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SISTER OF GRENDEL

A NOVEL

SUSAN THURSTON

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In the latest epic, Grendel and his mother are mothers again by the time warrior Beowulf, in *Sister of Grendel*, has taken a different turn, told by the long witness to their brutal duels. In this powerful and poignant reimagining, Grendel has a sister, Eadwina. She and her brother are not monsters, but Norns, who possess the gift of prophecy and knowledge, great physical strength, and longevity. They live close to the natural and spiritual world, are skilled in herbal medicine, music, and magic, and are on the fringes of sleeping humans. Eadwina and Grendel are among the few of their race. Grendel's Eadwina's main trouble is that she never sheds her humanity—the laughter and tears she sheds at her mother, including a Christmas scene, a wedding, even, and a shocking death.

"Sister of Grendel is a marvel of storytelling, as well as a haunting evocation of memory and loss, as well as a powerful and poignant reimagining of Beowulf. For 1,000 years, over 3,000 lines, this epic poem has been wrong through every possible interpretation except this one. Grendel, perhaps not as monstrous as legend has it, is a good-hearted man by a sibling, at times his conscience, protector, apologist, critic, and even occasional victim. A story told with originality and imagination, this only novel of the past as of the future, a masterpiece of the tale. I whispered, the story of Eadwina, Grendel's sister, I will never forget you."

— Neil Kessler, author of *This Thing Called Life*



Susan Thurston, author of *Sister of Grendel*, has worked for living by her pen and is a writer, editor, and publisher. She is also a mother and a daughter. She is also exploring the mysteries of the world, from the past to the future. She is also a mother and a daughter. She is also exploring the mysteries of the world, from the past to the future. She is also a mother and a daughter. She is also exploring the mysteries of the world, from the past to the future.

