



Secret of the Stones

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[Matthew Martin](#) [3]

~~Editor's Choice:~~

off

Media type:

Book

BfK Rating:

5

This fast-paced story of Bronze Age adventure and discovery will bring the period to life for young readers and far more vividly than even the best history book. The story begins at Stone Henge, already a place of wonder to the people who live nearby. Maglos is the son of the High Priest and his father Daguno is preparing to sacrifice a bull at the great mid-summer festival. But Daguno's brother Tigran is jealous and at the moment of sacrifice takes the axe and slaughters his brother. Maglos is saved only when two strangers in the crowd take him as a slave. In the depth of his misery, Maglos feels as though he too is already dead, but his life is about to take a new turn. The two foreigners who saved him are kind and take care of him while he grieves for his father. They are travelling metal-workers, criss-crossing England making and selling copper weapons, jewellery and other items. Maglos is fascinated by the process of making copper and readers will be too. Eventually, armed with a fine bronze sword he is able to return to Stone Henge and take his rightful place at the altar.

The story unfolds through the eyes of Maglos, who in Tony Bradman's skilful telling comes across as a living, breathing boy. There's a great deal of historical information for readers, but cleverly woven into the story so that it is fully part of the adventure. It's real page-turning stuff, and will be for even the most reluctant readers.

Tony Bradman selects ten of the best historical novels in [BfK 226](#) [4].

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