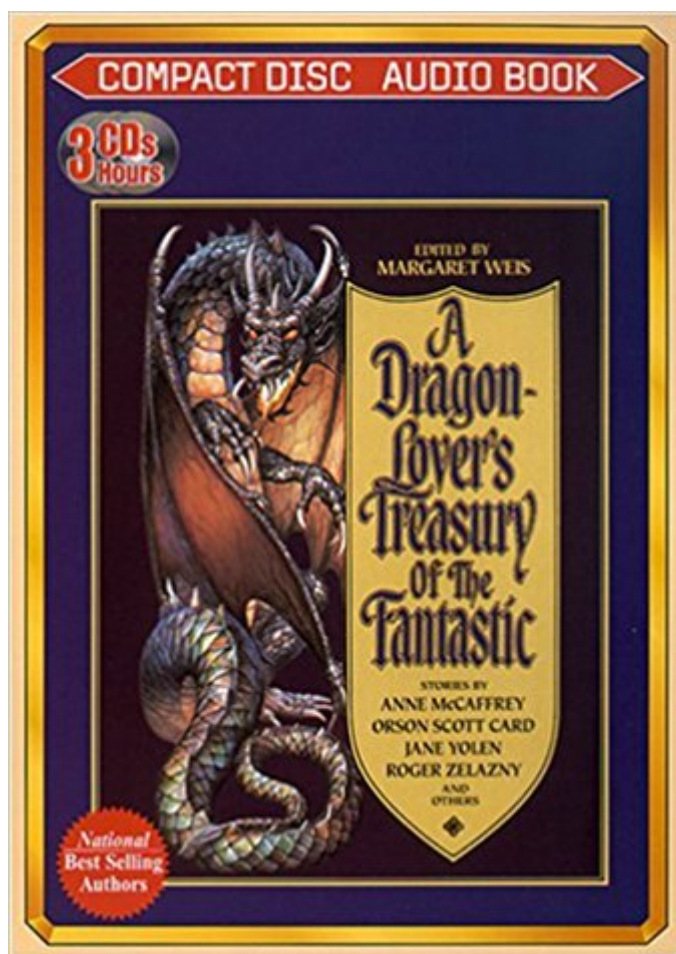


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# A Dragon-Lover's Treasury Of The Fantastic



## Synopsis

Dragons are monsters, mages, heroes, horrors. Dragons thrill our dreams and haunt our legends. Now Margaret Weis, coauthor of the New York Times bestselling Dragonlance and Death Gate series, author of the Star of the Guardians series, and one of the world's leading dragonists and dracophiles, gathers the greatest classic dragon stories of our time, written by the winners of every award in the fields of fantasy and science fiction. Book jacket.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Inexplicably, dragons have become the creatures of choice for fantasy readers. Dragon queen McCaffrey leads off a new treasury, which gathers dragon tales by some of the heavy hitters of the genre, including L. Sprague de Camp, Roger Zelazny, Orson Scott Card, and Gordon R. Dickson. If mystery is more to your liking, Severn House is also offering a hardcover edition of Peters's 1976 Legend in Green Velvet in which protagonist Susan finds love and intrigue in the Scottish Highlands. Severn House books can be ordered directly by calling 800-830-3044. Discounts are available. Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc.

The dragon is one of the most enduring creatures in the fantasy world. This collection of stories by some of the best fantasy writers of our time (Anne McCafferty, Jan Yolen, Orson Scott Card) is the definitive work on these fire-breathing lizards. A Dragon-Lover's Treasury of the Fantastic is a 3 hour, two cassette assembly of tales told with high drama, exotic adventures of peril and daring, and even a light touch of humor. -- Midwest Book Review

I loved Anne McCaffrey's books about PERN because it had dragons and I love dragons. I thought this would be a fun book to have. However, not everyone writes about dragons the same way and though the stories are fun, some of them are just downright weird and not to my liking. So although it is a fairly fun book, it is not what I expected, but to each his own.

The one thing that made me pick this up was the title, even though I don't like dragons as much as I used to. (I promise that I'll explain myself later). I wanted to find the first two stories alright because, I've read *Dragonflight* and *Heart's Blood* several years. However, I felt enraged while questioning it. Speaking of the aforementioned novels, *Weyr Search* made me wonder why dragonriders don't get a second chance? I figured that could be blaming them for an incident that wasn't their fault. Also, they're expected to embark on dangerous journeys. What made me madder is how the author depicts being chosen as an exciting event and made it seem to be the best thing that could ever happen to somebody. *Cockfight* made me wonder why dragons who lose fights for either breeding or stews. Are the participants that bestial? Is that a way for the trainers to erase 'mistakes', so they don't need to own up to them? (Keep in mind that these people are old enough for that to be expected behavior). That said, it wasn't those two short stories. "The Ever-After" was another culprit. The main character murdered a child in cold blood then still wanted to be a hero. Who in the right mind would consider that person a hero, aside from criminals? I also wondered if the author ever heard of the term anti-hero, which has been around for centuries? (Alright, maybe villain would be a better word. Also, I'd say that about anybody's writing because, I've seen some detestable protagonists who never got reprimanded before). Likewise, there were two other serious questions I wondered. First off, what are stories with dragons dying doing here? Also, what are stories where dragons aren't even the main focus doing here? Well, I considered *Two Yards of Dragon* an exception because, the main character assumed that they got in because, dragons were either in the title or mentioned once. However, I considered *A Hiss of Dragons* an exception because, dragons showed up a fair bit. In the same way significant questions were raised, minor questions were raised. I didn't want to get into any of them because, that'd make my review longer than it needed to be. I did want to explain why they were raised in the first place. The stories didn't explain themselves that well. They would open plot holes then just ignore them. That said, I didn't find just the multiple questions aggravating. Most of the characters were at fault, too, They were quite aggravating to the point this became a long, bothersome read. I almost stopped several times until I remembered that I didn't want to consider a terrible story collection without finishing. Another reason

