

## Surprise attack

By Zoe

9.

My name is Rhiannon and I live in the Iceni Tribe in Norfolk.

Two moons ago I found it hard to sleep. I woke up quickly, gulped back a handful of dry oats and dressed in my woollen dress. I heard the comforting sound of grandmother's gentle snoring behind the curtain at the back of the round house.

I poked the embers of the fire and threw on my heavy cap and went outside to collect water. I touched the clasp of my cloak with the symbol of the horse ridden by our leader Queen Boudica.

I stepped into the coldness, it was early morning and mist was all around. I headed for the forest. I looked up and heard an owl hoot, I tripped on a tree root and hit my head on a branch. I must have been out for some time as when I came to the morning sun had risen and the forest was coming alive. I ripped my dress and my knee was badly cut with ruby red blood. Wild boar roamed these forest and I was eager not to come across a sow with her piglets as grandmother had told me they will fight to protect their young.

I scrambled back to the round house and found grandmother was gone and smoke rising from the central cooking grate. Where was everyone? In the distance I heard the clash of iron on iron, and the shouts of men and women at war. My heart beat fast. We had been attacked many times in the last weeks by Romans, who wanted our animals and home, each time we had lost more of our fighters. I heard the sounds of rhythmic Roman sandals tramping, reforming and pushing ahead. I heard the ox's horn blown, shouts from our chief to regroup and then the smell of smoke. I ran back to the round house and hid in the straw bedding. After sometime I heard heavy footsteps, the straw pushed apart and then the kiss of my grandmother.

"We've have won this time Rhiannon, may the gods protect us."