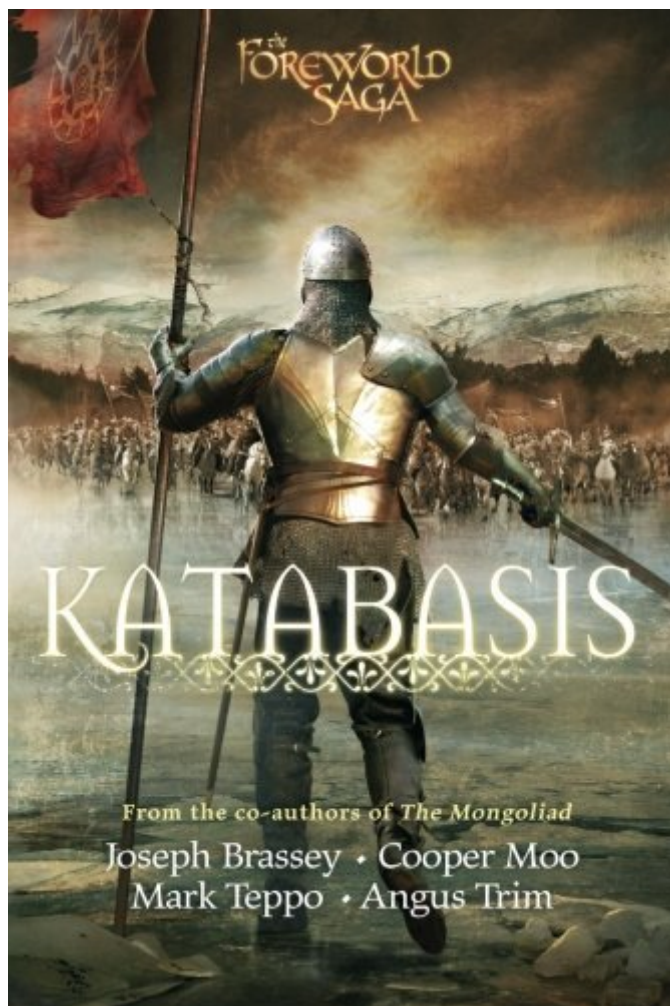


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Katabasis (The Mongoliad Series Book 4)



Synopsis

The death of the fearsome Āgedei Khan has brought the Mongol invasion of the West to an abrupt halt. Exhausted, plagued by uncertainty and self-doubt, and reeling from betrayal by one of their own, the surviving Shield-Brethren struggle across a frozen, shattered wasteland to return home after their desperate battle in Mongolia. Their mission is completeâ€”Christendom has been savedâ€”but new and terrible questions haunt each member of the company: Are they heroes or villains? Or just pawns in a larger game, trapped in a world gone mad in the wake of the unspeakable devastation visited upon it by the Mongol horde? And most poignant of all, whereâ€”and whatâ€”is â€œhomeâ€”now, and what will be their place in the world they fought to defend? Katabasis, a new novel in the acclaimed Foreworld Saga, follows the survivors as they struggle to confront their own fears and decide who they truly areâ€”and whom they will ultimately serve.

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Customer Reviews

I took a long break while I was reading book three I'm the series, I think because of the Rome chapters. I didn't know until the end of that book that there was going to be a fourth. Luckily for me, I

finished reading the third a day before this one, Katabasis, was released. This time, the reading kept me engaged through the entire book. I particularly enjoy the technicality of the fighting and the descriptions of the tactics. Also, considering how many authors are working on the books, it never feels like a hodge podge of clashing styles.

Following in the well written form established in the previous books of the Mongoliad Cycle, Katabasis flows across across the land, always pulling our our imagination and wonder to new levels without stepping beyond the edge of what might be plausible. (If you have not read the previous books of the "cycle", you will find this book all the more enjoyable by reading them before diving deeply into this adventure tome.) You will invariably find yourself holding your breath as this saga brings resolution to story lines that have left hanging while providing unexpected twists and changes in the outcome you may have expected. This book does not disappoint. A very good read that has kept me up long after I intended to be in bed, all without regrets.

This book was pretty good. Although it doesn't pick up any of the threads from the politics of the aftermath of selecting a new pope or the deal of what may be the Holy Grail, it does finish out the after affects of what was the beginning of the previous trilogy of book and focuses mainly on those characters. Most of their stories are tied up nicely even while one final battle is built to. And what has become the norm for the Foreworld saga, a bit of supernaturalism is added to the mix, with and old which and the mystery of the Spirit Banner of the Khan's. As there is on last book in this series that deals with the Grail, I would still say pick this one up it was an enjoyable read.

I'm not a huge reader, but I'm a fan of Neal Stephenson. I started the Mongoliad series, not knowing if I'd really be into it. By the time I finished #2, I was well hooked, and bought books 3 and 4 at the same time. Although Book 4 picks up right where Book 3 left off, I noticed it definitely had a different feel. I noticed later that Neal Stephenson wasn't involved in this book (or at least he's not listed as one of the authors). That was a little bit of a let down. That said, I did really enjoy reading it and keeping up with the characters that I'd come to love over the course of the previous three books. I'd recommend it if you enjoyed the first three.

This book held my interest all the way through. It is a good read that has believable characters and a good story line. I highly recommend it.

This series is entertaining, but pushes the bounds of the plausible even for fantasy. Time and again one or two armored knights on heavy horses take on hundreds of skilled archers on nimble horses, and every time the archers get killed. Except for one archer, who is old and crippled, who by himself repeatedly takes down these same knights. Come on... I was also disappointed that some of the cool characters from prior books did not make an appearance in this one. Is there another book around the corner? It didn't seem like it. So what's the point of introducing and building up certain characters and then just forgetting about them? I think our authors lost their focus. For all that, it wasn't a disappointment. It just wasn't as good as it easily could have been.

Outstanding! This is (woefully) the end of a spectacular series and I highly recommend this series (4 books) to anyone with a love of medieval history novels. I waited for this one a long while and it was well worth the wait. Now that I have all 4 of the books, I will likely go back to the first one and re-read the series. Kudos to all the contributing authors!

A continuation of the excellent series with most of the same characters. It will help if you have read at least some of the prior novels. The historical accuracy and timing of events are mostly real, with the fictional characters bringing it all to life. Imagine trekking across the bleak wilderness of Russia & Mongolia with a bunch of Mongols chasing you after killing their Kan? This series will define for you more than any other novel, the invasion of Europe by the Mongols hordes and how peoples of the West tried to beat them back and survive.

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