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For the attention of Ken Follett

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From Suzanne Baboneau

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Fax

Message

Dear Ken,

Thanks so much for your call today. Here are my notes on the second draft - which actually I think should be renamed final draft. It's really the finest tuning on my part - and certainly some of the points would be covered by a copy-editor.

I'm still thrilled by this book. Thank you so much for the acknowledgement.

Off to Macclesfield tomorrow to sing your praises!

All best,

Suzanne

P.S. Would it be possible to have the whole thing on disc so we can print it out this end?

THE HAMMER OF EDEN : KEN FOLLETT**EDITORIAL NOTES ON SECOND DRAFT 20/4/98**

PAGE	LINE	COMMENT
Any dedication?		
PART ONE		
12	8	Would Mario really be able to make out the features of a woman from a quarter of a mile away? (see also page 21, line 5) <i>Yes.</i>
18	5	Where was Mario at this time? See page 23, line 18 where Mario tells Priest that he saw him with Star? And on page 29, line 20, how close was Mario when he saw them together? <i>x</i>
19	7-8	'reflexively' and 'automatically' - tautology here? <i>✓</i>
	16	'they had not gotten around...' sounds weak here given the vast implications of the ultimatum <i>✓</i>
24	18	'His nostrils...'? Simply 'He remembered' better? <i>✓</i>
27	14	'rear end' - why did this make me think of a car? <i>x</i>
28	11	'"She hasn't grown up in a nuclear family"' - careful, this observation is repeated on page 191, line 6, and page 233, line 16 <i>x</i>
30	19	'pang of longing' <i>✓</i>
40	17	'the remains of those...' - whoops, could be misinterpreted as mortal remains <i>✓</i>
45	2-3	This description of Melanie is a little too close to page 101, lines 15-16 - seen both times through Priest's eyes <i>x</i>
74	14	'with a sense of futility' better? <i>✓</i>
90	9-11	The sentiments here - of making the most of this case - don't seem to tally with page 112, lines 13-14: 'The case had taken a higher profile... That was worrying'. I imagined Judy would relish such a challenge. Suggest cut 'That was worrying. The leads were not promising' here as her reservations are well expressed overleaf on page 113, lines 3-5. <i>✓</i>
	22	'for my rudeness yesterday' - it's still 'today'. (See page 82, line 20, 'She put the date') <i>✓</i>
106	20	'vital' or 'crucial' rather than weaker-sounding 'important'? <i>✓</i>
114	6	okay use of 'felt' here? - sounds a little tame <i>x</i>
116	3,4 & 7	too much shaking
117	13	'Be' should be 'But' <i>✓</i>

- 119 5 Don (not Dan) ✓
- 139 9 No further mention of this ceremony - and yet it would have still been important in the communards' minds apart from the rice eaters. I think I queried this last time... X
- 143 12 'returned to the world' sounds a little vague here ✓
- 149 4 Sounds a pretty drastic sentence, even by Californian law, for petty shoplifting X
- 179 9 'queer' okay here? X

PART TWO

- 201 11 'someone' rather than 'something' X
- 212 11 It worried me here that Dusty hasn't brushed his teeth! At five, wouldn't he still be under adult supervision getting ready for bed? ✓
- 222 18 Would the interview (pp 148-9) really have taken half an hour? And in any case, Priest did most of the talking ✓
- 270 14 'smogged' - okay? ✓
- 272 3 & 5 avoid repetition of 'guarded' here
- 16 cut 'of course' ? X
- 290 9 & 12 avoid repetition of 'regular' here ✓
- 307 6 'Fax it on to me' more accurate than 'Refax it' ? X
- 320 1 'got' used here and in lines 4 and 5 ✓
- 325 11 'Priest was spooked' and in line 13-14 'He felt unnerved' - repetitive ✓
- 332 8 Use Kincaid throughout rather than switch to Brian as here? ✓
- 336 22 'might be the Hammer of Eden woman' rather than 'is? Not until she's heard the actual recording can Judy be absolutely sure X
- 347 21 'Florence Diforio' - Shoebury now ✓
- 352 14 'chances of staying here undisturbed would be greater...' - too obvious? X
- 354 9 'luckily he was still on holiday' better as we already know he's away? ✓
'Vacation' better than 'holiday'?
- 372 10 Would Priest really know about spin doctors - they seem too 'modern' a term for him to use with such ease? See also page 432, line 10 X
- 408 21 'Somehow we've got to stop this happening again' - weak pay-off line? ✓

PART THREE

- 439-444 I thought this chase scene was too long to keep the pace and tension of the hunt going. Overuse of 'run', 'running' etc (13 times over two pages). Cut back, particularly the pursuit through the Capitol building?
- 461 5 & 8 Avoid repeating 'a little'
- 463 18 & 19 Awkward repetition of 'out here - better just to say 'Let's go' in line 18? x
- 491 12 'four hundred yards away' - again I'm worried that Judy wouldn't be able to see that far particularly as she's in acute pain (I know I'm shortsighted but...)

Suzanne Baboneau

4/5/98