Extract from **Enthralled: A Viking Saga**

by Chris Wright, *Chapter 11.*

*From the point of view of Freya.*

“I don’t suppose the King’s men have ships they can rescue us with?” I asked, remembering what the Ealdorman back at the village had said.

“The King’s men?” Estrid replied, confused.

“Yeah. The women of your village were going to fetch them from the, what was it, the burh? What is that anyway?”

Estrid looked surprised. “You don’t have burhs where you come from? They’re towns but with strong walls around them to stop invaders getting in. We have one about ten miles from us. I went there once with my dad the last time the Danes came. There was a man there with a very tall chicken.”

“Your village has been attacked before?” I asked, ignoring the chicken comment.

“Sort of. Last time they just demanded that we pay them to leave. A danegeld, the Ealdorman called it. Well, we paid it and they left. I guess this time they decided that we were more valuable than any money we might be able to raise.”

“And what about the King’s men?”

“Which men?” Estrid asked.

“I don’t know, the ealdorman just said, ‘the King’s men’,” I said.

“Describe them to me. Do they have beards?”

**Questions**

1. Who mentioned the King’s men to Freya back at the village?

 Estrid Chester

 The Ealdorman The Vikings

2. *What is a burh*?

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3. Why do you think Freya ignores the chicken comment?

 She is afraid of chickens It isn’t relevant to the conversation

 She doesn’t like Estrid The chicken is very tall

4. Why do you think Estrid’s village paid the danegeld?

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5. Why is Freya asking about the King’s men?

 She wants them to rescue her She’s worried they’re on the vikings’ side

 She wants to join them She wants to go and find them

6. Has Freya learned what she want to know about the King’s Men? Why or why not?

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7. Predict what Freya will say in reply to Estrid’s question: ‘Do they have beards?’

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Extract from **Enthralled: A Viking Saga**

by Chris Wright, *Chapter 11.*

*From the point of view of Freya.*

“Sweyn’s axe is my favourite,” Estrid suddenly perked up.

“Yeah?” I asked, unsure where she was going with this.

“Yeah,” she said thoughtfully. “It has lovely carvings of pretty dragons on the blade. Dragons breathe fire. Fire is good for fighting vikings.”

“Right,” I agreed. You couldn’t really argue with that.

We lapsed into silence again, but then I had a sudden thought.

“I don’t suppose the King’s men have ships they can rescue us with?” I asked, remembering what the Ealdorman back at the village had said.

“The King’s men?” Estrid replied, confused.

“Yeah. The women of your village were going to fetch them from the, what was it, the burh? What is that anyway?”

Estrid looked surprised. “You don’t have burhs where you come from? They’re towns but with strong walls around them to stop invaders getting in. We have one about ten miles from us. I went there once with my dad the last time the Danes came. There was a man there with a very tall chicken.”

“Your village has been attacked before?” I asked, ignoring the chicken comment.

“Sort of. Last time they just demanded that we pay them to leave. A danegeld, the Ealdorman called it. Well, we paid it and they left. I guess this time they decided that we were more valuable than any money we might be able to raise.”

“And what about the King’s men?”

“Which men?” Estrid asked.

“I don’t know, the ealdorman just said, ‘the King’s men’,” I said.

“Describe them to me. Do they have beards?”

**Questions**

1. Why is Sweyn’s axe Estrid’s favourite?

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2. What word could you use to replace the word ‘lapsed’ to mean the same thing in the extract?

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3. Who mentioned the King’s men to Freya back at the village?

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4. *What is a burh*?

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5. Why do you think Freya ignores the chicken comment?

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6. Why do you think Estrid’s village paid the danegeld?

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7. Why is Freya asking about the King’s men?

 She wants them to rescue her She’s worried they’re on the vikings’ side

 She wants to join them She wants to go and find them

8. Has Freya learned what she want to know about the King’s Men? Why or why not?

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9. Predict what Freya will say in reply to Estrid’s question: ‘Do they have beards?’

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**Answers**

**Lower Question Set**

1. Who mentioned the King’s men to Freya back at the village?

*The Ealdorman*

2. *What is a burh*?

*‘They’re towns but with strong walls around them to stop invaders getting in.’ or words to that effect.*

3. Why do you think Freya ignores the chicken comment?

*It isn’t relevant to the conversation*

4. Why do you think Estrid’s village paid the danegeld?

*So that the Vikings would leave, so the Vikings wouldn’t attack them or other, similar answers.*

5. Why is Freya asking about the King’s men?

*She wants them to rescue her*

6. Has Freya learned what she want to know about the King’s Men? Why or why not?

*No. Estrid is talking nonsense or isn’t answering her questions or doesn’t understand what she wants to know or similar.*

7. Predict what Freya will say in reply to Estrid’s question: ‘Do they have beards?’

*A prediction that includes an element of surprise, annoyance, non-understanding or similar from Freya.*

**Answers**

**Higher Question Set**

1. Why is Sweyn’s axe Estrid’s favourite?

*“It has lovely carvings of pretty dragons on the blade. Dragons breathe fire. Fire is good for fighting vikings.”*

2. What word could you use to replace the word ‘lapsed’ to mean the same thing in the extract?

*Fell, dropped or similar*

3. Who mentioned the King’s men to Freya back at the village?

*The Ealdorman*

4. *What is a burh*?

*‘They’re towns but with strong walls around them to stop invaders getting in.’ or words to that effect.*

5. Why do you think Freya ignores the chicken comment?

*It isn’t relevant to the conversation or because she doesn’t understand/wants to get to the point.*

6. Why do you think Estrid’s village paid the danegeld?

*So that the Vikings would leave, so the Vikings wouldn’t attack them or other, similar answers.*

7. Why is Freya asking about the King’s men?

*She wants them to rescue her*

8. Has Freya learned what she want to know about the King’s Men? Why or why not?

*No. Estrid is talking nonsense or isn’t answering her questions or doesn’t understand what she wants to know or similar.*

9. Predict what Freya will say in reply to Estrid’s question: ‘Do they have beards?’

*A prediction that includes an element of surprise, annoyance, non-understanding or similar from Freya.*