



Nerilka's Story

Anne McCaffrey

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Everyone, holder and dragonrider alike, pitched in to help--except Nerilka's father, who refused to share Fort Hold's bounty with the other holds. So, ashamed of her family and determined to do her part, Nerilka packed up medicines and supplies and sneaked off to aid her people. Her quest to help wherever she was most needed led her finally to Ruatha Hold, where Lord Alessan was frantically inoculations against the dread plague.

Nerilka had long ago abandoned the hope of marriage and a home of her own. Now she found happiness in being useful and appreciated---first the Healers and then Alessan made very clear that they were grateful for her help.

She had no idea that her new path would change the course of her life forever.

Nerilka's Story Details

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From Reader Review Nerilka's Story for online ebook

Amalia Dillin says

I feel like this is a can't miss companion to Moreta's story. If you like Moreta, you need Nerilka's Story in your library too! A definite departure though, written in first person from the perspective of an older Nerilka looking back.

Sandra says

Allez, je vais être dure avec ce tome de *La Ballade de Pern*, mais c'est pour la bonne cause dirons-nous. Je trouve dommage de tomber sur un tel tome dans une saga que j'adore !

Ce tome est la suite directe de *La Dame aux dragons*, du cycle interne de *L'Épidémie* (qui ne compte d'ailleurs que ces deux tomes).

Pour faire court, dans *La Dame aux dragons* on apprend qu'une épidémie fait rage et on va suivre (à la troisième personne) ce que va faire Moreta pour en venir à bout. Finalement, une certaine Nerilka vient apporter son aide pour soigner les malades. Dans *Histoire de Nerilka*, eh bien... C'est Nerilka qui raconte (à la première personne pour la première fois dans la saga) ce qui s'est passé de son point de vue.

Donc, en gros, plus de la moitié est EXACTEMENT ce qui s'est passé dans le tome précédent... Puis quelques passages peu intéressants diffèrent, notamment la naissance d'un *runner* (aucune idée de comment ils sont appelés en VF), mais en gros, rien de bien intéressant.

Puis lorsqu'elle quitte son fort, on a le droit à des passages entiers repris mot à mot... Passionnant... -_- et ça dure... Même lors de l'éclosion : les mêmes remarques, les mêmes informations déjà lues sur ce qui est un bon présage ou non, alors que les deux tomes ce suivent... Je ne comprends pas.

Franchement, s'il y a un tome que vous pouvez allègrement sauter, c'est celui-ci, il ne sert pas à grand-chose, n'apporte aucun nouvel élément (à part peut-être les 10 dernières pages), mais bon, rien d'indispensable. Au moins, les autres tomes qui ne sont pas directement liés à la guerre des Fils apportent des connaissances, des réponses ou des intrigues, un petit quelque chose de substantiel... Là, rien. Alors personnellement, je le mets dans un coin de ma tête, je l'oublie et je passe à la suite. ^^

? BookAddict 🗡 La Crimson Femme says

Lord Alessan is in need of help to fight the plague. With the Dragonriders loosing respect, the holders aren't doing their part. Then again, some of these dragonriders have been abusing their privileges. Nerilka is the one who saves the day. I liked her, especially as she is the overlooked one. I was mixed about this story as Alessan loved Moreta and lost her. Somehow, Nerilka felt like a second place replacement. It was kind of discomfoting to me. She's always "second" place.

Joy says

This is a short parallel novella to *Moreta Dragonlady of Pern*.

It was an interesting read but not a necessary read in the grand scape of the Pern series.

Nerilka is the daughter of the Lord Holder of Fort Hold. She is left behind there when the plague breaks out and is spared illness but had to deal with her mother's death, her father quickly taking his mistress as his new wife, and her father's insolence about the plague and sharing supplies.

Arielle says

By most of the action of the story being told in the previous book this one just gets to focus so solidly on Nerilka. I loved her growth and character.

Angela says

Love this series of books. It's one of my all time favourites. I decided to re-read the entire Dragonriders of Pern series and over the past couple of months, I have been working my way through them all. Anne McCaffrey has such a wonderful, boundless imagination and such a vivid and descriptive style, her stories transport the reader into the fantastic world that she created and sweeps you up on the breathtaking adventures. Spellbinding!

Holly Ristau says

According to my entry in 1996, this is the 3rd Pern novel, but according to goodreads it's #8! Norilka's father is a head of a Hold and she leaves and becomes part of a different one. Much better than it sounds!

Terri Olinger says

I have always liked this book

I have always liked this book it gives you a real sense of how much info can be left out of some stories and what can be done to add another person's life thoughts to it all

Zach Glickson says

As with all her books and especially this series.... Just brilliant. Her books make you want to just lay in the hammock (I spend a lot of time in the hammock reading books) for hours at a time and wish you actually

lived in this fantasy world and felt like you could start talking to these characters without even blinking an eye.

Nathan says

I can see why this was where I quit on the series on my first attempt many years ago. This isn't a terrible story, but it doesn't do anything to move the overall plot of the series forward and does very little to build important characters or to enrich the reader's understanding of Pern. It feels extra.

Sara says

This novella, set in McCaffrey's epic world of Pern, is stylistically more like a Regency romance than a science-fiction short story. McCaffrey provides an prologue which explains the setting and historical background of the story, but it is more confusing than explanatory, and readers would do well to skip to the story itself.

