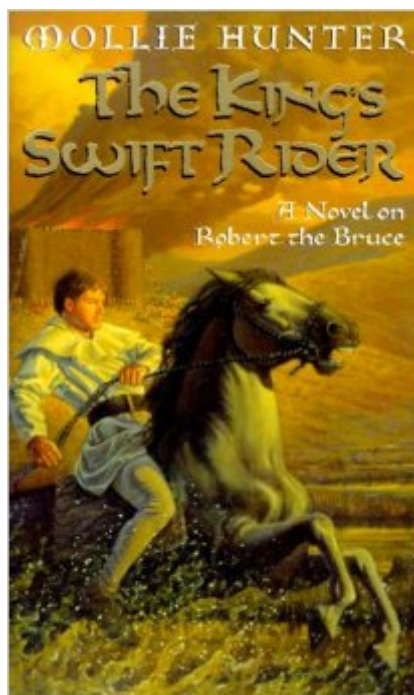


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# The King's Swift Rider: A Novel On Robert The Bruce



## Synopsis

The perfect spy While hunting for his family's dinner on the moor, sixteen-year-old Martin Crawford spies a lone man being hunted by five armed soldiers. He succeeds in rescuing the man, and is shocked to learn that he is none other than Robert the Bruce--rightful King of Scots. Martin wants to lead a quiet life; he is a scholar. But when the Bruce asks him to join his army and help to regain Scotland's freedom from the brutal English king, Martin cannot say no. But he can refuse to fight. No matter what the Bruce or anyone else, says to him, Martin will not pick up a sword. Instead he will be the king's swift rider, a vital link in the Bruce's information network. Soon Martin is risking his life as one of the king's most trusted spies. For he knows that victory over the English will give the Scots their freedom, but defeat will keep them slaves forever.... 00-01 Tayshas High School Reading List

## Book Information

Paperback: 336 pages

Publisher: HarperTeen (January 26, 2000)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0064472167

ISBN-13: 978-0064472166

Product Dimensions: 4.2 x 0.7 x 6.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.1 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (16 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,885,910 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #53 in [Books > Teens > Historical Fiction > Biographical > European](#) #343 in [Books > Teens > Historical Fiction > Medieval](#) #617 in [Books > Teens > Historical Fiction > Military](#)

## Customer Reviews

The book, *The King's Swift Rider*, is one of the best books I have ever read to date. I like to read books on historical fiction because you learn of the past and use it in the present to help you make decisions of things you go through. You also learn of things that you never knew took place. The main character, Martin Crawford, a young Scottish person, joined the alliance with the Robert the Bruce, king of scots, in 1290's. The Bruce is at war with King Edward, who is known as Longshanks. Martin's mother sends his brother, Sean, and him off to fight with the Bruce. Martin is not a fighting person, but he is a very clever lad, so the Bruce made him his page. As time goes on, the Bruce wins many battles and Longshanks dies. Martin's mother also dies in the book. After his mother's

death, the king makes Martin his swift rider. Martin goes through many adventures and many more battles to come in the book.

Although this story is told through the eyes of Martin Crawford, a young Scot in the late 1300's, it's really about Robert the Bruce, King of Scots, and his passionate fight for freedom from England's rule. Many have said that this book's more for boys, but I'm a girl and I loved it, SO THERE! :P It reminds me a lot of America's own fight for independence. If you like historical fiction, Scotland, male heroes, or people with wits rather than brains, then you'll LOVE this book. I know I did.

Martin at the age of sixteen saves Robert the Bruce, King of Scots from the British and their men. The Bruce needs soldiers for his very small army. Martin's mother told the Bruce that he could have Martin and his older brother Sean. Martin doesn't want to fight in any army, so the king has other ideas for him. Martin can read and write. This is very useful for the king. Sean, Martin's older brother joins the army and uses his dead father's spear. There are many battles in this book. The Scots win a lot of them. This rallies up more soldiers just as the Bruce wanted. Martin is sent on spy missions to find out what the British army is going to do or when they are going to attack. The Bruce wants to win this war badly, for his family's sake. His family was killed by the British, and they also took his daughter hostage in a castle. Winning the war also means Scotland's freedom. You will have to read the book to see if Scotland gets its freedom back, or if the Bruce gets his daughter back. I liked this book because it has a lot of action. There are battles when you have no idea what is going to happen. It keeps you thinking, or wondering what is going to happen. You could expect something to happen but the exact opposite happens. There is nothing that I didn't like about this book. It gets right into action right away and that is what I like. I would want someone to read this book if they liked action / war books. Books that have hand- to- hand battles. This book just grabs your attention. I would recommend it to someone that loves battles. Not to someone who wants a book about a pretty pony. This book has some blood or brutal combat.

Except for a few stylistic adverbs that could have been eliminated or changed, this is an excellent novel about Robert the Bruce's unwavering quest to free Scotland from English tyranny. It is told through the eyes of Martin, a young boy who inadvertently saves the Bruce and who then becomes the king's swift rider, a person who delivers messages to the king's various friends and allies. Martin also spies for him. I got a good sense of the history that was happening during those turbulent years of the late 13th century and the miracle of the Bruce's victory over the English.

THE KING'S SWIFT RIDER Mollie Hunter Have you ever thought of being in the army in the medieval times, fighting for the Bruce, King of all Scott's? Well this is what happened to a boy named Martin. This book is about Martin fighting for the Bruce. I liked this book because I like knights and battles. I also like history about main events. One main event in the story is when the Scots killed thousands of English soldiers in one single castle! The moral to this story is to believe in yourself, have trust and do things for reasons, not just for fun. One example is being mean to somebody or something for no good reason. That is what the English did to the Scots. I think people who like history and war should read this book.

This is a young adult book regarding the history of Robert the Bruce who fought the English at the Battle of Bannockburn. It is very well written and really gives a good look at "The Bruce". I got to know him much better, how he and the troops prayed before the battle, the fierce loyalty and love his men had for him and the mercy he demanded be given the enemy if asked for. Don't let the fact that it was written for teenage readers keep you from enjoying this tale if you are older. Anyone can read this and learn from it!

Although this story is told through the eyes of Martin Crawford, a young Scot in the late 13th century, it's really about Robert the Bruce, King of Scots, and his passionate fight for freedom from England's rule. Many have said that this book's more for boys, but I'm a girl and I loved it, SO THERE! :P It reminds me a lot of America's own fight for independence. If you like historical fiction, Scotland, male heroes, or people with wits rather than brains, then you'll LOVE this book. I know I did.

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