

Son of Charlemagne Example Summaries

Chapter 1:

Carl and his family are making a difficult winter journey through the mountains of Europe. Carl's father, King Charles, is a great king whose life's mission is conquering kingdoms and converting them to Christianity. They are on their way to Rome to visit Pope Hadrian, and along the way they are to visit some of the newly acquired lands. While they are camped one evening, King Charles shares with Carl that he plans to make him his successor, and because Carl is not the eldest son, this promises to be a shocking decision to both his family and his people.

Chapter 2:

King Charles settles his court in Lombardy, and a palace school is established for his children and those of his friends and followers. The pupils are working hard at their learning, and Bertha's strong affection for her teacher, Anghilbert, becomes obvious. One day, the school receives a visit from Alcuin, the spiritual heir of the great Abbot, Bede. Alcuin shares the story of how Bede used a young scribe to finish the final chapter of the written Gospel.