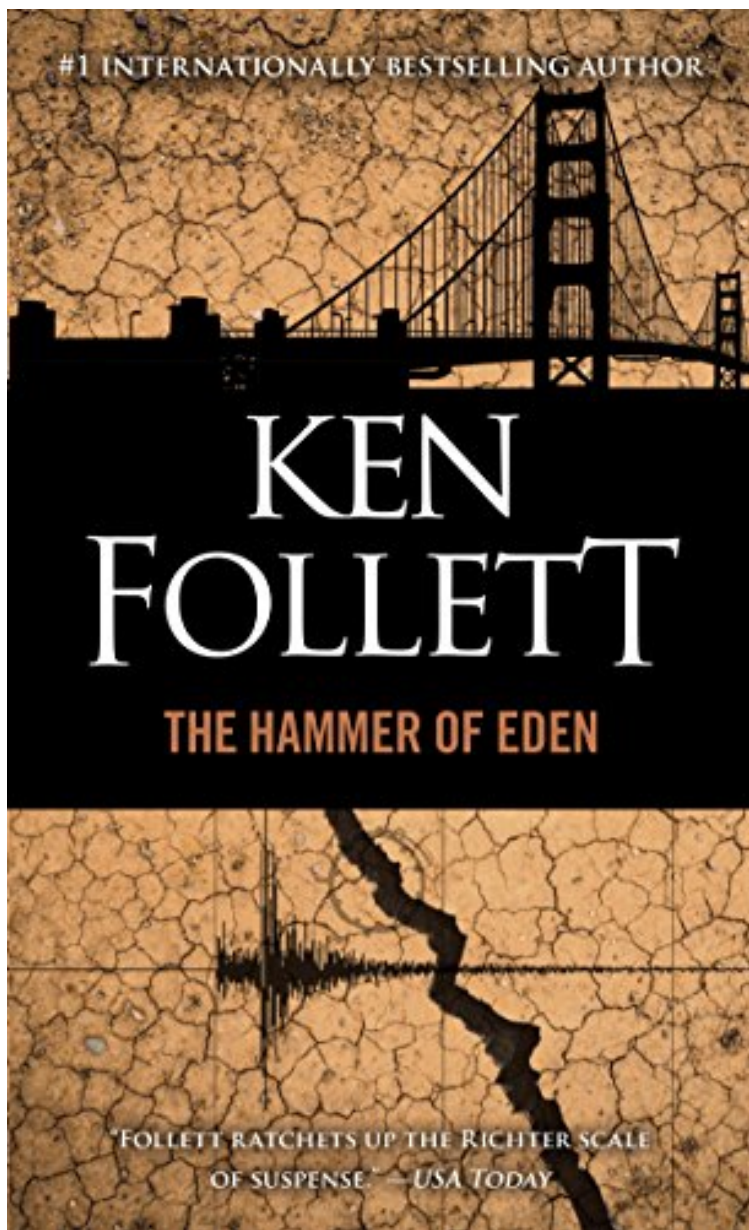


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# The Hammer of Eden



*Par Ken Follett*  
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**Par Ken Follett : The Hammer of Eden** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Hammer of Eden:

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## Description :

Prsentation de l'diteurNEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER The FBI doesnt believe it. The Governor wants the problem to disappear. But agent Judy Maddox knows the threat is real: An extreme group of eco-terrorists has the means and the know-how to set off a massive earthquake of epic proportions. For California, time is running out. Now Maddox is scrambling to hunt down a petty criminal turned cult leader turned homicidal mastermind. Because she knows that the dying has already begun. And things will only get worse when the earth violently shifts, bolts, and shakes down to its very core..comKen Follett shook the

mystery world with his debut (now classic) novel, *The Eye of the Needle*, and now he's shaking the earth again with *The Hammer of Eden*. Or, at least his bad guys are shaking it. The novel begins with a series of flashbacks while Priest and his girlfriend Star plot to steal a seismic vibrator. Priest, an illiterate street tough turned hippie guru, is rallying his commune to fight back against the state of California. Living out of time and out of society, the commune grows its own food, makes wine, and smokes a lot of dope, but the lives of

Priest and his cohorts are about to be destroyed by the construction of a new power plant in their valley.

Priest takes his cue from Melanie, a seismologist who joined his commune after being shaken by marital difficulties. With their seismic vibrator and under the code name *Hammer of Eden*, they plan to rock

California with earthquakes until they get a promise of work stoppage. Judy Maddox is on their case.

Daughter of an Irish American cop and a Vietnamese mother, Judy's slight in form though a rising force in the FBI. Office politics have placed her on a ludicrous case involving an earthquake threat, but the more she looks at the *Hammer of Eden*, the more she is convinced that the threat is for real. Her contact, seismologist

Michael Quercus, provides compelling evidence that a major catastrophe is in the offing. From there, the novel becomes a race between Judy and Michael and the increasingly deadly and desperate Priest and his followers. *The Hammer of Eden* isn't, in the end, as groundbreaking as some of Follett's earlier work; the commune's jump from peace-loving band of hippies to state terrorists happens just a bit too quickly.

Nevertheless, Follett's gift for plotting and intrigue keep the cracks in the narrative in check, and the denouement is sure to send tremors through the most sturdy of readers. --Patrick O'Kelley.com Audiobook

reviewThe unlikely idea of a bunch of commune-dwelling radicals deliberately setting off an earthquake starts making sense in this unabridged reading of Ken Follett's thriller. Alexander Adams's radio-friendly voice moves smoothly from narrative to dialogue to flashbacks. He's especially terrific when narrating the violent, unspoken thoughts of Priest, the illiterate but charismatic villain, whose plan to save his idyllic commune could ultimately destroy much more nature than it preserves. (Running time: 13 hours, eight

cassettes) --Lou Schuler