



Bonnier Norsk forlag 2022
456 pages
Original title: *Metusalem-prosjekt*
ISBN: 9788234705717

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Tom Egeland

The Metusalem Project

Who was Odin, really? And who were the mysterious giants mentioned in the Old Testament? In the tenth Bjørn Beltø novel, the antihero embarks on a quest to uncover Odin's origin.

Beltø leads the excavation of a Viking grave at a Norwegian chieftain's seat when they find a skeleton that doesn't belong in the grave. Alongside him is his daughter, Angelina. It turns out they've stumbled upon a mystery that connects ancient biblical myths and Norse mythology. An old monk writes the most important chronicle of his life. The scribe monk was a thrall and followed Leif Erikson on his journey to Vinland. He later converted to Christianity and learned to write. The chronicle is, in reality, a mission from a cardinal in the Vatican, who receives his command from the Pope. In other words, it's a secret report to the Holy Father about the storyteller's encounter with a man whom the Vatican suspects to be Satan.

Tom Egeland

Tom Egeland (b. 1959) is the author of the bestselling series about archaeologist Bjørn Beltø and a number of standalone crime novels. He is translated into 25 languages and has received numerous Norwegian literary prizes, including Rivertonprisen for best crime novel (*Gospel of Lucifer*) and Riksmålsforbundets Literary Award (*The Devil's Mask*). His novel *Night of the Wolf* became both a movie and a TV series. Egeland has been president of the Norwegian Crime Writers' Association (Rivertonklubben) and a board member of the Norwegian Authors' Union for ten years. He has also been a book critic for the Norwegian newspaper VG.



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