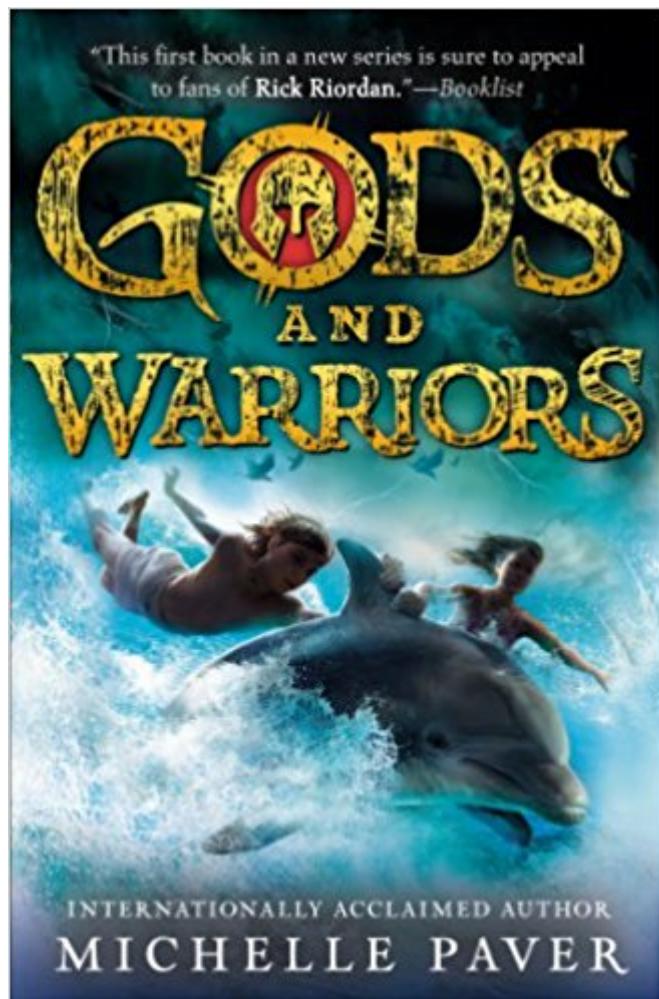


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# Gods And Warriors



## **Synopsis**

An action-packed new series set in the mysterious, dangerous Bronze Age. Young Hylas--goatherd, Outsider, thief--is hunted by powerful warriors who want him dead and have kidnapped his sister. Hylas is forced to flee his home, but not before a mysterious stranger gives him a bronze dagger. While on the run, Hylas must use his skill and wits to survive a shipwreck and a great white shark attack, befriend a dolphin, and help Pirra, the runaway daughter of a High Priestess. Together with Pirra, the dolphin, and the valuable bronze sword, Hylas fights to discover why he's being hunted and find his sister before the warriors find them.

## **Book Information**

Lexile Measure: 680 (What's this?)

Series: Gods and Warriors (Book 1)

Paperback: 336 pages

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Language: English

ISBN-10: 0142422843

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Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 18 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #158,856 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #64 in Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > Ancient Civilizations #370 in Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > Dragons #3793 in Books > Children's Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy & Magic

Age Range: 10 and up

Grade Level: 5 and up

## **Customer Reviews**

Gr 6 Up-Paver brings her intense research skills to Bronze Age Greece to tell the story of Hylas, a young man who is an Outsider and is not allowed in the clan village. He suddenly finds himself being hunted by fierce warriors he knows only as the Crows, who seem bent on destroying him and all the remaining Outsiders. Hylas takes refuge in a tomb where he discovers a dying man who gifts him with a bronze dagger and some cryptic words about the answer being found in the sea. With help from his friend, Telamon, who is the village chief's son, Hylas makes his way to the sea. There

he is befriended by a dolphin named Spirit that leads him to an island where he finds Pirra, the daughter of the High Priestess, who has escaped to avoid a forced marriage to Telamon. While initially antagonistic toward each other, Hylas and Pirra must work together not only to stay alive, but also to discover the truth behind the dagger and why Hylas is being pursued. The added element of Hylas's friendship with the dolphin adds a surreal quality to this story already filled with adventure and danger. Paver brings this mysterious period of history to vibrant life in a compelling realistic narrative with some fantasy flourishes. Who knew the Bronze Age could be so fascinating?-Tim Wadham, Puyallup Public Library, WA (c) Copyright 2011. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

