affect her family for the rest of their lives...

- George Jakes, the child of a mixed-race couple, bypasses a career in law to join Robert F. Kennedy’s Justice Department, and finds himself in the middle not only of the seminal events of the civil rights battle, but a much more personal battle of his own...

- Cameron Dewar, the grandson of an American Senator, jumps at the chance to do some official and unofficial espionage for a cause he believes in, only to discover that the world is a much more dangerous place than he'd imagined...

- Dimka Dvorkin, a young aide to Nikita Khrushchev, becomes an agent for both good and evil as the United States and the Soviet Union race to the brink of nuclear war. Meanwhile, his twin sister Tania carves out a role that will take her from Moscow to Cuba, Prague to Warsaw - and into history...

- Dave Williams, a precocious teenager interested in pop music, beer and girls joins a band and is determined to be a star, even if it means leaving the love of his life to go on tour...

The first book of the trilogy, *Fall of Giants*, follows the five families as the great powers gradually descend into the terrible conflicts of the First World War. This was published worldwide in September 2010. It immediately topped best-seller lists in France, Germany, Italy, Spain and the United States. It also won the Que Leer Prize in Spain and the Libri Golden Book Award in Hungary.

The world is in conflict again in *Winter of the World*, part two of The Century Trilogy, where Ken Follett masterfully tells the story of the atrocities of the Second World War and its aftermath. Published in September 2012, it went to number one on best-seller lists in Canada, Denmark, Germany, Italy, Spain and the United States.
Ken Follett’s *Edge of Eternity* will be published in 2014 in the following countries:

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<th>Country</th>
<th>Title in Local Language (English Translation)</th>
<th>Publisher</th>
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<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td><em>Eternidade Por Um Fio</em></td>
<td>Sextante</td>
<td>16 Sept 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td><em>På Kanten af Evigheden</em></td>
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<td>France (Belgium &amp; Canada)</td>
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<td><em>Kou Uit Het Oosten</em></td>
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<td>Norway</td>
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<td>Poland</td>
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<td>Portugal</td>
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<td>Spain (&amp; Central &amp; South America)</td>
<td><em>El Umbral de la Eternidad</em></td>
<td>PRH Grupo Editorial</td>
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<td>Sweden</td>
<td><em>Evighetens Rand</em></td>
<td>Albert Bonniers</td>
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<td>UK (&amp; Commonwealth)</td>
<td><em>Edge of Eternity</em></td>
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<td>US (&amp; Canada)</td>
<td><em>Edge of Eternity</em></td>
<td>Penguin (Dutton)</td>
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*Edge of Eternity* will also be published in the following countries…

China, Czech Republic (May 2015), Finland, Greece, Israel, Japan, Korea, Russia, Slovakia, Slovenia.
His first major success came with the publication of *Eye of the Needle* in 1978. A World War II thriller set in England, this book earned him the 1979 Edgar Award for Best Novel from the Mystery Writers of America. Later made into a film starring Donald Sutherland and Kate Nelligan, *Eye of the Needle* remains one of Ken’s most popular books.

In 1989, Ken’s epic novel about the building of a medieval cathedral, *The Pillars of the Earth*, was published. Set in the imaginary town of Kingsbridge, this marvellously detailed and meticulously researched book won the hearts of millions of readers. It reached number one on best-seller lists everywhere and was voted the third most popular book in Germany after *The Hobbit* and the Bible by over 250,000 readers in the ZDF “Best Books Poll” in 2006. In 2007 it was chosen by Oprah Winfrey as her 60th Book Club selection, rising to #1 on *The New York Times* best-seller list as a result.

The second novel in the Kingsbridge series, *World Without End*, proved equally popular when it was published in 2008. Ken is currently working on the third book in the Kingsbridge series which is due to be published in 2017.


