



## Chapter Summary: Death on the New Bridge

A chapter-by-chapter breakdown of [Death on the New Bridge](#), a modern fantasy novel by [Trevor Hopkins](#) ([email](#)).

The story is set in the early twenty-first century, with the action split between our own world and the mysterious world of [Lyndesfarne](#). In Lyndesfarne, everyday technology from our own world simply fails to work, but a society every bit as sophisticated as our own is supported by pervasive [magic](#).

A sequel to [New Bridge to Lyndesfarne](#), the novel once again follows [Kevin](#) and [Tanji](#) as they investigate the mysterious death of a microbial epidemiologist, who was found in the exact centre of the [New Bridge](#) shortly after its official opening.



**Disclaimer:** The world of Lyndesfarne described in these books is entirely fictitious, and bears no resemblance to the charming Holy Island of [Lindisfarne](#) in North East England.

[1](#) | [2](#) | [3](#) | [4](#) | [5](#) | [6](#) | [7](#) | [8](#) | [9](#) | [10](#) | [11](#) | [12](#) | [13](#) | [14](#) | [15](#) | [16](#) | [17](#) | [18](#) | [19](#) | [20](#)  
[21](#) | [22](#) | [23](#) | [24](#) | [25](#) | [26](#) | [27](#) | [28](#) | [29](#) | [30](#) | [31](#) | [32](#) | [33](#) | [34](#) | [35](#) | [36](#) | [37](#)

### [Chapter 1](#) [ [Top](#) ]

[Kevin](#), a bridge architect, and [Tanji](#) attend the formal opening of the [New Bridge](#) between England and Lyndesfarne. After the ceremonial ribbon-cutting, Kevin meets several old friends, including his co-designer [Bret](#). Although apparently male, Bret is a talented [shapeshifter](#) and is actually female. Bret is accompanied by his husband [Eosin](#), a [sprite](#) designer, and his [mother](#), who is actually the semi-mythical [Ferryman](#).

Later that evening, Kevin and Tanji attend a [champagne](#) reception at the [Walled Garden](#). They re-encounter several colleagues from the New bridge project, including Professor [Braxton](#) from [NISSA](#), [Peter Brenner](#) and [Kenneth Nasterton](#) from Kevin's old firm of architects, [Tweedledum](#), [Craz](#) the Overseer and [Quarl](#).

### [Chapter 2](#) [ [Top](#) ]

Some months before the ceremonial opening of the [New Bridge](#), [Kevin](#) and [Tanji](#) are discussing the world of Lyndesfarne. Kevin is keen to understand more about the [Other World](#). Tanji volunteers to arrange a trip for them, as tourists, to visit a nature reserve for [dragons](#).

On the safari itself, Kevin and Tanji encounters dragons at worryingly close range. From their guides [Simas](#) and [Omaz](#), he learns more about both these astonishing creatures and their historical impact on Lyndesfarne society.

### [Chapter 3](#) [ [Top](#) ]

[Kevin](#) and [Tanji](#) are woken very early in the morning by [Bret](#), who announces that a dead body has been found in the exact centre of the [New Bridge](#). It is entirely unclear how the body got to the place it was found, or who the man died.

Kevin and Tanji accompany Bret to inspect the corpse. They are introduced to [Guardians](#) in the world of

Lyndesfarne. Yiselle updates them on the discovery of the body, who turns out to be [Doctor Andrew Wollack](#).

#### [Chapter 4 \[ Top \]](#)

[Kevin](#) and [Tanji](#) are invited to a family dinner by [Bret](#) and his [mother](#) (the [Ferryman](#)). They travel from Manchester by car and cross to the [Other World](#) using the causeway and [Old Bridge](#).

After a wonderful meal prepared by [Bret's father](#) (a talented cook), Kevin receives both a formal apology for the way he was treated during the events described in [New Bridge to Lyndesfarne](#) and a much more informal invitation to join the hidden organisation that looked after the [crossing](#) between the [Two Worlds](#).

#### [Chapter 5 \[ Top \]](#)

Investigating the death of [Andrew Wollack](#) on the [New Bridge](#), [Bret](#) introduces [Kevin](#) and [Tanji](#) to [Eric Graves](#), a Sergeant in the [Guardian](#) force in Kevin's own world.

