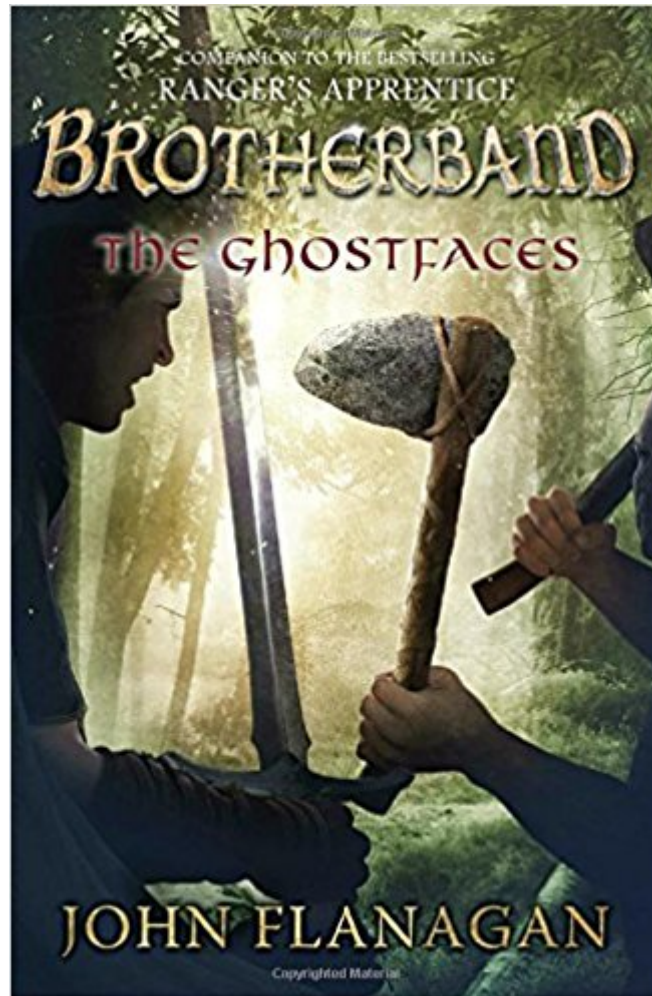




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The Ghostfaces (The Brotherband Chronicles)



Synopsis

The thrilling sixth installment of the bestselling Brotherband series from John Flanagan, author of the worldwide phenomenon *Ranger's Apprentice* When the Brotherband crew are caught in a massive storm at sea, they're blown far off course and wash up on the shores of a land so far west that Hal can't recognize it from any of his maps. Eerily, the locals are nowhere in sight, yet the Herons have a creeping feeling they are being watched. Suddenly the silence is broken when a massive, marauding bear appears, advancing on two children. The crew springs into action and rescues the children from the bear's clutches, which earns them the gratitude and friendship of the local Mawagansett tribe, who finally reveal themselves. But the peace is short-lived. The Ghostfaces, a ruthless, warlike tribe who shave their heads and paint their faces white, are on the warpath once more. It's been ten years since they raided the Mawagansett village, but they're coming back to pillage and reap destruction. As the enemy approaches, the Herons gear up to help their new friends repel an invasion.

Book Information

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Age Range: 10 and up

Grade Level: 5 and up

Customer Reviews

Praise for John Flanagan's bestselling Brotherband Chronicles "[A] vigorous offshoot of the

Ranger's Apprentice series."--Booklist" This is an enjoyable, old-fashioned tale should have easy appeal for Flanagan's many fans, who are already invested in the world he's created."--Publishers Weekly" Well developed and vocabulary rich, with endearing new characters and a rousing adventure that assures new episodes, this book will delight Flanagan fans."--School Library Journal" Flanagan's characters are well-developed, and readers will appreciate the humorous quirks of Hal's group of misfits. This coming-of-age tale, with themes of self-worth and redemption, will be welcomed by fans of the "Ranger's Apprentice" series, as well as by any reader who enjoys a rollicking adventure on land and sea."--Children's Literature "A sweeping novel of adventure, written with wit and a sure sense of storytelling." --Booklist

John Flanagan grew up in Sydney, Australia, hoping to be a writer, and after a successful career in advertising and television, he began writing a series of short stories for his son, Michael, in order to encourage him to read. Those stories would eventually become The Ruins of Gorlan, Book 1 of the Ranger's Apprentice epic. Together with his companion series, Brotherband Chronicles, the novels of John Flanagan have now sold millions of copies and made readers of kids the world over. Mr. Flanagan lives in the suburb of Manly, Australia, with his wife. In addition to their son, they have two grown daughters and four grandsons. You can visit John Flanagan at www.WorldofJohnFlanagan.com

