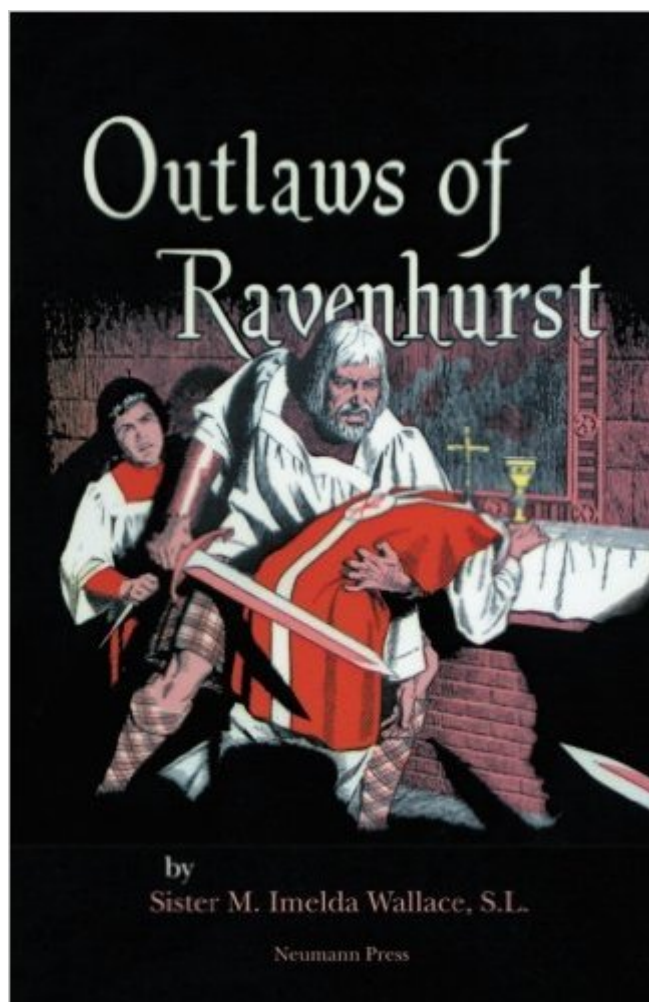


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# Outlaws Of Ravenhurst



## Synopsis

"The Earls of Ravenhurst must always stand for God and Our Blessed Lady, let the cost be what it may!" In seventeenth-century Scotland lies Ravenhurst, the stronghold of Clan Gordon, a family whose reputation for defending their people and their Catholic faith is legendary. But now the rights and lives of Scottish Catholics are in grave peril, and a traitorous usurper controls the clan. With the help of his mother, the heretic priest, and other heroic allies, young Charles Gordon must strive in the face of persecution and martyrdom to defend the true faith and restore to Ravenhurst a good, noble, loyal, and Catholic earl. *The Outlaws of Ravenhurst* has been a popular children's classic for almost a century. Filled with sword fights, secret passages, and mysterious strangers, this tale of adventure and intrigue portrays lives of courageous virtue amid trials and dangers. The bold spirit, selfless charity, and heroic sacrifice of *The Outlaws of Ravenhurst* are sure to stir in the hearts of Catholic readers, both young and old, a deep love for their faith and a passion to defend it.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Since the days of Henry VIII, Great Britain has been generally hostile to Catholics. Over the past 100 years, this hostility has mainly been manifested as sneering conceit in mass market and academic publications and lampooning on comedy shows. Closer to Henry's time, it was white-hot hatred. Though practically everyone knows about the Spanish Inquisition (at least, a sensational notion of it), few people know that Catholic practice and belief was effectively outlawed in Britain and that priests could and did suffer capital punishment just for the crime of being a priest. This ignorance of history is what makes a book like *Outlaws of Ravenhurst* so valuable. The title conjures

up images of highland bandits--the scourge of the countryside--preying on all those unlucky enough to cross their paths. Who would think that the outlaws were, in fact, practicing Catholics and a "renegade" priest? Outlaws of Ravenhurst is the story of a young boy and the Catholic Faith. At a tender age, "George" (as he is called at the beginning of the book) is spirited away by a mysterious stranger to colonial America--Maryland to be specific. There he is raised by the Abells, a pioneer family of the best Catholic tradition, with a dozen children. When he turns age 10, his Uncle Roger arrives from Scotland to take charge of the boy. It turns out that "George" is actually Gordon, the scion of a noble Scottish family. Roger, and his scheming cohort Godfrey, intend to make the boy into a "proper" heir, and that means teaching him to renounce the Catholic faith of his mother and father, as well as his foster parents. But before Roger and Godfrey can put their plan in motion, Gordon meets his true mother and his Uncle Steven, a renegade Catholic priest.

I have a very special history with this book. As a child and a young person I was not a good reader. In seventh grade the nun took out 40 books from the library and we had to pick one to write a book report on for class. Well, the last book was "The Outlaws of Ravenhurst", and I was the LAST hand to go up ....so I got the book!!! I was dreading plowing through this assignment. MY mother was a teacher so she said she would "help" me. Long story short, she read the book that night and told me the next day that it was wonderful, just perfect for me, full of history, which I DID love, and excitement!!! I started the book, not really believing her, and I couldn't get over how much I enjoyed the story, just like my Mother said!! I couldn't believe a nun, Sr. Imelda Wallace, could write such an exciting book!! ha,ha. I really had fun writing the report, I told the nun it was the Best book I had ever read!! I think she knew my list was very short but I got an A+ on the report. More important, that was the beginning of my love of reading. My struggle with reading continued, but I found books on a lower reading level at first and worked my way up in only a year or two. Reading is a powerful tool for everyone especially young children. I will always remember Sister Dennis and the famous "BookReport". It truly changes my life. I went on to become a teacher also, and work very hard with all my children to instill the love of reading in them. Every day I read a part of a story to them right before they went home. I always picked funny and exciting books.

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