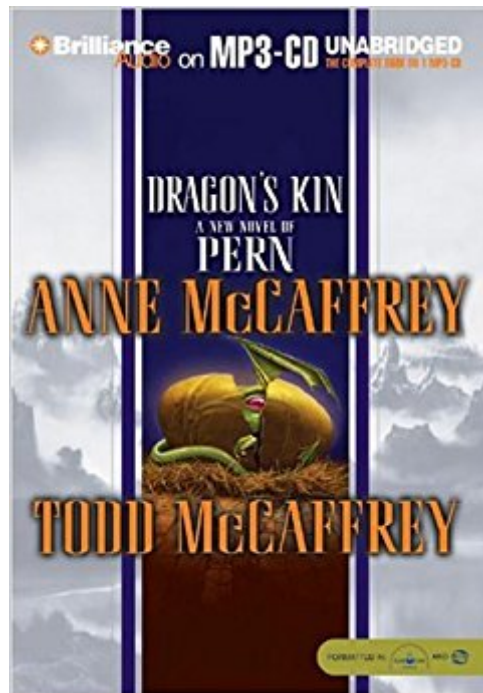




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Dragon's Kin (Dragonriders Of Pern Series)



Synopsis

Beginning with the classic *Dragonriders of Pern*, Anne McCaffrey has created a complex, endlessly fascinating world uniting humans and great telepathic dragons. Millions of devoted readers and listeners have soared on the glittering wings of Anne's imagination, following book by book the evolution of one of science fiction's most beloved and honored series. Now, for the first time, Anne has invited another writer to join her in the skies of Pern, a writer with an intimate knowledge of Pern and its history: her son, Todd. Young Kindan has no expectations other than joining his father in the mines of Camp Natalon, a coal mining settlement struggling to turn a profit far from the great Holds where the presence of dragons and their riders means safety and civilization. Mining is fraught with danger. Fortunately, the camp has a watch-wher, a creature distantly related to dragons and uniquely suited to specialized work in the dark, cold mineshafts. Kindan's father is the watch-wher's handler, and his son sometimes helps him out. But even that important job promises no opportunity outside the mine. Then disaster strikes. In one terrible instant, Kindan loses his family and the camp loses its watch-wher. Fathers are replaced by sons in the mine—except for Kindan, who is taken in by the camp's new Harper. Grieving, Kindan finds a measure of solace in a burgeoning musical talent and in a new friendship with Nuella, a mysterious girl no one seems to know exists. It is Nuella who assists Kindan when he is selected to hatch and train a new watch-wher, a job that forces him to give up his dream of becoming a Harper; and it is Nuella who helps him give new meaning to his life. Meanwhile, sparked by the tragedy, long-simmering tensions are dividing the camp. Far below the surface, a group of resentful miners hides a deadly secret. As warring factions threaten to explode, Nuella and Kindan begin to discover unknown talents in the misunderstood watch-wher-talents that could very well save an entire Hold. During their time teaching the watch-wher, the two learn some things themselves: that even a seemingly impossible dream is never completely out of reach and that light can be found even in the deepest darkness.

Book Information

Series: *Dragonriders of Pern Series* (Book 18)

MP3 CD

Publisher: Brilliance Audio; MP3 Una edition (June 10, 2004)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 9781593352554

ISBN-13: 978-1593352554

ASIN: 1593352557

Product Dimensions: 5.4 x 0.5 x 7.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 189 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #3,985,352 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #33 in Books > Books on CD > Authors, A-Z > (M) > McCaffrey, Anne #18445 in Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Science Fiction > Space Opera #137770 in Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy

Customer Reviews

Beloved bestseller McCaffrey has joined forces with her son, Todd, to produce another delightful entry in the Pern series, which began with *Dragonflight* in 1968. The action here centers on Camp Natalon, the site of a coal mine. Now that the surface seams of coal have begun to run dry on Pern, it's imperative to start extracting coal from deep underground, despite the increased danger. Some of the miners rely on the expertise of the watch-whers, smaller versions of dragons, to help keep them safe in the mines. As Kindan, blind Nuella and master harper Zist puzzle out the lore, habits and abilities of these nocturnal creatures, they find out more about the watch-whers (and themselves) than they thought possible. Fans who have become comfortable with McCaffrey's smooth trademark style over the years will notice no seams-which bodes well for any solo novels her coauthor, the heir apparent, may contribute to the *Dragonriders* saga. Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

The latest Pern novel is something of a family affair, with the creator of one of sf's most splendid and longest-lived sagas collaborating with her son on the latest installment. The story takes place during an unexplored period in the history of Pern, before the coming of the Thread. The watch-whers are already playing a prominent role, however, keeping watch at night at the holds and weyrs and helping in the mines. The protagonists are Kindin and Nuella, young people living in a mining camp. A cave-in wipes out Kindin's father and brothers as well as the old watch-wher, and Kindin moves in with camp Harper. There he learns the skills of being a Harper, including discretion and mediation. Eventually, he and Nuella learn the secret of how watch-whers see in the dark, and about their communication with dragons, which opens a wholly new range of capabilities for the dragon-riders. What with sound narrative technique, above-average characterization, and several of the Pern fans favorite ongoing saga themes, the new book is a guaranteed pleaser as well as a harbinger that Pern, an enduring monument for two generations of sf readers so far, will continue after its originator's departure. Roland Green

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Very nice Pern fair: characters I am glad I will get to meet again, sympathetic watch -werrs, Pern people working out the issues of the time

The story itself was small and intimate, with minimal stakes, which made it restful to read. It shows some facets of the great dragons' "cousins", the watch-whers, who had been barely explored in previous books. I'd recommend this book for any Pern-lovers out there!

Very well written, good story and characters. I have hard copies but these were for kindle.

I have read the entire series 3 times now and loved every one of them. This one is esp. cool as it introduces the beginnings of the Dragons. To which, some of them have a hard time swallowing. If you like this type of books, you will love these!

I happen to like the Pern series of books. I enjoy reading them over because I like how the characters interact with each other, the series reminds me of Europe.

A young miner's son is musically inclined, but his home a mining community needs him to adopt a special animal to protect the mine. From there the twists are the best part.

Did you ever wonder where a science fiction get their inspiration from or how autobiographical their works are? You may find some answers here. Many questions answered and many questions raised. The author's primary sources are no more. We can all be grateful for what we have. I am sad the book left so much out.

I was EXTREMELY dissapointed by this book. I expected something similar in style to the previous books. Instead I found a book with passages that were blatant copies from previous books, and an attempt to imulate their style. It failed miserably. I realize Todd is trying to make it in tandem with his mother, but their styles are too different, and it turns out to be a miserable mix. The book doesn't keep in sequence of events. There are way too many inconsistencies and disagreements. For anyone who's been following the Dragonriders series, BEWARE!!! You'll probably be as irritated and enraged as I was. I was never more dissapointed with any other book as I was with this one.

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