



Dragon Lightning

J.S. Burke

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Dragon Lightning is stand-alone book II of the award-winning Dragon Dreamer series: Science Fantasy with dragons and an undersea world. For young adults 9 to 99.

Drakor seems like a normal young ice dragon with a talent for making lightning swords. But he alone feels the changing heart of his island Volcano. It destroyed his beloved sire. Now he foresees their doom, but none will listen. As he seeks proof, the Volcano shakes him off into the frozen sea.

Arak was mocked as a worthless dreamer until he and Scree, a fearless undersea misfit, saved the dragons. Now dragons and octopi sail north in search of mythical ice dragons. They find Drakor and a terrifying reality. When Scree enters the abyss to check his volcano, she discovers everyone is in peril. Can this crew of unlikely friends save three realms?

Dragon Lightning won PINNACLE First Place for best Science Fantasy and IAN First Place for Best Science Fiction.

Dragon Lightning Details

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Author : J.S. Burke

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From Reader Review Dragon Lightning for online ebook

Valerie Hemlin says

5 Stars!

THE FEAST CONTINUES

Settle in with your hot cocoa and embark on another quest on the high seas, undersea, and volcanos. Discover the new ice world with our intrepid explorers . . . old friends—Arak, Scree, Orm and Dorali as they find new adventures and friends. We meet Drakor, of the legendary ice dragons, explore the new world again and tangle with the giant squids. But my favorite surprise was the discovery that the fabled Sunset dragons may exist. We don't get to see them, but there are definite signs that we might in the next book. Yes? Please!

Arak and Scree are as fearless as ever, but Dorali comes into her own in this story and an unlikely love develops. The dragons still paint the sky and create beautiful ice patterns, and the Octopi underwater art is vivid. I loved the description of the Octopi dancing, though I think my favorite parts are the legends and stories about Dragon and Octopus culture that Ms. Burke weaves skillfully throughout the book. Her descriptions are lusciously vivid: for instance, when the Octopi applaud, they lift their arms above their heads, “changed to rainbow colors and wove words of praise through the sea.” Every word is carefully crafted to weave a sparkling and beautiful image. “Arak rose before dawn and strolled through a glass forest that glowed in the moonlight. Every twig was coated with ice, twinkling like earthbound stars.”

Ms. Burke also does not shy away from using the many experiences the characters have as “life-lessons.” Without being preachy this story deals with many social issues that we face today, like climate and environment change, that everything is connected, and the significance of self-valuation—of not letting your peers affect your sense of self, of following your own potential, and the importance of understanding those who have different beliefs than ours. My favorite quote, “The seal of approval that matters is our own.” Once again, Ms. Burke has delivered a delightful, fun-filled and pertinent tale for all ages. She gives us a world we can use to escape this mundane plane, without ignoring the central issues we face everyday. I would love to see this book in school libraries. Thank you for sharing your world with us. I can’t wait for book III.

Most Highly Recommended

Marc Secchia says

Well, I've been eagerly awaiting the second volume in Ms Burke's Dragon Dreamer series and I was not disappointed. Bowled over, yes. Blown away, for sure. Wow!

This is some of the finest Dragon point-of view writing out there (and, octopus POV, for that matter). Adventure, exploration and discovery abound in a world literally about to explode. One of the superlative features of the writing is the use of colour, shade and tone to bring the world and its lovingly detailed artistic elements to life. Look for the number of (different) times colour, texture and taste are mentioned. It is perfectly immersive, and that is one of the outstanding features of this gem in dragon scales. Bravo! Five stars!

Donna Moore says

The Adventure Continues!!!

In this the second book of this wonderful series we join Arak, Scree, Orm and some of the others along with their new friend Drakor on a new and exciting adventure! This author is a master at bringing you into her world and the magic that it holds. The world she builds is believable because she weaves facts into her story while painting you vivid pictures with her fascinating descriptions. Her characters are realistic and deal with issues that we can all relate to. There is plenty of action, excitement and lessons to be learned. We see how this unlikely group become friends and learn to work together to save an entire species of Dragons, the legendary Ice Dragons. There are some real David and Goliath moments in this book that will have you cheering on these lovable characters and excitedly turning the pages to see what happens next! The story is fun, thought provoking and truly enjoyable.

This book transcends age and gender. I would highly recommend it to anyone who likes a good fun adventure! Definitely a five star read

Michaelle Madrid says

Wonderful!

Dragon Lightning by J. S. Burke is another wonderful journey in the Dragon Dreamer series. Octopi and dragons once again working together as Burke weaves amazing worlds and sights with descriptive mastery as only she can. A beautiful adventure of friendship for ages 8 and beyond. This can also be read as a stand alone.

