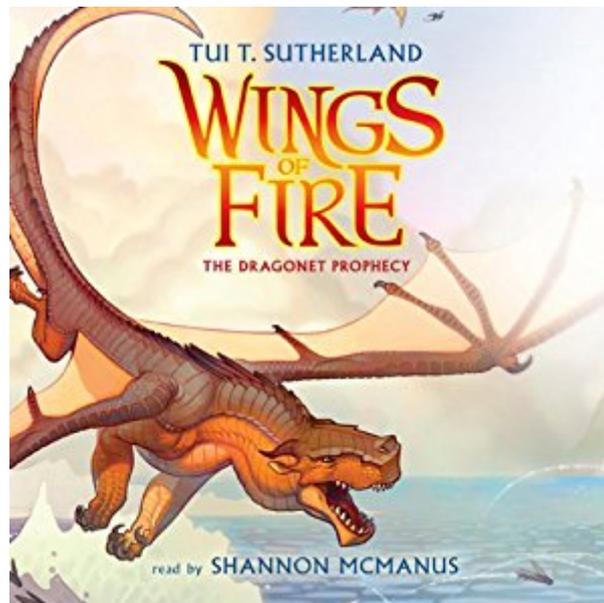


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The Dragonet Prophecy: Wings Of Fire, Book #1



Synopsis

A thrilling new series soars above the competition and redefines middle-grade fantasy fiction for a new generation! The seven dragon tribes have been at war for generations, locked in an endless battle over an ancient, lost treasure. A secret movement called the Talons of Peace is determined to bring an end to the fighting, with the help of a prophecy - a foretelling that calls for great sacrifice. Five dragonets are collected to fulfill the prophecy, raised in a hidden cave and enlisted, against their will, to end the terrible war. But not every dragonet wants a destiny. And when the select five escape their underground captors to look for their original homes, what has been unleashed on the dragon world may be far more than the revolutionary planners intended.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Wings of Fire #1: The Dragonet Prophecy, by Tui T. Sutherland (Scholastic, July 1, 2012, ages 8 and up), is a winner. If you have a fourth grader who's read these series--Warriors, the Guardians of Ga'hoole, and How To Train Your Dragon--and who is casting around for a new book, this is the book you should give him or her. It is a must-have for the fourth grade library (which I don't think I've ever said about a book before) and I enjoyed it rather a lot myself! Five dragonets, each from different tribe of dragons, were taken from their homes before they even hatched, and raised in hidden cave, knowing only each other and the cold dragon guardians who watched their every move. They were raised to be the dragonets prophesied to end a terrible and bloody conflict that was tearing apart the seven tribes (Sandwings, Mudwings, Skywings, Seawings, etc.)...but the

Talons of Peace, the dragons who are raising them, are afraid that they've failed to meet the terms of the prophecy. Instead of a Skywing, they ended up with a Rainwing--a tribe of dragons sneered at for being lazy and useless. And so the guardians plan to dispose of Glory, the little Rainwing. But the five dragonets are a team, and when they hear that Glory might be killed, they plan a daring escape. Each has their own strengths, and their own weaknesses, and none has ever been outside before. Almost immediately, they are captured by the evil Queen of the Skywings, whose greatest joy is to pit dragon against dragon in her arena of death.... There the Skywing champion, barely more than a dragonet herself, defeats all comers. But the Dragonets of the Prophecy are different from other dragons--they are not bound by loyalty to their own tribes, but to each other. And that loyalty will save them....

First, let me say that I've only read through chapter 4, and although I plan to read the rest because I personally enjoy it, I won't be sharing it with my 7-year-old like I had planned because it is not age-appropriate for him. I got this (from Vine) because he is a very advanced reader (claims it is for ages 8 and up) and loves a good action story. In the "Prologue," an evil dragon crushes the egg that a good dragon was carrying: "With an exaggerated lunge, Burn pretended the wet egg was slipping through her talons . . . and then she let it fall over the side of the cliff into the rocky darkness below." And later, she kills the good dragon: "Her claws ripped through the silver dragon's wings, shredding them as Hvitur shrieked in agony. With a swift movement, she stabbed her poisonous tail through his skull and flung the long, silver body over the edge of the cliff. The ice dragon's screams cut off long before the echoes of his corpse slamming into the rocks below." While I understand how important it is to establish an antagonist in a great story like this, I object to the ever-intensifying violence aimed at younger and younger crowds. However, even if I did allow my son to read it, or if he came across it on his own, he would toss it aside because (1), he hates to see the good guys suffer, and (2) it's confusing!! I had to take notes to remember which dragon was which and who was at war with whom. I'm sure that he would be wildly confused. And the violence doesn't end in the prologue, unfortunately the dragons' training is based on fighting each other and their caregivers, sometimes brutally. Essentially, my two-star review is aimed not at the story, which is really great, but at the targeted age level.

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