why I found this aggravating is this made me remember why I stopped reading dragon-based literature (aside from WoW novels and Dragonflight). It wasn't due to the animals. I found no redeeming qualities in the stories, so I stopped reading them.

Not too bad anthology. It is actually a bit more varied than I expected, giving the impression of your garden variety fantasy type story to start with, but then I saw it opened with McCaffrey's excellent Weyr Search, so there was hope. There is plenty of the former, but some nice variety to be found, some sf or horror stories, and some of the amusing variety to go along with the rest. The story average is only 3.10 though.

Dragon-Lover's Treasury : Weyr Search - Anne McCaffrey  
Dragon-Lover's Treasury : Cockfight - Jane Yolen  
Dragon-Lover's Treasury : The Storm King - Joan D. Vinge  
Dragon-Lover's Treasury : The Fellowship of the Dragon - Patricia A. McKillip  
Dragon-Lover's Treasury : The Champion of Dragons - Mickey Zucker Reichert  
Dragon-Lover's Treasury : Two Yards of Dragon - L. Sprague deCamp  
Dragon-Lover's Treasury : Saint Willibald's Dragon - Esther M. Friesner  
Dragon-Lover's Treasury : A Drama of Dragons - Craig Shaw Gardner  
Dragon-Lover's Treasury : The George Business - Roger Zelazny  
Dragon-Lover's Treasury : The Dragonbone Flute - Lois Tilton  
Dragon-Lover's Treasury : The Ice Dragon - George R. R. Martin  
Dragon-Lover's Treasury : The Hidden Dragon - Barbara Delaplace  
Dragon-Lover's Treasury : Last Dragon - Steve Rasnic Tem  
Dragon-Lover's Treasury : The Wizard's Boy - Nancy Varian Berberick  
Dragon-Lover's Treasury : A Hiss of Dragon - Gregory Benford and Marc Laidlaw  
Dragon-Lover's Treasury : A Plague of Butterflies - Orson Scott Card  
Dragon-Lover's Treasury : The Ever-After - Eluki Bes Shahar  
Dragon-Lover's Treasury : Dragons' Teeth - David Drake  
Dragon-Lover's Treasury : The Trials and Tribulations of Myron Blumberg  
Dragon - Mike Resnick  
Dragon-Lover's Treasury : St. Dragon and the George - Gordon R. Dickson  
Teleportin' time-shiftin' meteor shootin' dragon recruitin'. 4.5 out of 5  
Dragon punting break-in. 4 out of 5  
Dragon power request. 2.5 out of 5  
Harper rescue. 3 out of 5  
Slice decision. 3 out of 5  
Draco travel inspiration. 3 out of 5  
Treasure and other legend. 2.5 out of 5  
Draco-damsel dodgy double act. 3.5 out of 5  
Stage fight. 3.5 out of 5  
Piping them down. 2 out of 5  
I'm melting. 3 out of 5  
Werdragon kill. 3 out of 5  
Exodragon disease search. 4 out of 5  
Stuff being a thief, be a wizard. People still won't like you, regardless. You also get to be almost killed by dragons, if you are lucky. 4 out of 5  
Crimelord recruiting is a sticky situation. 3.5 out of 5  
Bump 'em all off. 2 out of 5  
One petulant despoiler of a magic sword? I'm definitely woman enough for that. 4 out of 5  
Shoot that poison arrow... well, given he is so big, lots of places as well as the heart perhaps a good idea. 3.5 out of 5  
The turning of me, one shrew. 3 out of 5  
Human, dragon and knight team-up vs the bad guys. 3.5

Some of the stories are quite similar to others. Of course, they all have to do with dragons, but several fall in the Hero goes to slay Dragon formula. The Orson Scott Card does not seem to fit in the traditional dragon formula and is the outstanding story. The Anne McCaffrey is good but overwritten at points. I expected more from the Zelazny. It was very good, but Zelazny has done such mind-blowing work that this seems to be a bit trite. The Friesner is hilarious and the best of the funny stories in this book. The Martin and Tilton are quite good, but not extraordinary. The rest were merely okay, except for The Ever-After which had horrid prose.

I LOVED this book! I've never in my life read stories of this caliber! I couldn't put this book down. It was delightful from cover to cover. I highly recommend this book to anyone who has fallen in love with the world of dragons.

This was a fairly good book. It gave a lot of information that someone might use while reading any of Anne McCaffrey's books. I liked this book because of that. Anyone who likes dragons could use this book.

Very enjoyable stories, but light weight reading. The inclusion of the first few chapters of Anne McCaffrey's Dragonriders of Pern disguised as a short story was disappointing though.

Some of the stories are boring in my opinion or should have been either longer or shorter. I would not recommend this unless you are a big fan of any of the authors.

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