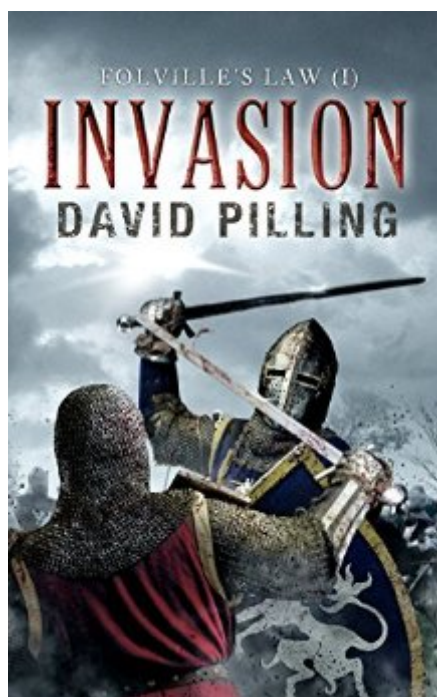


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# Folville's Law (I) Invasion (The John Swale Chronicles Book 1)



## Synopsis

England in 1326 stands on the brink of civil war. Due to the incompetence of Edward II's government, the north is virtually overrun by the Scots, while an invasion fleet is massing across the channel, led by Edward's estranged queen, Isabella, the 'She-Wolf of France'. The first book in the Folville's Law series follows the adventures of Sir John Swale, knight of Cumberland, as he investigates a murder that threatens to bring disaster to Edward's failing kingdom. Along the way he clashes with Eustace Folville and James Coterel, two of the most notorious and brutal outlaws in England. As the death toll mounts, it remains to be seen who will survive and who will perish in the savage game of war and politics. 'Folville's Law (I): Invasion' is a new edition of the first part of the John Swale Chronicles.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Fine military history action/adventure set during the reign of Edward II of England and his struggles to overcome his estranged wife Eleanor and lover Mortimer. I found the conflict scenes were gritty and intense. The historical settings were believable, especially the excellent narrative the author gives to the principle personalities. It took me a while to warm to Swales as the central character but once invested in him I enjoyed his loyal, lumbering ways. Can't wait to read more. Pilling is a

consummate English scholar and writes with verve and pace with a complete absence of typos or faulty grammar. An absolute pleasure to read this book. History at its most enjoyable. Enjoy!

This novel, set in the closing years of Edward II's reign in 14th century England, is a captivating mixture of politics, action and intrigue. But it is not just that. It is exciting fast-flowing prose, with several engaging characters, and a touch of humour. I really enjoyed reading it, and want to read more about the adventures of Sir John Swale.

Sir John Swale is a knight whose sworn allegiance is to Hugh Despenser the homosexual lover of King Henry II. Because of that relationship, Hugh and his father have become laws unto themselves over the years. They have had people wrongfully accused of crimes and then seized their lands and wealth. They and King Henry are now despised by the people of England. When a supporter of King Henry is murdered, John Swale is sent to investigate. He himself is captured by a huge outlaw band headed by a man named Folville and it looks as if his days will soon be numbered. The plot line dealing with John Swale is interesting but much of the book is concerned with the politics and events in England at that time. Henry's wife, Queen Isabella, has left him and gone to France where she hopes to raise an army to invade England to depose Henry, remove the hated Despensers and set her son, Henry III on the throne. John Swale feels himself honor bound to stay loyal to his liege lord no matter how corrupt and hated that lord is. That gets harder and harder to do as Isabella returns and lord after lord pledge themselves to her and no longer support King Henry. The descriptions and dialogues are very well done and the story flows very smoothly. This all makes for a very enjoyable reading of a very fascinating period in English history.

This book has a number of interesting people. The descriptions of characters, the descriptions of settings, and the exciting action scenes are well done. It seems to be accurate historically.

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