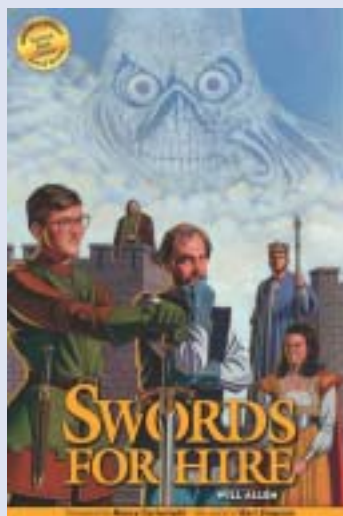


National
Award-winner



Swords for Hire:
Two of the most unlikely
heroes you'll ever meet

by Will Allen

Foreword by Nancy Cartwright,
the voice of Bart Simpson

ISBN 0-9724882-0-0

Publication date April 2003

168 page Trade Paperback

\$6.95

Available nationally at
bookstores or online.

Bookstores and libraries
can order through national
wholesalers, including Ingram
and Baker & Taylor.

Distributed to the trade by
Biblio Distribution, a division
of National Book Network,
800-462-6420

Centerpunch Press
P.O. Box 43151
Cincinnati OH 45243

www.SwordsBook.com

Advance praise for
Swords for Hire

“What a remarkable novel...I was blown away”

[Writer's Digest](#)

“It will delight children, teens, and adults alike”

[ForewordReviews](#)

“A rollicking, clever novel—hard to put down”

[Midwest Book Review](#)

“A classic adventure smashing through clichés”

[Bookreview.com](#)

“A must-read for fans of *The Princess Bride*”

[TheBestReviews.com](#)

“A strong, fun tale that will keep you reading”

[GottaWriteNetwork.com](#)

“The perfect balance of adventure and humor”

[MyShelf.com](#)

“Charming and funny from beginning to end”

[YetAnotherBookReview.com](#)

“I couldn't put it down—Swords for Hire rocks!”

[Nancy Cartwright, the voice of Bart Simpson](#)

“Five-Stars ★★★★★ Highly Recommended”

[Huntress Reviews](#)

“Very funny, will have you laughing out loud”

[Writers Unlimited](#)

“Comical and fun, this book has it all—fantastic”

[It's Only Ink](#)

“Engaging, destined to be read again and again”

[Scribblers](#)

“Silly, gross, juvenile, and very much fun to read”

[Fearless Reviews](#)

ForeWordreviews.com

Swords for Hire



Two of the most unlikely heroes you'll ever meet

The familiar story of king, villain, fair maiden, and rescuer takes on a fresh spin in this comical retelling with modern vernacular. King Olive has spent the last three years in the deepest, darkest dungeon in the land of Parmall, while Boonder, the diabolical brother who staged his death, rules as the new king. The stupid, greasy Boonder, who has a penchant for putting worms on his head, also forces a poor peasant girl, Melinda, to be his wife.

In another part of the land, sixteen-year-old Sam Hatcher, now legally a man, must choose a profession. A dreamer who longs to travel, Sam knows he cannot farm like his father. He learns, however, that his father once served in King Olive's Royal Guard and that his father's connections may secure him a similar position. Because of his inexperience in the art of war, the young man is sent to serve as an apprentice to Rigby Skeet, an unorthodox "unit of one" and "sword for hire."

After discovering that the true king still lives, Rigby and Sam set out on a true adventure. This seemingly inept duo become heroes, as they face secret passageways, a fire-wielding sorcerer, plenty of sword fights, and the infamous Boneman who guards King Olive's cell. Like any good fairy tale, they save the king and rescue the fair maiden—or perhaps vice versa!

Author Will Allen wrote this novel twenty-two years ago before his death to cancer. Now published by his brother, readers will revel in the story's charm, humor, and numerous twists and turns, which undoubtedly played a part in its receiving a Writer's Digest Award. A foreword by Nancy Cartwright, Allen's friend and the voice of Bart on television's *The Simpsons*, adds further interest to this book that will delight children, teens, and adults alike.

Angela Leeper

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Hilarious, a page-turner. What a remarkable novel—funny, surprising, rich characters. Will Allen makes this classic adventure fresh and exciting. This book is a testament to the power of dialogue. I was so blown away by Allen's ability to not only propel the story, but flesh out the characters through their own voices. Kids will dream of being Swords for hire.

[Writer's Digest](#)

A rollicking, clever novel, *Swords For Hire* is one of those heroic action fantasy novels that are so easy to pick up and so hard to put down.

[Midwest Book Review](#)

Swords for Hire is silly, gross, juvenile, highly improbable, and very much fun to read. There are short-lived sword fights, a maiden almost in distress, and lots of wisecracks between the two swords for hire that remind one of Han Solo's swaggering braggadocio in the original *Star Wars*. Will Allen got rid of the extra stuff and kept the good parts in this comic fantasy aimed at adolescents as well as the adolescent-at-heart.

[Fearless Reviews](#)

I found this to be a smart read that doesn't take itself seriously, filled with great characterization, quirky and funny dialogue, and a sense of irreverence that will make it a fun read for kids and adults. The writer plays with the conventions of the genre, poking fun at it while telling a strong tale that will keep you reading. The characters are wonderful... the good guys are admirable, the bad guys are icky, and even the sole female plays a wonderful and brave role.

[GottaWriteNetwork.com](#)

This adventure will have you laughing out loud. I decided to read this book to my children—ages twelve, nine and six—as I read it myself. We started one morning and finished that night—the girls didn't want me to stop until we had finished. They perched on the edge of their seats when Sam and Rigby would get into a dangerous situation and would roll on the floor laughing when Sam or Rigby said something funny, which was often. I enjoyed it as much as they did—it was a delightful adventure.

[Writer's Unlimited](#)

Swords for Hire is remarkable. Readers who enjoy fantasy adventure will love this comical and fun book that has it all: Dark dungeons, betrayal, kidnapping, magic, evil, and treachery, plus much more. This reviewer found it extremely satisfying, enjoyable and fantastic.

[It's Only Ink](#)

I found this story to be an absolute delight! All through the book I chuckled and often I found myself laughing out loud. This book will make young readers want to read.

[Huntress Reviews](#)

When 22-year-old Will Allen's life was taken by melanoma, he left behind an amazing legacy—his writing! The perfect balance of adventure and humor, this engaging tale of a missing king, a misfit royal soldier, and a coming-of-age farm boy is absolutely delightful. The story is fast-paced and easy to read, making it a joy for both parents and children.

[MyShelf.com](#)

The story is fast and fun and often surprising, taking a classic adventure and saturating it with humor and irony, smashing through clichés as quickly as the protagonists smash through obstacles. This story was loved by every kid from age seven to age fifteen, and the adults who read it loved it even more.

[BookReview.com](#)

If you are a fan of books such as *The Princess Bride*, this is a must-read. This quick, easy, fun read will appeal to fantasy readers of all ages. There's a little something for everyone in this humorous page-turning adventure.

[The Best Reviews](#)