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Outlaws Of Time: The Legend Of Sam Miracle



Synopsis

This new fantasy-adventure series from N. D. Wilson, bestselling author of *100 Cupboards*, pits a misfit twelve-year-old against a maniacal villain with a deadly vendetta. This one-of-a-kind story is a must-read for fans of Brandon Mull and Soman Chainani, and the start of a thrilling tale from a masterful storyteller. Sam Miracle's life is made up of dreams, dreams where he's a courageous, legendary hero instead of a foster kid with two bad arms that can barely move. Sometimes these dreams feel so real, they seem like forgotten memories. And sometimes they make him believe that his arms might come alive again. But Sam is about to discover that the world he knows and the world he imagines are separated by only one thing: time. And that separation is only an illusion. The laws of time can be bent and shifted by people with special magic that allows them to travel through the past, present, and future. But not all of these "time walkers" can be trusted. One is out to protect Sam so that he can accept his greatest destiny, and another is out to kill him so that a prophecy will never be fulfilled. However, it's an adventurous girl named Glory and two peculiar snakes who show Sam the way through the dark paths of yesterday to help him make sure there will be a tomorrow for every last person on earth.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (113 customer reviews)

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Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

N.D. Wilson has become a bestselling author by perfecting a triad: tipping his hat to the best that history and legend have to offer, showing kids that they don't have to be British or a wizard or the son of a Greek god to live adventures that matter, and letting his own imagination run wild. *Leepike Ridge* combines Huck Finn with *Treasure Island*, beating with a Pacific Northwest heart; *100 Cupboards* turns Kansas into a Platform 9 3/4 that leads to dozens of different worlds; *Boys of Blur* springs from the swamps of Florida with bones of football and *Beowulf*; *Ashtown Burials* places an entire order of Indiana Joneses on the shores of Lake Michigan; and now here's *The Legend of Sam Miracle*, a must-read mashup of Western, superhero, and time-hop. I have to admit, time-travel stories irritate me as a rule. And I hate the desert. But Wilson won me over on both in this blistering adventure about gunslinging misfit preteen superhero Sam Miracle desperate to rescue his sister from the devil of an outlaw: El Buitre. The Vulture. Sam is destined to kill El Buitre in a gunfight. Sam knows this. El Buitre knows this. Victory has already been written in the book of Sam's life. But what can Sam do when El Buitre controls time itself? What can he do when El Buitre keeps rewinding the story to kill Sam first? What can he do when he escapes death—but El Buitre's bullets shatter both his arms? Every hero needs to be part nightmare. Sam becomes Poncho: the legendary hero with two grafted rattlesnakes for arms and the fastest draw of all time. Only he stands a chance against El Buitre before El Buitre devours all the riches and cultures, cities and peoples of the world.

Outlaws of Time is Louis L'Amour's *Lonesome Gods* meets *Doctor Who* told through the voice of a modern Flannery O'Connor for boys—set in the sticky Arizona desert. And just to make it a little more of a tilt-a-whirl, reminiscent of *Doctor Who* and Flannery O'Connor, every name and every symbol has layered meaning. How many times have I fallen in love with the Doctor from the new *Doctor Who*? More than I can count. Every single time Nine, Ten, or Eleven raged against the odds, ignored the plan and decided that this time everyone lives. I was thrilled to be a Whovian. It is hard to resist a hero who uses up his lives to travel through space and time to stop the enemies that would destroy us all while knowing that he is laying out his life for others instead of himself. It is hard not to admire a hero who pushes back against the chaos and evil of a fallen world. The man who saved me more times than anyone will ever know just died because of me. Died for me. (Outlaws of Time) For several years of my life, *Doctor Who* filled an important place in my imagination and even a small place in my moral imagination. There was so much about *Doctor Who* that was courageous, noble, and heroic. So much to love. So many companions who were just normal folks doing extraordinary things and laying down their lives

because of their faith in the Doctor and his love for what was right. There was much to feast on.â œl
have found that violence is strangely capable of returning my characters to reality and preparing
them to accept their moment of grace.â • (Flannery Oâ™Connor, *Mystery and Manners*)Over the
seasons, however, the moral complexities and the wacky spiritual content grew and evolved into
places I just wasnâ™t comfortable with.

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