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*N.M. Browne*

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Two modern teenagers find strength and power they never dreamed they had in this powerful fantasy that transports them to an ancient and mysterious Britian

## Warriors of Alavna Details

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Author : N.M. Browne

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# From Reader Review Warriors of Alavna for online ebook

## Hafiza says

Book 1 of a time travel YA series.

Dan and Ursula are in the 10th grade and travel back to Ancient Britain.

Full of adventure, magic and great characters.

Although the teens are supposed to be 15/16, they did seem a lot more mature. I think it would have been more appropriate to have them 17/18.

I loved the series and read all three books over the weekend.

Very subtle romance that is clean and develops realistically over the course of the trilogy.

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## Amy Murray says

I decided to reread Warriors of Alavna, a book I loved when I was about 14 because I just wanted something easy to read. I enjoyed it more than I remember! It's definitely written for a younger audience, it's more a tweenager book than a typical young adult. But once you get used to the simpler writing style and over the historical inaccuracies the story line is fast moving and engaging.

Ok now I've gotten over the practicalities can we talk about potential queer representation? Is Ursula trans? She is more comfortable in a man's body, although originally it is just for practical reasons. Once everyone discovers she's a girl, she is still more comfortable presenting as a man and wishes to present as a man when alone in times of stress. I was fascinated by her complex character and look forward to reading the rest of the books in the series to see how she develops. I also think Macsen could be queer but that could be too much tumblr.

THIS NEXT BIT MIGHT BE SPOILERY? I don't think it is but just in case.

Another thing I loved about this book was the strong platonic relationship between Dan and Ursula. Although there are moments where Dan is confused by his feelings for Ursula when she's girly nothing happens. I do not understand romance stories being shoved into story lines when the main characters have bigger things to deal with! They are often sensible characters who fail to recognise that a relationship formed in this situation isn't healthy and probably won't last. It's a real pet peeve of mine.

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## Emily says

I am so happy I stumbled upon this book in my public library. I really enjoyed the characters and the way Browne was able to show them being put in new and confusing situations. The character development was very memorable and kept me reading to see what would happen next. As a writer, I want to be able to put my characters in strange situations and write descriptions on how they would react. Browne's style is something I will remember as I grow as a writer.

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## Julie says

I feel like I should apologize for giving it one star. Because M suggested we read this for Triple Take, thinking we'd like it. And I don't. It has elements in it that should make me like it -- time travel, the UK, mistaken gender. But I just don't.

At first as I was reading, I thought the book just needed a good editor. And by 'good', I meant.. 'me'. So you can see my standards were pretty low on the editing. I found specific things I would've changed to improve the story.

But as I was halfway into it and crawling out the other side, I thought even an editor couldn't have saved it from boring me to death.

The story opens with a boy having gone through a weird mist. He was chasing a girl. They're soon caught up in ancient Britain, or a place remarkably like ancient Britain, where the Celts are fighting the invading Romans. And boy turns into a berserker in the quite traditional red rage sense. The girl turns out to have or acquire magic. And then they wander around with these Celts and kill people and stuff.

From the writing to the characters to the action to the plot, I just couldn't like it. If you'd care to find out more details of why I didn't like it, you can read the 'enhanced' version of this review at Triple Take.

<http://www.flaminggeeks.com/tripletake/>

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## Phair says

An odd YA book. Teens on a class trip to Hastings walk through a mist and find themselves in a 1st century Britain of celtic tribes battling a kind of "dark side" Roman invasion force called the Ravens. This is a land of fairly graphic violence and druidic magic that is well developed. It all builds well to a climactic battle after which the two teens go back through the mist- to home or...? There is a book 2 so I rather think not.

