



Dragon Airways

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Emmet is a boy with special needs and unusual talents. His ability to sense magic makes him valuable to both sides of the war. Fleeing those sent to capture him, he and his sister board Dragon Airways, not knowing friend from foe. Some betray him; others risk their lives trying to save him. Never would he have guessed the impact an aging dragon would have on his life or the adventures they would have together.

Dragon Airways Details

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Author : Brian Rathbone

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From Reader Review Dragon Airways for online ebook

Eliana Martin says

wow! totally loved this book! finished it last night. It took a while because I didn't read this past week. This is a fiction/fantasy/dragon/thriller, amazingly written, one gets totally immersed in the story, so richly detailed; DRAGONS!! MAGIC!!!

This is the story of Emmet a 9 year old boy with a talent to sense magic, which puts him at great danger as the self proclaimed king Argus Kind wants all the magic and has destroyed everything to get it. Emmet is also a boy with special needs and his sister does everything in her power to protect him and hide him, until he takes an object of magic from a person who has just been murdered; this action triggers her to run away in order to save her brother beginning the wondrous/sad/scary adventure on dragon airways in order to flee the danger. Along the way there is hurt and betrayal, but also loyalty and love that save Emmet and his sister in the end.

Cant wait to read the next one.

Ian Turkstra says

I have to agree with another reviewer here. While it is a kids book it can be enjoyed by adults too. The character development was great. The author has a way of really making you feel for the characters and hope for the best for them. Hoping a sequel comes out soon based on the hint at the end of this one!

Heather Conrad says

Solidly good - and proofread!

Overall, this is a pretty good book. Not a great book, but solidly good. I would recommend it to anyone who enjoys Steampunk and dragons.

The writing is not anything spectacular, but it is competent and relatively creative. The plot moves along nicely at just the right pace for the most part. The few exceptions to this are a few places where things are a trifle rushed -- but not too badly, just a little.

The characters are archetypal, but believable and well developed. The good guys are all people we can care about, and the bad guys are easy to dislike.

The one real complaint I have with this story is the young hero, Emmett. I'm not sure if he is the main character or his sister is, for one thing -- they both get roughly equal attention from the third-person narrator. Towards the end of the book, Emmett also begins to somewhat overly resemble Christopher Paolini's Eragon. This is a problem because the story of Eragon was just a reworking of the story of Luke Skywalker -- "Star Wars with a dragon," as I like to describe it. This story has enough differences to mostly stand on its own, but dances awfully close to the "poor boy becomes a war hero through magic" cliche.

One thing I am extremely grateful for is that the book has clearly been proofread. I don't recall a single typo

or grammatical error disturbing the flow of the prose. I grumble about this a lot in my reviews, because suddenly encountering the wrong word spelled correctly or a glaring grammar problem is rather like driving your car into a brick wall. It is good to know that proofreading is still occasionally practiced!

Bettina Bull says

Great read

Excellent storyline. Characters are fully formed and mix well. The only criticism I have is the occasional duplicate word or a word that makes no sense in its placement. That makes for a bumpy read when mostly it is a smooth read. Will read more by this creative author.

Mike Mackey says

Emmet is a boy of Magic. He is picked on by most of the Village. His Sister Riette spends most of her time protecting and nurturing Emmet. Their parents have Died, her father in the war and her mom from the strain. That leaves Riette as all Emmet has as family. Very few friends, so Brick the blacksmith's Son plays an Important part in their lives. They flee smalltown, where war is coming trying to get a flight out, they pay for a plane, but it takes to long, their pursuers are getting Close, they look at a dirigible, too long. Then they happen on to Dragon Airlines, Tuck and the Silent Captain entice them on board their Dragon. Emmet is estatic, Riette is concerned. This choice of travel sets the direction of book. If you like adventures, Fantasy and. Best of All DRAGONS, then this read is for you. Brian Rathbone has outdone himself. This is going to be a good series. For a good read try this book. Yours Santa Mike

Wendy says

"Dragon Airways" an exciting and innovative fantasy from Brian Rathbone begins with a boy, Emmet Pichette an outcast in the town of Sparrowport because of his special needs. Endowed with an extraordinary talent for sensing magic he becomes a valuable commodity in the war between the Drakon and the Zjhon. Wanting to add Emmet's unique ability to his collection of magical artifacts Argus Kind the self-made Zjhon King sends out a team of spies to capture him, but his sister executes an escape plan that has them fleeing town with Dragon Airways only to find themselves caught up in a dangerous adventure.