Ken, who loves music almost as much as he loves books, is an enthusiastic bass guitar player in two bands. He lives in Hertfordshire, England, with his wife Barbara, the former Labour Member of Parliament for Stevenage. In 2010 Barbara left Parliament to become CEO of The Follett Office. She is now also Ken’s agent worldwide. Between them they have five children; six grandchildren and three Labradors.
Best-Seller Listings

The first two books in Ken Follett’s Century Trilogy reached number one on international best-seller lists around the world

Fall of Giants (2010)

- Debuted at #1 on The New York Times hardcover fiction list (7 October 2010)
- #1 on The New York Times fiction paperback best-seller list (7 October 2012)
- #1 on Spain’s El Mundo best-seller list (15 October 2010)
- #1 on France’s L’Express and Livres Hebdo best-seller lists (13 October 2010)
- #1 on Germany’s Der Spiegel and Focus best-seller lists (7 October 2010)
- #1 on Italy’s La Repubblica best-seller list (7 October 2010)
- #1 on Denmark’s Bog & Idé best-seller list (4 October 2010)
- #1 in Argentina, Bulgaria, New Zealand and Uruguay

Over 7.8 million copies sold worldwide.

Winter of the World (2012)

- #1 on The New York Times hardcover and e-book fiction lists (7 October 2012)
- #1 on the Canadian Booksellers Association best-seller list (22 September 2012)
- #1 on the German fiction best-seller list (19 September 2012)
- #1 on the Italian fiction best-seller list (15 September 2012)
- #1 on Spain’s La Razón best-seller list (8 November 2012)
- #1 on Denmark’s Bog & Idé best-seller list (19 September 2012)

Over 4.6 million copies sold worldwide.
What critics have said about The Century Trilogy so far...

Edge of Eternity “captures the essence of historical events from 1961 to 2008… It is thrilling in its evocation of critical events and their participants… A remarkable trilogy that is wonderful, exhilarating reading for all ages. Fine, fine historical fiction!”

— Historical Novel Society on Edge of Eternity

“The previous two instalments of the ambitious Century Trilogy were best-sellers; expect no less from this superb concluding chapter...Follett does an outstanding job of interweaving and personalizing complicated narratives.”

— Booklist on Edge of Eternity

“This mesmerizing final installment is an exhaustive but rewarding reading experience dense in thematic heft, yet flowing with spicy, expertly paced melodrama, character-rich exploits, familial histrionics, and international intrigue.”

— Publishers Weekly on Edge of Eternity

“The final volume in Follett’s latest trilogy (after Fall of Giants and Winter of the World) is worth the wait… Once again, Follett has written pitch-perfect popular fiction that readers will devour.”

— Library Journal on Edge of Eternity

“Follett’s real gifts are those of a natural storyteller: swift cinematic pacing… and an eye for the telling detail.”

— Bill Sheehan in the Washington Post on Winter of the World

“Follett is a master craftsman. He fills his pages with fascinating characters and then uses the great events of this time to make an exciting plot. He succeeds in every way possible.”

— The Huffington Post on Winter of the World

“Follett does a masterful job of capturing an extraordinarily bloody time.”

— The Associated Press on Winter of the World

“He meticulously reconstructs an era and leads us through the follies and occasional heroics of its protagonists… masterly in conveying so much drama and historical information so vividly… grippingly told, and readable to the end.”

— Roger Boylan in The New York Times on Fall of Giants

“Fall of Giants is classic Follett...It’s a book that will suck you in, consume you for days or weeks… then let you out the other side both entertained and educated.”

— Craig Wilson in USA Today on Fall of Giants

“Nobody masters the enormous, untidy sprawl of history like Ken Follett … suspenseful, tightly constructed, sharply characterized, plot-driven … some of the biggest-picture fiction being written today.”

— The Seattle Times on Fall of Giants

“Follett is a master.”

— Washington Post
Where did the idea for The Century Trilogy come from?
I was absolutely thrilled by the reaction of readers to *World Without End*, and was looking to write something they’d like just as much. I wanted to recapture the magic of that book but, fond as I am of the Middle Ages, didn’t want to become a “medieval writer”. At some point, in trying to figure out how to do that, I thought of the twentieth century- the most dramatic and bloodthirsty century in the history of the human race; an ongoing drama of war against oppressive regimes and of people struggling for independence. It’s a thrilling story and it’s our story, one that has touched all of us either directly or through our parents and grandparents.