After crossing to Kevin's world, Sergeant Graves shows Bret, Kevin and Tanji the CCTV footage of the sudden appearance of Wollack's body on the bridge. Acting on a hunch, Kevin asks Bret about [magical invisibility](#). Bret is able to acquire an [amulet](#) which dispels the [glamour](#) which prevents them from seeing the mysterious person who drops the body on the bridge.

#### [Chapter 6 \[ Top \]](#)

[Kevin](#) visits the [Newcastle Institute of Special Sciences and Arts \(NISSA\)](#) and is greeted by [Professor Linda Braxton](#), who has replaced the disgraced [Professor Alan Wilmington](#). There, he is briefed on the artificial nature of the [magical barrier](#) between the [Two Worlds](#), as well as topology of the [crossing](#) and the differences in the plant and animal species in the worlds.

#### [Chapter 7 \[ Top \]](#)

[Bret](#) and [Kevin](#), accompanied by [Tanji](#), return to the [Newcastle Institute of Special Sciences and Arts \(NISSA\)](#). They inform [Professor Linda Braxton](#) about the death of [Andrew Wollack](#) on the [New Bridge](#). Braxton explains how Wollack came to be recruited into NISSA, and arranges for [Sanjit](#) to show them the large and modern library where Wollack had been performing his research work.

#### [Chapter 8 \[ Top \]](#)

[Kevin](#) and [Tanji](#) enjoy a wonderful holiday in a tropical beach resort in the world of Lyndesfarne. Kevin learns more about Tanji's [shapeshifting](#) abilities when she uses it to darken her skin and reduce the size of her breasts for comfort when near-naked on the beach.

Kevin is persuaded to try several [magical](#) beach games and water sports. He and Tanji also take a boat trip to view [plesiosaurs](#) in the wild.

While dining in the hotel, Kevin chances to make the acquaintance of [Demaz](#), who is holidaying with his wife and family at the same resort.

#### [Chapter 9 \[ Top \]](#)

[Kevin](#) and [Tanji](#) are relaxing in his little flat in Manchester, where Kevin is preparing a special dinner for Tanji. Just as the dinner is ready, there is a knock at the door. Tanji answers it, and is immediately snatched by persons unknown.

Kevin is distraught. He leaves a telephone message for [Bret](#), then contacts the local police, who do not appear to take him seriously. In the middle of the night, Bret arrives to collect Kevin.

#### [Chapter 10 \[ Top \]](#)

[Kevin](#) is escorted on a visit to a warehouse on the England side of the [crossing](#), guided by [Doctor Willis](#) from the [Newcastle Institute of Special Sciences and Arts \(NISSA\)](#). Inside the warehouse, Kevin has the loading and unloading processes explained to him by the manager, known only as [Dave](#).

On another occasion, Kevin visits the corresponding warehouse in the world of Lyndesfarne, guided by [Tanji](#). They are shown around by [Lyssa](#) and her colleague [Vanise](#).

### [Chapter 11 \[ Top \]](#)

[Bret](#) takes [Kevin](#) to [Cliviger Grange](#), the headquarters of the [Guardians](#) in Kevin's world. There, he is introduced to [Warden Derek Williamson](#) who, together with [Sergeant Graves](#), agree to assist in locating [Tanji](#). Kevin also meets Tanji's [Zarb](#), a [Guide](#) from the [Guild of Directions](#).

Having made plans and set investigations in motion, Bret and Kevin decide to go to London to continue their investigation into the death of [Andrew Wollack](#).

### [Chapter 12 \[ Top \]](#)

[Kevin](#) takes a business trip to London to discuss plans for a bridge in Africa. He is accompanied by [Tanji](#), and Kevin is called upon to act as a tourist guide for her, in contrast to her usual role as a [Guide](#) from the [Guild of Directions](#).

### [Chapter 13 \[ Top \]](#)

[Bret](#) and [Kevin](#) are driven to London in a car from [Cliviger Grange](#). They arrive at the School of Epidemiology at University College London, where they interview [Andrew Wollack](#)'s Ph.D supervisor [Huw Williams](#).

Bret and Kevin are forced to tell Huw of the death of Andrew Wollack. They also interview [Angela Newman](#), who is a cousin to [Yiselle](#), and who recruited Andrew into the [Newcastle Institute of Special Sciences and Arts \(NISSA\)](#).

After the interviews, Bret is contacted by telephone by [Warden Williamson](#), who tells him that the car used to kidnap [Tanji](#) has been found abandoned, having been stolen earlier from [Cliviger Grange](#).

