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Longbow (The Saga Of Roland Inness Book 1)



Synopsis

Roland Inness is a peasant boy with an unusual talent and a secret. He has learned the art of making a longbow and the skill to use it with deadly accuracy. Why must this be kept secret? The Normans rule England with their armored knights and a well-aimed longbow can pierce that armor. Possession of the weapon is a hanging offense and when Roland takes the wrong deer on the wrong Lord's land he has to flee for his life. His flight will take him from the high hills of the English midlands to the wild frontier with Wales and on to the court of Richard the Lionheart. Along the way he is hunted by a paid killer, aided by a strange monk named Tuck, and taken in by a gruff Norman knight, who values his skill with the bow. That skill and his courage will be sorely tested as he fights to earn the trust of his new master. As King Richard celebrates his coronation, Roland faces old enemies he thought he had left behind and must test his skill at a royal archery tournament against the greatest bowmen in England, to include the favorite, Sir Robin of Loxley. A mix of history, myth and high adventure, *Longbow* follows the journey of Roland Inness as he seeks to find a place for himself in a restive kingdom and become a man in a brutal age.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I love a good piece of historical fiction, and the time of King Richard and the Crusades has always fascinated me. I thoroughly enjoyed this tale of a Dane peasant boy who has legendary skill with a longbow. The author first conceived the story of Roland Inness when telling stories to his sons. This book has the very personable feel of a father's story. While there were times that the writing lacked finesse and polish, I was still wholeheartedly enjoying it for the charm of the story itself. Roland Inness is a sympathetic and worthy main character. He is brave, resourceful, and intelligent. He's human in his emotions and choices, but overall he is a honorable character. The supporting cast of characters were also worthy people who stand out in contrast to the lesser characters and villains in this story. There is language in this book. I got the impression that the writer didn't do it merely to be edgy, but rather that this is his normal way of speaking. The harshest word I came across was s***, one time. This book should be fine for teens. I enjoyed this story greatly and I am so excited to get to read the rest of Roland Inness' saga.

I thoroughly enjoyed this book. It is well written for its most obvious target audience of teen boys and was really entertaining for someone "slightly older" (i.e. 66) who bought and read it prior to sending to a grand niece for her birthday. In my view it works for both boys and girls and fills a gap that is needed in current young peoples' fiction. It's a well told, forward moving tale and emphasizes the virtues that deserve such emphasis for all ages. JF

I was looking for a book my youngest son would enjoy after hearing more advanced stories from his older siblings. He wasn't much of a reader like his older brother (who loved Greek myths, Narnia, Rick Riordan etc), so I was disparing...then I found Longbow. My younger son took to it (at 7ys) like crack...or, should I say chocolate. An adventure story with danger, justice, humor and true risk but ultimate joy: a really unique discovery. All this and some decent authentic history to boot. A great series for read-aloud (7-12ys, girls and boys) as well as read-alone 8 - 13. We enjoyed it as a whole family read aloud 8-13.

Although I have read better, this book is most definitely on my re-read list. I highly praise the story and the author. If given the option, read this incredible tale of knights, squires, archers, longbows, Welshman, Normans, Saxons, pranks, family, murderers, abused power, love, woods, and loyalty. If you don't feel like sifting through that just take my word for it that this book rocks!!!!!!!!!!

An adventure that reminded me of the "Ranger's Apprentice" series. It contained elements of training, fighting, romance and suspense. This is an author to watch.

Clean and refreshing. Writer reels you in immediately and keeps the fast paced story line moving from beginning to end. I strongly applaud this writer. Can't wait to dive in to next adventures of Roland Inness. Well done.

This read too much like a history lesson to me. Not what I was expecting. It's not POORLY written, per se, just not my cup of tea.

Enchanting story. The scene of the tournament is a heart pounding event. Can't put it down. Will follow the author.

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