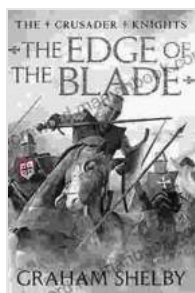


# The Edge of the Blade: Dive into the Epic Saga of the Crusader Knights Cycle

Prepare to embark on an extraordinary journey through time and witness the captivating tale of The Edge of the Blade, a historical fiction series that transports readers to the tumultuous era of the Crusades. Step into the world of the Crusader Knights Cycle, where valiant warriors, treacherous plots, and the clash of civilizations intertwine in a gripping narrative spanning multiple generations.

## The Crusaders: A Call to Holy War

In the 11th century, Europe is gripped by religious fervor and a yearning for expansion. Pope Urban II's call for a Crusade to reclaim Jerusalem from Muslim rule ignites a holy war that will forever alter the course of history. Crusaders from all walks of life, from noble knights to humble peasants, rally under the banner of Christ, driven by a mix of piety, greed, and adventure.



## The Edge of the Blade (The Crusader Knights Cycle

**Book 6)** by Graham Shelby

★★★★☆ 4.1 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 602 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 352 pages
Hardcover	: 552 pages
Lexile measure	: 1700L
Item Weight	: 2.3 pounds
Dimensions	: 9.2 x 1.5 x 6.1 inches



## **The Birth of a Legendary Warrior**

Amidst the clamor of battle, a young squire named Thomas of Hookton rises through the ranks of the Crusaders, his courage and unwavering faith guiding his path. Trained by the legendary knight Sir Baldwin de Courtenay, Thomas quickly proves his mettle on the battlefield, earning the respect of his peers and the admiration of his superiors.

## **The Edge of the Blade: A Sword Forged in Battle**

As the Crusaders press deeper into the Holy Land, they face formidable opposition from the Saracen armies. Betrayal, treachery, and bloody clashes test the limits of their endurance. During a desperate battle, Thomas finds himself wielding a sword of extraordinary power and ancient lineage. This weapon, known as "The Edge of the Blade," becomes a symbol of his destiny and a force to be reckoned with in the ongoing conflict.

## **The Crusader Kingdom of Jerusalem**

After a grueling and hard-fought campaign, the Crusaders establish the Kingdom of Jerusalem, a fragile outpost of Christianity in a hostile Muslim world. Within the walls of the newly conquered city, Thomas grapples with the complexities of ruling and the challenges of maintaining peace in a land torn by centuries of strife.

## **The Templar Knights: Guardians of the Holy Places**

As the Crusader presence in the Holy Land grows, a secretive and influential order of knights emerges: the Templars. Sworn to protect the sacred sites of Christianity and safeguard the pilgrims who travel to them, the Templars become a powerful force in the region, amassing wealth and influence that will ultimately lead to their downfall.

### **The Siege of Acre: A Turning Point in History**

In 1189, the Muslim leader Saladin launches a massive siege against the city of Acre, the key stronghold of the Crusader Kingdom. A desperate battle ensues, with the defenders outnumbered and outgunned. Thomas, now a seasoned veteran of countless campaigns, plays a pivotal role in holding back the relentless Saracen onslaught.

### **The Fall of Jerusalem and the End of an Era**

Despite the valiant efforts of the Crusaders, Jerusalem falls back into Muslim hands. The loss of the holy city marks a turning point in the Crusades, signaling the decline of Christian power in the region. Thomas, now a broken and disillusioned man, returns to his homeland, forever haunted by the horrors he has witnessed and the sacrifices he has made.

### **The Crusader Knights Cycle: A Literary Epic**

The Edge of the Blade is more than just a historical novel; it is an epic saga that spans decades, encompassing the lives of multiple generations of Crusader knights. The series delves into the complexities of the Crusades, exploring themes of faith, loyalty, betrayal, and the clash between cultures. Through the eyes of its unforgettable characters, the Crusader Knights Cycle transports readers to a time of turmoil and adventure, where the fate of civilizations hangs in the balance.

Prepare yourself for an unforgettable literary journey with The Edge of the Blade, the Crusader Knights Cycle. Experience the thrill of battle, the weight of leadership, and the complexities of a world torn by religious strife. Step into the shoes of valiant knights, witness the rise and fall of civilizations, and discover the enduring legacy of the Crusades through this captivating historical fiction series.



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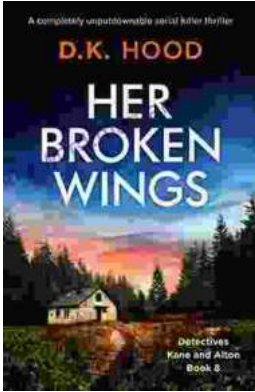
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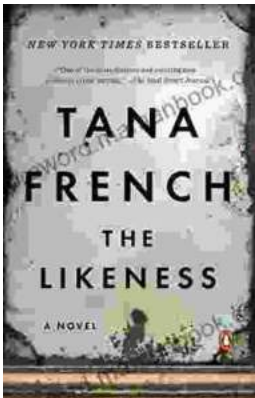
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