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Interview with Mary Ann Bernal

Do you remember the first story you ever read, and the impact it had on you?

I fell in love with medieval England after reading Sir Walter Scott's *Ivanhoe* in my sophomore year of high school, but my interests soon turned towards the Dark Ages when the Vikings harassed the civilized world once Hollywood released such blockbusters as *The Vikings*, *The Longships*, and *Erik the Viking*. Add to the mix Alfred the Great, Prince Valiant, and King Arthur, and an incurable romantic anglophile was born.

When did you first start writing?

My love of writing started when I was in high school. My novels have subtle themes that shed light on problems we face today, such as the plight of the military family when a loved one is deployed. Society as a whole tends to take things for granted, such as freedom, which is not free. Stating a modern problem in a long ago age lessens preconceived attitudes and hopefully, alters opinions.

What is the greatest joy of writing for you?

My greatest joy is hearing from my fans. Taking the time to share their thoughts about the characters and stories is a rewarding experience.

What do you read for pleasure?

Frans G. Bengtsson's *The Long Ships*. *Roma: A Novel of Ancient Rome* by Steven Saylor. *William The Conqueror* by Jacob Abbot. *King Alfred the Great of England* by Jacob Abbott. *Marius' Mules I: The Invasion of Gaul* by S.J.A. Turney.

What are you working on next?

I am currently working with an audio book producer for the three novels in *The Briton and the Dane* trilogy.

How do you approach cover design?

Steven Novak, Novak Illustration, designed every cover for *The Briton and the Dane* series. Steven captured the essence of the storyline - warriors to protect the land from Viking invaders. He also poignantly represents the spirit of the multi-genre short stories collection, *Scribbler Tales*.

What do your fans mean to you?

It is become of my fans that my novels and short stories continue to thrive. I couldn't do it without them. A huge thank you for everyone following me and my work.

What is your e-reading device of choice?

I've enjoyed the Amazon Kindle device since it's inception. Last year, I added Amazon's Fire tablet, which has become my device of choice.

What book marketing techniques have been most effective for you?

Blogging and podcast interviews have been very effective.

How has Smashwords contributed to your success?

Smashwords' ability to distribute e-books to several markets has increased my visibility. The ease of dealing with one account vs. individual accounts for the markets served, saves time, time that can be spent on writing.

Published 2016-07-02.

Smashwords Interviews are created by the profiled author, publisher or reader.

Books by This Author

This interview has been viewed 7 times.



[The Briton and the Dane: Legacy \(Second Edition\)](#) by [Mary Ann Bernal](#)

Price: \$1.99 USD. Words: 115,890. Language: English. Published: April 6, 2016. Categories:

[Fiction](#) » [Historical](#) » [United Kingdom, Fiction](#) » [Romance](#) » [Historical](#)

□ □ □ □ □ (5.00)

Danish Prince Sven instigates a seaborne invasion, fueled partly by blind rage when he discovers that his brother, Prince Erik, has sworn fealty to the Anglo-Saxon king. Amidst the ferrous reverberation of a naval battle, one or all must die, and the fate of a nation hangs in the balance, one final time.



[Scribbler Tales Volume Three](#) by [Mary Ann Bernal](#)

Price: \$1.99 USD. Words: 10,050. Language: English. Published: April 6, 2016. Categories:

[Fiction](#) » [Anthologies](#) » [Short stories - single author, Fiction](#) » [Themes & motifs](#) » [Crime](#)

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Scribbler Tales Volume Three includes: Hidden Lies, Nightmare, Payback, The Night Stalker and Turning Point.



[The Briton and the Dane: Birthright \(Second Edition\)](#) by [Mary Ann Bernal](#)

Price: \$1.99 USD. Words: 90,600. Language: English. Published: March 27, 2016. Categories:

[Fiction](#) » [Historical](#) » [United Kingdom, Fiction](#) » [Romance](#) » [Historical](#)

□ □ □ □ □ (5.00)

Rigr demands his Birthright, but King Guthrum refuses his claim; thus, the bastard son assembles

his army while his father summons his forces. The bloodthirsty warriors confront each other on the windless plains of East Anglia, and the fate of England is in the hands of the gods of war.



[Scribbler Tales Volume Four](#) by [Mary Ann Bernal](#)

Price: \$1.99 USD. Words: 10,130. Language: English. Published: March 27, 2016. Categories: [Fiction](#) » [Anthologies](#) » [Short stories - single author, Fiction](#) » [Themes & motifs](#) » [Crime](#)

□ □ □ □ □ (5.00)

Scribbler Tales Volume Four includes: Abducted, Cunning, Enamored, Reckless, Safeguard.



[Scribbler Tales Volume One](#) by [Mary Ann Bernal](#)

Price: \$1.99 USD. Words: 12,560. Language: English. Published: March 15, 2016. Categories: [Fiction](#) » [Anthologies](#) » [Short stories - single author, Fiction](#) » [Themes & motifs](#) » [Crime](#)

□ □ □ □ □ (5.00)

Scribbler Tales Volume One includes: Desperate Measures, Forbidden Lore, Forever Lost, The Hourglass, Sail with Me.