Brian Rathbone sets the stage for this thrilling adventure in the dangers of a world at war, beginning with the town of Sparrowport where no one is investigating the disappearance at night or in the mists of anyone special or different. In this frightening and uncertain atmosphere Riette Pichette afraid for her nine year old brother takes Emmet and flees her home hooking up with Tuck, Barabas DeGuiere and his dragon Dasiq. Fast-paced and action-packed the tension never slows as they dodge airplanes and their air cannons, their flight bringing them all too close to Argus Kind's henchmen.

The intensity and suspense escalates with the Drakon Command Center's fear that the Zjhon of the Firstlands and their abominable leader are winning the war only to find hope in the discovery of a cache of magical stones, a successful raid on Windhold, the acquisition of Azzakkon's Eye and the promise in Emmet's abilities that increase with every new challenge he faces. I loved the way people underestimate Emmet

assuming he doesn't listen, pay attention or understand what's said because of his development problems. Yet as events unfold the severity of his impairment is not only repaired by his access to the magic he senses but in his ability to stretch time itself, as the outcast becomes a hero. Amid all the sorrow, anxiety and fear that comes with war, the author develops themes in this well-developed plot that include forgiveness, acceptance and hope.

Emmet Pickett is the boy with developmental problems who has difficulty in relating to the world around him until with the encouragement of an aging dragon and an old islander he discovers magic and is able to manipulate time. Ignored by most of Sparrowport he sees the best in people and is fearless, strong and brave. Riette, his sister is protective , caring and loving, wanting the best for Emmet while her friend Brick, the handsome, muscle-bound local smithy is honest, noble and daring. Tuck hides a wounded heart behind his sarcasm, confidence and humor, clinging to the support he finds with Riette, while the complex and deeply private Barabas DeGuiere considered a traitor by the Drakon proves to be resourceful and courageous in the face of danger. Yet it's the valor, strength and self-sacrifice of Dasiq and the love, respect and loyalty of Berigor, the two dragons who win your heart. All these characters and others breathe energy and passion into a plot that grips you from the first page to the last.

I loved "Dragon Airways" and highly recommend it to anyone who loves the magic of fantasy. I hope we'll see more of Emmet, his dragon and friends in future.

Coco.V says

? FREE on Amazon today (12/14/2017)! ?

Zack says

I really liked this book, even more than the stories in this world on Podiobooks/Scribl.
I like the mix of tech in this world that makes it a good steampunk, dieselpunk, fantasy story.
The characters are pretty good too.

Dorn Carran says

A mini epic fantasy

This book is about two young people, a brother and a sister, who are trying to survive a war started by a tyrant. The world is a sort of steam punk one, where technology such as planes and coal fired air ships exist alongside dragons and the remnant of magic. The tyrant, Argus, wishes to control the last of the magic, so captures anyone with an affinity to it. The brother is one of these people. So the story follows them as they flee on a Dragon who happens to be, with her rider, a former member of the resistance. Together the young couple and the Dragon rider become entwined with the battle for freedom and a last ditch effort to defeat the tyrant, Argus.

This book is intriguing and well written. It has a lot of adventure and ups and downs for the characters. It is well worth the read.

Montzalee Wittmann says

Dragon Airways by Brian Rathbone is one of those books made for kids but everyone will love! I am far from kids age but I just adored this book. I loved the dragons and the fantasy/steampunk theme. I loved the magic, the plot, the well developed characters that stole my heart. THIS IS ONE OF THE BEST KIDS BOOKS I HAVE READ IN A LONG TIME!!! Truly unique and enjoyable. Lots of action, adventure, fantasy, and great dialogue. The reader never gets bored. I won this on Goodreads!! I am so glad I did, I might never have read it. Thanks so much!!!

Joyce Reynolds-Ward says

I liked a lot about this book and want to read more, though there were two nitpicks. The basic premise is solid and strong and it carried me through a lot of rough patches in the storytelling. Good, solid worldbuilding and an intriguing plot, though the worldbuilding shows strong Anne McCaffrey influences. I liked having a primary character with a disability, and having people with disabilities being hunted as possible resources was a strong subplot. I also like the way that a redemptive character arc was handled, and the book also has some nice touches of humor. Lots to like here.