Joshua Blum says

Dragon Lightning is everything a sequel should be - a story that draws from the world previously created and deepens it while adding more to the characters we've grown accustomed to in the first volume. In that novel, Arak, the dragon whose dreams formed the basis for the title of the first book and its plot, is now a proper adult, with a family of his own and more responsibility in his clan. While the first book was really his story, this volume is really about Drakor, a wounded ice dragon that Arak and his dragon and octopus companions discover during their travels. He is questing for a new home for his clan after having a vision of a volcano eruption that would destroy their land. After learning about the way of life Arak and his clan have adopted, Drakor learns about new techniques to not only enrich their lives but to challenge the stubborn leader of his clan who refuses to acknowledge the impending eruption and the danger it might pose.

There is much within the pages of this fantasy story on diplomacy and open mindedness in the face of new customs that is always worth discussing no matter the age. I also especially enjoyed the glossary of (both real and fantastical) terms, the author's note at the end, and the author's illustrations, which begin each chapter. While I think this would be an ideal book for an elementary school teacher teaching multiple subjects (e.g. biology, social studies, reading, and history) and looking for a book to tie together themes from multiple subjects, it can be equally enjoyed by adults - I was one of them!

Theresa says

I didn't think this author could get any more imaginative then when she paired up a dragon and an octopus in her first book, but darn if she didn't surprise me again. A festival of dancing octopus, a lightning dragon that seems to want to solve everything with fighting, giant squids on the attack, and the threat of erupting volcanoes are just a few of her surprises this time around. Don't miss out on this pearl of a story.

Brian says

I always wished to be a Registered Nurse and a writer; neither worked out but I am a reader who loves good books. This book is beyond good and goes into the category of truly remarkable. Few books have reached that height with me: this one does!

I was taken in by the author's skillful use of imagination, style, characters, and the beautiful picture all of these created in my mind as quickly turned pages and fell into this book: completely.

A piece of Dragon Lightning mimics today's society. A democracy and a dictatorship. Good verses evil. But just as in real life, nothing is as black and white as it seems.

Enjoy!

J.S. Burke says

Dragon Lightning is a stand-alone book and also the second in the Dragon Dreamer series. It's a science fantasy adventure with flying dragons, an undersea world, and unlikely friendships.

Drakor seems like a normal young ice dragon with a talent for making lightning swords. But he alone feels the changing heart of his island Volcano. It destroyed his beloved sire. Now he foresees their doom, but none will listen. As he seeks proof, the Volcano shakes him off into the frozen sea.

Meanwhile, Arak sails north with golden dragons and undersea shape-shifters. Doralí joins the quest, searching for adventure and escape as she struggles to cope with her terrible scars. The crew seeks a beautiful legend but discovers a terrifying reality when they rescue Drakor. Ice dragons are not what Arak expected, and Drakor's waking volcano threatens all three realms.

E.M. Cooper says

It's a delight to return to the unique fantasy world of the Dragon Dreamer series. Like the first in series book two, Dragon Lightning is so beautifully imagined that you immediately become immersed in an adventure involving dragons and octopuses. The author creates a breathtaking world with sounds and smells and colours of the sea, ice and fire. Besides the vividly imagined world, what I love about this series is the

intriguing and imaginative science behind diverse fantasy such as dragon's fire and healing. It makes the story so compelling and believable.

The characters are also beautifully drawn. Scree, an heroic octopus, is philosophical, brave and decent and my favourite, with the tetchy ice-dragon, Drakor a close second. The blended community deals with a range of threats from aggressive giant squids to a life threatening volcanic eruption—intelligently and courageously.

Dragon Lightning is a brilliant book and I haven't read anything quite like it with its beauty, heart and creativity. I thoroughly recommend it.

Anna says

This is the second Dragon Dreamer book. If you haven't read the first one, you can still completely enjoy Dragon Lightning. If you have read the first one, you'll be happy to meet your favorite characters again when they return for a new adventure that introduces the legendary ice dragons.

Drakor, an ice dragon, is the hero of this new story. Coming from a dragon culture where might makes right, he is burdened with foresight that a disaster awaits his island but no one will listen to him because he's not the strongest. Can he, with the help of his new friends and the new skills they share with him, help him to save his clan?

