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DragonSpell (Dragon Keepers Chronicles, Book 1) (DragonKeeper Chronicles)



Synopsis

One Dragon Egg Holds the Key to the Future. When Kale, a slave girl, finds a dragon egg, she is given the unexpected opportunity to become a servant to Paladin. But on her way to The Hall, where she was to be trained, Kale runs into danger. Rescued by a small band of Paladin's servants, Kale is turned from her destination. Feeling afraid and unprepared, Kale embarks on a perilous quest to find the meech dragon egg stolen by the foul Wizard Risto. But their journey is threatened when a key member of the party is captured, leaving the remaining companions to find the Wizard Fenworth, attempt an impossible rescue, and recover the egg--whose true value they have not begun to suspect. Weaving together memorable characters, daring adventure, and a core of eternal truth, Dragonspell--the first book in the Dragon Keepers Chronicles--is a finely crafted and welcome addition to the corpus of fantasy fiction.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

My three children and I love sharing reading time together each night. With sons 9 and 7 years old

and a daughter who is 3, finding stories that appeal to all of us is a real challenge. This is the first book in a long time that holds all our interest. The story is exciting and just the right pace for my kids to follow as I read aloud. We usually cover two to three chapters each night, and they beg me not to stop reading. Donita K. Paul's writing is beautiful and intelligent. As a parent, I like that her language is creative and articulate, which helps my children increase their vocabulary, without being so complex that they can't understand. And as a Christian parent, I am thrilled to have found a series of book which reinforce our family's values and echo our faith and obedience to our Father. Just as when we read the Narnia series, my older kids are eager to discuss the parallels they see between Wulder and God, Paladin and Christ. Even my husband and I look forward to story time each night, to hear what happens next for Kale, Dar, Leetu, and their friends. We can't wait to read the rest of this wonderful series!

My family loves this series of books. In fact, this is our second set, as the first is on loan to friends. All ages have read and enjoyed, and I am currently reading the second book to my 6 and 7 year olds. They can't stop at 3 or 4 chapters and are constantly asking for the dragon book.

This is okay to pass the time. It is a fast read and holds your interest, mostly. The characters are pretty well developed and main ones are likable. I especially enjoyed the young dragons and Dar. There are a few things that would have improved my opinion of the book. There are seven high races and numerous others, all with unfamiliar names. It would have been extremely helpful if there had been a short definition of each at the beginning of the book. Instead, it is necessary to figure it out as you go along. Also, our heroine is supposed to be 18, yet she acts and speaks as though she is 10 or 12. Perhaps this is to illustrate how her development was slowed by being a slave. The attempts to throw in humorous dialogue just do not work. Finally, the story-line itself is just so-so and is certainly not one I will long remember. I will not move on to the later books of the series.

My children never tire of The Dragon Keepers series. Donita K Paul did an excellent job of creating a world where adventures abound, in language accessible and challenging for young readers. Her characters strive to learn and do well. They sometimes fall, and receive the teaching and gift of forgiveness and grace to move on in order to build the Kingdom. Lots of subtle, beautiful lessons evolve naturally, that we discuss over dinner many nights. This series is a definite for the hard copy Library because your children will return to it again and again !

I'm not quite sure how to rate this one. I liked it, but there were elements that really dragged it down for me. I give 1 star for the setting. The races were interesting and the world building was good. 1 star for characters. They were easy to like and felt real. 1 star because I wanted to read on to see what happened. This is usually enough for me to give more stars. Sadly I can't. -1 star for easy ways out of situations. I sometimes felt that the author had written herself into situations she didn't know how to get out of, and the solutions were too easy and hasty written. -1 star because there were A LOT of things never explained. The main character asks questions, but her companions just don't bother to answer her on most of the things. You would think that after her ignorance has put them in trouble a couple of times they would understand that they had to tell her things, but no. This kinda annoyed me, because I didn't get to know a lot of things that would have helped me get more into the story. All in all I got the feeling that the book was originally longer, but because it's a YA book it was cut to shorten it. And in that process it got cut in the wrong places. All in all I think I am too old and experienced reader to overlook the flaws. A younger reader might overlook these weaknesses. And it's not a bad book. I might even buy the next in the series.

I always find myself coming back to read these books. I first found this book nearly ten years ago, and I love it just as much now as I did when I first read it. Beautifully imagined. It is so wonderful to read about fantasy races that aren't elves, dwarves, or humans. Paul made many races, but more than that, she made them distinct and engaging.

I started this series in the middle because I bought some discounted books on sale. I loved the story and wanted to read the entire series. A Christian author wrote an exciting and fascinating fantasy with characters who are decent, moral, likable, original. Great escapism for someone who does not want to have to read offensive language and situations. One of the very few series that I have reread and hold in fond memory. Written for the young but I am 65.

I love reading about dragons and so enjoyed this book. I am hoping the next book will develop even more interaction with dragons and ...more dragons!

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