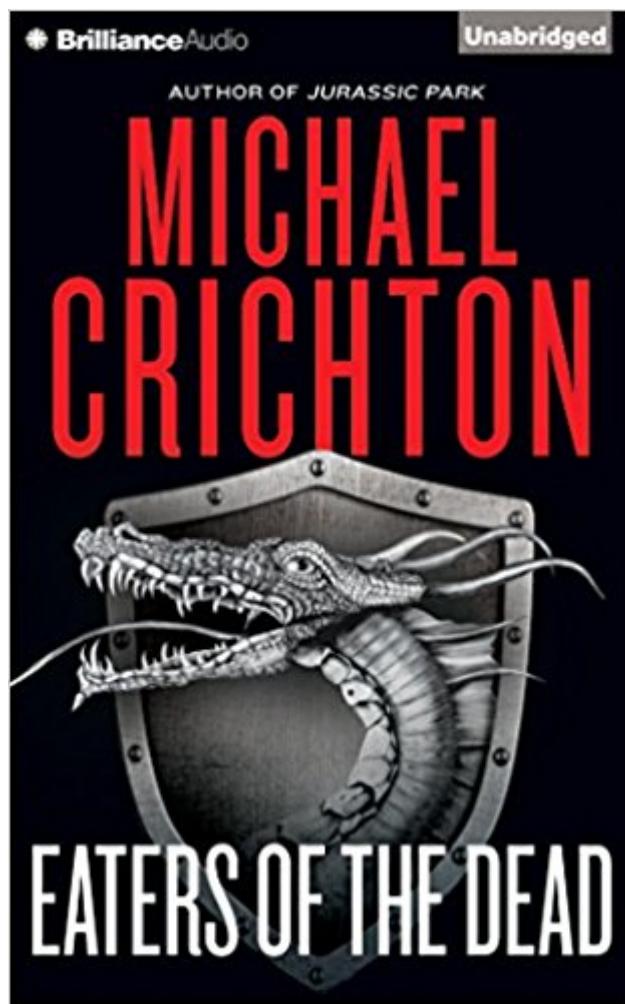


The book was found

Eaters Of The Dead



Synopsis

The year is A.D. 922. A refined Arab courtier, representative of the powerful Caliph of Baghdad, encounters a party of Viking warriors who are journeying to the barbaric North. He is appalled by their Viking customsâ "the wanton sexuality of their pale, angular women, their disregard for cleanlinessâ |their cold-blooded human sacrifices. But it is not until they reach the depths of the Northland that the courtier learns the horrifying and inescapable truth: he has been enlisted by these savage, inscrutable warriors to help combat a terror that plagues themâ "a monstrosity that emerges under cover of night to slaughter the Vikings and devour their flesh.â |Eaters of the Dead was adapted to the screen as The 13th Warrior, starring Antonio Banderas.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Michael Crichton takes the listener on a one-thousand-year-old journey in his adventure novel Eaters Of The Dead. This remarkable true story originated from actual journal entries of an Arab man who traveled with a group of Vikings throughout northern Europe. In 922 A.D, Ibn Fadlan, a devout Muslim, left his home in Baghdad on a mission to the King of Saqaliba. During his journey, he meets various groups of "barbarians" who have poor hygiene and gorge themselves on food, alcohol and sex. For Fadlan, his new traveling companions are a far stretch from society in the sophisticated "City of Peace." The conservative and slightly critical man describes the Vikings as "tall as palm trees with florid and ruddy complexions." Fadlan is astonished by their lustful aggression and their apathy towards death. He witnesses everything from group orgies to violent funeral ceremonies. Despite the language and cultural barriers, Ibn Fadlan is welcomed into the

clan. The leader of the group, Buliwyf (who can communicate in Latin) takes Fadlan under his wing. Without warning, the chieftain is ordered to haul his warriors back to Scandinavia to save his people from the "monsters of the mist." Ibn Fadlan follows the clan and must rise to the occasion in the battle of his life.--Gina Kaysen --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