This series has the most unique and fully-realized dragons. The world-building has scientific, instead of magical, underpinnings. The author creates complex cultures for her creatures in which all the details, from how dragon lightning is generated to how the intricate, beautiful dragon nests are created, are explained by physics, chemistry and biology. Also, the reader gets full immersion into the art, history, social norms and foods of several different cultures on a level that other books/series just don't match. How these cultures clash and come together in complicated ways is one of the author's favorite themes.

But, the real question is if this is a good story? Yup. You'll be cheering for Drakor!

William Stuart says

I read J. S. Burke's first book about dragons and octopuses (Dragon Dreamer) a while back. When she released Dragon Lightning, it hit my TBR list immediately. As a bonus, J. S. Burke is a Georgia author, so I got to read another of my fellow authors. Here is my review!

Synopsis (from the author): Dragon Lightning is a stand-alone book and the second in The Dragon Dreamer series. It's a fast-paced adventure with flying dragons, an undersea world, and unlikely friendships. This science fantasy is layered for readers age 9 to adult.

Drakor seems like a normal young ice dragon with a talent for making lightning swords. But he alone feels the changing heart of his island Volcano. It destroyed his beloved sire. Now he foresees their doom, but none will listen. As he seeks proof, the Volcano shakes him off into the frozen sea . . .

Arak was mocked as a worthless dreamer until he and Scree, a fearless undersea misfit, saved the dragons. Now dragons and octopi sail north in search of mythical ice dragons. They find Drakor and a terrifying reality. When Scree enters the abyss to check his volcano, she discovers everyone is in peril. Can this crew of unlikely friends save three realms?

What I liked: Dragon Lightning was an excellent book! The familiar heroes from Dragon Dreamer return with new adventures starting with the search for the ice dragons of legend. Arak and Scree grow as characters and Drakor adds an interesting twist. The undersea science woven throughout provides cool information, and the trials faced by the unlikely friends entertained me. All in all, a good read!

What I didn't like: I only had a couple of minor issues with Dragon Lightning. First, Drakor stuttered at times, and didn't at others. It seemed inconsistent. Secondly, the battle between Drakor and his leader was predictable.

Overall impression: Dragon Lightning by J.S. Burke was a great read. Although written for ages 9 and above, I enjoyed the characters' growth, the science behind the story, and the story itself. If you like dragons, octopuses, and the occasional squid, this is a book for you!

My rating: 5 Stars

Angela Neary says

The second book in this series is another fun foray into the world of octopi and dragons. This time, we get to meet the legendary ice dragons. Burke again presents a unique and vivid world that is both magical and scientific at the same time. The peaceful democratic society of the golden dragons is contrasted with the dictatorial society of the ice dragons. Drakor the ice dragon, like Arak the golden dragon in the previous story, must convince his clan to trust him and the information he has that will save their society. It's an adventurous tale with an emphasis on community and unlikely friendships that can be enjoyed by all ages.

Alex Carey says

J. S. Burke's Dragon Lightning, the long-awaited sequel in the Dragon Dreamer series, is worth the wait. Arak has grown up some and now has family of his own. Scree, the sweet, accepting octopus, has expanded her talents and been charged with extra responsibility in her clan. The friendship between the dragons and the octopi has grown so they seem more like a family than neighbors in opposite worlds. They continue to come together to learn and benefit from each other.

During a journey to explore new worlds in search of legends, Arak, Scree and friends save Drakor, a wounded ice dragon. Drakor's gift of foresight has shown him that his island volcano will soon erupt. It will destroy his homeland and beyond.

I like the way the characters have progressed naturally in this new series installment. I love the way the characters learn to appreciate differences and accept each other. Dragon Lightning has many threads that come together beautifully for a wonderful story. I couldn't put it down. This is a must-read for all ages. I can

hardly wait to see what happens next.

C.D. Gorri says

The world author J.S. Burke has created in the Dragon books is just so unique and unlike anything else out there I can't recommend this series enough to fantasy lovers of all ages! The adventure of Scree the octopus with her amazing gift to heal others and Drakor the Dragon is one you won't want to miss! Ms. Burke's writing is beautifully descriptive and these books are simply enchanting. I found this book as intriguing as the first one. Highly recommend!

Tommi Crow says

This amazing book has many characters to fall for. If you don't believe me, ask my grandchildren? I'm sure my three year old grandson can and will go into a speed about how he dreams of becoming Scree. He even carries my Lagerfeld messenger bag around and puts his magic rocks and seaweed (crafting moss) on people to heal them. Let's not get started on the girls and their love of the dragons.

If this isn't enough for you to read this book? I have no idea what will. Dragon Lightning is a must read for anyone, seriously, any person who loves dragons or is interested in friendship. Pick it up! I promise it will open your eyes to a whole new world.