### [Chapter 14 \[ Top \]](#)

While on the way to London, [Bret](#) explains to [Kevin](#) his concerns about both cultural and biological pollution - the flow of ideas, and the smaller kinds of animals and plants, between the [Two Worlds](#). Bret also explains about the risks of infections - epidemics - being spread in both worlds.

### [Chapter 15 \[ Top \]](#)

Even before [Bret](#) and [Kevin](#) can leave the School of Epidemiology at University College London, Bret receives a phone call from [Tanji](#)'s kidnappers. They are instructed to go to an address in [Jaireby](#) where Kevin and Tanji had previously taken a vacation.

Bret and Kevin hurry back to the [crossing](#) to Lyndesfarne and then use the [portal](#) network to travel to Jaireby. The address is a department store. Tanji appears in a [magical](#) mirror, which is actually a [window](#) to her cell. Kevin is able to read a bar code label which is stuck to the underside of Tanji's foot.

### [Chapter 16 \[ Top \]](#)

[Tanji](#) takes [Kevin](#) on a vacation to the seaside town of [Jaireby](#). Kevin is fascinated by the flying [faeries](#) and the [magically](#)-enclosed drinks known as [Rolling Stones](#).

### [Chapter 17 \[ Top \]](#)

Outside the department store in [Jaireby](#) where [Kevin](#) and [Bret](#) have just seen [Tanji](#) in a [magical](#) mirror, Bret receives a message from the kidnappers on his [slate](#). It instructs them to come to the [Walled Garden](#) the following day.

In the meantime, Bret and Kevin return to Kevin's world and thence to [Cliviger Grange](#). Kevin elicits information about the barcode he observed on Tanji's foot from [Dave](#), the manager of the warehouse he visited earlier in the year. Dave later informs Kevin that the barcode is used for green beans imported from an area of Lyndesfarne that Kevin had visited with Tanji earlier.

## [Chapter 18 \[ Top \]](#)

[Kevin](#) and [Tanji](#) take a trip to the [Other World](#) to visit her [Aunt](#) and [Uncle](#) in [Rhythlen](#). Kevin is made very welcome by Tanji's family as a future son-in-law.

## [Chapter 19 \[ Top \]](#)

After a sleepless night at [Cliviger Grange](#), [Bret](#) and [Kevin](#) are driven to the [Newcastle Institute of Special Sciences and Arts \(NISSA\)](#) for a further interview with [Professor Linda Braxton](#). They discuss the research work that [Doctor Andrew Wollack](#) was undertaking and meet his supervisor [Ms Wendy Rossiter](#).

Kevin is able to inspect Andrew Wollack's work on his notebook and computer, and finds that Andrew has come to the conclusion that, in the past, epidemics have been deliberately started to put pressure on the [Board of Control](#) to close [crossings](#) between the [Two Worlds](#).

## [Chapter 20 \[ Top \]](#)

[Kevin](#) and [Tanji](#) are invited to dinner with [Bret](#) and her family - the family which includes the [Ferryman](#) (who is Bret's mother). They enjoy a delicious meal cooked by Bret's [father](#).

After dinner, Bret and her mother sit by the fire with other members of their family and explain to Kevin how a [crossing](#) is made. They also relate the ancient tale of [Noaz](#) and the flood.

## [Chapter 21 \[ Top \]](#)

[Bret](#) and [Kevin](#) leave [NISSA](#) and return to the [crossing](#), and thence to the [Walled Garden](#) hostel where Kevin had recently stayed with [Tanji](#). There, Bret and Kevin receive another message from Tanji's kidnappers, as well as get a second glance of Tanji in the hostel room [magical](#) mirror.

Bret begins to suspect that he and Kevin are being tracked by the kidnappers, using a [Finder](#). He writes to the [Ferryman](#) using his [Slate](#). Less than an hour later, a [Messenger](#) arrives and presents Bret with two magical [amulets](#) fashioned as armbands to obscure them from the kidnappers' Finder.

## [Chapter 22 \[ Top \]](#)

[Kevin](#) and [Tanji](#) take a vacation at a beach hotel in the [Other World](#). They encounter a [magical beachcomber](#). Tanji takes Kevin on a tour of the locality outside the hotel, and she tells him about [Raptors](#), a smaller but still dangerous kind of [Dragon](#). They also visit various local markets and see many kinds of fruit and vegetables for sale, including green beans.

