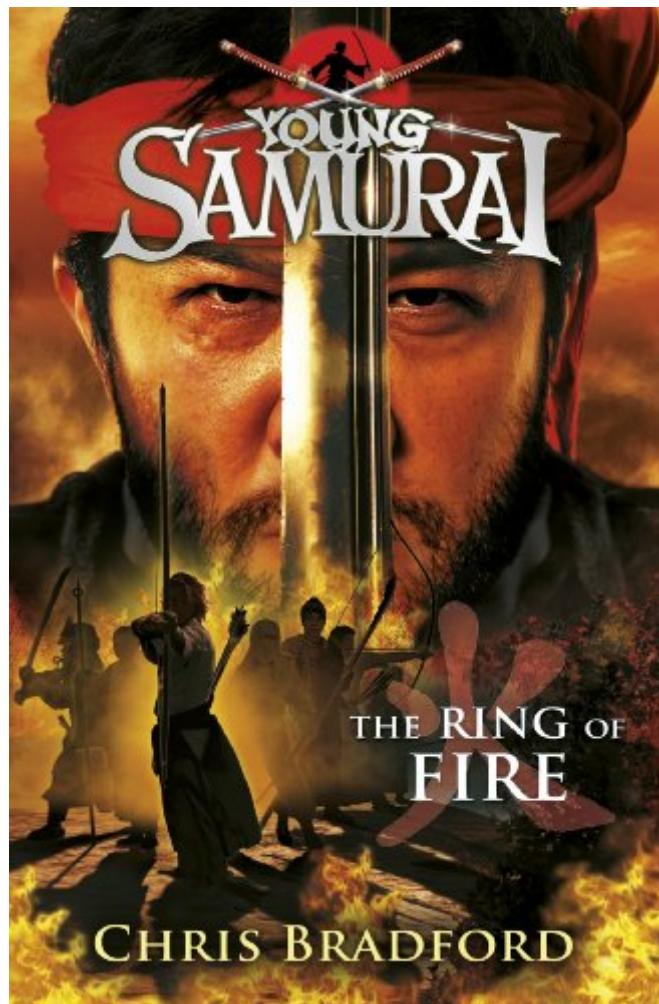


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# The Ring Of Fire (Young Samurai, Book 6): The Ring Of Fire



## **Synopsis**

JACK FLETCHER FACES HIS TOUGHEST CHALLENGE YET. After a snowstorm forces him to take shelter, Jack comes across a village in need of protection from raiding mountain bandits. Torn between moving on or helping, Jack is persuaded to stay and fight the villagers' cause. But Jack is the first and only samurai to do so. Now he must enlist other warriors to the villagers' aid before the bandits return to steal their harvest. No easy task when the reward is so little and he is a foreigner. If only he had his friends to call on...Using the Ring of Fire, can Jack overpower the bandits and win?

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

The Young Samurai series is a fun addition to Young Adult adventure stories. Chris Bradford is not a great writer, his character's dialogue (especially in the first book) can be incredibly un-natural, melodramatic and awkwardly expository, but he is a good story teller. So I recommend the series. That being said, I want to harp on a few things that bug me about the series. One is forgivable. Bradford takes us back to 17th century Japan and creates a European take on the co-ed Samurai High School genre. He incorporates much of the history, culture and even the brutality of the era--but he tosses much of the sexism out. Understandable. It makes the story more appealing

to have co-ed Samurai students, who are always, always, always called "Young Samurai" lest you forget the meme. But what bugs me is that even after 6 novels Jack still manages to dance around the fact that the lethal battles he constantly finds himself embroiled in are about killing people. For all that, Jack really never has to own up to that brutality. Instead, Jack is almost always on the defensive and only cuts samurai top knots off, or cuts people's clothes off, just wounds people, or his enemies trip and accidentally fall off buildings or on to sharpened weapons, or in battle \*other characters\* have to kill to save him. But not Jack, not even with all his pirate and ninja skills. I can't recall if Jack is ever described as actually killing any of his many, many opponents outright. I understand why Chris Bradford would wish to keep Jack innocent in spite of his years of lethal training--but Bradford does it in a sort of dishonest way.

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