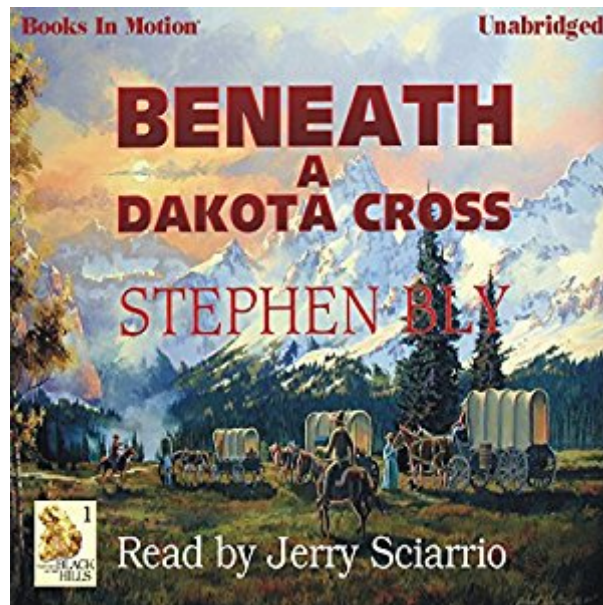


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Beneath A Dakota Cross: Fortunes Of The Black Hills, Book 1



Synopsis

In search of a new life out West, Brazos' fortune finds his family endangered by the very quest he hoped would save them. With these simple words, Brazos Fortune sets out on his journey in the first of Stephen Bly's new Fortunes of the Black Hills series. When locals threaten the lives and property of his family, Brazos abandons his Texas homestead for a new ranch in the West he has seen in a dream. It's a war against corrupt lawmen, wild outlaws, and bitter winter weather as Brazos wrestles with his newfound hunger for gold and the burning desire to be reunited with his family. He must test himself against the untamed frontier, confront the greedy miners who try his Christian convictions, and find the new home God showed him Beneath a Dakota Cross.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 7 hours and 8 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Books in Motion

Audible.com Release Date: November 20, 2008

Whispersync for Voice: Ready

Language: English

ASIN: B001LV3UQI

Best Sellers Rank: #93 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Genre Fiction > Religious & Inspirational > Western #308 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Fiction & Literature > Short Stories #308 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Fiction & Literature > Religious Fiction

Customer Reviews

This was the first book I've read by Stephen Bly, and I am more than anxious to read the next in the series. As a former resident of the Black Hills, I found Bly's descriptions of the Dakota landscape accurate enough to make me homesick. His characters are well developed and sympathetic, and I especially enjoy his sparkling dialogue passages that help develop the characters and bring comic relief and a sense of camaraderie between the characters not unlike the good natured humor of a good John Wayne movie. I look forward to reading the second book in this series.

Brazos Fortune is determined to find his dream under some type of cross. However, he is forced to leave behind his youngest child, beloved Dacee. An adventurer herself, she runs away. Gold fever,

hunger and hardship mark the adventures and close calls suffered by Brazos and his friends. Bly certainly does a good job of painting the surroundings clearly to the reader. This is the first book of the series, *Fortunes of the Black Hills*.

I really enjoy their novels; I wish they were all on the Kindle. I already have them all as paperbacks, but now I'm hooked on the Kindle and seem to want everything on that. No I don't know them personally, I'm not related and have never met them. But I sure enjoy their books. You finish feeling like good things can happen in life, and determined to live better yourself.

Brazos Fortune sets out on a journey for a new home after locals threaten the lives and property of his family. He follows a vision he receives of a Dakota cross and faces corrupt lawmen, wild outlaws, and a bitter winter as he wrestles with the temptations of gold and a burning desire to be reunited with his family. Each family member seems so real and alive. Reader is pulled in to care about what happens to them.

This was an interesting book with a lot of characters in it. I enjoyed it but it is better if you keep reading it and don't put it down..It is a book I would recommend to anyone that is interested in the gold digging times of the state, and the cheating and stealing times to get someone else's gold instead working your own strike. In this story it is also a family that comes together to help each other out. The daughter at the age of twelve comes to Deadwood looking for her dad that she hasn't seen for three or four years, she starts out alone but finds help along the way.. The only thing the one son that has turned away from the family you don't get to find out what happens to him..I hope there is another book to continue with the question of the last son!!!

This author hit the nail on my 19th century head. This story reminds me of the western writings of The Great Ones -- Zane Grey, Louis L'Amour, Elmer Kelton, etc. The characters and plot kept my attention all the way through the night on that fateful day that I began to read it.

This is a true western story of people who stuffed it out, with many men living in a true western environment with names that only can truly reflect a western life style. With a little bit of personal heart warming. This is a must read story in its frank presentation.

I enjoy reading Stephen Bly's novels. He has quirky characters populating his books that keep me

interested in what they will do and say next. This book was about finding a new start and the things the family went through getting there. I plan to read the other books in this series.

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