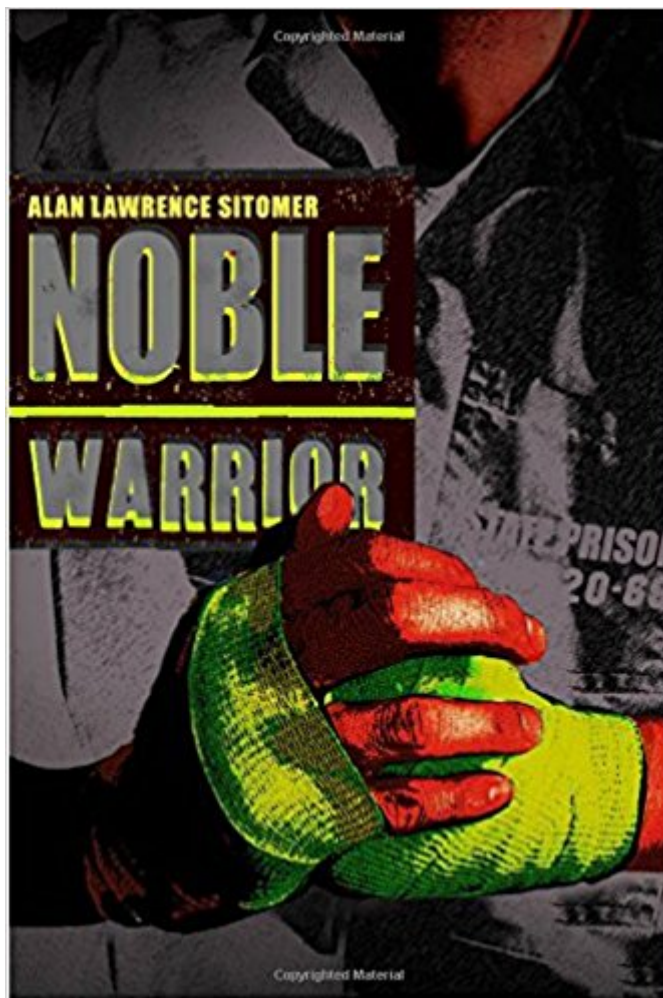


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Noble Warrior (Caged Warrior)



Synopsis

After placing teenage mixed martial arts phenom McCutcheon Daniels and his mother and sister in the Witness Relocation Program, the FBI comes to realize they have a unique asset on their hands. Recruited to help the FBI, McCutcheon finds himself hunting bad guys. But when he discovers that the notorious Priests have targeted Kaitlyn-the girl he loves and was forced to leave behind-as a way to seek revenge on the Daniels family, MD convinces the FBI to send him right into the belly of the beast: Jenkells State Penitentiary where the mob boss of Detroit is serving time. Yet in his universe where up is down, McCutcheon ends up disavowed by the government and left to rot in one of America's most notorious prisons. It's there he connects with his father and discovers the truth about his circumstances. McCutcheon, a trained urban warrior, escapes and sets out for revenge on those who betrayed him and his family.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Gr 9 Up • Recruited by the F.B.I. as an urban warrior, 17-year-old McCutcheon "M.D."

Daniels is a martial-arts phenom fighting gang violence in his Detroit hometown. In this sequel to Caged Warrior (Disney-Hyperion, 2014), M.D. is lured out of the Witness Protection Program to infiltrate a prison, and knock off "The High Priest," leader of the Detroit gang responsible for numerous atrocities of domestic terrorism and forcing M.D.'s family into hiding. Disconnected from his girlfriend, Kaitlin, M.D. fears for her safety and accepts the (supposedly) three-day mission at Jentles Penitentiary, (or "D.T" Devil's Toilet), which houses the most notorious felons in Michigan,

