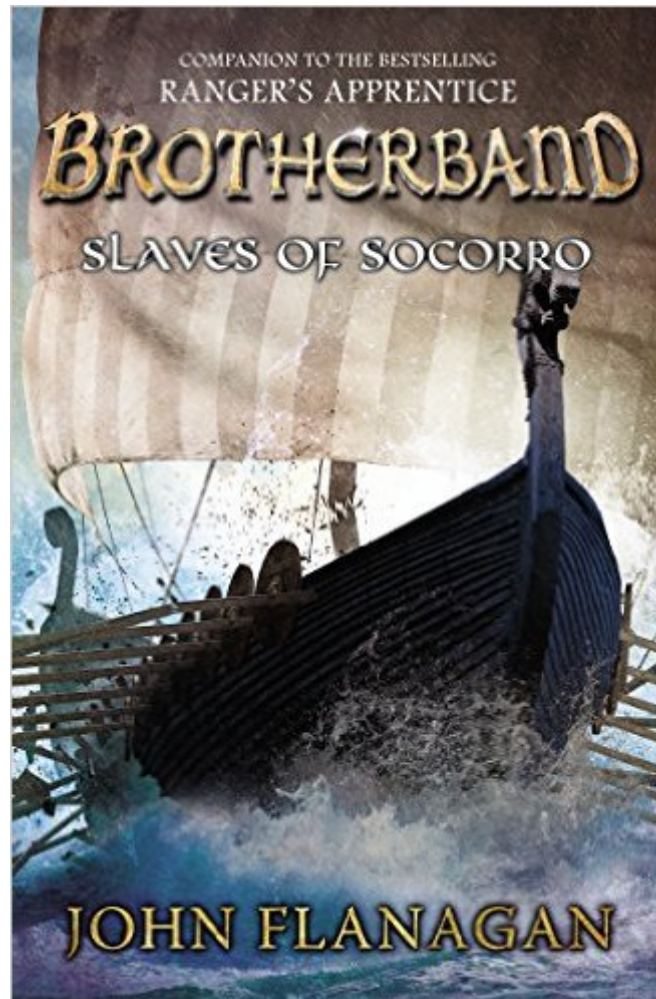


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Slaves Of Socorro (The Brotherband Chronicles)



Synopsis

The fourth installment in the New York Times bestselling Brotherband series, for fans of Lord of the Rings and Game of Thrones! Hal and his fellow Herons have returned home to Skandia after defeating the pirate captain Zavac and reclaiming Skandia's most prized artifact, the Andomal. With their honor restored, the Herons turn to a new mission: tracking down an old rival turned bitter enemy. Tursgud "leader of the Shark Brotherband and Hal's constant opponent" has turned from a bullying youth into a pirate and slave trader. After Tursgud captures twelve Araluen villagers to sell as slaves, the Heron crew sails into action . . . with the help of one of Araluen's finest Rangers!

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 0860 (What's this?)

Series: The Brotherband Chronicles (Book 4)

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Shipping Weight: 12.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars! See all reviews! (291 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #22,504 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #17 in Books > Children's Books > Cars, Trains & Things That Go > Boats & Ships #193 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Self-Esteem & Self-Respect #1035 in Books > Children's Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy & Magic

Age Range: 10 and up

Grade Level: 5 and up

Customer Reviews

5 STARS! I admit that I like to read John A. Flanagan Brotherband Chronicles and Ranger Apprentice books. I was excited to find this book was releasing today and read it. It did not disappoint at all. The Heron crew are all familiar characters from other books. Hal gets asked to take the duty ship a year service in Araluen. On the way they realize that their old foe is turning mean and becoming a pirate. As they rescue a ship he attacked and left to sink. A ranger Gilan comes with a message from the King asking the Heron's crew to the palace before they can leave they find out that Tursgud has

raided a nearby village and has taken 12 Araluen's to sell as slaves. So Gilan joins the Heron's crew to save 12 and stop Tursgud. Gilan is a familiar character if you have read the Ranger's Apprentice books. If not read them they are good. There is one other new character that joins the crew that adds a lot of humor to the story. There is lots of drama, action and humor. You are drawn into the story right away and kept there. Lots of ship talk but he has a glossary at front of book for reference. Good clean story. A book for the whole family to read and enjoy. This book could stand alone but is better if you have read the other three books in the series. I know I will be back to buy the next in the series that comes out in Dec. Scorpion Mountain. I bought this one.

A wonderful read. Mr Flanagan is to be congratulated on his stirring story well written and beautifully edited, I borrowed my first book by John Flanagan from my teenage grandson, who recommended it when I was chairbound following surgery, and I was hooked. It is so refreshing to read an exciting story that has no unnecessary violence, is written in the Queen's English and has been edited to an exemplary standard. I have now read all of the Ranger and Brotherband stories and will be keeping an eye out for the next instalment. Congratulations on including such a high quality book and thank you Mr Flanagan. More Please.

