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The Tides of War

Jürgen the Sword-Bearer, vampiric warlord of Germany, has his future riding on a push into the pagan lands of Livonia. There he faces the Gāngrel warlord who has already brought an ancient low and the secret machinations of the dread Cainite Heresy. But his greatest enemy may be his own passions—his lust for power, his need for recognition, and his longing for the Toreador beauty Rosamund.

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Praise for the Dark Ages Clan Novel Series

"[Dark Ages: Nosferatu is] very mature, very intelligent, and it expects and rewards the same in its reader. This is the sort of good, solid tone that can make a reader a better writer. Fleming takes pains to demonstrate that this is not just another vampire novel, this is a Dark Ages novel, and does so without lecturing us. There are few who can do something like that."

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"Dark Ages: Cappadocian is, more than anything else, that wonderful combination of fascinating and fun. You'll be amazed at how well the seemingly disparate ends tie together, you'll meet beautifully created characters who all make sense (considering their individual positions and needs), and you'll love the story Andrew Bates has brought alive with his talent and humor. Cappadocian is topflight vampire literature and... I can't wait for the next installment to come out."

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—Detra Fitch, Huntress Book Reviews

"The atmosphere is thick and tense as the story begins, coiled like a caged animal ready to spring. ...In Ravnos, Sarah Roark blends passion, faith and intrigue into an intoxicating brew any reader would greedily drink down. This book caught my interest from the first page and never let go. The level of detail given even minor characters was truly impressive, the more so for being accomplished in just a few lines."

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Dark Ages VENTRUE



Matthew McFarland

AD 1232

Twelfth of the Dark Ages Clan Novels

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What Has Come Before

It is the year 1232, and decades of warfare and intrigue continue among the living and the dead. The Teutonic Knights and Sword-Brothers have embarked on campaigns to conquer and convert pagan Prussia and Livonia, spreading the crusading zeal into new lands. Bloodshed has, as always, followed in its wake.

Away from the eyes of the living, in the shadowy world of the undead, these crusades have dark echoes. The powerful Saxon vampire Jürgen of Magdeburg shares the Teutons' zeal and leads the so-called Brotherhood of the Black Cross, a secret order within both the Teutonic Knights and Livonian Sword-Brothers. He is determined to expand his domain into Livonia, using the banner of Christianity to increase his holdings. Last year he sent his guest-*cum*-rival Alexander to lead the conquest on his behalf, but that mighty vampire fell before the vampiric chieftain Qarakh, who leads a band of pagan blood-drinkers in alliance with Deverra, a blood sorceress and unliving priestess of the pagan god Telyavel. Qarakh's might in battle and Deverra's witchery together brought ancient Alexander low. To eliminate the threat of Deverra, Jürgen turned to Jervais bani Tremere, a blood sorcerer of ill repute.

Now only the Gangrel chieftain, strengthened by Alexander's stolen blood, remains between Jürgen and the conquest of Livonia. But Jürgen's heart weighs heavy at this time of potential victory, for Alexander was more than a political rival, he was betrothed to Rosamund of Islington, an ambassador of the Toreador clan. Rosamund and Jürgen have circled each other for years now, mutual affection, predatory desire, and even courtly love mixing into a heady brew. Can he find victory in Livonia and finally take Rosamund to be his own?