âœCrichton knows how to craft a tale, one that keeps the reader turning the pages.â • (Houston Chronicle)âœMichael Crichton is one of our most gifted popular novelists. A true son of Jules Verne and H.G. Wellsâ|. A master of plausible and frightening scenariosâ|. He is a connoisseur of catastrophe.â • (Los Angeles Times)Praise for PREY: âœCrichton is a master storyteller.â • (Detroit News)âœCrichton writes superblyâ|the excitement rises with each page.â • (Chicago Tribune)âœOne of the great storytellers of our ageâ|What an amazing imagination.â • (New York Newsday)âœReaders turn to Michael Crichtonâ™s novels for entertainment with relentless drive.â • (San Antonio Express-News)âœCrichtonâ™s books [are]â|hugely entertaining.â • (New York Times Book Review)âœLike Stephen King, like Robert Ludlum, Crichton knows how to keep a story moving. He writes with an undeniable narrative energy.â • (Chicago Sun-Times) --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Several months ago one of my cyber-friends wrote a review on "The 13th Warrior" and invited me to see the movie. After reading the book it was based on, Michel Crichton's "Eaters of The Dead," I watched the movie. The movie was a financial disaster, losing over 100 million at the box office; I enjoyed both the movie and the book. For the most part, the movie stuck to the text; however, as always, I would recommend reading the novel first. While Crichton markets the book as fiction, it is based on the 300 year old translations of, Ahmad Ibn Fadlan's 921 A.D. eyewitness account of his travels from Bagdad to Russia and contact with the Vikings. As a result of a dare, Crichton's set out to prove that epic poem, "Beowulf" was based on actual events. The plan was to strip away fiction from fact to get to the bottom of it. Realizing that had been exposed to Ibn Fadlan's documentation of Viking life and culture. Accordingly, he put together this scholarly yet interesting story from Ibn's viewpoint. On an emissary mission assigned him by a Muslim ruler of Bagdad, Ibn came upon a group of Warrior Vikings who king had passed away. While at their camp, a Nobel messenger from King Hrothgar relayed that the King was under attack from a beastly tribe of mist demons. A soothsayer (angel of death) set in motion the selection of 12 Viking Warriors and a foreigner as the rescuers. Conscripted, Ibn reluctantly joined the 12 Warriors, led by Buliwyf to do battle with the mysterious "Mist Monsters" against all odds in an attempt to save the Kingdom. While the movie,

stars Antonio Banderas, who plays the part of Ibn Fadlan and Vladimir Kulich as Buliwyf and Omar Sharif with a small part as Melchisidek, Ibn's interpreter, I recommend that you read this short, 186-page action adventure prior to watching the movie. Enjoy!

Based on the writings of Ibn Fadlan (the first three chapters are Fadlans own from 922 A.D.) Crichton continues writing as though he is Fadlan, taking the reader into the land of the Vikings on a Heroes mission to take on an ancient enemy that comes out of the mist. Clever use of history and fiction. I thoroughly enjoyed this tale.

Being one of the Asatru faith (that of the Vikings) I found this book to be very informative in both their culture and beliefs and having it written by someone who witnessed it personally makes it even more informative since they leave nothing to the imagination. Overall Eaters Of The Dead is a very good book and I recommend it to anyone.

I cannot believe this little gem inspired the 13th Warrior! What a FANTASTIC book and worth reading. Based upon numerous historical documents from throughout the ancient world. A job well done by the late Crichton wading through the mire of scholarly debacle concerning the witness of Norse culture during this time period through the eyes of a Muslim.

I was thrilled to see this book in print once more. My copy has been read, shared, and read again; it's worn so I snapped up a second copy. Don't miss your chance to own it. This book is based upon surviving fragments of Ibn Fadlan's journal written while he lived among the Northmen--Vikings, often thought to be barbaric, quite primitive, all brawn with small brains. A fine professor translated the fragments of Fadlan's journal, and Crichton learned of them while studying in college. He turned the translated fragments into a novel that tells of the unrepentant warrior nature of these men, but also tells of their courage, brotherhood, and loyalty. They were more than bullies and bruisers. Read Crichton's foreword and afterword, but above all, enjoy the story of Buliwyf, a mirror image of Beowulf, the English epic poem read in most high schools year after year after year. The book is a good action tale, and it's a lesson in another pocket of the Western world.

The book starts off weird like you where reading a real translation of an old document, once you get used to the writing the story is amazing and right in line with what you expect from Michael Crichtons work. Only wish I knew about this years ago

Very interesting, as all of Mr. Crichton's books are, but...hard to read. I love history, and am fully aware of the way women were treated through the years, but I found it very hard to read in such detail how these women were treated.

While this book is very good, I recommend reading it and then watching the film The 13th Warrior. In my opinion, the film handles a few things better but the book is definitely less anachronistic in its choices. The novel is written to be like a historical manuscript, actually using at points pieces of the actual manuscript of the historical person (and main character) of Ibn Fadlan. My only real issues with the novel was that the sense of dread the Northmen feel towards the Wendol is never really felt by the reader, whereas in the film it's much more present. Then again, this is coming from someone who only recently read the novel after years of seeing the film several times.

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