



Dragonseed

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Following on from the events of 'Dragonforge' and the victory against the dragons, Ragnar's human army is arming their enclave against the inevitable dragon counterattack. Trouble lies on the horizon, however, as Jandra finds herself under the sway of the nefarious Jazz, and a face from the past makes an unwelcome return.

Dragonseed Details

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Author : James Maxey

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From Reader Review Dragonseed for online ebook

Carla says

found this to be the weakest of the trilogy. Part of the problem (for me) was that there were sooooo many characters, in so many places doing strange things that I couldn't always follow, that I became quite confused.

Description:

After the death of King Albekizan, Shandrazel and his allies struggle to keep the kingdom intact as the radical human prophet, Ragnar gathers forces to launch a full scale rebellion against the dragons. When all out war erupts, legendary dragon hunter, Bitterwood, must face his own personal demons and choose where his loyalty really lies.

Kevin says

I'm not sure that I'm a great fan of Maxey's writing, but he has some really interesting ideas. I wish I'd been able to read this one closer in time to reading the first two, instead of several years removed, but I'm really glad to finish the series. The characters weren't outstanding, and the conclusion felt a bit rushed (oh for the days of the long denouement), but still, he has really fascinating ideas.

Shea Cummings says

Oh my goodness... I don't know where to begin.

As I said when I first began this trilogy, it was a little hard to get into; Dragons as sentient beings was a little much. But boy, am I glad I stuck with it. I haven't loved a story this much since I was a kid reading Redwall series.

I don't wanna reveal anything that might spoil this story in the slightest for you.

All I can say is READ IT!!!

Lana says

a great ending to the human - dragon war, very strong sense of adventure and good use of technology!! The goddess was crazy but the characters in the series were very lovable, especially zeeky and her pig and poor lizard and hexizilian!! thoroughly enjoyed the trilogy.

Brian Maicke says

Ties up many loose ends but still leaves some room to explore the worlds involved in the scifi/fantasy combo series. Overall a very enjoyable set of books and I look forward to more of Maxey's work. Dragonseed came out in 2009 so hopefully the wait won't be too long.

Cindy says

I really enjoyed this again. As Maxey's Bitterwood is really what opened my eyes to the what could be out there in fantasy/sci-fi. At first I wasn't a huge fan of the whole sciency/Atlantis aspect of the series but it was well done and grew on me.

There are the old characters and a few new ones in here. I wonder if this is the last of the series or if there will be more. There is room for more books, and in a way it seems a little out there. But if it's the end of a series it serves well too.

Loren says

From ISawLightningFall.com

Developing a series is difficult. If you maintain the status quo, audiences will dismiss it as predictable. Over-innovate and they'll claim that you've destroyed all the elements they loved. How ought an author to navigate between this particular rock and hard place? James Maxey offers a good example in Dragonseed, the third installment in the Dragon Age series: Drop a major technological innovation in familiar characters' laps and let them riff off it.

The once-proud dragon kingdom stands perched on the edge of chaos. Its armies were routed while trying to suppress the human uprising at Dragonforge. The heir to its throne has perished by an assassin's blade. And the rebels now possess a weapon long thought lost -- gunpowder. With petty lords peeling their various fiefdoms from the kingdom, the situation looks dire. But Vulpine, a cunning sky-dragon warrior, has his own plans to crush the upstarts and return order to the land. This insurgency is nothing a good blockade and outbreak of disease can't solve, and Vulpine intends to instigate both. Only a new threat seems to be emerging, a charismatic healer drawing dragons and humans alike into his fold, one who claims he can heal every infirmity -- and whose largess may hide darker designs.

Dragonseed maintains Maxey's typical mix of SF and fantasy, as well as addressing familiar themes such as naturalism and faith, the limits of political interventionism, and the danger of demagogic. Also, the novel serves up pleasingly complex battles as snarled as a catnip-spiked ball of yarn tossed into a box full of kittens. It's consistently entertaining stuff. Where the book falls short of Dragonforge (the series' apogee so far) is in a tendency to lose itself in exposition. True, much has transpired in the space of two volumes, but the book stays stuck in past events for a good chunk of its beginning. A minor flaw. Still, I doubt anyone will feel disappointed by the time the final climactic confrontation rolls around. Dragonseed grows into something exciting indeed.

Beth A. says

I enjoyed this book. There are a lot of unique and interesting characters. I grew attached to many of them throughout the series. I loved Burke, with his crazy mechanical genius, and Anza the graceful silent warrior, Zeeky the girl who talks to animals and her brother Jeremiah. And Balsaphet was a pleasure to hate. Bitterwood and Jandra were ok, too. Maxey has quite an imagination.

The story gets a bit farfetched as we explore the power of nanotechnology and the full extent of Jazz's power, I added a bit of "willing suspension of disbelief" and enjoyed the ride.