Why did you choose to call the final book *Edge of Eternity*?
Throughout this period we all knew that nuclear war could break out at any minute and bring the human race to an end. In that sense we were living on the edge of eternity.

The Trilogy follows the destinies of five interrelated families – American, Russian, German, English and Welsh. In *Fall of Giants* you took them through World War I and the Russian Revolution. In *Winter of the World* you took them through the Great Depression and World War II. In this book it was the post-war era and the Cold War. What made you choose these families in these countries instead of ones in France, Italy or Spain?
This is really a technical literary decision. I needed to encompass all the seismic events of the century with a minimum number of leading characters. People from France, Italy and Spain played key roles, of course, but nationals of other countries moved around the world more. For example, it’s natural to have Russian, American and British characters involved in the Spanish Civil War- but it would have seemed artificial to describe the Russian revolution from the point of view of a visiting Spanish character.

Did you plot out the whole Trilogy in advance?
I spent six months planning out the whole trilogy. Eventually I realised outlining all three books in detail would take years and I didn’t want to make my readers wait that long. I satisfied myself with an approximate outline and then began focusing on book one. It has worked out rather well. I find it kind of funny that at the end of *Winter of the World* I was in a similar situation to where I was at the end of *Fall of Giants*- with all my key families experiencing a rash of pregnancies. Thank God they’re so fertile. It gives me the flexibility to plot out the next story.

What sort of research did you do for *Edge of Eternity*?
*Edge of Eternity* takes place in the television age so I was also able to get film and audio recordings of many key events. Meetings in the White House were taped by both Kennedy and Nixon, and those tapes are now on the Internet. I was often able to use the exact words of presidents.
IN CONVERSATION WITH KEN FOLLETT – CONTINUED...

**Did you visit the locations of the key events in Edge of Eternity?**
Most of the cities, such as Berlin, Moscow, London and Paris, are familiar to me, but I did make a research trip to Cuba, as I have a character in Havana during the Cuban missile crisis. I also visited cities in the Deep South of the USA where the great events of the Civil Rights era took place.

**How did you find Cuba?**
It’s in a time warp. The quarrel with the USA froze development in the country. When I was there they had only just legalised restaurants!

**What was retracing the steps of the Freedom Riders like?**
A profoundly emotional experience for me and for anyone who has any personal connection with the issue of freedom and discrimination. In the sixties, civil rights leaders were vilified by the press and conservative politicians. When they were beaten up and killed, many people said they deserved it. Now there are statues to them all over the Deep South.

**Plenty of historians have written about this era. Who among them do you particularly like or respect?**
Taylor Branch is the magisterial historian of the Civil Rights movement. Robert Caro is brilliant on President Johnson. I made great use of Archie Brown’s *The Gorbachev Factor* and Frederick Taylor’s *The Berlin Wall*.

**What was your favourite venue in Washington?**
The Lincoln Memorial is a tremendous monument to freedom.

**Are any of your fictional characters based on real people?**
No, although I often use parts of the lives of real people. For example, my character George Jakes begins as a civil rights campaigner and ends up a United States Congressman, so his career arc is similar to that of the real life Congressman John Lewis, whom I interviewed- but their characters are completely different.

**Edge of Eternity has a number of real historical characters, including several heads of state. Who did you particularly admire? What about Nixon and the East German leadership?**
I came to admire both Kennedy and Johnson. I found that Nixon was a better president than I had previously thought. Both Reagan and George H.W. Bush were ineffectual in foreign affairs, despite propaganda to the contrary. I have nothing but contempt for leaders in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe before the Gorbachev era.
What do you want readers to get out of this book?
As always, I want readers to be drawn so deeply into the lives of my imaginary characters that they are reluctant to stop reading. I also want them to feel, at the end of the book, that they understand their own history in a way they never did before.

