

## **Uneredit Di Avorio E Ambra**

*Tyrant* Pan Macmillan

*Pharaoh*

Valerio Massimo Manfredi's Tyrant starts in Sicily 412 BC: the infinite duel between a man and a superpower begins. The man is Dionysius, who has just made himself Tyrant of Syracuse. The superpower Carthage, mercantile megalopolis and mistress of the seas. Over the next eight years, Dionysius' brutal military conquests will strike down countless enemies and many friends to make Syracuse the most powerful Greek city west of mainland Greece. He builds the largest army of antiquity and invents horrific war machines to use against the Carthaginians, who he will fight in five wars. But who was Dionysius? Historians have condemned him as one of the most ruthless, egocentric despots. But he was also patron of the arts, a dramatist, poet and tender lover.

In Jerusalem, in 586BC, the Kingdom of Judah is on the verge of annihilation by the Babylonians. In the chaos, the Prophet Jeremiah rushes to save the sacred Ark of the Covenant. As he locates the preordained hiding place, which will make it impossible to be found, he makes a terrible discovery. The Middle East, in the early 2000s: William Blake, a renowned Egyptologist has been called in to oversee the discovery of an amazing, magnificent and strange tomb of a Pharaoh many miles from the Valley of the Kings, located in a militarily sensitive spot. His research will lead him to an amazing and world shattering discovery concerning Moses and the tribes of the Israelites and their flight from the land of Egypt.

*The Oracle*

Valerio Massimo Manfredi's The Oracle is a modern thriller inspired by an ancient prophecy. 1973. Professor Periklis Harvatis, working alone and late into the night on an important archaeological dig, unearths a magnificent golden vase upon which the enigmatic images of a long-lost second Odyssey are engraved, showing the mystery of Ulysses' final voyage. But in the very same chamber, the Professor sees something so frightening that less than seven hours later he dies . . . but not before he has ensured the safety of the vase. Ten years later, a series of gruesome deaths connected to the rape and murder during the student protests in Athens of a Greek woman, on the same night as Professor Harvatis's discovery, is perplexing the authorities. Each atrocity is accompanied by a dire quotation from the ancient sources, exposing an ingeniously cruel mind. Who is behind these murders? How are these two events connected? And what is the significance of the age-old prophecy of the Odyssey?

*Tyrant*