## [Chapter 23 \[ Top \]](#)

[Bret](#) and [Kevin](#) leave the [Walled Garden](#) and travel to the area that Kevin had visited markets with [Tanji](#), and where green beans are imported from. On the way, Bret uses his [Slate](#) to communicate with [Vanise](#) and [Lyssa](#).

On their arrival, information from Vanise and Lyssa confirms that a large crate - which might have been used to transport Tanji - was delivered to a warehouse somewhere in their vicinity. Acting on a hunch, Bret and Kevin track down a farmer at a market who has just sold green beans to a pompous-looking middleman. Bret and Kevin tail the buyer to a warehouse where the beans and other vegetables are being packaged for sale in Kevin's world. They interview the staff and confirm that a large crate was delivered and opened recently.

## [Chapter 24 \[ Top \]](#)

While waiting for [Bret](#) to organise transport from [Cliviger Grange](#), [Kevin](#) comes across a set of carved stone [Dragon](#) heads. Bret tells Kevin the story that these stone heads were presented to a group of brave men who killed some Dragons which had - unusually - traversed the [crossing](#) centuries ago. For reasons unknown, these heads were subsequently buried and only discovered accidentally when modern extensions were being built at Cliviger Grange.

## [Chapter 25 \[ Top \]](#)

Guided by the warehouse staff, [Bret](#) and [Kevin](#) make their way to a small building which is evidently guarded by what Kevin describes as "goons". They work out the part of the building where Tanji must be held, and Bret uses a [magical](#) device to blow a hole in the wall.

Kevin grabs [Tanji](#) and runs for the warehouse [portal](#), leaving Bret to slow down the pursuit. Tanji and Kevin lose the last few pursuers by making several rapid changes at portal termini. Tanji sends several messages using the [slate](#) Bret had thoughtfully presented to Kevin, and uses Lyndesfarne [money](#) to buy replacement clothing to evade tracing magic. After many hours travel, Kevin and Tanji finally arrive at Bret's family home, where they are delighted to be re-united with Bret.

### [Chapter 26](#) [ [Top](#) ]

[Kevin](#) and [Tanji](#) are made welcome at [Bret's](#) home. Bret's [father](#) presents them with food and drink while Tanji recounts her story to the [Ferryman](#) (who is also Bret's mother). Bret also tells Kevin and Tanji about his activities to deter the kidnapers.

### [Chapter 27](#) [ [Top](#) ]

[Kevin](#) and [Tanji](#) rest overnight at [Bret's](#) home. Kevin wakes suddenly, having realised that the kidnap gang's leader is [Demaz](#), whom they met on their vacation some time before. He announces this insight to [Bret](#) and the [Ferryman](#), who recognise the name and immediately instigate investigations by the [Guardians](#).

The Ferryman also has more information about the death of [Andrew Wollack](#). He died of a cracked skull, but was also infected with a dangerous pathogen which has already infected [Yiselle](#) and other [Guardians](#) at the [crossing](#). Since it is clear from Wollack's researches that there is a threat of a trans-world epidemic, and that his supervisor at [NISSA](#), [Wendy Rossiter](#) did not report it to [Professor Braxton](#). Bret and Kevin are determined to investigate further.

### [Chapter 28](#) [ [Top](#) ]

[Kevin](#) and [Tanji](#) are staying with Tanji's [Uncle](#) and [Aunt](#). After breakfast, Tanji prepares a picnic and they set off to travel by [portal](#) to a lakeside picnic spot, where they extensively enjoy each other's intimate company.

### [Chapter 29](#) [ [Top](#) ]

The [Ferryman](#) insists that [Kevin](#), [Tanji](#) and [Bret](#) are to be accompanied by members of the [Guardians](#). The party return to the [crossing](#) where they are met by [Sergeant Graves](#) from [Cliviger Grange](#).

The enlarged party travel to [NISSA](#) and Bret and Kevin once again interview [Professor Braxton](#). The Professor reports that [Wendy Rossiter](#) has disappeared, leaving shortly after Bret and Kevin had visited the previous day.

### [Chapter 30](#) [ [Top](#) ]

We return to [Kevin](#) and [Tanji's](#) earlier visit to [Bret's](#) family home. Bret and her mother (the [Ferryman](#)) tell a tale of the Apache Nation and how their lifestyle was disrupted by a war between two factions from the world of Lyndesfarne.