To start, the Rangers Apprentice series is my all time favorite and the Brotherband Chronicles was a great companion series that now spans 6 books, with the first 3 having need read in order, the 4 and 5, and this one (if you aren't a curious person) could be read alone but is HIGHLY discouraged. While for the first 70% of the book doesn't really bring in climatic scenes (don't get me wrong there is some very exciting scenes that had me reading as fast as possible) it's not compared to the 4th book where they had a full major battle at 40%. However since the 2nd book in the series I always felt like the whole crew didn't get enough credit. I felt the author (don't get me wrong John Flanagan has wrote my two favorite series) has always, for lack of a better term, favored certain characters more and some were just always played down. Hal while understandably the main character, never seemed to mess up and always had a plan to save the day, and Ingvar and Stig were the perfect buddies. Well in this book he brings back what was in the first book by writing about more on other characters notably Jesper and Edwin. To me that was some of the best parts because it was less about Hal and finally more on the rest of the crew. All in all even though personally I think the ending could have been more exciting then it was, the fact that he elaborated more on the rest of the crew

and that this one had a significantly more major impact on the crew but in the end was an excellent story worthy of five stars that had me but I the book at 11am and not stopping till 4pm. Can't wait for the next adventure!

Generally John Flanagan does a great job in his books the Brotherband Series. It has been very enjoyable for me over the years but this book was just to me a rushed title. The villains were hardly developed "the ghost faces" were only introduced at the very end of the book, and were basically 2 dimensional villains with nothing really to fight for. The final battle though tragic in ways really wasn't all that interesting. Throughout the book the main character Hal was pushed to the side for the sake of Stig his counterpart whose life because of John Flanagan ' s poor plot choices pretty much sucks. This was not exactly the best writing, a ton of descriptive knowledge, but shallow on meaningful villains and decent plot twists. Frankly I expected better, on the upside the story is still decent and for those who enjoy the Brotherband series though I think its a bit disappointing "Ghost Faces " still is worth the read

I just loved this book like I loved the Ranger's Apprentice series (The Battle of Hackham, the Ranger's Apprentice series is Coming soon!). Also, I thought the it was smart of Flanagan to venture into the endless ocean with Hal, the main character. Spoiler alert, I also loved the romance between Stig and Tecumsa, and how Flanagan ended the story with her dying, which was an impactful ending that kept me on the edge of my seat. Once again, I'm amazed how effortlessly Falangon maneuvered the Skandanadian crew to wreak havoc with rows of Magglers and Igvar's Varlag (if you want to know what this is, you should really read this amazing book!). This was a really well-written and exciting scene that justs grabs you into the story and threatens to never let go. John Flanagan is an incredible author and I highly recommend all of his books to kids my age, especially boys. I loved this book and I hope you love it too.Coming Soon! The Battle of Hackham, from The Rangers Apprentice: The Early Years(synopsis from)"When the former Baron Morgarath escaped to avoid punishment for treason, an uneasy peace fell on Araluen. But Morgarath, now in hiding, is already planning his next move, recruiting an army of savage, overpowering beasts known as Wargals. Newly crowned King Duncan knows he must assemble his troops for battle.To find out the full extent of Morgarath's plan of attack, Halt prepares for a seemingly impossible task--climbing the deadly cliffs of the Mountains of Rain and Night and venturing deep into enemy territory to spy. After all, the winner of this war could be determined by one wrong move.At the Battle of Hackham Heath, the fate of a Kingdom will be decided. This origin story of how Halt came

to be Araluen's most famous Ranger and how war will decide the future of the next generation will thrill Ranger's Apprentice fans and new readers alike."

Overall this book in the series of brotherband books is one of the best. The characters, both new and old, are very well described and integrated into the storyline which makes it is easy for the reader to connect with them. Also, from the beginning of the book to the end there is constant action and the plot rarely lacks in depth. John Flanagan does an excellent job of including a good balance between the fast paced, adventurous scenes, and the background information necessary for understanding the novel. One shortcoming of this book is the fact that it is quite predictable and doesn't include many dramatic plot twists or huge changes in the storyline. However, the predictability does nothing to take away from the fact that it is a great story. For fans of the realistic fiction genre this book and really all of the books in the series are a great read. The uniqueness of this book in comparison to others in the series keeps you wanting to read more and more novels written by this author. The flow of the novel reads extremely smooth and John Flanagan is great with including dialogue in the text. Another downside of The Ghostfaces is that it doesn't lead into the next book in the series in any way. Previously in his books he would often end the story with an exciting event that left you wishing there was one more chapter, which made the book more compelling. Again, in the grand scheme of the book this is a minor setback and the story is well written in most aspects of the novel. I would highly recommend this book if you enjoyed other books by this author or in this series because it is a great story that will keep you intrigued and interested until the very last page.

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