



The Ice Cap and the Rift

Marshall Chamberlain

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When the shifting of tectonic plates up and down the Atlantic opens up a huge fissure in a glacier in Iceland, a long-dormant volcano is revealed and, embedded in an interior wall, a cave filled with technology that is far too advanced for the twenty-first century, let alone for the Stone Age it comes from. John Henry Morgan, new director of the UN's Institute for the Study of Unusual Phenomena (ISUP), heads out with a team to investigate. But in a world of satellite surveillance and wiretapping, nothing's really a secret, and the Americans and the Chinese both want the technology for themselves.

Marshall Chamberlain maintains a commanding breakneck pace driven by short chapters. The mystery of where the technology came from, the hint of the supernatural, the constant one-upmanship of vying world powers all make this book impossible to put down. Chamberlain excels at description, from the rain-soaked streets of Prague to the screaming void of the rift in Iceland. Much like the Indiana Jones movies the book calls to mind, the bad guys read as stereotypical baddies, with no redeeming qualities. The second book in the Ancestors Series, *The Ice Cap and the Rift* can be read and enjoyed as a stand-alone, but the experience will be improved by reading the first book, *The Mountain Place of Knowledge*. Readers will eagerly anticipate the third and final book in the series.

ALLYCE AMIDON (Winter 2015)

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