Příloha 3: Příběh

THE STORY

„Let me tell you the story from the cruel medieval times when Britain suffered from political instability and from many attempts to reach its throne by many different people.

It is January, 1066 and the old King ***EDWARD THE CONFESSOR*** *is dying ...*
There were ***three men*** *who claimed the throne of England –* ***Harold Godwin, the Earl of Wessex, William of Normandy and Harald Hardraada, King of Norway.***

Harold Godwin son *was the most important one, as he had already ruled the country during weak King Edward´s reign and so he was* ***crowned the King of England****. When news reached the other two men ... they were not very happy about it ... and they wanted the throne for themselves ...*

The first challenge to King Harold Godwin came from the North. In 1066 at the end of summer, ***Harald Hardraada*** *landed in north-eastern England.* ***The Norwegian army*** *defeated the army of the northern Earls,* ***Edwin of Mercia and Morcar of Northumbria*** *two miles south of York. Godwin marched north with his army. The Anglo-Saxon and Norwegian armies met at* ***Stamford Bridge*** *near the city of York.*

Before the battle, Hardraada asked King Harold: "How much of England will you give me?" "Seven feet", Godwin replied, "enough for your grave."

Harald Hardraada and his Norwegian army was defeated and the King was killed. King Harold Godwinson accepted a truce with the surviving Norwegians, including Hardraada's son ***Olaf*** *and they were allowed to leave after giving pledges not to attack England again.*



The Invasions of England, 1066

But after a few days, Harold received news from the South. **The Normans** made landfall on the English coast near Pevensey and marched to Hastings.

Harold *rushed his army south. During the early morning of the next day, October 14, Harold's army watched as a long column of Norman* ***warriors*** *marched to the base of the hill and formed a battle line. Separated by a few hundred yards, the lines of the two armies traded taunts and insults. At a signal, the Norman* ***archers*** *took their position at the front of the line. The English at the top of the hill responded by raising their* ***shields*** *above their heads forming a shield-wall to protect them from the rain of* ***arrows.*** *The battle was joined.*

The English fought defensively. But the battle's outcome was in question. Finally, as evening approached, the English line gave way and the Normans rushed their enemy with a vengeance. ***King Harold fell*** *as did the majority of the Saxon aristocracy.*

William's victory was complete. On Christmas day 1066, William was crowned King of England in Westminster Abbey."