



Brotherhood of the Wolf: Volume Two of 'The Runelords'

By David Farland

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Volume Two of *The Runelords*

Raj Ahtan, ruler of Indhopal, has used enough forcibles to transform himself into the ultimate warrior: The Sum of All Men. Ahtan seeks to bring all of humanity under his rule-destroying anything and anyone that stood in his path, including many friends and allies of young Prince Gaborn Val Orden. But Gaborn has fulfilled a two-thousand-year-old prophecy, becoming the Earth King-a mythic figure who can unleash the forces of the Earth itself.

And now the struggle continues. Gaborn has managed to drive off Raj Ahtan, but Ahtan is far from defeated. Striking at far-flung cities and fortresses and killing dedicats, Ahtan seeks to draw out the Earth King from his seat of power, to crush him. But as they weaken each other's forces in battle, the armies of an ancient and implacable inhuman enemy issue forth from the very bowels of the Earth.

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

David Farland's "Runelords" fantasy sequence began in 1998 with *The Sum of All Men*, a career-relaunch novel whose sales far outstripped earlier SF published under his real name Dave Wolverton. Runelords are supermen whose strength, stamina, and vision, and other physical abilities are multiplied by magical "endowments" transferred from unfortunate donors who are crippled by their loss: the archvillain in the story is virtually invincible thanks to tens of thousands of endowments.

This second book avoids middle-volume doldrums by introducing a vast onslaught of still tougher and memorably unpleasant nonhumans who even the villains must oppose. Meanwhile, various characters skirmish on different parts of the map, and the hero struggles with unreliable powers conferred on him when he was chosen as Earth King to save the land and humanity--or maybe only a tiny part of each.

Farland maintains a steady flow of new situations, reversals, gambits, and surprises ... it's a real shock when one chap who has incurred a dreadful penalty for virtuous reasons is not spared (as expected in the normal chivalry of fantasyland) but rather pays the full, eye-watering price. One small criticism: the writing contains occasional sloppiness and repetition. Nonetheless, this is a rousing, painfully gripping story. --*David Langford, Amazon.co.uk*

From Publishers Weekly

Continuing the fantasy saga he began with *The Runelords*, Farland's latest novel takes place immediately after its predecessor, and in the same quasi-medieval world. Earth King Gaborn and his rival, Raj Ahten, continue their deadly war until reaversAgruesome crab-shaped elephants with formidable magical powersAcompel them to join forces against a common enemy. Amid all the battles and intrigues, Farland explores the political and ethical dilemmas created by the rune system of magic, in which runes can transfer "endowments" of various qualities, such as glamour or wit, from one human to anotherAoften leaving the donor crippled or dead. In addition, Farland interweaves, with mixed success, several subplots, the best of which concerns the long journey of Averen, a nine-year-old girl who is traveling in the company of Baron Poll, Roland the Dedicate and a green-skinned wylde, a woman of potent magic able to literally eat a reaver for dinner. Also auspicious is the off-again, on-again courtship of the drunken Prince Celinor and the formidable Princess Erin. Farland's action-packed climax is gripping, even if it involves too much luck. Though not yet in the first tier for narrative technique, world-building or characterization, Farland continues to show considerable promise, suggesting that his next novel may carry the *Runelords* to a yet higher level in the fantasy pantheon.

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From [Booklist](#)

The sequel to *The Runelords* is as strong in characterization, setting, and action, including bloody battles and gruesome deaths. Newly crowned as the earth king, young Gaborn Val Orden labors to understand his new powers in order to face threats on two fronts. First, the defeated Raj Ahten is back, possessing even more personality and physical endowments than before, taken from perhaps 20,000 people, and wanting to destroy the earth king. The other threat is even greater: the emergence from the bowels of the earth of a multitude of reavers--huge, lethal monsters that slaughter indiscriminately and follow a scorched-earth policy. Led by a reaver mage, the horde means to build a new home, a process that will destroy the land, soil and all, and every human artifact. Only if Gaborn can convince Raj Ahten to join forces with him is there any hope of

prevailing against the reavers. Out of this arises the Brotherhood of the Wolf, which, armed with the endowments of dogs, swears fealty to humanity and the earth. *Sally Estes*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Gary Lopez:

This Brotherhood of the Wolf: Volume Two of 'The Runelords' book is simply not ordinary book, you have after that it the world is in your hands. The benefit you will get by reading this book is definitely information inside this book incredible fresh, you will get information which is getting deeper you actually read a lot of information you will get. That Brotherhood of the Wolf: Volume Two of 'The Runelords' without we comprehend teach the one who reading it become critical in considering and analyzing. Don't become worry Brotherhood of the Wolf: Volume Two of 'The Runelords' can bring once you are and not make your case space or bookshelves' turn into full because you can have it in your lovely laptop even cellphone. This Brotherhood of the Wolf: Volume Two of 'The Runelords' having very good arrangement in word and layout, so you will not sense uninterested in reading.

Joseph Cosgrove:

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Omar Lamm:

Playing with family in a park, coming to see the water world or hanging out with pals is thing that usually you could have done when you have spare time, subsequently why you don't try thing that really opposite from that. A single activity that make you not sensation tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you already been ride on and with addition info. Even you love Brotherhood of the Wolf: Volume Two of 'The Runelords', you can enjoy both. It is excellent combination right, you still desire to miss it? What kind of hang-out type is it? Oh can happen its mind hangout people. What? Still don't obtain it, oh come on its identified as reading friends.

Dallas Richardson:

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