But. The writing kind of got in the way of the story in places, where I think another round with the editor might have helped. Granted, much of the story reflects the disability of a primary character so the affect is flattened, but...the language interferes with the pacing. A nitpick and I'm sure it's not a problem for everyone.

The more significant problem for me was the resolution of the disability in favor of making the primary character "normal." Granted, it was a different sort of normal, and the disability in this case actually turned out to be an ability--but I don't think the story gained much by making the character "normal" and could have achieved the same effect by using the same mechanism to enable better communication but with no "cure."

Overall, though, I liked the story and want to read more. I loved the portrayal of the dragon Dashiq, and her basking in a source of magic in order to relieve her injuries is a lasting image that I'll take away from this book. The dragon characterization is fantastic, especially toward the end with young dragons and their senses of humor.

Redemption is a strong theme in this book. I really like the way this arc was handled--to tell more would be spoilers. Overall a great read.

Ruth M Collins says

This book was fascinating. The author brought the story telling of a different time.

The time of dragons and their riders. I can't wait to read the next installment of this great storyline , tragedy , war, survival , and love. The people have been through a lot of triumph, and sorrow . The dragon's will help

them whether the humans want the help or not. Tell you more on my next review of the next book. Read for yourself I am sure you will love it the way I do.... Thank

Birgit says

Urban fantasy at its best! Young boy who can sense magic is forced to flee with his older sister, and together they board Dragon Airways, hoping to get to safety - and are thrown into the middle of a raging war with the tyrannic king and his minions.

Brilliantly written, this story is for every age group in my opinion, describing normal people (yeah well, perhaps not Emmett...), young and older people who have to grow and deal with the unwanted tasks and dangers they are facing. Sympathetic and very likeable characters, a very good plot, with lots of humour, but also sad and serious passages. The kindle version I read could do with another editing session, but apart from that, there was only one thing I did not like: I reached the last page!

Luckily, there was enough left open at the end to promise at least one, if not more sequences.

Margaret Fisk says

Originally posted on Tales to Tide You Over

I don't remember when I chose this book originally or why, but I noticed it on my extensive to-be-read list and decided to give Dragon Airways a try. It starts slowly with so many points of view (POV) it's a little overwhelming at first, but here's the thing. Each POV offers another piece of the puzzle, revealing a complex world full of people both with good and bad intentions, but none of the characters are simple.

The downside of so many POVs is while the reader is never left in the dark, sometimes the tension is cut because there are few unanswered questions. On the other hand, the seeding was excellent so when later events unfold, the solutions don't come out of nowhere but rather are founded on events we already know.

Once we're more familiar with the main cast, the focus narrows a bit. The story demonstrates the devastating costs of war to all sides and the dangers of a brutal megalomaniac. It does this through the eyes of those with decision-making power and those without.

The readers take a few harsh blows in this lesson, but at the same time, there are some wonderful reconciliations and new discoveries. These act as gifts in the face of tragedy, whether it's a character stepping into a leadership role or finding a new artifact of legend to aid their cause.

I'm speaking generally to avoid spoilers. The essence of the story is a sister's love for her unusual brother and a bad king's desire to use those like Emmet to increase his magic hoard.

Emmet can sense magic. He is the equivalent of an autistic child with time sense as his overwhelm. His character is a real strength in an already strong cast in part because we see him through his sister's eyes and his own.

Riette hates herself for not being better at caring for Emmet, all the while unaware he is cognizant of what's going on around him if unable to articulate it. That's just one complexity the characters struggle with, and

it's well written even when the actual writing has rough sections and sometimes repeats concepts more than once.

Then, of course, there are the dragons themselves who play a critical role and are fully realized even though they don't exactly communicate with people in words. There is no question the strength of the bond between rider and dragon, but who is in command might not be so clear.

Bottom line, the book creates a fascinating world peopled with characters to love and hate. It then places them inside a harrowing story with powerful insights into long wars and those who wage them. A big story told from the middle of the battlefield with the characters growing understanding along with the reader. It's well worth holding on through the slow beginning, and I'm glad Dragon Airways caught my eye.

Rashid Graham says

Ready to fly with more dragons. Need to get the next in line...

Good read. Love dragons. Need to find the rest in the series. I have already read the Godsland series and still wanting more.
