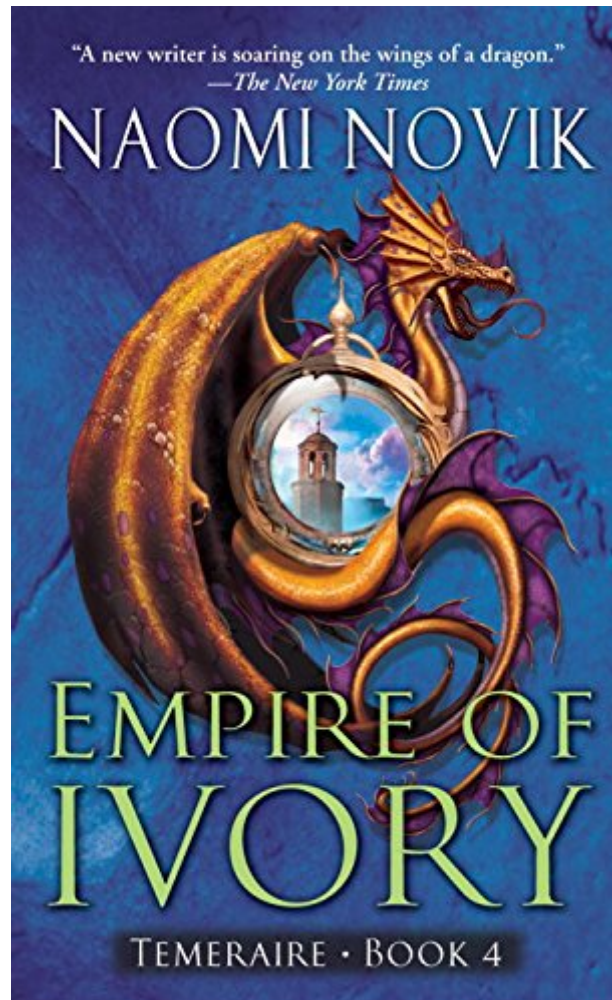




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Empire Of Ivory: A Novel Of Temeraire



Synopsis

Tragedy has struck His Majesty's Aerial Corps, whose magnificent fleet of fighting dragons and their human captains valiantly defend England's shores against the encroaching armies of Napoleon Bonaparte. An epidemic of unknown origin and no known cure is decimating the noble dragons' ranks, forcing the hopelessly stricken into quarantine. Now only Temeraire and a pack of newly recruited dragons remain uninfected and stand as the only means of an airborne defense against France's ever bolder sorties. Bonaparte's dragons are already harrowing Britain's ships at sea. Only one recourse remains: Temeraire and his captain, Will Laurence, must take wing to Africa, whose shores may hold the cure to the mysterious and deadly contagion. On this mission there is no time to waste, and no telling what lies in store beyond the horizon or for those left behind to wait, hope, and hold the line.

BONUS: This edition includes an excerpt from Naomi Novik's Victory of Eagles.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Fun alternate history with dragons and napoleon. What's not to like? Characters and situations feel

period and authentic, especially the naval stuff. Dragons fit in without totally dominating the scene. Very nuanced and complex setting and characters with a plot that showcases them. I am writing this while about halfway through book 5 and it keeps getting better. Nothing is two dimensional, and few characters are wholly evil or good. Great stuff.. i'll keep reading; so should you. This one turns things on its head in many ways. Great plot twists and new introductions, things are getting more complex and nuanced as we go.

Naomi Novik steps up the story in *EMPIRE OF IVORY* - while in previous novels Temeraire and Captain Laurence travel to places such as China; where dragons are treated with respect to Istanbul; where dragons are feared. Now we view them in South Africa - as ancestors to an ancient tribe. But why are Laurence and Temeraire in Africa? That is exactly what makes this book so incredibly fascinating. Instead of the typical strategy and war that I've come to expect of the Temeraire novels this book deals with an epidemic among the dragons. They are sick and dying and there is one cure that can be given to them, a cure which has its roots in Africa. Laurence is treated with more harshness than he has been in the past in *EMPIRE OF IVORY* and the politics of slave-trading come to a fevered high point in this story. It's fascinating to me to see how the characters grow in these books and with the ending of the story it seems that Naomi Novik has finally made that step into cliff-hanger territory. I cannot imagine reading this book and having to wait months until the next one was put out. This was the most fun I've had since *EMPIRE OF JADE* and I am looking forward to picking up *VICTORY OF EAGLES*.

Although this series of books is trying to be an historical fiction, it sometimes goes too way off real history and it seems weird a little. Sometimes stuff just not add up. I.E, Nelson should be dead from around book 2 according to history and since I try to read about battles and places mentioned in the book, it seems that although the author made her research and I cannot take it from her, she later on went and changed the whole history which is kind of weird for a fictional history series....

At this point, I've read the first five books of the Temeraire series. This one is the low point. Action is lack luster and the story feels like an after thought, like, "Oh, hey! Let's go to Africa and incorporate themes related to that continent!" It's not a bad book, but comparison with the other books in the series leaves this one at a disadvantage.

Naomi Novik has created an alternate history using the Napoleonic Wars and given us dragons. I

have enjoyed the development of the characters of the dragons and their captains and crews.

This series about the dragon Temeraire and his presumptive master Captain Will Laurence is an alternate history of the Napoleonic Wars. Both the dragon and Laurence are the protagonists, heroes and really more equals than master/animal. Temeraire and the other dragons in the series are sentient, philosophical and mostly more intelligent than the humans who ride them into battle. But the plots in the series (up to 8 or 9 books by now) get to be awfully repetitive. However, I have read each one that is currently in print and will read her next one when it appears in print.

It seems like the author is getting tired. She still writes well but it's not quite as interesting, as before.

Not the best book in the series but it's ok, a fun read and well-written. I've now read the whole series and enjoyed each book.

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