John Flanagan will always be a hero in my book (you can take the puns if you wish)--his first series is what turned my son into the reader he is today; he simply couldn't get enough. My son was very young (seven), but a very good reader when he started with R.A. I wanted to make sure he was actually reading and understanding, so we read together. What I found was not only great, clean, well written entertainment, but also a chance for my son and I to discuss good life lessons--about not always getting what you want most, about admitting mistakes and taking responsibility, being happy for your friends' accomplishments and celebrating their talents, and about being coachable and asking for help when you need it, and many more. Oddly enough, I am just as excited to see what happens in the next book of this series as my son. My son is now 12 and he has an appreciation on more levels--he enjoys history and geography. Mr. Flanagan does his homework. My son now researches things he finds interesting in the books. As a parent, I can wholeheartedly say I will never regret spending the money we have invested in these books--they've been worth every penny and then some.

Slaves of Socorro (2014) is the fourth Fantasy novel in the Brotherband series, following *The Hunters*. The initial volume in this sequence is *The Outcasts*. In the previous volume, the Heron

was once more chasing the Raven. Zavac had escaped from Limmat and sailed away. Rikard told the Heron crew that Zavac was sailing to the pirate haven at Raguza. Now Rikard was kept tied to the mast until his information is confirmed. Ingvar was shot with an arrow during the battle in Limmat. Edvin cleaned and bandaged his wound. Now he was now running a fever and getting worse. Edvin told Hal that the voyage might be worsening Ingvar's condition. The swaying of the ship might be keeping Ingvar from getting sleep. Hal decided to beach the Heron for a few days to allow Ingvar to rest. While they are camped on the beach, Rikard freed himself and ran into the dark forest. Lydia and Thorn went after him. Lydia followed his trail and showed Thorn the signs of his passage. They caught Rikard the next day. In this novel, Hal Mikkelson is the son of a Skandian father and an Araluen mother. He is very intelligent and good with his hands. Now he is the skirl -- captain -- and owner of the Heron, the first jib-rigged Skandian ship. Thorn was a shipmate of Mikkel. After Mikkel's death, the Wolfwind had encountered rough weather and he had lost his right forearm in tangled rigging. Without his right hand, Thorn could not use an axe or any other weapon. Now he has restored his confidence with a little help from the Heron crew. Stig Olafson was Hal's first friend. Hal had saved Stig from drowning in a nearby cove. Now Stig is the first mate of the Heron. Ulf and Wulf are identical twins. They like to swap names to confuse others. They are in charge of the sails on the Heron. Ingvar is a very large boy, but he is nearsighted, clumsy and very strong. Yet he is rather intelligent. Jesper and Stefan raise the yardarms for the sails. Jesper is a reformed thief and lockpicker. Stefan usually anchors the ship on beaches. Edvin is the smallest in the crew, but is the cook and medic. He may be the smartest boy in the crew. Lydia is a girl who likes weapons and hunting. She was saved by the Heron crew and is now one of the Heron crew. Anders is a shipwright. He trained Hal on shipbuilding and was Hal's advisor on the Heron. Bjarni Bentfingers is the skirl and owner of the Wolfail. Erak is the Oberjarl of Skandia. He has a longstanding treaty with the Araluens. Rolland is a Skandian. He is infatuated with Lydia. She likes him, but not in a romantic way. Galin is a King's Ranger of Araluen. He has prior experience with Skandians. In this story, Hal is advising Anders on modifying the rigging on Bjarni's wolfship. They are discussing moving the mast back to keep the bow higher. Bjarni is having doubts about re-rigging his ship. He is also worried about the youth of Hal. Erak comes by on his morning constitutional and asks permission to come aboard. He learns that Bjarni is converting his ship to jib sails. Of course, Erak wouldn't do that to his ship, but approves of others changing to the more efficient sail plan. Erak asks Hal to visit him in the afternoon. He has a task he wants Hal to accomplish. Yet he won't talk about it before their meeting. Eventually Erak leaves twirling his new cane. Hal and Anders agree on the new design and Hal returns home, but Bjarni stays with his ship. Anders finally sends Bjarni away to worry

someplace else. Meanwhile, Lydia has gone hunting to get away from Rolland. She has agreed to go to the Hay Harvest dance with him, but decides to avoid him as long as she can. She finds an old cabin in the woods and cleans up the mess. She goes out looking for game, but finds signs of a bear. She decides to return home in the morning. That night, she hears something big on the porch. She leaves at dawn. Hal also has an encounter with a large animal, but it turns out to be an alpine dog. The dog decides to adopt him. Hal calls her Kloof because that is what her bark sounds like. Hal takes Stig with him to meet Erak. The Oberjarl wants the Heron to relieve the duty ship in Araluen. It will take them away for eight months or more. Kloof likes to chew leather goods. She finds Hal's old boots and shreds them with her jaws. She also chews on wood. She destroys Erak's walking cane just before the Heron sails rather hurriedly. This tale takes the Heron to Cresthaven Bay. They meet the crew of the current duty ship and are introduced to the Cresthaven villagers. The farewell party for the current duty crew is a huge success and leaves all attendants with hangovers. The Heron crew also meet Galin in Cresthaven Bay. He is summoning them to Castle Araluen to visit the King. But a rogue Skandian ship captures twelve Araluen villagers and takes them away as slaves. The Heron chases the slave ship. The next installment in this sequence is *Scorpion Mountain*. Highly recommended for Flanagan fans and for anyone else who enjoys tales of ship handling, naval combat, and onshore raids. Read and enjoy! -Arthur W. Jordin

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