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## Déborah Muñoz says

Reseña completa y más en [www.escriboleo.blogspot.com](http://www.escriboleo.blogspot.com)

El argumento es interesante, entretenido, pero los personajes me caen fatal, especialmente los protagonistas, que me parecen unos ñoños sin espíritu aventurero (nunca me había pasado que me cayeran mal todos los personajes de un libro). La forma de escribirlo no está mal, quizás demasiado largo para lo que es la historia., porque pretende ser bastante descriptivo (y eso sí que lo logra bastante bien). Vamos, que es un libro de esos que te leer una vez y te entretienen, pero luego lo dejas en los estantes menos accesibles, porque no merece la pena releerlo.

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## **Marley Bullock says**

This is a book that I read as a child. I received it as a gift and I put off reading it until it finally seemed to call to me.

I couldn't put it down.

Over the years the book fell out of my possession and I could not, for the life of me, remember the title of the book. The inability to reread it haunted me. Until today! Through the power of google, I have been able to find the book and now I can see how it's held up overtime. I'm pretty excited.

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## **Alathea says**

This is one of those "travel back in time books" and I really love it. It's fast paced and in my opinion, just awesome. I love the transformations the characters go through and that they have awesome powers that they need to figure out. Really fast and good read in my opinion. Although honestly, the follow up books were nowhere near as good. This one stands out as far more exciting in my opinion.

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## **Shona H says**

Really interesting take on druids and Celtic tribes, even if in a parallel world. And I've always loved Ursula and Dan so

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## **Tyler says**

I would recommend Warriors of Alavna to anyone who likes medieval books. It is about 2 teenagers that travel to a different world and discover that they have special powers. The 2 teenagers are from present time. If you like books with magic and action you will love this book. Once I started reading it, it was hard to put down and stop reading it. The book has some pretty good battle scenes in it. The battles have a lot of close combat sword fighting. It has because a great story-line to it. If you like drama with action you will love this book. You will love this book if you like adventure books because there is a lot of traveling in it. In the book there are different types of magic. I would recommend this book to anyone that likes to read because it is just a great book overall.

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## **Jessica says**

Yet another great book found in the young adults section of my library. I really enjoy the books about normal modern teens that have magical things happen to them. This one is about time-traveling. Dan and Ursula are on a school trip when a weird sickly yellow mist appears and they are yanked into England circa 70AD. It's got warriors and magic. shapeshifting and warhounds. I really enjoyed and am moving onto the second in the series Warriors of Camlann.

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## Kit★ says

I found this little book at Goodwill one day, read the inside flap, and was intrigued enough to get it. And then it sat in my TBR cupboard for 6 months or so. It just never seemed like the right time to read it. Then the other day when I was looking for a new one, it sort of called to me. Fit my mood. I was wanting fantasy, but not too dark or complicated, and I was also wanting to read something short that wasn't going to set my reading pace back for a couple weeks. This just caught me as soon my eye set upon it, I was like, "I'll read that one." I can say I'm glad I did, it was pretty much what I was craving. It started off a little slow, the characters were a little hard to get to know because the viewpoints kept alternating with no warning. And also, because this book is geared toward a younger audience, the sentences are shorter, and it seemed sort of terse and hard to like (the writing, not the story) at first, until I got used to it about halfway through. So the story is about two teenagers paired up on a school field trip, Dan, a popular (but not too dickish) boy, and Ursula, a great big moose of a girl who hides behind baggy clothes and a grim face. I sort of like Ursula, could relate to her. So this yellow fog appears and Ursula, due to a comment from Dan, takes off running, upset, into the mist. Dan follows, because he doesn't want to get in trouble for losing his partner, and also because he feels bad for upsetting her. The mist serves as a portal and they end up separated, back around 75 AD or so, perhaps in their world, perhaps in another. Ursula pops out into a group of men with swords drawn and pointed at her, and Dan ends up in the middle of the wilderness. He ends up finding a sword, and decides to go find Ursula. Meanwhile, the people Ursula came upon think she is a boy, and believe she is a warrior that came through the mist called by their sorceress/priestess. They take her with them, meeting up with Dan on their trek. Dan has become a Bear Sark (berserker) with his newfound sword, and is an insane fighter. He's also befriended a great big war hound who he calls Braveheart, after the movie. Well it turns out there are these awful Roman (called Raven by the tribal warrior people) soldiers and they're going about killing all the local villagers, the usual rape, pillage, and kill (though thankfully not gory or overly detailed). So Dan and Ursula and the other warriors in their group swear to avenge the deaths of everyone in Alavna. They continue on until they get to the main fortress, and this is where the story really got rolling for me. There's a whole legion of Ravens heading up to slaughter everyone, but thankfully there's time to prepare. Tribesmen from different places show up, and the training begins. Grueling workouts and horrible barrack conditions serve to strengthen and discipline Dan and Urs, and Ursula even finds some other latent powers within herself. Great magical powers. All this training tightens her up, she becomes a lean, mean fighting machine instead of such a big klutz, and her powers get stronger everyday. I liked this part. Ursula found out she could shape-shift, and due to her determination to fit in and prove herself to the warriors, she had actually become a man through magic. Good thing she figures out how to shift back, and learns to shift back and forth at will, even shifting into all kinds of different beautiful women, much to Dan's chagrin. But the big battle's coming up, and how are they going to win? There's many more Ravens than tribesmen, and it seems like there's no hope. Until Ursula learns how to work the yellow mist herself, and calls in some reinforcements. The battle scenes were exciting without being too graphic or gory, and it played out well. I liked this book more than I was thinking I was going to in the beginning, and part of that was due to the negative reviews that are at the top of the list here. So blah on those, because I thought this book was pretty good. I'm glad I bought it, and the sequels are now on my wishlist. The ending wasn't really resolved, what with Dan and Urs just going off into the mist, so I know they're going to have more adventures. I'd like to read them, for sure :)