including M.D.'s own dead-beat father. Once inside, it becomes clear to readers that M.D. has an ulterior motive for wanting "in," and that his mentor, Colonel Stanzer, may have purposely arranged this as a no-return suicide mission for the teenager whose ethics often get in the way of F.B.I. goals. Captive, and at the mercy of his conniving father and crooked guards, M.D. relies on martial arts strategies to stay calm, focused, and alert. Gritty fighting details keep the well-paced drama flowing, and it is suspenseful to the end as obstacles mount for M.D.'s possible escape, and motives of minor characters seem to add up to an ultimate betrayal for the teen. Some raw language and situational violence inherent in urban gang warfare juxtaposes M.D.'s strong moral values, for even more hero appeal. VERDICT Not just for martial-arts fans, but for all teen readers who thrive on roller-coaster action and drama. —Vicki Reutter, State University of New York at Cortland

A teenage mixed martial arts genius works covert ops for the U.S. government. It's been 10 months since the witness protection program whisked McCutcheon "M.D." Daniels and his little sister away from their miserable lives in Detroit. In that time, M.D. has been working with the military, training in the arts of black ops, and occasionally going into the field and using his unique set of skills to catch predators. Meanwhile, back home, the Priests have targeted M.D.'s abandoned flame and his father in efforts to draw the boy that got away out from hiding. It all comes to a head with an undercover M.D. entering Jentles State Prison, a facility notorious for breaking prisoners beyond imagination. Sitomer's *Caged Warrior* (2014) was an exciting action thriller that leaned into its darkest elements in smart, interesting ways. Unfortunately this sequel can't pull off the same balancing act. This scenario involving top-secret government agencies and Supermax prisons is completely removed from the reality established in the previous book. Instead of escalating the stakes, the author has blown them up to comic-book levels. When everything is so big and so tough and so gritty and so violent, there's no room for hope, nor is there much room for reader engagement. The book concludes with a beat that feels cribbed from *The Shawshank Redemption* and a hint at further books. Few readers will want to follow. A sequel that destroys the goodwill established by its predecessor. (Thriller. 12-16) Kirkus"

Someone needs to tell Mr. Sitomer that sequels are not supposed to be better than the original. This book kept me glued to my chair on a beautiful summer's day and made me sad when I reached the last page because it was over. Action lurks in almost every single page of this realistic tale. I think that many middle school students could handle this book socially, but I agree the target audience is high school. This book includes gangs, gang leaders, prisoners that could not be trusted, and even

questions certain undercover government agents' verity. Often the reader is left wondering who to trust. Urban life in Detroit is scary. Here he portrays life in the bankrupt city that cuts back on police protection for budgetary reasons. It shows crooked guards cooperating with crooked detectives. There are so many conflicts within the various story lines that discussions could run forever. I have yet to read a Sitomer book that disappointed me even slightly, but this is one of his best.

My husband is a fan of MMA. He read Caged Warrior first, and decided to read this one too. It follows the story where Caged left off.

Alan Sitomer's books are awesome!

The book came a few days earlier than expected and that was a huge surprise for me! The book was in okay condition, with some scratches on the cover, dents in the pages and a weird, maybe food, stain on the pages as well. Overall, I'm satisfied and I understand the book is used and won't be in pristine conditions, of course. Thank you so much, I can't wait to read it!

Excellent book! The author is an amazing writer! Read Caged Warrior first, however.

4.5 stars* Noble Warrior was a gritty, fast-paced read that kept me turning pages into the wee hours of the morning. (Fights! Bang! Boom! Mean people! Everybody fend for themselves! Jerk faces galore!!! MOAR fighting! Liars! BIG FIGHT!) I had no idea until about halfway through Noble Warrior that it was book two in a series! Nevertheless, book one wasn't really needed to read NW, as Mr. Sitomer tied everything together well with quick explanations here and there. There's no backstory or anything. As for the premise of Noble Warrior, the blurb pretty much explains it all. What you don't expect, however, is 1) how graphic it's going to be and 2) how much you're going to continually question everything. I was never completely sure who was actually on Daniels' side up to the very end! So many characters turned out to be different people than I thought they were! The constant back and forth is one of the things that kept me turning the pages. I loved that about NW. I *had* to know what was going to happen next. Speaking of what was going to happen, the ending surprised me. I don't want to say anymore than that, because spoilers, but man, that one turn kinda made me sad. Was it a set up for book three? Yeah. But still. :((Am I going to read the next book? Heck yes.) If you like vivid descriptions, martial arts, frank talk between guys,

