

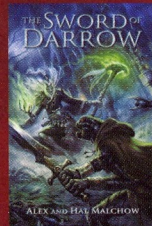
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## BookBet

### The Sword of Darrow



Headed for bookstores this summer, Hal and Alex Malchow's *The Sword of Darrow* is more than just a fantastical tale filled with princesses and goblins. The YA novel, published by Dallas, Texas-based BenBella Books, grew out of bedtime stories exchanged between father and son. "We had one that lasted more than 20 hours," says first-time author Hal Malchow.

Alex Malchow, who is dyslexic, took particular joy in creating the book's world. After two years of work, a tale of two unlikely heroes who must battle the forces of evil to reclaim their land emerged.

In terms of marketing, upwards of 10,000 copies have been distributed to US schools. And while the first priority is to have a successful book launch, publisher Glenn Yeffeth notes that all movie and TV rights still reside with the authors, and he foresees the book taking a different form in the future. "The story is very cinematic and I think it would work that way," he says. "I know Hal is already thinking about possible prequels and sequels." —Gary Rusak