In USA Today’s review of Fall of Giants, it was said that you had outdone yourself and that readers would be sucked in, consumed for days or weeks, and come out the other side entertained and educated. Do you still read the reviews of your work? And after so many years of success does that kind of review still excite you the way it might have earlier in your career?
I do read my reviews, that kind of thing is very important to me. I particularly love it when readers – whether a reviewer in a national newspaper or someone I meet on the street – says once they started reading they couldn’t stop. It makes me feel like I must have done a pretty good job. On a Concorde flight from London I once found myself seated next to John McEnroe. It was the day after he had won one of his singles titles at Wimbledon. I told him, “You’re probably bored with hearing this, but congratulations.” He said, “Oh no, I’m not bored with it at all.” That’s exactly how I feel when people compliment my work.

Some writers live in dread of their books being turned into films or TV series’. Have you enjoyed the experience?
Seeing good actors giving good performances, bringing to life characters I’ve invented and speaking some of the lines I’ve written is a huge thrill. When it all goes well it’s great. When it goes badly you cringe when you see what’s on the screen, but you have to take that risk. I’m pleased and proud that some of my stories have made good film and TV. It confirms the strength of the story that it can be transformed from one medium to another.

What’s next?
I am writing another historical novel set in Kingsbridge in the sixteenth century, the time of Queen Elizabeth I. There were people all over Europe who wanted to kill the Queen, and many assassination plots, so the people around her set up an espionage system to catch those sixteenth century terrorists. This was the beginning of the British secret service that eventually gave us James Bond.


**Timeline of *Edge of Eternity***

*The real life inspiration behind Ken Follett’s epic retelling of the twentieth century*

- **May 1961** — The Freedom Rides
- **13 August, 1961** — The Erection of the Berlin Wall
- **November 1961** — Operation Mongoose
- **1961—1963** — The Profumo Affair
- **June — October 1962** — Operation Anadyr
- **October 1962** — The Cuban Missile Crisis
- **3 April — 10 May, 1963** — The Birmingham Campaign
- **15 September, 1963** — 16th Street Baptist Church bombing
- **28 August, 1963** — Civil Rights March on Washington
- **22 November, 1963** — The assassination of John F. Kennedy
  - **1963—1970** — ‘The British Invasion’
- **2 July, 1964** — Civil Rights Act signed into law
- **1965** — The first American troops are deployed in Vietnam
- **27 July, 1967** — The Sexual Offences Act 1967
- **4 April, 1968** — Martin Luther King Jr. assassinated
- **5 June, 1968** — Robert F. Kennedy assassinated
- **October — November 1969** — Moratorium to end the War in Vietnam
- **June 1972 — September 1974** — Watergate
- **1980 — 13 December 1981** — Solidarity and strikes in Poland
- **1982 — 1992** — Lebanese Hostage Crisis
- **20 August, 1985 — 4 March, 1987** — The Iran-Contra Affair
- **8 March, 1985** — Beirut Car Bombing
- **11 March, 1985** — Mikhail Gorbachev appointed leader of the USSR
- **9 November, 1989** — The Fall of the Berlin Wall
- **4 November, 2008** — Barack Obama elected President of the United States

The real life inspiration behind Ken Follett’s epic retelling of the twentieth century
Ken Follett, author of more than twenty best-selling novels, is often hailed as a born story-teller. But looking at his early life it may be more accurate to say he was bred as one.

Ken was born in Cardiff, Wales on 5 June 1949, the first of Martin and Veenie Follett’s three children. In post-war Britain, not only were toys a scarcity for the Follett children, but their devoutly religious parents did not permit them to watch television, go to the cinema or even listen to the radio. The young Ken’s sources of entertainment were the many stories told to him by his mother and the fantasy and adventure he created in his own imagination. He began reading at an early age; books became his greatest pleasure and the local library his favourite place.

“I’ve always been grateful for the public library. Without free books I would not have become a voracious reader, and if you are not a reader you are not a writer.”

When he was ten his family moved to London, where he completed his schooling. He then studied philosophy at University College and he believes this choice shaped his future as a writer.

