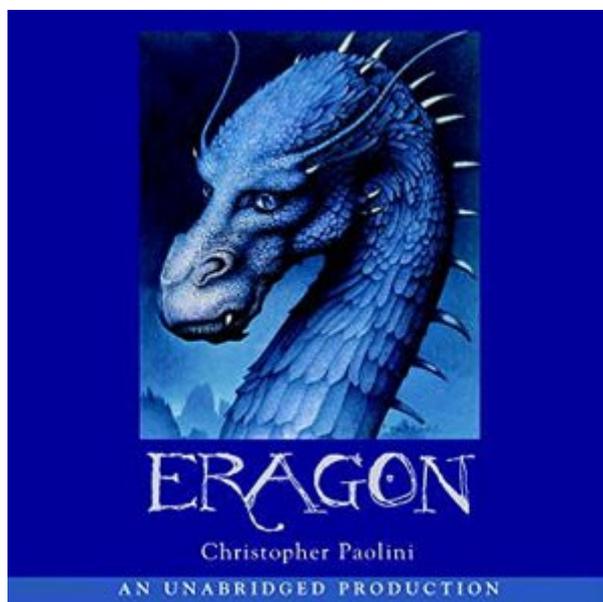


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Eragon: The Inheritance Cycle, Book 1



Synopsis

Gifted only with an ancient red sword, the brilliant-blue dragon Saphira, and advice from the old storyteller Brom, the young man Eragon is entangled in an intricate tapestry of destiny, magic, ancient glory, and love. His saga carries readers through a fantastical land filled with beauty and brooding danger as he flees the tyrannical king, Galbatorix. A mysterious elven woman haunts Eragon's dreams, while an ancient legacy and an unexpected inheritance shape his destiny.

--This text refers to the Paperback edition.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 16 hours and 21 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Listening Library

Audible.com Release Date: October 16, 2003

Whispersync for Voice: Ready

Language: English

ASIN: B0000U7N4G

Best Sellers Rank: #6 in Books > Education & Teaching > Studying & Workbooks > Study Guides
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> Fantasy

Customer Reviews

I admit it, I bought the book for the art and color. I know, this is akin to buying alcohol for the bottle. I was bored, it was large, it was pretty, and I like Dragons and McCaffrey's work. I didn't know a teenager wrote it until I saw the reviews here. Yes, the author is clearly influenced by many great fantasy authors. OK, he is not yet in the halls of the most unique novelists (at a mere age 18). So? A bazillion fantasy books out there are 'more of the same'. He has some fairly unique perspectives and facets here and there, even though he accepts many of the most popular 'standards' of certain aspects of fantasy. I see all this bashing the book because it fails to separate itself from every known 'given' in the fantasy genre. That's like dissing a movie because lots of movies are about murder and intrigue with guns, car crashes, beautiful women and ugly bad guys. An art form is either entertaining, or it is not. It may be innovative, or less so than usual, it may have some very unique pieces and others that are almost 'tradition' instead. But the enjoyment of the process through it is

what matters. Personally, I really enjoyed the book. It's not uncommon for young artists (of book or song or vision) to be more 'influenced' by those artists they like the best, than more experienced artists tend to be. For a first book this author writes a lovely and entertaining story, writes well (and long). I think his future is very bright, assuming the young man can survive the nasty effects of popularity hitting at that age and on his first book... pretty much a killshot for most personalities. I loathe trilogies, since I don't like being kept hanging for 1-3 years, but the book is good anyway. The book kept me seriously interested for most of a weekend, and looking forward to its sequel. I loaned it to a friend, and I recommend it.

Well, it's not exactly new. The elements in the book have been used by many other authors as well. Forest dwelling Elves, Tunnel dweller Dwarf, Human (hey, that's us), dragon, Urgan (or orcs in LOTR, Gnome in Terry Brooks, orcs in Forgotten Realms and many others) and etc etc. There's the magic sword, magic word, magical creature, magical being and etc. Old stuff I guess. But then again, even Elves and Dwarf came from some western folklore so they are not completely original from certain authors are they? And yes, Eragon does wield a magical sword, but so does Drizzt Do'urden, Arilyn Moonblade. Sword of Shanara and Sword of Leah are both magical as well. The only difference is that Eragon's sword happens to be...a bloodthirsty sword, unlike certain noble swords that can only be wielded by certain kings (cough*Anduril*cough). So...yes, the story element in Eragon is not completely new. I mean if you ever read Sword of Shanara (Terry Brooks's first book), the plot really resembles Lord of the Rings. But nobody complains about that now do they? I mean, come on, what fantasy story is "brand new" except when they are talking about space ships and alien invasions. The story of Eragon is easy to follow. Granted, the plot is somewhat old-fashioned, but it's told in a new way. The story starts with how the egg came to be in Eragon's possession. Eragon, unlike other fantasy characters, is a mere farmboy of no noble standing. He just happens to find the egg (of the dragon) when he is hunting. The egg hatches and a bond is formed between them. Then come the servants of the Empire who hunt the egg and kill Eragon's uncle. Eragon then pursued them for revenge with the help of his dragon and the enigmatic Brom the story teller. During the travel we are introduced to the lore of the dragon, the situation of Alagaesia, magic and more characters. In the travel, Eragon's power grows with the help of Brom. And eventually, he is plunged into the Alagaesia's world of politics which might be more dangerous than a hundred of Kull. And the story goes on. In conclusion, the elements of the story have been used by many other authors. But the story itself is old told in a new way which makes it original, well, somewhat. Hopefully the second book will be better than the first one. And hopefully Paolini will be able to create his own world without too

much influence from other author.

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