



The Epic of Gilgamesh

Glen Setchfield

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King Gilgamesh, in the cradle of civilization (3500 B.C), wrestles with the fact that he is two-thirds god and one-third man. The gods have granted him Herculean power and wit but withheld his wish for immortality. Gilgamesh will do anything to bring the Heavens to the Underworld. The gods intercede with a great man-beast challenger from the forest to quell the raging king. This sweeping epic of visceral violence and power also pits the Great King Gilgamesh against The Bull of Heaven and Humbaba, the Protector of The Cedar Forest.

Gilgamesh is the goring wild bull, in all of us, seeking control or relevance at the expense of others or even ourselves. What he learns of life, love and happiness is relevant to all of us. Most importantly, his story is one of the first recorded in human history...and reminds us that our forefathers may have seen life with a greater clarity than our own.

This treatment, for the first time, imagines the classic Gilgamesh story for a modern day audience. Researched and crafted by R. Glen Setchfield, the basis of this book was a number of short English translations of the original cuneiform tablets. Exhaustive anthropological research surrounding the pieces of cuneiform stone tablets were also the basis for this story. In the end, this adaptation faithfully expands upon the original folk tale's themes.

Characters, scenes, action and dialogue have all been added to round out the author's interest in communicating the themes still relevant to a modern day audience fascinated with youth, immortality, control and interpersonal/social relevance.

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