### [Chapter 31](#) [ [Top](#) ]

[Professor Braxton](#) tells [Kevin](#), [Tanji](#) and [Bret](#) about [Wendy Rossiter's](#) mother, [Patricia Rossiter](#). Assisted by [Sergeant Graves](#), they track down the older Rossiter's cottage, not far from the [crossing](#). Patricia confirms that Wendy visited recently, and suspects that Wendy has travelled to the world of Lyndesfarne to find her father.

### [Chapter 32](#) [ [Top](#) ]

[Patricia Rossiter](#) tells a tale to [Kevin](#), [Tanji](#) and [Bret](#), about meeting a charming young man from the Other World, when she was much younger. They had a liaison, but he later abandoned her when she became pregnant with [Wendy](#). The lonely young woman is befriended by a [Messenger](#) called [Yise](#), who is Bret's grandmother. After some questioning, Patricia Rossiter reveals that her missing boyfriend is [Demaz](#).

### [Chapter 33 \[ Top \]](#)

[Bret](#) informs [Patricia Rossiter](#) that her daughter [Wendy](#) may be in danger if she is, as they suspect, attempting to locate her absent father [Demaz](#). Rossiter senior pleads with Bret, [Kevin](#) and [Tanji](#) to locate her daughter as quickly as possible. After some thought, she concluded that Demaz may be hiding out in the desert area where Kevin and Tanji previously visited to view [dragons](#).

### [Chapter 34 \[ Top \]](#)

[Kevin](#) and [Tanji](#) take a house-riding trip in the [Other World](#). They visit a ranch where [Riz](#) teaches Kevin to ride, with much support from Tanji.

Later, Riz and his colleague [Vritz](#) guide Kevin and Tanji on a trek, where they view [Desert Hawks](#), as well as visit the site of [Noaz's crossing](#).

### [Chapter 35 \[ Top \]](#)

A large group has gathered at the Lyndesfarne [crossing](#) by the time that [Bret](#), [Kevin](#) and [Tanji](#) get there. As well as many [Guardians](#) from both worlds, [Warden Williamson](#) and [Graves](#) are in evidence, as are many other robed figures that Kevin believes to be senior members of the [Board of Control](#).

After some heated discussions, where their report of the story from [Patricia Rossiter](#) is largely disregarded, Bret, Kevin and Tanji are allowed to pursue [Demaz](#) unaided. The three of them travel to the desert [dragon](#) country previously visited by Kevin and Tanji, and are joined by [Simas](#) and [Omiz](#) who act as their guides.

Bret, Kevin and Tanji disguise their features using a [magical glamour](#). Simas and Omiz report that the dragons are behaving strangely in a particular area and they set out to investigate. They locate [Demaz](#) and [Wendy Rossiter](#) in a cave beneath a dragon's nest but, before Demaz can be questioned, he self-administers a [mind-wipe](#).

### [Chapter 36 \[ Top \]](#)

Late in the evening after dining with [Bret](#) and her mother (the [Ferryman](#)), [Kevin](#) and [Tanji](#) tells a tale of [Bram](#), her great-uncle. They learn about Bram's adventures in the Second World War, and the way that he met [Tom](#) and [Alasdair](#). Bret describes how the young men are recruited to [Cliviger Grange](#), how Tom joins the [Guardians](#) and Alasdair joins the [Guides](#).

Bret describes how Alasdair meets and marries [Yise](#), and then is suddenly called away with Bram. Neither man is ever seen again, and Yise spent the rest of her life searching unsuccessfully for her missing husband, usually in the guise of a [Messenger](#).

### [Chapter 37 \[ Top \]](#)

Neither [Bret](#) nor [Wendy Rossiter](#) can prevent [Demaz](#) from administering a [mind-wipe](#) to himself. Assisted by [Simas](#) and [Omiz](#), Demaz is led away in a daze, mistaking Wendy for her mother [Patricia](#).

Bret sends messages on his [slate](#) and soon [Guardians](#) arrive in force, flying in as [Faeries](#). The [Ferryman](#) also arrives and takes charge.

[Kevin](#) finds himself musing on the continued political tensions which surrounds the last remaining [crossing](#) between the [Two Worlds](#) and speculates to [Tanji](#) that perhaps the time has come to close the last crossing.

[Home Page](#) | [Fiction Introduction](#) | [Lyndesfarne Introduction](#) | [Lyndesfarne Glossary](#)