## Glossary of Characters

**Andrew Cowen** One of the three European siblings who was

shipwrecked on the shores of what would become Zululand. At thirteen years of age, he

is the middle child.

**Awang Kiambang** A wealthy Malay merchant based in Penang.

He volunteered to accompany Francis

Farewell on his voyage through the Far East. Awang acted as an adviser and navigator.

**Bhekimuzi** Shaka's personal medicine man or witch doctor

[isangoma]. He was also head of what we would today call Shaka's Intelligence Service; it was made up of a network of medicine men, or witch doctors, situated throughout the lands

that Shaka controlled.

**Bhekisisa** An officer [induna] of the Ngwane tribe

who had become refugees as they fled from Shaka's armies. Bhekisisa became Garcia Salazar's accomplice in the project to kidnap

Beatrice Cowen from the Zulus.

**Bhengani** A senior *induna* and favourite officer of Shaka

Zulu, entrusted with protecting the Cowen

siblings.

**Dingiswayo** The king of the Mtethwa nation, of which

the Zulus were a sub-tribe. He was Shaka's mentor. Shaka came to the kingship when

Dingiswayo was killed.

## Phil Smart

**Beatrice Cowen** The youngest of the three European siblings

shipwrecked on the southern Africa shores of what would become Zululand. She was twelve when they landed on the beach.

Elizabeth Caterina

Schmidt

Francis Farewell's close friend in Cape Town,

known to her friends as Cate.

**Francis Farewell** A lieutenant in the Royal Navy; he was

Stephen Cowen's lifelong friend and

Nathaniel Cowen's godfather. He was also

the founder of Port Natal.

**Henry Francis** 

Flynn

An adventurer who accompanied Farewell when he established Port Natal. His writings on Shaka are considered one of the most accurate records of Zulu history before

Western contact.

Garcia Salazar The acting Governor of Mozambique after

José Francisco's death. He was based in a trading post called Fort Marques in Delagoa Bay. Today, the modern town of Maputo, the capital of Mozambique, is situated on this

site.

José Francisco De

Paula Cavalcanti De Albuquerque Portuguese Governor of Mozambique,

1817–18.

**Kgabu** The *induna* in charge of the reinforcements

for Mandlakhe's pursuit of the kidnappers to

Delagoa Bay.

**Lindiwe** Nandi's niece. Andrew Cowen operated

successfully on Lindiwe for appendicitis. She became good friends with Beatrice

Cowen and, later, Henry Flynn.

## THE NAPOLEON OF AFRICA

Mandlakhe A young Zulu boy who discovered the Cowen

siblings on the beach; he was fourteen at the time. His name means 'he of great efforts'.

**Mthethwa** The name of the people who King

Dingiswayo had formed into a nation before

Shaka came to prominence. The Zulu tribe was originally a minor subset of the

Mthethwa.

Mthunzi The *isangoma* [witch doctor] who Shaka

selected to replace Bhekimuzi upon his death

as his personal isangoma.

Nandi Shaka Zulu's mother, closest adviser, and

mentor throughout his life.

**Nathaniel Cowen** The eldest of the three European siblings; he

was sixteen at the time they were beached in

southern Africa.

**Nomandia** Beatrice's horse, a roan mare, whose name

means 'mother of strength'.

**Nomahlanjana** Zwide's son and heir. He was the *induna* in

charge of the Ndwandwe army at the battle

of Gqokoli.

**Noluju** The senior *isangoma* [witch doctor] and senior

adviser to Zwide, chief of the Ndwandwe nations. He was also a spy on Shaka's payroll.

**Senzangakhona** Shaka's father and chief of the Zulus. During

his reign, the Zulus were a minor tribe contained within the Mthethwa nation, which

King Dingiswayo ruled.

## Phil Smart

**Shaka Zulu** Rising from humble beginnings, by his

death in 1828, at the age of forty-two, he had welded the Zulu people into a dominion approaching the size of Wales, with a population estimated at half a million. He created the most powerful nation Africa had ever known, one that still exists in South Africa, where the Zulu population is now more than

ten million.

**Stephen Cowen** The father of the Cowen siblings and a

commander in the Royal Navy.

**Thembeka** Mandlakhe's mother and Zakhele's third

wife.

**Thadie** Andrew's favourite horse, a bay filly, whose

name means 'loved one'.

**Thulani** The *induna* in charge of Nandi's security

detail, who led the initial pursuit of Beatrice's

kidnappers and tragically died in their

ambush.

**Zakhele** Mandlakhe's father and headman of a home-

stead on the outskirts of the Zulu tribal area, some fifteen kilometres from the east coast of

Africa.

**Zithulele** Nathaniel's horse, a black stallion, whose

name means 'winner'.

**Zwide** A cunning and ruthless African chief

who built a kingdom at the same time as Dingiswayo and that was of similar size. He was Dingiswayo's main antagonist. Ultimately, he was responsible for Dingiswayo's death, and when Shaka took over Dingiswayo's kingdom, Zwide became

Shaka's biggest threat.