Themes: Power corrupts... revenge obsesses... utopia stagnates

12/9/12

Clean readers: Thinking back; this one, more than the previous two, had some off color language.

Marcus says

Despite the premise being somewhat derivative of Planet of the Apes, this was a decent story. The shame of it is it could have been *great*, like on the level of Weis/Hickman and other fantasy luminaries.

Dragonseed is the somewhat unsatisfying conclusion to the Dragon Age series: Bitterwood, Dragonforge, Dragonseed. It should go without saying that one needs to read the previous two books before embarking on this one. Without the previous two, most if not all of what goes on in book 3 would be confusing.

The story itself is pretty good, helped by the fact that I'm familiar with the author's penchant for overly long dialogue sequences where the characters expound at length on some personal conflict or self discovery, etc. The dialogue was a bit rough at time, like the author forgot that the humans were a throwback to the middle ages. The story suffered from too many extraneous threads. For example, what was the point of the titular Dragonseed when it and its origin were nowhere near to the central plot? While overall the writing fell between okay and average, I hated HATED the way the villains were handled: there, bad, GONE! Their resolution was very unsatisfying and the ending itself kind of fizzled out, like the author was in a hurry to tie up any/all loose ends.

Truthfully, the writing wasn't completely bad; it just got a little stale at times, a quality that plagued all three books. For instance, finding out that Ragnar was Jandra's brother...eh so what? It was some random factoid that wasn't explored or fleshed out and just served to add pages. In another case, when Hex meets Burke for the first time a good 70% into the book, we're treated to a full-on description of Burke. Why? The reader knows what he looks like, even if Hex doesn't. Another problem was poorly mixed tones - to me, you can't or shouldn't mix cutesy G-rated stuff with scenes of a stack of human heads comprised of men, women, and infants.

So why did I give it 4 stars? Although the writing was not great, the premise was interesting and it was entertaining. A lot of my complaints above come from frustration that this could have been a classic piece of fantasy. This is the reason why I'm having such a hard time writing this review. Part of me liked it and part of me raged at some of the writing foibles. Still I'd recommend it to anyone looking for a sci-fi fantasy story featuring dragons – just don't set your expectations too high.

Snufkin says

A fantastic read, with many twists and turns both surprising and humorous! The references to our day and age add a further layer of intrigue and the mixture of primitive struggles and advanced technology makes this a truly epic tale.

Elise says

The war between humans and dragons wages on, but now Jandra and her crew faces a new threat from an old enemy. I'm not quite sure how I feel about the direction this series has taken, which is basically nanotechnology gone wild. It all seems kinda outrageous and maybe even unintentionally comical. It was still pretty entertaining. This doesn't seem to be the end of the series, but if it is then I find this proposed end a bit dissatisfying.

Cobar B says

Maxey's Dragon Age Trilogy is my first taste of cross genre fiction, and having finished reading Dragonseed I'm left to admire the ingenuity of the author for his weave of multiple plots and characters in this science fiction-fantasy adventure. His crisp prose made for an easy reading and the plot is packed with action. And like most plot driven stories, the characters can go on without needing much rest. There's nothing ordinary about the story events here. Everything is possible, and the power of absolute control is explained through a technology called nanites (nano robots). Sometimes, the stories are a bit far fetched to my taste. But that's how science fiction goes. I'd also point out that the trilogy, or perhaps the author shows disdain over absolute power resting on ONE supreme being, presenting them as power hungry immortals with simplistic ideals. That's how he paints most of the gods (there are many gods here). Dragonseed is a clever formulaic fiction and I like it.

Sean Helms says

After the first two books I found this one disappointing. It seemed to me that the author was reaching to finish this volume, especially when he began resorting to adding a flying pig to his cast of characters. The only thing I really found worthwhile was that Bitterwood was given an acceptable end.

Claire says

This is the third and final book in his "Dragon Age" trilogy. I admit I was quite disappointed with this book - definitely not as good as the previous two. I really liked the idea, but for me, by this book it has all become a bit too 'weird'.

Thought the Harry Potter comments were quite silly, but maybe unnecessary?

I didn't like the cheesy romance with Jandra - this seemed very Hollywood, and didn't really seem to make much sense to me either. It suddenly appeared very quickly and just didn't feel realistic to me - just that the author felt he needed a romance story and put it in as an afterthought. I also disliked the ending, to be honest, as it seemed a bit too cliché. No one dies, everyone gets a happy ending. Hooray.

I did like however, hearing about Blasphet, and also I didn't think that would be the end of Jazz. It was just the rest, really, that felt a little unnecessary and cheesy! A shame as otherwise this series has been quite good and a really unique story.

Joan Huehnerhoff says

believable, enjoyable read.
