



Swords: An Artist's Devotion

By Ben Boos

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Be smitten by the sword! An extraordinary young artist brings the history of this noble weapon — and its skillful masters — into stunningly sharp relief.

Brave men and women have taken up the sword since ages of old, and a fascination with this formidable weapon grips dedicated followers to this day. Here is a celebration of swords and swordsmen that spans time and place — from ancient warriors such as Beowulf to medieval knights; from stealthy ninja and samurai to legendary maidens of war. Illustrated with breathtaking intricacy, *SWORDS* reflects the passion of a true devotee, offering lavish background details on design and use as well as exquisite spreads showcasing specimens in all their shining glory.

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Grade 6 Up—This absorbing, large-format collection of sketches, paintings, and historical notes on sword craft is not called an artist's devotion for nothing. Boos's treatment of his subject is reverential and his artwork is outstanding, combining meticulous attention to detail and a designer's sense for layout. The spare text provides just enough information but generally allows the illustrations to speak for themselves. Each chapter covers a different period or place in the history of the sword, including the Iron and Bronze Ages, the Middle Ages in Europe, Japanese samurai and ninjas, the Silla knights of Korea, African sword craft, Islamic designs, and more. Although the author, a former video-game designer, "would have it known that [his] qualifications are modest," he manages to portray an incredible variety of styles, from hilts to blades to the intricate metalwork that makes each sword not just a weapon but also a work of art. It's easy to get caught up in his enthusiasm, and the right reader will spend hours poring over every loving detail. Give this to fans of history, art, or swordplay fantasies.—*Rebecca Donnelly, Loma Colorado Public Library, Rio Rancho, NM*
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Review

"As a sword lover, turning the pages of this book makes my pulse accelerate. More alive than photography, Ben Boos's stunning illustrations capture both the reality and the myth of the weapons. Swords is a treasure." — Suzanne Collins

From the Publisher

- * IRA-CBC Children's Choice Book Award Finalist
- * IRA-CBC Children's Choice Booklist
- * VOYA - Nonfiction Honor List
- * CYBIL Award - Shortlist
- * IRA-CBC Children's Choice Booklist
- * ALA Quick Picks for Reluctant YA Readers
- * Parents' Choice Awards Recommended

Users Review

From reader reviews:

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