[Scribbler Tales Volume Two](#) by [Mary Ann Bernal](#)

Price: \$1.99 USD. Words: 9,310. Language: English. Published: March 7, 2016. Categories: [Fiction](#) » [Anthologies](#) » [Short stories - single author, Fiction](#) » [Themes & motifs](#) » [Crime](#)

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Volume Two includes: Broken Promises, Deception, Endgame, Malice and The Portrait.



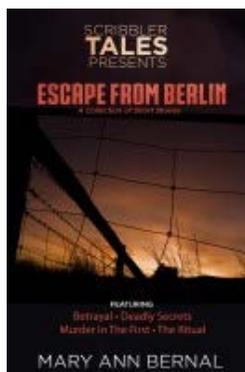
Scribbler Tales Volume Five by Mary Ann Bernal

Price: \$1.99 USD. Words: 9,770. Language: English. Published: March 1, 2016. Categories:

[Fiction](#) » [Anthologies](#) » [Short stories - single author, Fiction](#) » [Themes & motifs](#) » [Crime](#)

□ □ □ □ □ (5.00)

Volume five includes: Bloodlust, Illusion, Manhunt, Pandemic, Revenge



Scribbler Tales Presents Escape from Berlin by Mary Ann Bernal

Price: \$2.99 USD. Words: 26,390. Language: English. Published: February 25, 2016. Categories:

[Fiction](#) » [Anthologies](#) » [Short stories - single author, Fiction](#) » [Thriller & suspense](#) » [Spies & espionage](#)

□ □ □ □ □ (5.00)

Scribbler Tales Presents Escape from Berlin - A collection of short stories Featuring Betrayal, Deadly Secrets, Murder in the First, The Ritual Exclusive Bonus Material -Excerpts- The Briton and the Dane Novels



The Briton and the Dane (Second Edition) by Mary Ann Bernal

Price: \$0.99 USD. Words: 99,590. Language: English. Published: February 23, 2016. Categories:

[Fiction](#) » [Historical](#) » [United Kingdom, Fiction](#) » [Romance](#) » [Historical](#)

□ □ □ □ □ (5.00)

The Briton and the Dane is a story of love, betrayal, intrigue and warfare taking place in a realm of mystery and darkness, set in ninth century England when the bloodthirsty Vikings raped and pillaged their way across the length and the breadth of the windswept lands.



[The Briton and the Dane: The Complete Trilogy](#) by [Mary Ann Bernal](#)

Price: \$4.99 USD. Words: 304,060. Language: English. Published: February 13, 2016. Categories: [Fiction](#) » [Romance](#) » [Historical, Fiction](#) » [Historical](#) » [United Kingdom](#)

Second Edition: The Briton and the Dane novels bring to life the tumultuous ninth century when the formidable Vikings terrorized the civilized world. The epic adventure runs the gamut of deception, treachery, intrigue and betrayal during a time of war and conquest in Anglo-Saxon Britain.



[The Briton and the Dane: Timeline](#) by [Mary Ann Bernal](#)

Price: \$1.99 USD. Words: 56,400. Language: English. Published: January 23, 2016. Categories: [Fiction](#) » [Fantasy](#) » [Historical, Fiction](#) » [Romance](#) » [Time travel](#)
□ □ □ □ □ (5.00)

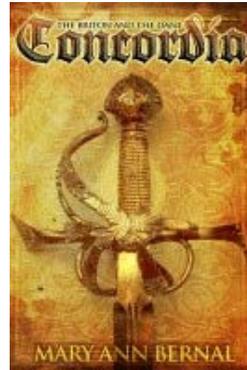
A beautiful archeologist besotted with an Anglo-Saxon nobleman is transported back to eleventh century England where treachery abounds as the childless king has yet to name his heir. Gwyneth is determined to learn the identities of the treacherous blackguards hiding in the shadows, but will she walk away or intervene, thereby changing the course of history to save the man she loves?



[Scribbler Tales Volumes One - Five](#) by [Mary Ann Bernal](#)

Price: \$4.99 USD. Words: 50,440. Language: English. Published: January 3, 2016. Categories: [Fiction](#) » [Anthologies](#) » [Short stories - single author, Fiction](#) » [Themes & motifs](#) » [Crime](#)

Volume One Desperate Measures; Forbidden Lore; Forever Lost; The Hourglass; Sail with Me
Volume Two Broken Promises; Deception; Endgame; Malice; The Portrait
Volume Three Hidden Lies; Nightmare; Payback; The Night Stalker; Turning Point
Volume Four Abducted; Cunning; Enamored; Reckless; Safeguard
Volume Five Bloodlust; Illusion; Manhunt; Pandemic; Revenge



[The Briton and the Dane: Concordia](#) by [Mary Ann Bernal](#)

Price: \$1.99 USD. Words: 74,420. Language: English. Published: December 30, 2015. Categories: [Fiction](#) » [Historical](#) » [Medieval, Fiction](#) » [Romance](#) » [Historical](#)

□ □ □ □ □ (5.00)

Captured by Saracen pirates, Concordia finds herself at the center of intrigue, plots, blackmail, betrayal and the vain desires of two egotistical brothers, each willing to die for her favor. While awaiting rescue, Concordia must defend her honor while plotting her escape somewhere inside steamy, unconquered Muslim Hispania.