



His Majesty's Dragon: A Novel of Temeraire

By Naomi Novik

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Aerial combat brings a thrilling new dimension to the Napoleonic Wars as valiant warriors rise to Britain's defense by taking to the skies . . . not aboard aircraft but at the mighty backs of fighting dragons.

When HMS Reliant captures a French frigate and seizes its precious cargo, an unhatched dragon egg, fate sweeps Capt. Will Laurence from his seafaring life into an uncertain future—and an unexpected kinship with a most extraordinary creature. Thrust into the rarified world of the Aerial Corps as master of the dragon Temeraire, he will face a crash course in the daring tactics of airborne battle. For as France's own dragon-borne forces rally to breach British soil in Bonaparte's boldest gambit, Laurence and Temeraire must soar into their own baptism of fire.

From the Paperback edition.

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His Majesty's Dragon: A Novel of Temeraire By Naomi Novik Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

In this delightful first novel, the opening salvo of a trilogy, Novik seamlessly blends fantasy into the history of the Napoleonic wars. Here be dragons, beasts that can speak and reason, bred for strength and speed and used for aerial support in battle. Each nation has its own breeds, but none are so jealously guarded as the mysterious dragons of China. Veteran Capt. Will Laurence of the British Navy is therefore taken aback after his crew captures an egg from a French ship and it hatches a Chinese dragon, which Laurence names Temeraire. When Temeraire bonds with the captain, the two leave the navy to sign on with His Majesty's sadly understaffed Aerial Corps, which takes on the French in sprawling, detailed battles that Novik renders with admirable attention to 19th-century military tactics. Though the dragons they encounter are often more fully fleshed-out than the stereotypical human characters, the author's palpable love for her subject and a story rich with international, interpersonal and internal struggles more than compensate. (Apr.)
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From [Bookmarks Magazine](#)

Published as *Temeraire* in the U.K., *His Majesty's Dragon* is the first of a planned trilogy (*The Throne of Jade* and *Black Powder War* will appear in 2006). Amply praised by SF writers, this original alternate-reality historical SF novel stands fully on its own. Against the convincing backdrop of the Napoleonic wars, Novik limns fantastical battle scenes, creates emotionally astute and appealing characters (dragon included), and provides unique insight into dragons, their abilities, and their breeding combinations. At center stage lies Temeraire's and Laurence's strong bond, one critics hope Novik will explore in future novels. *His Majesty's Dragon*, notes *Fantasy Bookspot*, is more than a "worthy choice for those looking for a new series to indulge yourself in for the new year." But you'll have to wait: it won't be released until the end of March.

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From [Booklist](#)

Starred Review This is the first book in a superbly written, character-driven series, *Temeraire*, which conjures the Napoleonic-era military replete with aerial corps of fighting dragons and their handlers. When Captain Laurence of HMS *Reliant* takes a French frigate as a prize, the cargo includes a dragon egg due to hatch before the *Reliant* can reach a British aviators' base. When the hatchling chooses the captain to be his handler, Laurence's naval career comes to an end. He is now an aviator and a member of a service more tolerated than admired. Within very short order, he finds himself bonded with Temeraire, a most elegant and intelligent dragon, more closely than he has ever been bonded with anyone before, and that includes the lady he had thought he would marry. Novik fully integrates dragons into late-eighteenth-century military tactics and develops a convincing armed-service social milieu that includes the dragon corps. But what keeps one turning the pages is the urge to find out what happens next to Captain Laurence and Temeraire, characters who win one's heart from the beginning. Bravos for a most promising new author! *Frieda Murray*
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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Janice Perry:

Book is to be different for each grade. Book for children until eventually adult are different content. As you

may know that book is very important for people. The book His Majesty's Dragon: A Novel of Temeraire seemed to be making you to know about other knowledge and of course you can take more information. It is rather advantages for you. The reserve His Majesty's Dragon: A Novel of Temeraire is not only giving you a lot more new information but also being your friend when you really feel bored. You can spend your personal spend time to read your publication. Try to make relationship while using book His Majesty's Dragon: A Novel of Temeraire. You never feel lose out for everything when you read some books.

Catherine Benavidez:

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Effie Steger:

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