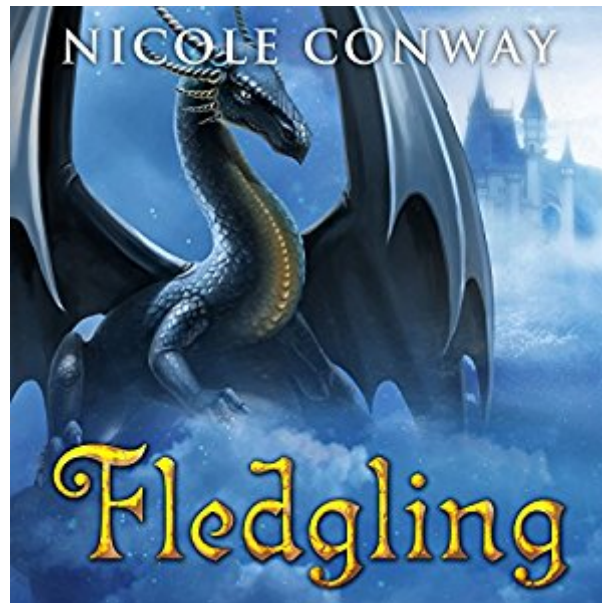




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Fledgling: The Dragonrider Chronicles, Book 1



Synopsis

Can one boy stand between two kingdoms at war? Jaevid Broadfeather has grown up as a wartime refugee, hiding from the world because of his mixed racial heritage. He feels his future is hopeless - until a chance encounter with a wild dragon lands him in Blybrig Academy, a place usually forbidden to anyone but the rich and royal. But Jaevid's case is special; no dragon has voluntarily chosen a rider in decades, so the proud riders of Blybrig must begrudgingly let him join their brotherhood despite his bloodline. Lieutenant Sile Derrick, a sternly tempered man with a mysterious past, becomes his instructor and immediately takes a peculiar interest in Jaevid's future. While struggling through the rigorous physical demands of training, things begin to go awry. Jaevid witnesses the king's private guards kidnapping Sile in the dead of night. When none of the elder riders is willing to help him, Jaevid begins a dangerous adventure to save his instructor. Everything Jaevid learned at the academy will now be put to the ultimate test.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I loved this action packed, emotional story! I can visualize the characters. If you like fantasy or dragons for that matter, then you'll love Conway's stories. The only back draw is that it should have been edited before it was launched as there are some areas where words are missing or extra words placed that weren't needed.

From the depth of a tumultuous childhood to the bonding with a wild Dragon and being trained to

become a dragonrider. The development of unknown powers to "call" animals from the ancient times to help during times of slavery, espionage and dark plots against the realm. Can't wait to read the next book in The saga.

Characters are a bit black and white (actually extremely, with teeth gnashing baddies and super liberal rational goodies). I felt like there were too many "main" characters and we had to watch each of them go through some of the same things (meeting the dragon rider, being chased for magic, meeting up with the mage towers). I think it would have been stronger if there were just one or two main characters and the rest less defined. Hard to keep track of them all. But on the whole it was well written and seems an interesting world.

I re-read this book this week, in preparation for reading Book 3 (Traitor), which I just purchased from . Every once in a while I need to get my head out of the books I review for Love Bytes Reviews and read something that is a feel good story. Fledgling is exactly that. The book is written, I believe for teens and young adults, but unlike some in that genre, it is written well. I felt very wrapped up in the story, and was happy to know that there were a couple more books in the series. I highly recommend it to anyone looking for a fast fantasy read.

love this book -love the story that this writer is telling-can't wait to read the rest of them-i wanted a dragon book well i got one in this book!

I would have given it five stars but the book had too many implausible developments that just did not ring true. It started off reasonably well. Jae, a half-breed (elf-human) was raised by his mother, who died when he 12. He ends up with his father and step-family, not just unloved but abused and ignored. His father made saddles for dragon riders and Jae meets one of them. The next thing you know, Jae goes to the dragon academy with his father, meets a dragon, and turns out to have an innate connection with dragons, is adopted by the dragon-rider to become a fledgling, and goes through all sorts of adventures to save him. There were too many implausible developments. Over and over again, Jae does the impossible, calls up giant man-eating turtles from nowhere, does crazy feats with his dragon, converts the bad guy's dragon, and so on. Although the book was enjoyable and was a page-turner, the book simply did not prepare me to believe the story. I liked many parts of it, including an innovative description of dragon fire and the flying scenes. The friendships and the transition from boy to man were well described. Jae's relationships with the two

girls he met are authentic. The alienation he felt as a half-breed felt real and came from the heart. The book could and should have been much longer, to develop the relationship that Jae formed with the dragon and to make some of the plot more credible. The giant turtle was simply too much and seemed improvised. I felt that the author was just beginning to find her voice towards the end of the book. The next one should be better. I will read it.

This story is great on many levels. It is told by the hero of the book a half-breed human elf named Jae. As a half-breed neither race will accept him. He grows up very lonely but not bitter. He basically deals with what life deals out to him. He was sent to live with his father and half siblings and Step Mother who were less than welcoming to him. Everything changes in his life when he and a wild Dragon team up. He suddenly finds himself enrolled in the elite Dragonrider military academy. He finds friends and discovers new aspects of himself. He learns that he can not only communicate with his Dragon but other dragons, and animals as well. Yet Jae seems to get into trouble at every turn, but manages to do the right thing, even if it is hard. The Second Book Avian is just as good. It explores Jae's past and his relationship or lack of one with his family, particularly his father who only took him in as duty dictated it. Despite his "family" packing up and moving without telling him Jae takes on the challenge of keeping house and dragon by himself. He discovers unexpected talents. By the end of this second book Jae joins the ranks of his fellow Avians to swear fealty to the King. However, Jae's nightmares leave him anxious about pledging himself. There is so much more to these books that are full of fun, resourceful characters and in sight on what family is. I tried to avoid spoilers. I am eagerly awaiting the next novel in this saga.

I'll read most things with dragons in 'em, YA or otherwise. As advertised, the book has dragons, so +1 star. That's...about it. In terms of the Dragons, Fledgling tries to be a cross between The Dragonriders of Pern and Heart's Blood, but it has neither the charm of the one or the heartfelt intensity of the other. In terms of Sword and Sorcery, it's like a fleshed-out version of a half-done backstory you come up with for your D&D character to justify "elvish" and "draconic" under the Languages tab. It would have earned another star if the plot elements - especially the true conflict w.r.t the kidnapping, etc. were developed with proper attention to craft. Either the book ended too early, or it took too damn long to start...However, Dragons. Dragons make everything better :) and the descriptions of the dragonriding-experience are fantastic. There's a lot of potential there, and I could be persuaded to pick up the next one in the series if the price-point is right.

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