“There is a real connection between philosophy and fiction. In philosophy you deal with questions like: ‘We’re sitting at this table, but is the table real?’ A daft question, but in studying philosophy, you need to take that sort of thing seriously and have an off-the-wall imagination. Writing fiction is the same.”

It was also at university, in the heady atmosphere of the late 60s when the war with Vietnam was underway, that Ken began developing a passion for politics: “Politics was discussed all the time. It seemed as if student protest was a worldwide movement.

Although we were young and had the arrogance of youth, nevertheless when you look at the issues that we fought over, I think by and large we were right.”

Starting out

In September 1970 a three-month graduate journalism course set him on a writer’s path. He began as a reporter for the South Wales Echo in Cardiff, and then, following the birth of daughter Marie-Claire in 1973, as a columnist for the Evening News in London. When he did not “make the grade as the hot-shot investigative reporter” he’d imagined he might be, Ken started writing fiction at night and on weekends. In 1974 he left newspapers and joined a small London publisher, Everest Books.

His after-hours writing led to the publication of several books, none of which sold very well, but throughout those years he was encouraged and advised by an American literary agent, Al Zuckerman. Then came the time came when they both knew that Ken had a winner and Zuckerman said: “This novel is going to be huge, and you are going to have tax problems”.

As a schoolboy in Wales

...and as a student at University College London

Working on a best-seller
“I was very worried that I might not be able to do it again. It happens to quite a lot of writers. They write one terrific book and then the next one is not so good and doesn’t sell quite so well, the third one is not very good and they never write a fourth. I was conscious that might easily happen to me, and so I worked very hard on *Triple* to try to make it as exciting as *Eye of the Needle*.”

The Folletts moved to England three years later because Ken missed the films and theatre and all the stimulation that London offered, and he wanted to vote. They settled in Surrey where Ken became involved with fundraising and campaigning for the Labour Party. It was then that he met and fell in love with the Party’s local branch secretary, Barbara Broer (née Hubbard) whom he married in 1985.

They live in Hertfordshire in an old rectory, which is also home-from-home for Ken’s son and daughter, Barbara’s son and two daughters and their partners and children.

Barbara was Member of Parliament for Stevenage – a seat she won in 1997 and to which she was returned in the 2001 and 2005 elections – and was Minister for Equality in Gordon Brown’s government in 2007. She retired from active politics in 2010 and has since worked as CEO of The Follett Office and is Ken’s agent worldwide. Ken helped her campaign and worked with her on other Party activities. In spite of his political commitment, Ken has never allowed politics to take precedence over writing. He begins writing before breakfast and continues until about 5pm: “I am a morning person. As soon as I’m up, I want to get to my desk. In the evening I want to relax and eat and drink and do all that sort of low-tension stuff.”

**On the racks**


*On Wings of Eagles* (1983), was the true story of how two of Ross Perot’s employees were rescued from Iran during the revolution of 1979.

He then surprised readers by radically changing course with *The Pillars of the Earth* (1989), an ambitious novel about building a cathedral in the Middle Ages. It received rave reviews and was on the New York Times best-seller list for 18 weeks. It also topped best-seller lists in Canada, Britain and Italy, and was on the German best-seller list for six years. It has sold 23 million copies so far.


*World Without End* (2007) is the long-awaited sequel to the hugely-popular *The Pillars of the Earth*. The book returns to Kingsbridge two hundred years later, and features the descendants of the characters in ‘Pillars’. Broad in sweep, and massive in scope, it focuses on the destinies of a handful of people as their lives are devastated by the Black Death, the plague that swept Europe in the middle of the fourteenth century.
The Century Trilogy

The master storyteller’s next three novels embrace five generations on three continents, in The Century Trilogy. Fall of Giants (2010) published simultaneously in 14 countries, was an international sensation and topped several best-seller lists.

Winter of the World (2012) picks up where the first book left off, as its five interrelated families enter a time of enormous social, political, and economic turmoil, beginning with the rise of the Third Reich, through the Spanish Civil War and the great dramas of World War II, to the explosions of the American and Soviet atomic bombs and the beginning of the long Cold War.