Nerilka is one of the many daughters of the Lord of Fort Hold, and as a plain, hard-working girl, harbors no romantic thoughts of a lavish marriage and escape from Fort Hold. She spends most of her time gathering and preparing medicinal plants for the healers. Her parents and four sisters are visiting another Hold when a disease and quarantine strikes Pern. Nerilka's father, in defiance of the quarantine, leaves his dying wife and daughters to return home to Fort Hold, where upon hearing of their death, installs his mistress, Anella, and her extended family in the Fort. Nerilka, appalled at his actions and his refusal to send supplies from their overflowing stockroom to those in need, disguises herself and takes medical supplies to those in need, eventually coming to Ruatha Hold, where she becomes a valued member of the Healers.

Published in the mid 1980's, the black and white illustrations are rather laughable. I remembered this book as being a charming little story, but upon re-reading, found that it has not aged well — which is funny, seeing that it is science fiction set in the distant future. Perhaps it is best read after consuming several of McCaffrey's Pern novels and getting in to the proper mindset.

Spigana says

Šis jau vair?k atg?din?ja Džeinu Eiru, nevis fant?zijas gr?matu, bet tieši tas man ar? s?rij? visvair?k pat?k - daudzveid?ba gan varo?os, gan st?stos un tas, cik liel? m?r? tiek par?d?ta pasaules ikdiena.

Connie Moore says

This is the continuation of the plague of Pern story line begun in Moreta: Dragonlady of Pern. Nerilka is a minor character (or so it seemed) in the Moreta book. This tells a chunk of the same story from a different perspective. Make sure you read Moreta's story before this one.

Chris Gager says

Started this last night after finishing "Paris Review #183." Rescued from somewhere - maybe the town transfer station book shelves. Safe to say that Anne M.'s work never appeared in THAT periodical! This is my third Pern read. So far I've enjoyed the late Ms. McCaffrey's prose - easy to read and enjoyable. I like that she leans heavily on female protagonists too. "Dragondrums" featured a Ray Liotta look-alike in the cover art and this one features a Nerilka who looks like Sandra Bernhard with a nose job - very tall.

Finished last night with this rather brief and sketchy Pern tale. It was ok ... nothing special but entertaining enough to get a 3* rating(2.75 actually). The story is very similar to Lessa's in "Weyr Search"(the first part of Dragonflight): underappreciated/hidden young woman finds her destiny(and a husband) etc. As others have noted there's not a lot of dragon action in this one. Not a lot of action at all as a matter of fact. As I said, this is not any kind of a Pern epic. Like "Dragondrums," it's a side story. Moreta is a major Pern character in another book, while Nerilka appears briefly. Here it's the opposite.

- The narrative can be a bit confusing at times, especially when some very bad things happen near the end. Important details seem to be skimmed over. Dag's leg is splinted but we aren't told why. I assume the explanation is in the "Moreta ..." book!

Tara says

I didn't enjoy this book as much as the other. It didn't feel like a Pern book. The timeline felt off. Everything seemed to happen in two or three days, while Moreta's story made it feel longer. I also hated how McCaffrey put Rill and Alessan in a relationship. That's a -100 on the romance meter.

Jodie says

This was a short one. It was OK, but I was hoping there would be more detail about the major events, like what happened after Moreta's accident, but before the hatching. Four example, how were the selfish Lord holder and the defected weyer leader punished?

Alison Swearingen says

I liked this book, it was a quick read and kind of cool to see from Nerilka's point of view as she was just a minor character in the previous book. However, it was not terribly exciting and about 80% of the book was exactly the same events as the previous one, just from a different point of view. I did appreciate the last 20% where you get to see a few characters you care about end up in different places. Overall, I was not hugely impressed but I did like it well enough. I look forward to reading about something different, the first Fall on Pern, in the next book.

Michael Galarneau says

I love the Pern series of books. This particular tale in the series is very enjoyable, and a quick read. The reason I enjoy this book so much is due to it's intertwined connection the Moreta story. In the first two trilogies of this series the Legend of Moreta's ride is often mentioned. Then, Anne McCaffrey actually writes the story behind that legend. Now, the brief novella of Nerilka takes and almost non-existent character from the Moreta story and retells the tale from her point of view. Between the second perspective on these historic events in Pern's history and the engaging story telling style of McCaffrey, this is a must read for the true Pern lover.

travelgirlut says

If McCaffrey had taken Moreta and Nerilka and somehow made them into one book with alternating perspectives, I think it would have made a much more engaging story. It gets a little tedious reading the same dialogue in this book that was in Moreta. And again, the ending of this book is spoiled in the previous one, so there are no surprises. It's a nice enough story, but not one of the best in the Pern series.

Susan Kennedy says

Another fantastic story of Pern. This one is during the same time as Moreta. Nerilka is a beautiful soul who just can't stand how her father is with the people in her hold and the area around. Her father is a cold man that I haven't liked in either book. She has had enough of his nonsense, so she leaves the hold to find her own way. She is a brilliant character who puts meaning into her life by helping others. She is good at what she does and she thrives. Her mother taught her everything she knows and she is able to take that with her after the loss of her mother and sisters to the sickness that has decimated Pern. I thoroughly enjoyed this short story as a continuation of Moreta.