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## **Temperance Truc Tran says**

I read this for the first time as a younger teen. The teen in me back then would rate this as a 5-stars. This book has a lot of sentimental values for my childhood. I hated reading books back then because I was learning English as a second language. None of the books recommended for my level at the school library could pique my interests. Most of the plots were about school life and American life that I could not relate to. However, when I stumbled across this book at the public library, the first few pages got my attention right away. The descriptive language that Browne used in the book was like magic to my imaginative mind back then. Up until that point, I always thought that something was wrong with me when I frequently was unable to or have a very hard time drawing up the image of a scene in a book.

Browne's eloquent diction, plots, and the relatable characters, even to a kid who was still trying to assimilate into the American culture, gave the child me back then confidence in my reading skills. (Back in my home country, I enjoyed reading books very much and read very often).

I recommend this book to any kids to try out. I just personally had a really good experience with this book!

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## **Aicha Jwz says**

This is a fantasy story about two teenagers who get enveloped in a time travel mist that takes them to the past that is ancient Britain. And for some reason they were quite quick accepting with it....The opposite of how I would be...

I was reading Rising Hannibal but I just, just really couldn't deal with that book at the moment and I felt my self slip into a reading slump. So, I decided to pick an random fantasy light read worthy book.

This book was an easy read and I read through it in an normal pace I guess.

The writing was good with an easy flow and descriptions and there was a hint of magic only later.

My only complaint is the characters. I just didn't feel any connection with them. Ursula a tall girl who's a little on the fat size is an misfit and Dan a well known sporty kid, who is liked by most.

I was happy with Ursula because she was a misfit but that's all I know. I don't know much more. The same goes with Dan except with him it was his sportiness. I just couldn't care for them... I wish that Dan and Ursula, themselves, had more time to get to know each other. The side characters were okay, I guess. I did like BraveHeart though.

Overall, I think this is an okay book and it would be great to give it a try. I might even read the second book when I find the time. That will be all, goodbye and read on!

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## **Alisa Schindler says**

I really liked this book. It was mysterious, Dan and Ursula did not know where they were or how to get back. This book was also very interesting because it was based in mid-evil times. Dan and Ursula changed over the course of the book. They went from being normal 21st century kids with no special ability to becoming war thirsty sorcerers of mid-evil times. It was really cool how this book was based on real history of the Combrogii tribe. Also this book leaves you on a cliff hanger not knowing what will happen next.

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