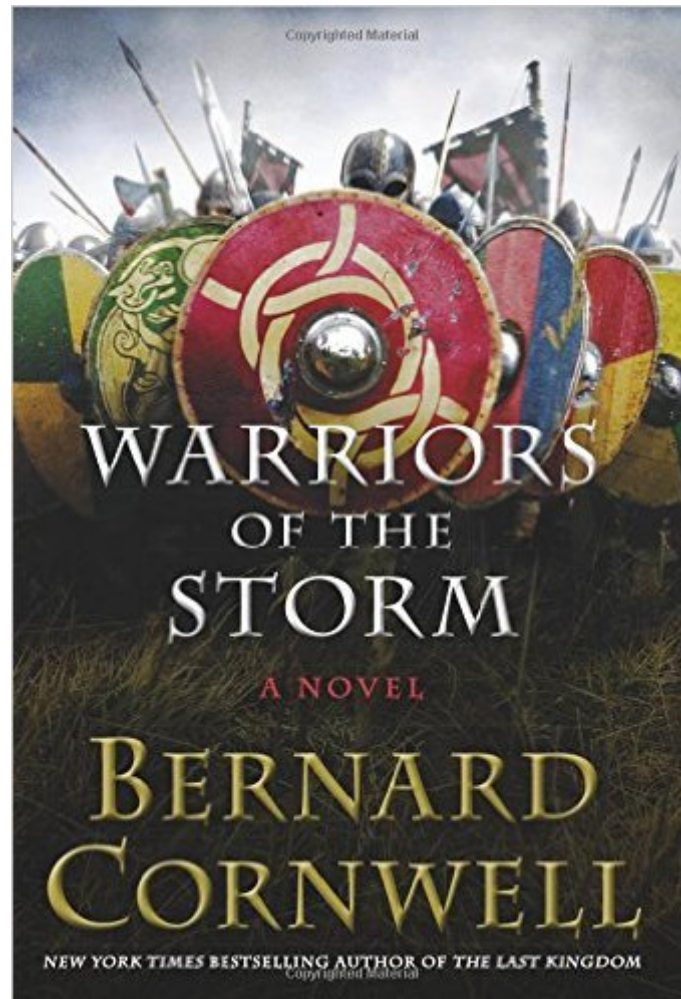


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Warriors Of The Storm: A Novel (Saxon Tales)



Synopsis

The ninth installment of Bernard Cornwell's bestselling series chronicling the epic saga of the making of England, as *Game of Thrones*, but real (The Observer, London) the basis for *The Last Kingdom*, the hit BBC America television series. A fragile peace reigns in Wessex, Mercia and East Anglia. King Alfred's son Edward and formidable daughter, Aethelflaed, rule the kingdoms. But all around the restless Northmen, eyeing the rich lands and wealthy churches, are mounting raids. Uhtred of Bebbanburg, the kingdom's greatest warrior, controls northern Mercia from the strongly fortified city of Chester. But forces are gathering against him. Northmen allied to the Irish, led by the fierce warrior Ragnall Ivarson, are soon joined by the Northumbrians, and their strength could prove overwhelming. Despite the gathering threat, both Edward and Aethelflaed are reluctant to move out of the safety of their fortifications. But with Uhtred's own daughter married to Ivarson's brother, who can be trusted? In the struggle between family and loyalty, between personal ambition and political commitment, there will be no easy path. But a man with a warrior's courage may be able to find it. Such a man is Uhtred, and this may be his finest hour.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

First posted on .co.uk two minutes ago... This is the ninth book on Uhtred, the pagan warlord fighting for King Alfred in the first episodes, for his heir King Edward (generally known as "or rather little known - as Edward the Elder) and, since the last few episodes, for Aethelflaed, Lady of the Mercians, respectively the daughter and sister of the two kings. Despite this, and despite Uhtred

getting a bit along on the tooth •, Bernard Cornwell still weaves his usual magic, and his usual tricks. The result is yet another superb read, with all of the usual ingredients including quite a few liberties with the historical record in general, and the chronology in particular, with which he manages to get away with. The menace is, this time, a Norse warlord - Ragnall Ivarson - who, together with his brother Sitric, has been expelled from Dublin by the Irish. As those who have read the previous volume might remember, Sitric has become Uthred's son-in-law after having been his enemy. However, the other brother and his army land near and threaten Chester, and Mercia more generally, which is defended by the Lady of the Mercians, busy building Burroughs across the land to secure it, and Uthred, her (semi-independent) warlord. I will (barely) refrain from spoiling the story by summarising it, although it is an exciting one, and one which is skilfully told. Both Ragnall and Sitric are historical characters and they did manage to carve themselves another kingdom after having temporarily - lost their Dublin heritage. This, however, was not achieved with Uthred's involvement since he is a largely fictitious character and the brothers seem to have very much worked together.

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