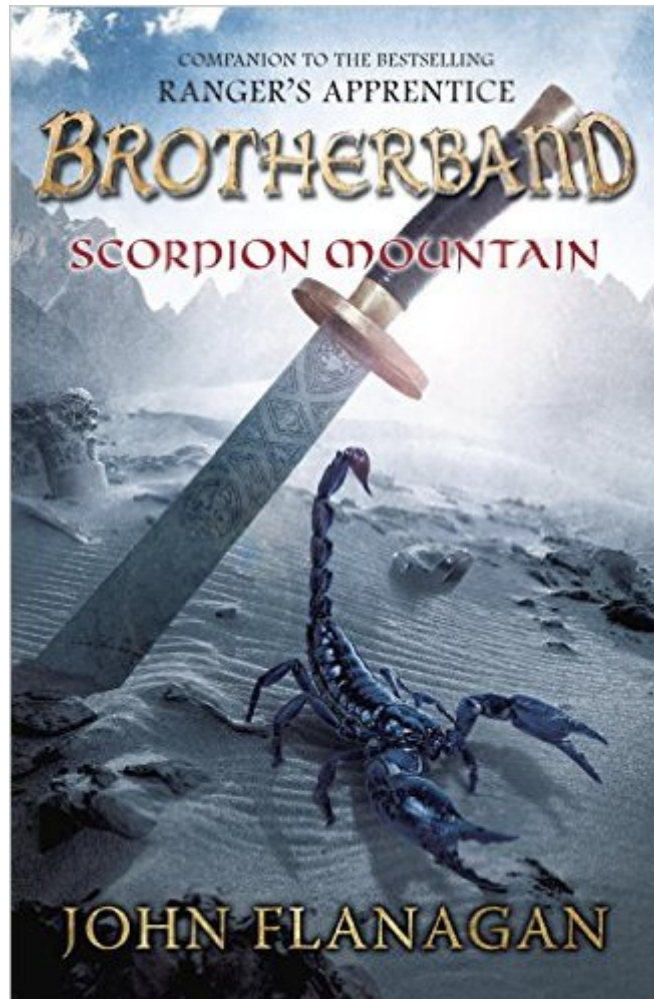


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# Scorpion Mountain (The Brotherband Chronicles)



## Synopsis

From John Flanagan, author of the worldwide bestselling *Ranger's Apprentice* -- an all-new adventure featuring the Brotherband crew and one of our favorite Rangers! Hal, his Brotherband crew, and the Ranger Gilan have freed the twelve Araluens sold into slavery. Returning to Araluen, Gilan is given a new mission by King Duncan: protect his daughter's life. Princess Cassandra has survived one attempt on her life already, and now whispers of a second attempt have reached the kingdom. A deadly sect known as the Scorpion Cult is thought to be behind the assassination threat. Not waiting to see if the knife will strike true, the Brotherband again team up with Gilan to track down the would-be killers. In this fifth book in the Brotherband Chronicles, old friends reemerge to take on new enemies as the worlds of *Ranger's Apprentice* and Brotherband join forces in battle!

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 0850 (What's this?)

Series: The Brotherband Chronicles (Book 5)

Paperback: 480 pages

Publisher: Puffin Books; Dgs Rep edition (September 8, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0142427276

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Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 1.2 x 7.8 inches

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

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars See all reviews (246 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #35,191 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #24 in Books > Children's Books > Cars, Trains & Things That Go > Boats & Ships #251 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Self-Esteem & Self-Respect #1458 in Books > Children's Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy & Magic

Age Range: 10 - 12 years

Grade Level: 5 and up

## Customer Reviews

GOOD BOOK BUT!! I wish there was another star for the rankings, because I did love this book but not as much as book 3 of Brotherband. I do not like to compare the two series, *Ranger's Apprentice* and Brotherband, because I try to separate the two as much as possible. However, I will always like

