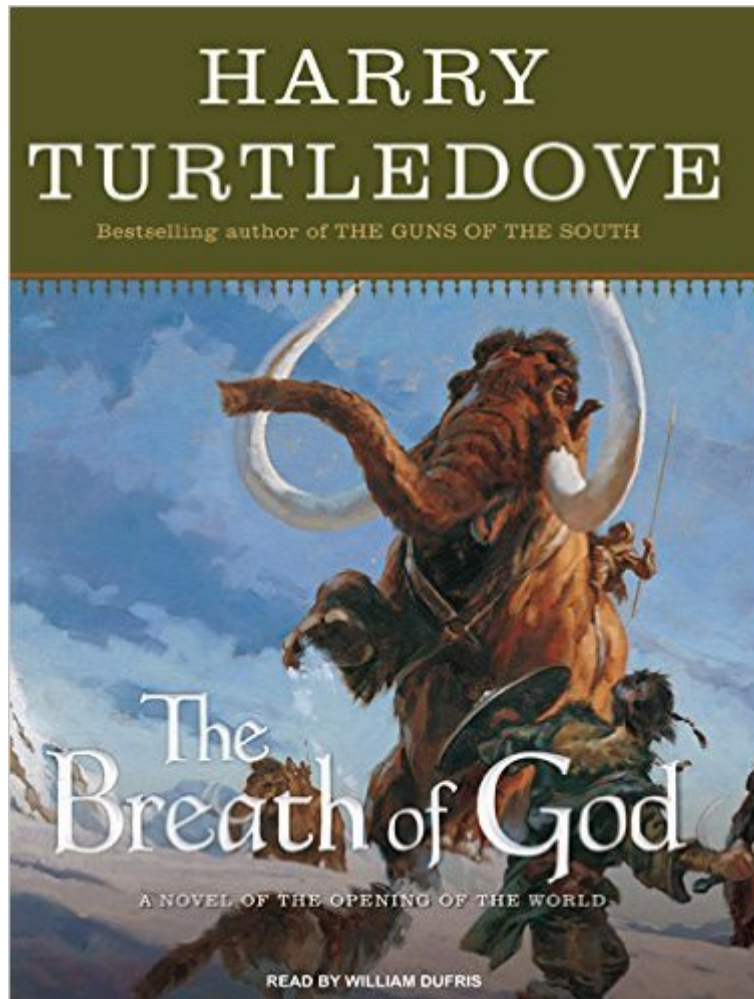


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The Breath Of God: A Novel Of The Opening Of The World



Synopsis

Once the great Glacier enclosed the Raumsdalian Empire. Now it has broken open, and Count Hamnet Thyssen faces a new world. With the wisecracking Ulric Skakki, the neighboring clan leader Trasamund (politely addressed as "Your Ferocity"), and his lover, the shaman Liv, Hamnet leads an exploration of the new territory in hopes of finding the legendary Golden Shrine. But dangers abound. A violent and implacable group known as the Rulers has already killed many, and now they attack again. Riding deer and woolly mammoths and using powerful magic, the Rulers triumph and force the Raumsdaliens to flee. In the spring, another battle ends even more badly for Hamnet's side, but the Glacier is also retreating, so they are able to escape. Meeting a tribe whose desperate living conditions have led them to overcome the Raumsdalian taboo against eating fallen foes, they find unexpected allies. Now, returning to the capital city and its intrigues, Hamnet prepares to lead an army against the merciless Rulers. The world, once so bounded and comprehensible, will never be the same.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The Breath of God (2008) is the second prehistoric fantasy novel in The Opening of the World series, following Beyond the Gap. In the previous volume, the Emperor -- Sigvat II -- refused to believe Hamnet's report on the Rulers. Hamnet ignored orders from the Emperor and returned to the Three Tusk Clan range. On the way North, his group were attacked several times by the Ruler

shamans. Then they found that the Rulers have invaded the Clan range. The Bizogots raided the invaders and captured some prisoners, but were still pushed off their land. In this novel, Count Hamnet Thyssen is a Raumsdalian nobleman. He has ridden beyond the Gap with Bizogot clansfolk to search for the Golden Shrine, but instead found the Rulers, nomadic people who herd people as well as animals. Now he is trying to unite the Bizogot clans to fight against a Rulers invasion. Ulric Skakki is an adventurer. He had been through the Gap and seen the Rulers before any other Raumsdalian. Then he went back with Hamnet's expedition. He seems to know almost everything about the Bizogot plains. Audun Gilli is a Raumsdalian wizard. He has been exchanging magical expertise with Liv. Trasmund is the jarl of the Three Tusk Clan, or what remains of it. He is an inveterate optimist about fighting the Rulers. His clan has hurt the enemy, but sustained great casualties in doing so. Liv is the shaman of the Three Tusk Clan. She is barely able to counter the magic of the Ruler shamans, but she is always willing to try again. She is Hamnet's lover.

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