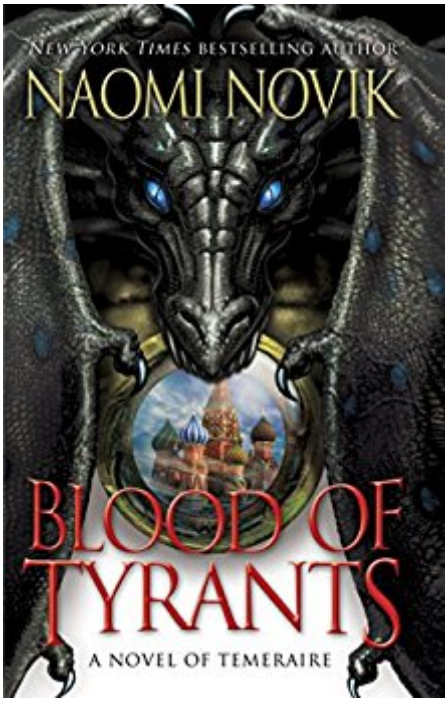
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# Blood Of Tyrants: A Novel Of Temeraire




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## Synopsis

Naomi NovikÃ¢ ¬â„¢s beloved Temeraire series, a brilliant combination of fantasy and history that reimagines the Napoleonic wars as fought with the aid of intelligent dragons, is a twenty-first-century classic. From the first volume, His MajestyÃ¢ ¬â„¢s Dragon, readers have been entranced by the globe-spanning adventures of the resolute Capt. William Laurence and his brave but impulsive dragon, Temeraire. Now, in Blood of Tyrants, the penultimate volume of the series, Novik is at the very height of her powers as she brings her story to its widest, most colorful canvas yet.Shipwrecked and cast ashore in Japan with no memory of Temeraire or his own experiences as an English aviator, Laurence finds himself tangled in deadly political intrigues that threaten not only his own life but EnglandÃ¢ ¬â„¢s already precarious position in the Far East. Age-old enmities and suspicions have turned the entire region into a powder keg ready to erupt at the slightest sparkÃ¢ ¬â •a spark that Laurence and Temeraire may unwittingly provide, leaving Britain faced with new enemies just when they most desperately need allies instead.For to the west, another, wider conflagration looms. Napoleon has turned on his former ally, the emperor Alexander of Russia, and is even now leading the largest army the world has ever seen to add that country to his list of conquests. It is there, outside the gates of Moscow, that a reunited Laurence and TemeraireÃ¢ ¬â •along with some unexpected allies and old friendsÃ¢ ¬â •will face their ultimate challenge . . . and learn whether or not there are stronger ties than memory.BONUS: This edition includes an excerpt from Naomi Novik's Uprooted.Praise for Blood of Tyrants Ã Â Ã¢ ¬Å“A first-class entry in a remarkable and appealing series.Ã¢ ¬Â•Ã¢ ¬â •Kirkus Reviews (starred review)Ã¢ ¬Å“NovikÃ¢ ¬â„¢s plots and characterizations get more intricate and plausible with each novel. . . . NovikÃ¢ ¬â„¢s re-creation of much of world history based on the existence of intelligent dragons has been so well crafted that all eight books in the series are highly recommended.Ã¢ ¬Â•Ã¢ ¬â •Booklist (starred review) Ã Â Ã¢ ¬Å“Novik combines dragons . . . with period history to achieve a brilliantly realized re-creation of military history laced with the fantastic. . . . Well-crafted.Ã¢ ¬Â•Ã¢ ¬â •Library JournalÃ¢ ¬Å“If youÃ¢ ¬â„¢ve never read these novels, now is the time to start.Ã¢ ¬Â•Ã¢ ¬â •io9 Ã Â Ã¢ ¬Å“A fun, action-packed read.Ã¢ ¬Â•Ã¢ ¬â •San Antonio Express-News

## Book Information

File Size: 3847 KB

Print Length: 514 pages

Publisher: Del Rey (August 13, 2013)

Publication Date: August 13, 2013

Sold by:Ã Â Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B00BH0VSHG

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #26,812 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #42 inÃ Â Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy > Myths & Legends > Asian #47 inÃ Â Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy > Myths & Legends > Asian #225 inÃ Â Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy > Historical

## Customer Reviews

Summary: 3/4 of this book can be thrown away, and the last 1/4 is a short story teaser to set up the final book in the series.The rest of this review probably contains spoilers.After enjoying many of the previous Temeraire novels, I really dislike having to give this one only two stars, but I had problems with this book. First, the plot twist that Laurence has amnesia seems too contrived. The memory loss is way too selective, and utimately never seems to make a difference to the outcome at all. Second, after so much wonderful descriptions and detail that the previous books gave for people, places, events, and especially societies and their integration (or lack of) of intelligent dragons, this book is missing a whole lot of it. Too much text is spent on Laurence’s amnesia and Japan is barely touched at all. Third, there are no long journeys in this book. Once they leave Japan they are suddenly back in China for yet another political plot just like the second book, which then gets resolved all too cleanly. Then they are magically in Moscow as if no time had passed at all. Russia seems to be where the focus of the book wants to be, and was the only interesting part of the book. But there so little of it, that we had to sit through over 300 uninteresting pages of Japan and China that feels thrown in so the book would be large enough. And lastly, the ending is such a cliffhanger that I felt cheated.

I don’t know if it was heavily edited , but I kept feeling like whole chapters were missing.It jumped

from one event to the next without explanation.However the battle scenes were ingreat (too much) detail. I miss the inter-action between Temeraire and Laurance. Also the otherdragons, much more intriguing characters than most the humans, way too little of them.I can only hope there is another book in the works and it wont take years to come out.It seems once a series becomes popular the subsequent books become shorter allowingthe author to sell more -when 2 could easily be one book! I will continue to follow this seriesbut wish she would get back to format of earlier books.

It was only okay for me. And considering most of the rest of the Temeraire series is on my 'touch and you die' shelf at home, that's saying a lot.The story was kind of disjointed with three different adventures (Japan - Laurence loses his memory, China - the team goes hunting rebels, Russia - Back to fighting Bonaparte). The three tales didn't mesh well or lead easily one to another. I kept forgetting who the characters were in the earlier stories and why they were important.I also had a hard time following why the secondary characters were behaving the way they were (particularly in China). It was all mildly confusing and almost nonsensical.The Russian part is HEAVY on combat scenes - which is usually fine. I normally find these engaging because Temeraire makes them interesting. I didn't this time though. They all felt distant and impersonal in a way I hadn't experienced with Temeraire before. They got so boring, I ended up skimming (so sad).The worst part though was that neither Laurence nor Temeraire seemed themselves in this book. Their personalities had somehow lost that larger-than-life quality that makes me read these books again and again. This was understandable for Laurence at first (having lost his memory), but Temeraire was lackluster and a bit whiny/predictable. So disappointing. I love seeing they way each character in these novels slowly changes/deepens/becomes more complex. This book felt like a huge step backwards in all that.More than anything, it felt like it had been written in a hurry without the usual care taken to make it vivid and alive. It also doesn't come to a climax, but just kind of peters out as if rather than finish the tale, the author had run out of time and/or energy to write it.

I loved all the other books in the series, but this one just... blah. Without spoiling anything, there are some plot elements that I just found tiresome. The books are a little formulaic overall, but up to this point they've been like meeting an old friend after not seeing them for a while. This one... I found myself skimming. I'll get the next one, but I'm glad it's the last in the series. I can't shake the feeling Novik is kind of dialing it in, here, for whatever reason. That said, I think she's a great writer, and I loved Uprooted - and the first books in this series.

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