and enjoy reading about gang and FBI politics, OR are looking for something different and bold, I highly recommend Noble Warrior.*** I received an ARC of Noble Warrior from a blogger friend. Thanks, Jen! :D** Though the MC was of normal YA character age, due to graphic violence, crude language, and sexual references, I'd say Noble Warrior is most definitely for *mature* YA audiences only.

As somebody who only read the description for author Alan Lawrence Sitomer's Noble Warrior, I was pretty intrigued. The premise sounded like Prison Break with a teenager and a lot more mixed martial arts. As somebody who has been practicing MMA for almost six years, I was hyped up to get reading a novel about a badass teen who will kick some serious ass. What I didn't know was that Noble Warrior was a sequel (oops) but rest assured to anyone who reads this review and is interested in skipping Caged Warrior you can definitely read Noble Warrior as a stand-alone. In Noble Warrior our main character McCutcheon Daniels has been placed in the Witness Security Program alongside his once-absent mother and the light of his life, his younger sister. McCutcheon has dedicated his entire life to supporting his younger sister and giving her everything that she needs. Upon entering the Witness Security Program, M.D. has given up the girl he loves and the life he had as an underground fighter. Newly recruited into the F.B.I. as a unique soldier, McCutcheon begins tracking down the bad guys and performing top secret missions within the Bureau. However when he finds out that in his hometown of Detroit that the city's reigning criminal organization the Priests have McCutcheon's girl, Kaitlyn, he's made a deal: Enter the Jentles State Prison where the Priests' boss is being detained and take him out, and his girl goes free. What once seemed like a simple mission is proven to be far more heinous and secretive than M.D. could even begin to imagine. And within the prison, McCutcheon is reunited with his father. The man who he's despised for his unfair treatment of both himself and his sister. Now trapped within a prison that threatens to devour him, McCutcheon begins to plot his escape. What I enjoyed most about Noble Warrior was most likely the writing style. It was very fluent and consistent and made it easy to tap into McCutcheon's brain and determine the setting through his eyes. McCutcheon himself is a very unique character. He's your typical overprotective big brother, sure, but he's also a total badass. And unlike most badass hotties in the YA-verse, McCutcheon would never dream of sacrificing the people closest to him for love or anything of the like. He's a very complex

character and one who is without question one of the best good guys. I loved him. And I imagined that he was particularly muscular. Always an additional bonus, you know? Throughout Noble Warrior there is constant action and plot twists. Whenever the narrative begins to reach a lull, you can quickly find the novel snapping back to its previous fast pace. Personally, I wasn't the greatest fan of the curved pacing in Noble Warrior, but there is no denying that the story itself is very original and action-packed. The way that Noble Warrior is written and the way it flows makes me wish that I had read Caged Warrior in order to see just what it is that McCutcheon went through before this novel. The realism in Noble Warrior is a bit questionable, but it is fiction and is definitely the kind of novel that could be placed on par with the likes of Sin City. There is no ignoring the fact that Noble Warrior is placed in a dark world with crude intentions. Readers question both their morality and McCutcheon's own when he's faced with possibly breaking his own rule. My only real issue with the novel would be the constant reaffirmation that McCutcheon is a warrior. If I had a dime for each time it was reiterated, I'd probably have a bill in my wallet. I would recommend Noble Warrior to any readers who are looking for (as stated above) a novel that is all about action. I think that plenty of male readers will fall in love with this novel as it's thick with testosterone. Any readers who are looking for a tale filled with betrayal, thrills, and mystery should also give Noble Warrior a go.

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