The third novel in The Century Trilogy, Edge of Eternity, which follows those families through the events of the last half of the century, is due to be published in September 2014.

So far The Century Trilogy has sold over 12 million copies worldwide.

Visual delights

Eye of the Needle was made into an acclaimed film, starring Donald Sutherland. Six novels have also been made into television mini-series: The Key to Rebecca, Lie Down with Lions, On Wings of Eagles, The Third Twin (the rights for which were sold to CBS for $1,400,000, a record price at the time) The Pillars of the Earth and World Without End. These last two have been screened in several languages in many countries. Ken also realised a lifetime dream with a cameo role as the valet in The Third Twin – and later as a merchant in The Pillars of the Earth – but is not about to give up his day job.

Wine, woman and song

The great pleasures in Ken’s life, other than the people he loves, are good food and wine, Shakespeare, and music. Music has always featured largely in his life – both his parents played the piano. Ken plays bass guitar in the bands “Damn Right” and “Clog Iron” and has recorded on the “Don’t Quit Your Day Job” label – appropriate for a man who makes no exaggerated claims about his musical talents:

“Playing in a band is very sensory and writing is completely cerebral. My books are closely plotted, like all popular fiction, so I am always thinking about the mechanics of the story. Playing in a band is completely sensory. There’s a connection from the ears to the fingertips that does not pass through the conscious brain.”

Time to give

In a busy life focused on work, family and politics, Ken also manages to find time for involvement in his community. He was Chair of the National Year of Reading 1998-99, a British government initiative to raise literacy levels. He was president of the charity Dyslexia Action for ten years. He is a Fellow of The Welsh Academy, a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts, and a Fellow of University College, London.

In 2007 he was awarded an honorary Doctorate in Literature (D.Litt.) by the University of Glamorgan, and similar degrees by Saginaw Valley State University, Michigan – where his papers are kept in the Ken Follett Archive – and (in 2008) by the University of Exeter. He is active in numerous Stevenage charities and was a governor of Roebuck Primary School for ten years, serving as Chair of Governors for four of those years.
Ken Follett’s Career in Brief

1949 — Born on June 5th in Cardiff to Martin and Lavinia Follett
1970 — Graduates from University College, London with B.A. in Philosophy
1971 — Becomes a Reporter on The South Wales Echo
1973 — Becomes a Reporter on the Evening News in London
1974 — Publishes The Big Needle and The Big Black under pseudonym Symon Myles
1975 — Publishes The Big Hit as Symon Myles and The Shakeout as Ken Follett
1976 — Publishes The Modigliani Scandal as Zachary Stone; The Mystery Hideout as Ken Follett; The Power Twins as Martin Martinsen and Amok: King of Legend as Bernard L. Ross
1977 — Publishes Paper Money as Zachary Stone
1978 — Publishes Capricorn One as Bernard L. Ross and Eye of the Needle as Ken Follett
1979 — Publishes Triple
1980 — Publishes The Key to Rebecca
1981 — Release of Eye of the Needle film starring Donald Sutherland
1982 — Publishes The Man From St. Petersburg
1983 — Publishes On the Wings of Eagles
1986 — Publishes Lie Down With Lions
1989 — Publishes The Pillars of the Earth
1991 — Publishes Night Over Water
1993 — Publishes A Dangerous Fortune
1995 — Publishes A Place Called Freedom
1996 — Publishes The Third Twin
1998 — Publishes The Hammer of Eden
2000 — Publishes Code to Zero
2001 — Publishes Jackdaws
2002 — Publishes Hornet Flight
2004 — Publishes Whiteout
2008 — Publishes World Without End
2010 — Publishes Fall of Giants; Pillars of the Earth TV mini-series first broadcast
2012 — Publishes Winter of the World; World Without End TV mini-series first broadcast
2014 — Publishes Edge of Eternity
Several of Ken Follett’s novels have been made into films or TV mini-series’

**The Pillars of the Earth**

The eight-hour limited series of *The Pillars of the Earth* premiered on Friday 23rd July 2011 in the United States on the Starz channel and in Canada on the Movie Network and Movie Central channels, and in the United Kingdom on Channel 4 in October the same year.