"Paver brings this mysterious period of history to vibrant life in a compelling realistic narrative with some fantasy flourishes. Who knew the Bronze Age could be so fascinating?"--School Library Journal"Richly detailed and historically believable scenes show Paver's commitment to authenticity."--Kirkus Reviews"This first book in a new series is sure to appeal to fans of Rick Riordan as well as Paver's earlier *Chronicles of Ancient Darkness* series."--Booklist

Crossposted from Goodreads - beware of spoilers!\* spoiler alert \*\* Actually, I am wavering between four and five stars on this one. Until I finished the book, I was thinking: what a lot I could learn from Michelle Paver! She has the gift of writing such a gripping story that you (I, at least) put down every other book in order to finish hers. She can also be trusted to do her research, write believable characters, and use good, clean prose. All this makes her books a pleasure to read. This new series is set in Bronze-age Greece (before it was Greece) and Crete. I was extremely taken with the character of Pirra, a Cretan 12-year-old who has been promised in marriage to an Achaean lord she has never seen. Pirra is determined to escape. More than anything, she wants freedom to make her own life. Interestingly, until she meets the second protagonist, her best friend is an Egyptian slave who is like an older brother to her. That protagonist, whom Pirra encounters as he tries to steal a boat, is the young goatherd Hylas. The book begins with Hylas wounded and running for his life from black-clad, ash-coated warriors. His goal is to survive the tumult he is caught up in and find his little sister. But, at every turn, he encounters more mysteries and more danger. He also makes a friend; a young dolphin he names Spirit, who saves his life when he is lost at sea. The relationship between Hylas and Spirit is reminiscent of the friendship between Torak and Wolf in the "Chronicles of Ancient Darkness". Paver writes animals and their viewpoints awfully well, and Spirit becomes the

third pov character. The fourth is Hylas's best friend, Telemon, who is caught in a terrible quandary. He has a relationship with the Crows, the warriors who have tried to kill Hylas, and who have driven Hylas's little sister further into the mountains. As a chieftain's son, Telemon is bound to obey his father. But he wants to help Hylas and little Issi. Can he find a way to fulfill all his obligations? I don't want to say more about Telemon's quandary, but I do hope we see more of him in further books. I could empathize with him, and, by the end of this book, he had come to a somewhat dubious decision, one that I hope he will rethink. As for Hylas, he's a tough, illiterate kid - very capable and very ignorant at once. I liked the way he and Pirra, when stranded on a dangerous, sacred island, struck sparks off each other and also filled gaps in each others' knowledge. One of the things they discover is exactly why the Crows are hunting and killing outsiders like Hylas. There is, of course, a prophecy, and the Crows are determined to see it never comes true. The prophecy concerns a dagger which Hylas is given by a dying man. Hylas comes to think the weapon is evil and that it has a mind of its own. I think he might be right. The reason I'm wavering between 4 and 5 stars is that, fine as it is, this story does not quite stand alone. I was frustrated that we never found out what happened to little Issi, and, at the end of the book, all four of the viewpoint characters have been separated. That was frustrating, too! One of the blurbs about this series is that Hylas would be helped in his quest by three animals, a dolphin, a falcon, and a lion cub. We have met the dolphin, and he seems strongly linked to Hylas. I have a suspicion that the falcon will be linked to Pirra, and the lion cub to Telemon, the chief's son. We'll see!

Michelle Paver has once again proved that she is a writer of quality work. Self-published fiction authors should use Michelle's writing as a template for good writing. Too often ebooks today are rushed onto the world stage without proper editing. A lot are also written in the old "Telling" style, which makes for boring reading. Michelle Paver is not guilty of these writing flaws, her words create believable worlds and characters. Gods and Warriors is no exception, Michelle has created a book that all lovers of fantasy will enjoy. The adventures of Hylas as he travels through the ancient world of gods and demons will keep the reader wanting to know more. This book gave me a lot of reading pleasure. I look forward to reading more books in the Chronicles of Ancient Darkness series.

This was a fabulous book. Interesting characters and the action started right away. The book is filled with figurative language. Couldn't put the book down. I have been waiting for her to write another series and she did. The only problem is I have to wait for the next book in the series.

Thrilling adventure around every turn. Hope things are made right between Hylas and Telamon

A very exciting book that I really enjoyed to read. My favorite character was Spirit the dolphin because the dolphin shows great power. In my perspective this was a great book, and I think that anybody could read it.

Not too bad.

Nice book, I really did not want it to end. I hope there will be a next book in the series soon.

Awesome read! Great for 6th graders! This book nicely dovetails with Percy Jackson and The Lightning Thief for kids who are interested in Greek Gods. It also supports Common Core Curriculum objectives.

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