

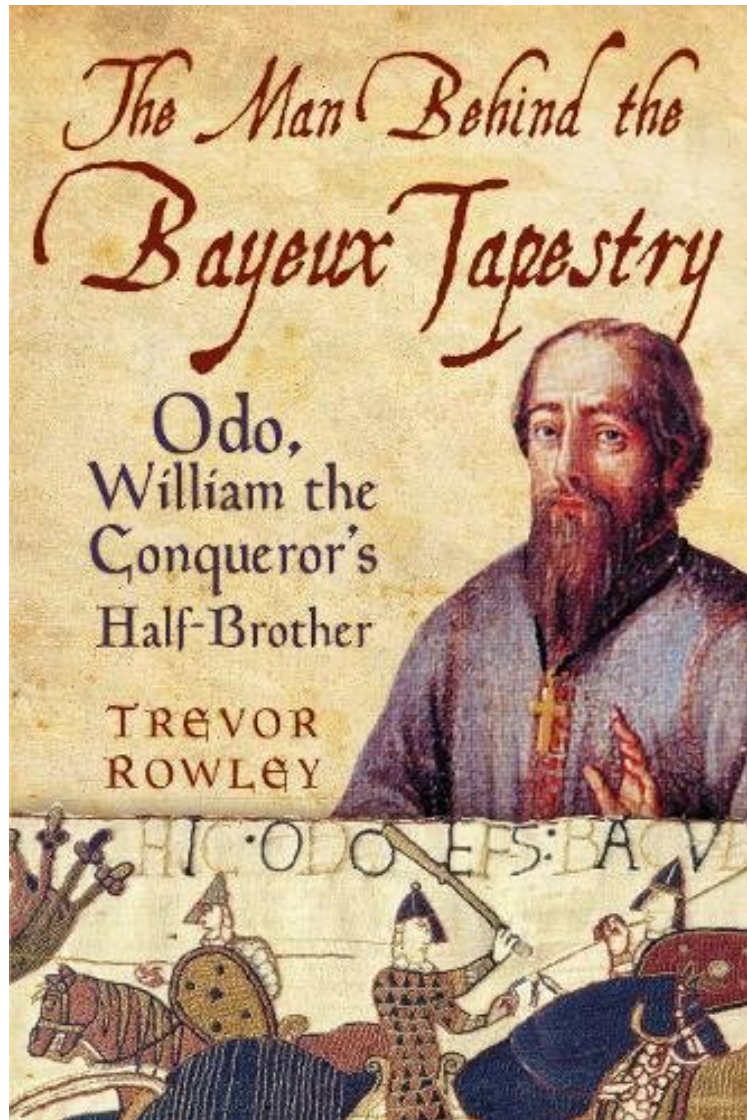
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[FREE] The Man Behind the Bayeux Tapestry: Odo, William the Conqueror's Half-Brother

The Man Behind the Bayeux Tapestry: Odo, William the Conqueror's Half-Brother

Trevor Rowley : The Man Behind the Bayeux Tapestry: Odo, William the Conqueror's Half-Brother before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Man Behind the Bayeux Tapestry: Odo, William the Conqueror's Half-Brother:

8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Mighty and powerful, but forever second to the ConquerorBy J.B. LyleSo readable (and so reliably researched) that I expect to read it again soon. What must it have been like to be this kind of half-brother to William the Conqueror? Profiting vastly by the relationship--not without making his own

contributions to the Conqueror's career--yet envious. However great, mighty and rich Odo of Bayeux became (and he is listed by Malcolm Gladwell in *Outliers* as one of the richest men in history), he could never surpass William the Duke and King. Odo was talented, worldly, courageous, greedy; eventually imprisoned by William for treachery. Rowley's book is absorbing for its insights into the man who seems to have seethed with resentment at standing in his half-brother's shadow, yet left us with an incomparable document of the Conqueror's history-changing achievement. It's a page-turner, highly recommended. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. He enjoyed it very much. By Caroline MastMy husband read this book. He enjoyed it very much. It was well balanced and accurate. He was anxious to read it because it goes back to his family's origin in England with his sir name.

The extraordinary story of the warrior bishop who commissioned the Bayeux Tapestry and helped plan the Norman Conquest. Odo, the younger half-brother of William the Conqueror, was ordained Bishop of Bayeux while still in his teens. He played a pivotal role in the planning and implementation of the Conquest of England, after which, as Earl of Kent, he was second only to William in wealth and power. He was the first Chief Justice of England and on occasion also acted as Regent when the king was in Normandy. In the 1070s he commissioned the Bayeux Tapestry, completed for the consecration of his new cathedral in Bayeux (1077). After defrauding both Crown and Church, Odo was disgraced, and his plans to raise an unauthorized army for a campaign in Italy, possibly in order to gain the papacy, saw him imprisoned for five years. He was released by the dying William in 1087, but soon rebelled against the new king, his nephew William Rufus. He was allowed to return to Normandy in 1088 and died in Palermo, en route for the Holy Land with the First Crusade, in 1097. This is the first full-length biography of Odo.

About the Author Trevor Rowley is the author of *The Normans and Norman England*: 10661204.