

Hunting the Ghost Dancer

A.A. Attanasio

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In fog-laced primeval forests during a dark age steeped in mystery and magic, a desperate quest is launched by two young survivors of a doomed coastal tribe. Timov and Hamr fearfully stalk the vast unknown to hunt the powerful, mystical ghost dancer, and they ultimately face the choices of the ages. "Vivid, eloquent. . .".--Locus.

Hunting the Ghost Dancer Details


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Author : A.A. Attanasio

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From Reader Review Hunting the Ghost Dancer for online ebook

Libby Bacon says

The story of how Neanderthals became extinct at the hands of the smaller but cunning Homo Sapiens. It's a sad but gripping fantasy and it made me wonder what really happened.....

Hamda says

A story about cavemen and how homo sapiens made it.... I think.

The world building here is confusing and makes it hard to follow the tale. One minute superstition rules the day with tales of ghosts, evil spirits and priestesses.

Then this is mocked as superstitious nonsense by a witch that used hallucinogenic plants to get that "vision"

A tribe of fishermen seemed to specialize in hunting? Maybe?

The women are treated as the better of the sexes but we are never told why. They don't hunt or have any unique skills, infact they depend on the men for everything except child bearing so the female empowerment message rings false.

There are a number of tribes here yet nothing sets one apart from the other except the reader being told this guy is from so-so tribe and that one is from so-so tribe.

Are they at war? Is one richer? what's the difference between them if they all live together?

One of the men attempts the hero's journey but the world around him is structured just to appose him even though it goes against their own interests which makes no sense.

I wish I could have liked this better. There is a good story in here struggling to sparkle. Sadly the world building let it down.

J R Deveau says

Not my normal style of book. Interesting though.

Sadie says

What a great read - a glimpse of life 50,000 years ago.

Bosley says

Pretty good, a little slow paced, about 1/2 through.

Rich Zowaski says

Another fantastic tale from acclaimed author: Attanasio. Al's books whisk one away to fantastic adventures and always give the reader something to think about. Truly a wonderful story!

Andrea Hall says

Loved loved loved! I read this book as a teenager. As a 20 something I found it in a second hand book shop- hard copy in pristine condition. Read it again and it was like watching a movie in my mind. I would love to see this made into a movie. It is the one book I would save if the house was on fire.

Bryn Hammond says

The most interesting prehistoric fiction I've read. Adventurous, but with a great deal of speculation about prehistoric society and religion. The last Neanderthal -- although he does terrorize the new humans who have tried to eradicate his people (except for the 'witches' who protect the Old People for their spirituality) -- is a sad and sympathetic character. Indeed there are no bad guys but greyscale and damaged people. Anyone who wants a high status for prehistoric women won't need to avoid this book. It's lovingly written, descriptive and evocative. Both interesting and involving. Five stars, and I'll certainly follow him into other books.

Graeme Barley says

A mesmerizing journey through a world long ago.

This book impressed me so much that it was an easy choice for my first Kindle read. The sad passing of the Neanderthals at the hands of Homo Sapiens and our loss of direct communication with a spiritual dimension that should have been our common heritage is an enthralling read.

Patricia Kaniasty says

Wow! I never thought I would get to the end of this story. It was good but a little hard to understand at times. There is a lot of symbolic imagery going on throughout the story. At times I could not tell if these people

were from the past or the future. Their knowledge of space seemed to be very far advanced for what they were. The adventure parts were exciting and kept me on my feet. I loved the relationship that developed between Baat and Duru.

Salam Tims says

Hunting the Ghost Dancer is an exciting and wonderful adventure set at the dawn of human life, when our species were hunter-gatherers sharing the world with dwindling numbers of our Neanderthal “cousins”. The characters are vividly drawn and stay with you long after the story is over. The story is an epic adventure in which surviving members of an enslaved clan seek a new life in the northern forests and tundra where they encounter a “Ghost Dancer”, maybe the last of his kind, a giant mystical Neanderthal who channels spirits – light and dark – who dwell in the planet’s magnetic field. His quest for a place among the spirits of light, aided and accompanied by a young human female, informs much of the story. I’ve read this novel maybe least half a dozen times. Like all great tales, it never gets old. A.A. Attanasio writes high adventure in lyrical language that lifts the spirit of the reader even as it entertains and enchants. If you’ve not read his books yet, you have a great adventure awaiting you...

Thomas says

A fictional story of one of the last of the Neanderthals, a favorite of mine from many years ago. Still love it, though it's probably not entirely accurate. FICTION.

Derek says

I really enjoy this author. This story is set in the past in the days of the last (I believe) Neanderthal and his associations with a tribe of humans.

Without giving too much away, many of the author's concepts of the supernatural in this book are given in much greater detail in his later Arthurian Legend Series.
