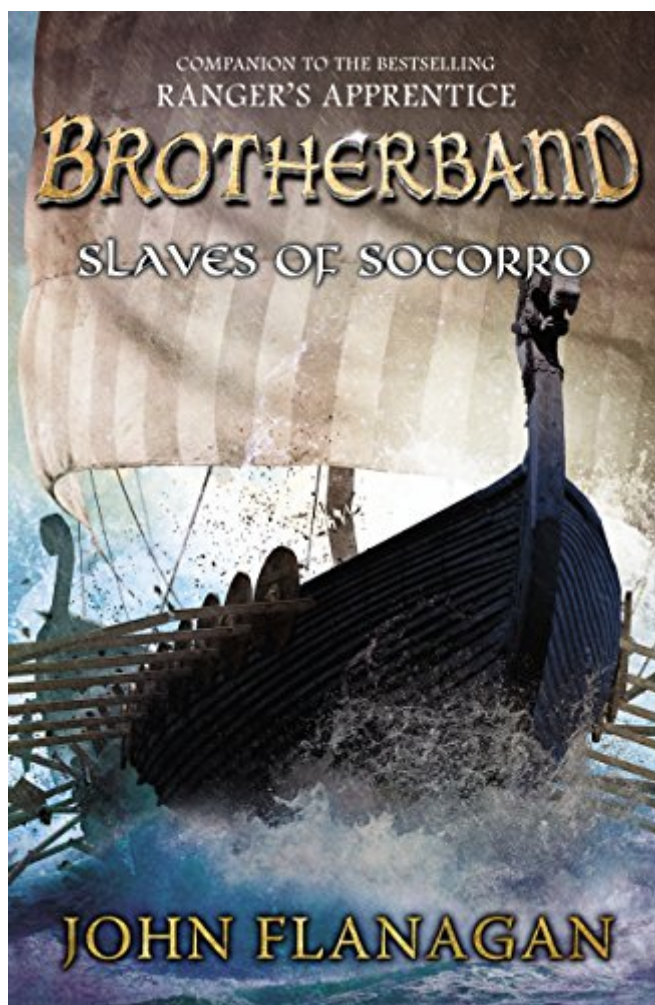


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Slaves Of Socorro (Brotherband Chronicles Book 4)



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! From the Trade Paperback edition.

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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 on .

Just finished this one, and what a good read. Some of the good points are that the story is self contained, but will continue on into the next book. John Flannagan books for me are all about the journey he takes you on. From the nights on the sea, to the planning of rescues, and the interaction between the crew members. Each has their place and add to the story. Add in the newest crew member Kloof, and bringing back a familiar face from the Rangers Apprentice. I knew it was coming but did not have an idea of who it would be. I will admit to be quite pleased with the addition for story wise, but we did not learn really anything new about the ranger yet. Mr. Flannagan has also proven at the start of this series and with several of the Ranger books that the missions are dangerous (death, injury, and things not going according to plan). This one seems to have a lot more in terms of bloody battles. New stories lines are laid into the book, but the story follows the main path and keeps you hoping for more in the next installment. Downfalls of the book: I read it way too fast and can lead to a sleepless night. I bought it when it first came out like the others, so I own too many hardcovers instead of paperbacks. Some of the conversations seemed to be missing in the book, which can lead to "What about....". Mr Flannagan has proven not to drop things for the most part although you may have to wait 10 books later for the answer or a Lost Stories to come out. I'm going to add my questions or thoughts of things here but you can stop reading as there might be spoilers in the next part. Karina and her send off of Hal and Thorn, seems that it would have had a point of conversation between those two. Not about the relationship, but about the way she sent them off. Hal had to be kind of disappointed that his mother did not fuss over him as she normally does. And would have been one of those conversations for Hal and Stig on those hours of sea to explorer. Hal is happy for Thorn, but does not mean he can not get jealous. Lydia - the talk with Rollond. It very could be that she did not talk with him and just took off. This may come back to haunt her later. The

banter aboard the ship is a lot more serious this time around. The crew has grown, but aside from Wulf and Ulf the chatter between the crew is more serious in nature. But that could be just because I hit the end to a very serious escape and have forgotten all those chats. But the crew is chastised a lot more it seems. They are good at what they do, which in the first of this series they were exploring their abilities and who would be good at what. But in this version they come off a little more arrogant, and for me this is mostly with Lydia. She is the outsider and still finding her place, but she challenges everyone (Thorn, Stig, the ranger, Hal). Hal seems to have changed the most with the weight of being a Skirl showing a lot more. Ophelia - I could see her coming back in later stories. It would have been nice if Edwin got a dance with her. He did help her quite a bit and there would have been some stories shared between them as he worked to heal her. And they are not that far apart in age. Erak - even as Oberjal, he knows where Hal was headed and the staff and axe were important to him and he can be a little quick to action. Erak showing up on the shores Araleun would not be unheard of. Hal better find some replacements, several of each otherwise there might be one less member of the Heron. The ranger needs an apprentice, he is moving up in age and the story seems to take place after the Royal Ranger.

John Flanagan once again turns out an excellent novel for any casual adventure lover. I would recommend read in the whole series, as well as the rangers apprentice series as well. The characters are excellent, it is funny, and the taste of adventure is inspiring. I give it a 4 out of 5. However, for the hardcore Flanagan fans, there are some time difference issues. In the first half of the book, the times do not match up. Gilan says that he is not yet 30, though that can't be true. The battle of ska dis happened in will's secondish year of apprenticeship, and at that time, Hal was very little, as he says. Hal is about 17 in this book, as his brother band training started at 15 and 2 years have passed since. So, let's say that a decade has passed since the war. Will is, in this book, about 27. Assuming that Gilan completed his 5 year training, he is at a minimum, 33. But. That would mean that Halt had assumed Will as his apprentice immediately after Gilan graduated. I presume that at least 3 years have passed since Gilan's apprenticeship when Will is taken on, thus raising Gilan's age to at least 35. This doesn't make it a bad book, but it is something that I noticed. Again, this is for the more intense Flanagan fans. Thanks!

In *Slaves of Socorro*, the Heron crew are sent to spend a year helping patrol Araluens. While there, a renegade Skanadian captures from Araluens and sells them as slaves. Hal and his shipmates must infiltrate the slave market and free the Araluens. This series really continues to impress me. There

was a lot of great action here, great character development, and just plain fun. The inclusion of Gilan brings some needed Araluen flair to the book. While there are the crew of Tursgud, the Araluens, and the Socorroians, the story is centermost about the Heron and her crew. It was wonderful to see the interaction between Thorn, Lydia, Hal, and the rest. The ending was somewhat expected, but done in a completely unexpected way. I really enjoyed how the author wrapped up the story with Tursgud. Overall this was a great 5 star book for me, and I'm already reading Scorpion Mountain.

Another great episode in the brother and series. Hal continues to amaze as well as the crew and dog ! Thanks to this amazing a author you cant put this book down.

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