RA more but BB is still a good series. Here's my huge problem with this book, the same with book 4 "Slaves of Socorro". Flanagan is teasing us RA fans way to much!! We have three great books about a new group from a different part of Flanagan's world (Skandia) and having adventures focusing on boats and pirates, and yes I love it! Something new, something different to help me get over RA being done, but still read Flanagan's great works and still be able to live in his world. But here is the tease. He is bringing RA characters into play, but there all the secondary characters (Primary characters being Will, Halt, Horace). I would rather keep the two series completely separate or bring them together completely. I would get upset reading this book when Gilan thinks about something that Halt always use to tell him. Or when characters in Arrida say how great Will Treaty is. Flanagan gives us the secondary characters (Gilan, Cassandra, Duncan, Crowley) which I am fine with, but then Flanagan brings up the primary characters a lot and its just a tease! I believe that they are unnecessary lines in the novel and are no help to the story. Instead they just tease us RA fans. My one confusion with the book is that Flanagan messed up the timeline during this novel. BB and RA take place at the same time, which I find interesting but enjoy. The timeline is messed up because Flanagan writes that Cassandra and Horace are married, which does not happen until at the end of book 10. Duncan says that his special task force (Will, Halt, Horace) cannot handle the Scorpion Cult because they are in Hibernia handling an insurrection (the Outsiders, Book 8). So I believe that this is a mistake. I'm fine with this mistake , I'm more writing it so others who may be confused, know that there not alone. BB book 5 takes places during RA Book 8, and Horace does not propose to Cassandra until the end of book 10. PLEASE DO NOT THINK I AM DISSING FLANAGAN AND BB. I love reading these books, I get them right away when I they are released and I enjoy the books greatly. RA will always be better to me, and I simply wish that Flanagan would either keep them separate completely or bring it together completely. My last remark is from a review I read on here from someone else saying how RA missions were always more meaningful than BB missions. RA, saving Araleun from Morgorath, the Picta invasion, all being killed in Nihon-Jan. BB trying to get a Skandian artifact, then doing missions for Araleun. But here is my rebuttal to the author who said this. The Herons, the main group in BB, are on a BOAT!! What do you want Flanagan to write about? 12 people on the Heron go invade a whole country? Erak does not allow much raiding anymore, and the Herons will defiantly not be raiding I think. Also Flanagan writes about missions to protect, not to attack, so the Heron won't be going to attack somewhere else. Also, Flanagan needs to write about the boat, and naval battles, because if he does not than BB is exactly like RA just with different characters. I bet that no one wants that. So that explains why the Herons fight pirates and slave holders, because a boat will always be involved and allow for naval

battles. I am fine with the BB antagonists and enemies! Zovac was a perfect enemy who I rank right next to Tennyson (Most dangerous enemy to Ra, because he almost killed Halt). This book is another great work by Flanagan, that involves land and naval battles. The Scorpion Cult was a scary enemy, and Flanagan described them in a very scary way, which I enjoyed. I wish Gilan had a tougher duel, but that's ok. No duel will ever be as great as Horace and Morgarath. Please read this book, and read this series. It is great and I am forming a bond with all the Heron crew, just like what happened with RA. I hope the series continues and the Herons continue to help keep Flanagan's world safe from harm. Good job Flanagan! Just please stop teasing me with RA lines about Halt, Will and Horace.

I have purchased all of John Flanagan's books, Rangers Apprentice and Brotherband. I love them. The people in them are good, they try to do the right thing, not just randomly kill people like other series. I hope this isn't the end of the series. Can't wait for the next one (I hope)

Great author, this is kind of a continuation to the Rangers Apprentice series. Different story line but some of the same characters. He has a humorous writing style that my teenage boys really enjoyed reading, and they typically don't enjoy reading at all. I even enjoyed reading them when my boys were finished with them. This is a good stand alone series, but to get the full story read the Rangers Apprentice first, then this series.

"Scorpion Mountain" the fifth book in the Brotherband Chronicles picks up the story after Hal, Gilan and the Herons have freed the twelve Araluens held hostage in Sorocco. After being summoned to Castle Araluen they're given a mission to end the tolfah that threatens Princess Cassandra's life. After foiling one assassination attempt King Duncan has strengthened her guard but has ordered Ranger Gilan and the Brotherband to discover the lair of the Scorpion Cult who will continue to try and kill her. The action is fast-paced and deadly as Hal, the Ranger Gilan and the Herons engage not only the Tualagi tribe lead by Iqbal, a sinister killer who wants to avenge his brother's death, but the Scorpion Cult whose tolfah cannot be terminated until Cassandra's dead. Cleverly John Flanagan weaves a plot where suspense and tension mount as new battles begin and old friends appear in the nick of time to save the heroes. Yet amid all the chaos, suffering and violence the courage and friendship of the Brotherband shines through. Like all the characters with their complex and unforgettable natures Hal Mikkelson, the Heron's youth skirl is smart, resourceful and compassionate, although he sometimes seems distant because of his leadership role. In this tale

the genius of Hal, his inventiveness and improvisation reaches new heights with an invention shaped from the ruins of a chariot that will carry him across the desert. Lydia a deadly shot who's also skilled at observation and tracking continues to be socially awkward, only comfortable with her fellow Herons. Yet with Cassandra and other Skandian young women she begins to find like-minded spirits. Thorn the fast, agile and powerful battle leader is a tease and adds much of the humor to the tale, as do Ulf and Wulf with their argumentative spirits and competitiveness. Of all the Herons Ingvar continually grows in personality as he gains in confidence and coordination with his new spectacles. Yet, he still retains his dependability, quiet wisdom and gentle humor. As in all John Flanagan's novels it is the villains who add chilling excitement to the story like Shurmel the vengeful and arrogant high priest of Imrika; Philip Bloodyhand the repugnant, foul-tempered Hellenese corsair; and Iqbal the proud, boastful leader of the Tualaghi. I enjoyed "Scorpion Mountain" and rate it highly. The Brotherband Chronicles are not only a well-developed adventure series, but captivating from the first page to the last and I can't wait for Hal and the Herons to sail from Skandia on a new adventure.

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