



Dragonsdale

Salamanda Drake

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A fantasy world where every girl has a dragon of her own to groom, train, and ride; a unique and highly commercial take on the popular dragon theme!

Imagine a stable full of dragons! A place where a group of young girls are busy grooming the beautiful beasts and getting them ready for competition--with all the ups and downs, all the drama that inevitably results! Dragonsdale is such a place. The stable is run by Cara's father, but, after a tragic dragon accident in which her mother lost her life, Cara herself is strictly forbidden to fly. Yet she cannot resist the lure of the magical fire-breathing creatures, and so in secret she trains Skydancer, her rare, wild Goldenbrow dragon, and dreams of the day when she, too, can take flight.

Dragonsdale Details

Date : Published May 1st 2007 by Chicken House (first published January 1st 2007)

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Author : Salamanda Drake

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Genre : Fantasy, Dragons, Childrens, Middle Grade

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From Reader Review Dragonsdale for online ebook

Ashlyn Morton says

The book dragonsdale by Salamanda Drake is about a young girl named Cara. Cara is a stable hand at dragonsdale stables. Cara's father is the dragon master, the head of dragonsdale. When Cara was just a little girl her mom died in a dragon accident and now Cara's father wont let her ride. Cara finds herself drawn to the sky. Will Cara get to ride in the end? Find out in this high soaring adventure.

In the book there are many similes metaphors and alliterations. One example is, "The shimmering white curtain of the veil hides a wonderful secret." Another example is, "Sky dancer closed his great almond eyes." The third example is, "Then he settled down again, twitching his long tail, the fin-like spade at the end slapping the floor gently as Cara continued her affectionate stroking." The next example is, "He padded around in a circle a couple of times, like a huge scaly dog settling in its basket. An example of an alliteration is, "He was wearing a woolen jerkin and a woebegone expression.

I liked this book a lot although Cara's father made me mad through out almost the entire book. The very end of the book is what made me see Cara's father differently. The end was a very sentimental and good part in the book. I didn't like some of the parts in it because they were weird but at the end I couldn't put the book down.

Alanna Jane says

I gobbled this book up all in one day. I got it to gift to an avid young reader in my life, but thought it would be fun if we could chat about it once she reads it. Thus, I tucked in to what I thought would be a cute little story. Little did I suspect that this book would be as wonderfully written as it is. The imagery and emotional context is all so incredibly vivid, and the world itself so absolutely tangible. Reading this story was an absolute delight.... so much do that I'm hoping to find the second book in the series soon.

Shirley says

This book would make a great gift. The interest level is third through sixth grade. The back cover is a bifold that folds over the front cover. It gives the book a really nice feel.

It is fast-paced reading full of adventure that would make a great read-aloud for a classroom. It is a clean-cut plot with many emotional twists and turns and concludes with a classic Disney-type happy ending.

Belinda says

3,25 sterren - Nederlandse hardcover - I have dyslexia - childrens book for children from 9 years up. ?????

Ellen says

I must admit, the unique, wrap-around cover drew me to this book. Just a few pages in and I knew that my second and third graders would love it. Cara is a likeable character who knows all about dragons. Although her father raises them and keeps them for others to ride, his own fears of the potential danger keeps Cara from her dreams of riding them herself. Secretly, she bonds with Skydancer and trains to ride her in the Island Championships. It's a fun, easy read for young girls that are looking for something to read after they've exhausted Rainbow Fairies.

Zara Rose says

I loved this book as a child and I re read it now at the age of 18 and still love it so much. The world feels so real and I still long to be part of it. Definitely worth a read. Good strong female role models.

Emmie says

It was a good story, but some parts were a bit slow and/or cheesy.

Heathert says

This incredibly believable book is very similar to a “girl and her horse” novel except that the beast is not a horse. It is the dragons Skydancer. The star, Cara is the daughter of the dragon stable master (or dragon master) and wants more than anything to fly. Unfortunately, her mother died some years ago in a flying accident and her dad is so afraid of losing her too that he forbids Cara to fly at all.

Amanda says

This book filled the Harry Potter void in my household--beautiful language and the topics focus mainly on friendship, with an adequate amount of suspense and bravery thrown in....I read this to my 7 year old daughter; but my 9 year old son kept sneaking in, too.

Kirsty says

I acquired this book when I was in year 2, but didn't read it. I'm glad I've read it now, it was a really nice read.

Rebekkah says

The first thing that comes to mind is, "WOW!!!" I have recently reread this book, and am once again amazed at how perfectly, sensibly, and believably Drake has managed to create tack for dragons that make sense, and a completely new, complex way to steer dragons. It relates to horses, yet goes even more complicated. She has her own flying technique that makes sense and is believable! I am blown away at how she has mastered creating coveted worlds, and has excellent plots! I love it and recommend it to everyone; fantasy lovers, and non-fantasy lovers. Enjoy!

Christie says

While this book isn't extremely original, it is fun to read and I can see why my daughter loves it so much. The relationship between Cara and Skydancer is really sweet and will make you want a dragon even if you're an adult. Readers should be warned that the abuse of dragons does play an important part in this book, but my sensitive 7 year old was able to handle it with only mild distress. She can't wait to read the next one and I'm sure I'll enjoy it too. I would recommend this book to kids 7 and up who love dragons (or horses, as the dragons behave in a very horsey manner and the principles of riding are similar).

Evelyn Saenz says

In my 12 year old's words:

Dragonsdale is a nice book revealing an enchanting place. If I could only go to the places in books, I would love to go to Seahaven.

It is easy to see the love between Cara and Skydancer, to see how Drane would find it hard to fit in at Dragonsdale, and to feel the pressure Breena is in at the Island Championships. You can almost hear the predators howling and Sky hissing during the attack in the hills. Truly a well described book.

Read more of her review at: [Reviewing Dragonsdale](#)

Abby Obert says

4 1/2 stars

Claire says

Despite the horribly pastel cover art, this pleasantly gritty, but still with enough sentiment to capture its intended audience (and me, I admit). It felt like a younger version of Anne McCaffrey's early Pern books

