

"I like the bit where Fergus and Evans's heads
are put on spikes, even though it is a
bit disgusting." Moira, 12



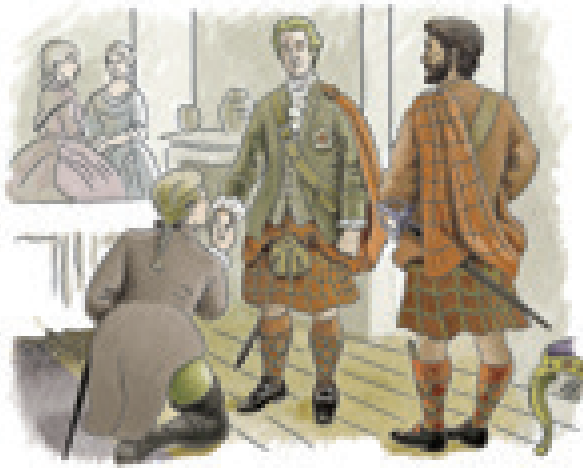
WAVERLEY

WALTER SCOTT

Edward Waverley is an English officer in the army of King George, but will his love for Flora, the beautiful Scottish rebel, lead him to betray his King?

Life with his regiment in Scotland is dull until he visits his uncle's friends in the Highlands, where he meets Fergus McIvor and his sister Flora. Attracted by the wild freedom and romance of the Scottish clans, Edward finds himself in a difficult and dangerous position. His new friends are Jacobites, planning to overthrow King George and restore the Stuart monarchy.

The Jacobites rise in rebellion. When Prince Charles leads an invasion of England, Edward's loyalties are hopelessly divided. Whose side will he take? And what fate awaits them all?



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Walter Scott



Retold by Margaret Elphinstone
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THE CHARACTERS



Edward Waverley

Edward is a confused young army officer. Will his romantic notions lead to betrayal and disaster?

Colonel Gardiner

Colonel Gardiner is kind and patient towards Edward. Will his efforts be properly rewarded?



Rose Bradwardine

Rose is unselfish and thoughtful, and she is in love. Will she get the happiness she deserves?



Cosmo Bradwardine

Rose's father is an old-fashioned Highland gentleman, who welcomes unexpected guests. But is he a Jacobite rebel?

Flora McIvor

Flora is beautiful, passionate and romantic. She seems like the answer to all Edward's dreams.

But is she?



Fergus McIvor

Fergus is a young Highland chieftain, plotting revolution. Should Edward trust his offers of friendship?



Prince Charles Edward Stuart

Prince Charles was a real person, and the Jacobite rebellion really happened.

What part will Charles play in Edward's story?





WAVERLEY

‘Captain Waverley, you have the makings of a soldier. You’re a brave young Englishman, and you ride well, but you don’t listen to your superior officers, and you don’t remember a single thing we try to teach you.’

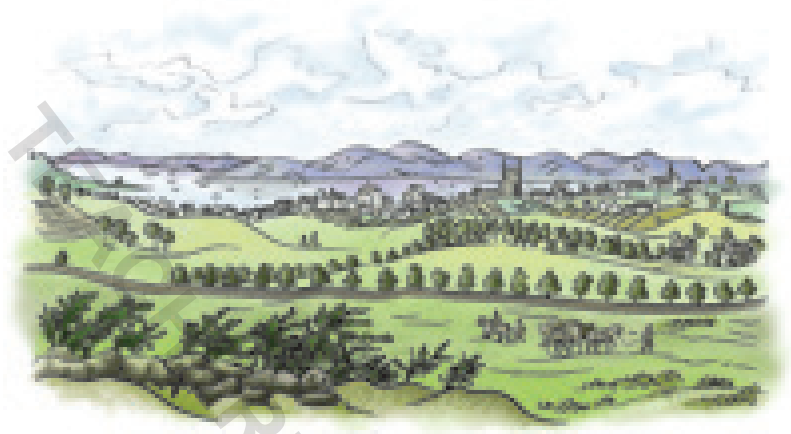
Edward Waverley hung his head. What Colonel Gardiner said was true. Edward had longed to be a soldier. Now he was actually here in Dundee, it was all very boring. He was supposed to be learning his job, but he just couldn’t seem to concentrate.

Scotland should have been so exciting. The army had to keep watch on the disloyal gentry and unruly Highland clans who wanted James the Pretender to come back and claim his kingdom. The Pretender’s father had once been king of Scotland and England, but he’d been so high-handed – besides being Catholic, which was against the law for a British king –

that he'd been deposed and exiled. That was many years ago, but his Stuart descendants – including the Pretender – kept trying to come back. They organised plots and rebellions from their exile in Paris. There'd been battles in Scotland only thirty years ago, when the Pretender had landed in the Highlands. His supporters, the Jacobites, had rallied to his standard and fought bravely, although in the end they'd been defeated.

Now James's son, Prince Charles, was ready to start a rebellion. If he landed in Scotland, many wild Highlanders would flock to support him. Then King George's army would have a real campaign, maybe into hostile mountain territory. No wonder Edward had thought a soldier's life would be exciting. But since he'd been in Dundee nothing had happened, and now Colonel Gardiner was telling him he was no good.

Edward just wanted to get away. He had the perfect excuse: his uncle had given him a letter



for an old friend of his, Cosmo Bradwardine, who lived across the Highland line. The Highlands were a very different country. It would be an adventure to go there.

Colonel Gardiner gave permission, and Edward rode alone towards the distant mountains. At last he came to the village where Baron Bradwardine lived. Edward was shocked by the place. It wasn't like an English village at all. The people looked poor and hungry. The wretched houses, all without chimneys or window glass, were scattered across a sea of mud where dirty half-naked children played. Edward did notice that the girls in their short gowns were quite pretty. Perhaps the people, in spite of being so poor, weren't as stupid as he'd first thought.

- The missing letters from Colonel Gardiner are mysteriously returned to Edward while he's lying sick at the house of an old woman, Janet. He learns of the complicated plot surrounding the missing letters, and also how much Rose has secretly been helping him throughout his adventures.

- Although Edward fails to save Colonel Gardiner at Prestonpans, he does manage to save another English officer, Colonel Talbot. Afterwards Edward gets to know Talbot while he's a prisoner in Edinburgh. Talbot, who's a friend of Uncle Everard, advises Edward how to get out of the fix he's in.

- Edward also experiences further adventures when he's on the run after leaving the Highland army in England. He's given shelter by a farming family who secretly sympathise with the Jacobites. While he's with them, he hears that Uncle Everard is to be tried for treason in London. Edward hurries to London in disguise, and is kindly received by Colonel Talbot and his family. Talbot manages to obtain a pardon for Sir Everard, just as he does later on for Edward himself.

Back in time

Scott was writing *Waverley* in 1805, sixty years after the 1745 Jacobite rebellion he describes. He had to rely on history books, stories people still told about 'the old days', and the memories of the oldest people he knew. As a novelist he could make up characters and scenes, but they had to fit in with historical facts. He was interested in how past events shape people and nations – it was the first time anyone had explored their national history by writing fiction. When it was published in 1814, *Waverley* was the first-ever historical novel.

Today the 1745 rebellion led by Prince Charles is usually called the '45. Prince Charles Stuart was the grandson of King James. He believed that kings ruled by divine right, which meant that their authority came from god alone. James thought he didn't have to listen to parliament or the people, but in 1688 he had to flee the country. His descendants tried several times to reclaim their lost kingdom. Prince Charles was the last to try.