Ian McShane, Donald Sutherland, Rufus Sewell, Matthew Macfayden, Sarah Parish, Hayley Atwell, Eddie Redmayne and Gordon Pinsent headlined the star-studded cast for the US $40-million adaptation.

The series was directed by Sergio Mimica-Gezzan (*Heroes, Saving Grace, Into the West*), and has been adapted by award-winning writer John Pielmeier (*Hitler – The Rise of Evil* and Emmy nominated *The Memory Keeper’s Daughter*), who also played the role of ‘Cuthbert’. Ken had a small role as a merchant.

The series was produced by Emmy and Golden Globe nominated Tandem Communications (*Ring of the Nibelungs, Impact*) and multi award-winning Muse Entertainment (*Human Trafficking, Tales from the Neverending Story, Durham County*) in association with Oscar, Emmy and Golden Globe nominated Scott Free Films (CBS’s series *Numb3rs*).

**World Without End**

The US $46 million eight-hour miniseries of *World Without End* aired in Canada on Showcase in September, in the United States on the Reelz channel in October 2012 and in the United Kingdom on Channel 4 in January 2013. It has been screened in several other countries.

Principal cast members included Cynthia Nixon as Petranilla, Miranda Richardson as Mother Cecilia, Ben Chaplin as Sir Thomas Langley, Peter Firth as Earl Roland, Charlotte Riley as Caris and Tom Weston-Jones as Merthin.

Michael Caton-Jones directed from a script by John Pielmeier, who also adapted *The Pillars of the Earth*.

The series was produced by Tandem Communications and Take 5 Productions in co-production with Galafilms and in association with Ridley Scott and Tony Scott’s Scott Free Films. Tandem and Scott Free also produced the eight-hour adaptation of *The Pillars of the Earth*. 
In *Ken Follett’s Journey into the Dark Ages*, Ken Follett hosted a thrilling historical documentary, the first of its kind on television.

In this docu-drama about the Dark Ages he gave an intimate glimpse into the world of his imagination and the extraordinary characters that inspired *The Pillars of the Earth* and *World Without End*. It was directed by Jann Turner.

**OTHER ADAPTATIONS OF KEN FOLLETT’S BOOKS**

*Eye of the Needle* (1981)
Film directed by Richard Marquand starring Donald Sutherland and Kate Nelligan

*The Key to Rebecca* (1985)
Film directed by David Hemmings starring Cliff Robertson

*On Wings of Eagles* (1986)
TV Miniseries by Andrew McLaglen starring Burt Lancaster

*Lie Down With Lions* (1994)
Film directed by Jim Goddard starring Timothy Dalton

*The Third Twin* (1997)
Film directed by Tom McLoughlin starring Kelly McGillis and Larry Hagman

*Eisfeiber* (*Whiteout*) (Germany, 2010)
Film directed by Peter Keglevic starring Heiner Lauterbach, Isabella Ferrari and Tom Schilling

**“CENTURY” TV SERIES: SONY AND ABC**

The Century trilogy is being developed as a major television series by Sony Pictures and the US television network ABC.

Included in the creative team are:

- ★ Producer Michael DeLuca (*The Social Network, Captain Phillips, Moneyball*)
- ★ Producer Stephanie Germain (*The Nora Roberts Collection*)
- ★ Writer Ann Peacock (*The First Grader, The Chronicles of Narnia*)

The show is being described in Hollywood as “a multi-part television event”. The first episode is pencilled in for broadcast in about February 2016.

Ken Follett said: “What a combination! We have two of the strongest media companies in the world, together with a group of hugely talented individuals, all working to bring the Century trilogy to television. I couldn’t be more pleased.”

Ken on the set of
*The Key to Rebecca* (1985)

Ken on the set of
*The Pillars of the Earth* (2009)

Ken on the set of
*World Without End* (2011)
IMAGE GALLERY

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