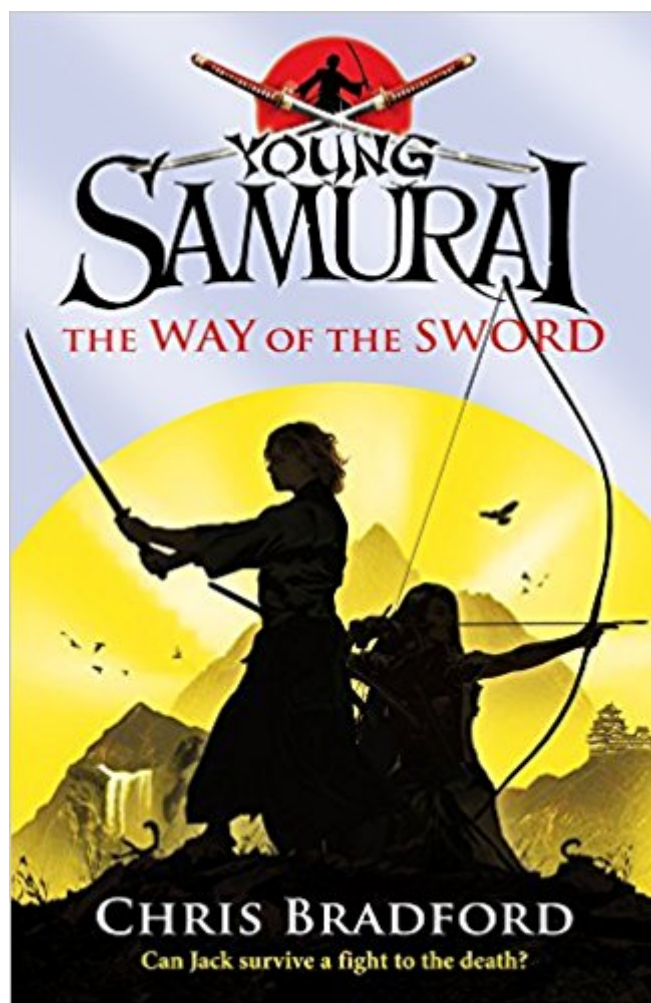


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# The Way Of The Sword (Young Samurai)



## Synopsis

One year of training in samurai school and Jack Fletcher is in real trouble . . . Not only is he struggling to prepare for the Circle of Three, an ancient ritual that tests a samurai's courage, skill and spirit to the limit, he's caught in a running battle with fellow student Kazuki and his gang. But these are the least of Jack's problems. He knows his deadly rival - the ninja Dragon Eye - could strike at any moment. Jack possesses the very thing he will kill for. Can Jack master the Way of the Sword in time to survive a fight to the death?

## Book Information

Series: Young Samurai (Book 2)

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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 36 customer reviews

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[Literature & Fiction > Sports > Martial Arts](#) #43 in [Books > Teens > Historical Fiction > Asia](#)

#205 in [Books > Teens > Mysteries & Thrillers > Historical](#)

## Customer Reviews

Grade 6-9 Bradford raises the stakes for his blond samurai student in this second installment in the series. Previously shipwrecked after his father was murdered by the ninja leader Dragon Eye, Jack is continuing his training as a samurai at his foster father's school for young warriors. Dedicated to keeping his father's navigational log from Dragon Eye, who has tried to steal it before, Jack hides the book at the castle of the daimyo, where he feels it will be safer. In the meantime, he must train to participate in the Circle of Three, a trial that would allow him to learn a double-sword-fighting technique, one he feels he needs to defend himself against the ninja's treachery. To add to his worries, his friend Akiko is acting strangely, disappearing in the night, and Jack suspects she may be training as a ninja. Bradford combines the structure of a British school story with the flavor of 17th-century Japan, and his descriptions of both swordplay and hand-to-hand martial arts reveal his extensive knowledge of the subject. Young martial artists will be eager to try out sticky-hands drills

in their own dojos. Though the secondary cast is often too large to keep track of and only a few of the characters are fully developed, the ongoing struggle between honorable samurai and dastardly ninja will draw both reluctant readers and enthusiasts of Japanese history. Alana Joli Abbott, James Blackstone Memorial Library, Branford, CT Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

In *The Way of the Warrior* (2009), shipwrecked Jack began his training as a samurai after watching the vile ninja Dokugan Ryu murder his father. In his second year of training, Jack perfects a few new techniques while dodging his adopted society's increasing hostility toward foreigners. Bradford takes special care and pleasure in describing the minutiae of martial arts and other aspects of Japanese culture. With straightforward prose, he has managed to pen lively and exciting fight sequences and is slowly beginning to develop a keen edge to his cast of characters, laying significant groundwork for future installments. Grades 6-9. --Ian Chipman --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Bought for the library on a student recommendation. Shipping was fast and book is well made.

I know this is a teen novel and I am going on 30, but this really sucked me in. LOL. Perhaps it is because I am a martial artist and have a thing for martial art related novels, but I found this to be well written. The plot, though fairly simple, has side plots, which I find quite nice. The main character faces many trials and tribulations in this book, a bit of bullying and typical teen angst. Oh, and of course, there is his arch-nemesis "Dragon Eye" who wants him dead (and he also wants to take something valuable Jack has)! I also like that it is an easy read so I can sort of zonk out and not have to really "focus" on what I am reading. I'd say it's worth a read if you are looking for a fantasy teen novel.

I teach high school and purchased this series for my classroom library. Since then, I've had to acquire another set of the books because they are so popular! My guys - including ESOL guys! - are tearing through this series awfully fast. The action in the books is fast-paced, the characters sympathetic, the lessons supplied in koans. I find the series highly entertaining myself (I've read them all as well), and broadly historically accurate. The author runs an accompanying website where fans can do puzzles and games related to the books. The series is quite violent, but not

graphically so. Would recommend for any classroom library. Would recommend for active boys or girls, 12+

British author Chris Bradford continues his action-packed saga of samurai and ninja in the second installment of The Young Samurai series: *The Way of the Sword*. Jack Fletcher, shipwrecked, orphaned by ninja pirates, and then adopted by a samurai in 17th century Japan, has completed his first year of samurai school. His problems are not over, however; his classmates still taunt him as a "gaijin" (barbarian foreigner), anti-Christian sentiment is spreading, and worse yet, the evil ninja Dragon Eye is still after Jack and his father's rutter, which contains the secret routes to navigate the world's oceans. Once every three years, the samurai students have a chance to compete in the ancient ritual of the Circle of Three, testing their mind, body, and spirit. Those who pass this test will be allowed to learn Two Heavens, a secret martial art technique. Selection trials are held, and only the top five students progress to the Circle. Readers will not be surprised that Jack is among this elite group, as is his female friend, Akiko, and Kazuki, his arch-enemy at school. But will Jack be able to survive the competition? I would not advise reading these books out of order; readers might be confused without the background from the first book in the series. Highly recommended and fun action-packed story, great for fans of Japanese culture.

I bought this for my son & he loved the book.

This book is perfect to those who like action and mystery. There are twists that are impossible to predict. My 5th grade teacher read this to us. Chris Bradford is a genius in literature. Please read this book!!!

Amazing story line so far. It's like a Harry Potter but with martial arts and Bushido at its core. Found book 3 in a thrift store , after 2 chapters I looked up the series and started from the beginning !!! Big fan

I am giving this book 5 stars on behalf of my son who started reading this series when he was around 12 and absolutely devoured the books, all of which have been read multiple times. You can't ask for more than that!

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