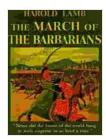
# The March of the Barbarians: A Journey Through Europe's Darkest Age



#### The March of the Barbarians by Harold Lamb

★★★★★ 4.8 out of 5
Language : English
File size : 5009 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting: Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 499 pages



The March of the Barbarians is a journey through Europe's darkest age, a time of violence, upheaval, and change. From the collapse of the Roman Empire to the rise of Charlemagne, this book tells the story of the barbarians who shaped the course of European history.

The barbarians were a diverse group of peoples who came from all over Europe and Asia. They were not a single, unified force, but rather a collection of tribes and nations with their own unique cultures and languages. However, they shared a common goal: to overthrow the Roman Empire and establish their own kingdoms.

The Roman Empire was a vast and powerful empire that had ruled Europe for centuries. However, it was weakened by a series of internal problems, including economic inequality, political corruption, and military

overextension. In the 5th century AD, the empire was finally overrun by the barbarians.

The collapse of the Roman Empire was a major turning point in European history. It marked the end of the ancient world and the beginning of the Middle Ages. The barbarians who overthrew the empire established their own kingdoms, which would eventually become the nations of Europe.

The March of the Barbarians is a fascinating and informative book that tells the story of this tumultuous period in European history. It is a must-read for anyone who wants to understand the roots of modern Europe.

#### The Barbarians

The barbarians were a diverse group of peoples who came from all over Europe and Asia. They included the Goths, the Vandals, the Huns, the Franks, and the Saxons. Each of these groups had its own unique culture and language, but they shared a common goal: to overthrow the Roman Empire and establish their own kingdoms.

The barbarians were often portrayed as savage and uncivilized by the Romans. However, this was a stereotype that was often used to justify Roman aggression. In reality, the barbarians were a complex and sophisticated people. They had their own laws, religions, and art forms. They were also skilled warriors who were able to defeat the Roman legions.

The barbarians played a major role in shaping the course of European history. They overthrew the Roman Empire and established their own kingdoms, which would eventually become the nations of Europe. They

also introduced new technologies and ideas to Europe, which helped to shape the development of Western civilization.

## The Collapse of the Roman Empire

The Roman Empire was a vast and powerful empire that had ruled Europe for centuries. However, it was weakened by a series of internal problems, including economic inequality, political corruption, and military overextension. In the 5th century AD, the empire was finally overrun by the barbarians.

There were many factors that contributed to the collapse of the Roman Empire. One factor was the economic inequality that existed within the empire. The wealthy elite owned most of the land and wealth, while the majority of the population lived in poverty. This inequality led to social unrest and political instability.

Another factor that contributed to the collapse of the empire was political corruption. The Roman government was corrupt and inefficient. Officials were often bribed or bought off, and laws were not enforced fairly. This corruption led to a loss of trust in the government and a decline in public order.

Finally, the Roman Empire was weakened by military overextension. The empire had expanded too far and was unable to defend its borders effectively. The barbarians took advantage of this weakness and were able to defeat the Roman legions.

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Middle Ages. The barbarians who overthrew the empire established their own kingdoms, which would eventually become the nations of Europe.

## The Rise of Charlemagne

Charlemagne was a Frankish king who ruled from 768 to 814 AD. He was one of the most important figures in European history. Charlemagne united much of Europe under his rule and established the Carolingian Empire. He also promoted education and culture, and helped to lay the foundation for the European Renaissance.

Charlemagne was born in 742 AD to Pepin the Short, king of the Franks. Charlemagne was a skilled warrior and a gifted leader. He quickly rose to power and became king of the Franks in 768 AD.

Charlemagne's first major achievement was the conquest of the Lombards. The Lombards were a Germanic people who had invaded Italy in the 6th century AD. Charlemagne defeated the Lombards in 774 AD and established the Frankish kingdom of Italy.

Charlemagne's next major conquest was the conquest of the Saxons. The Saxons were a Germanic people who lived in northern Germany.

Charlemagne defeated the Saxons in a series of campaigns and forced them to convert to Christianity.

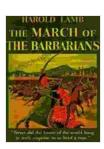
In 800 AD, Charlemagne was crowned emperor of the Holy Roman Empire by Pope Leo III. The Holy Roman Empire was a vast empire that included much of Europe. Charlemagne's empire was a major cultural and political center. He promoted education and culture, and helped to lay the foundation for the European Renaissance.

Charlemagne died in 814 AD. He was succeeded by his son, Louis the Pious. The Carolingian Empire began to decline after Charlemagne's death, but it continued to exist for several centuries.

### The Legacy of the Barbarians

The barbarians played a major role in shaping the course of European history. They overthrew the Roman Empire and established their own kingdoms, which would eventually become the nations of Europe. They also introduced new technologies and ideas to Europe, which helped to shape the development of Western civilization.

The legacy of the barbarians is still felt today. The nations of Europe are the direct descendants of the barbarian kingdoms that were established in the aftermath of the fall of the Roman Empire. The laws, customs, and traditions of Europe are all based on the foundations that were laid by the barbarians.



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