

# [PDF] A Natural History Of Dragons: A Memoir By Lady Trent

Marie Brennan - pdf download free book

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## Books Details:

Title: A Natural History of Dragons:  
Author: Marie Brennan  
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## Description:

**From School Library Journal** Gr 7 Up-Isabella, Lady Trent, opens her memoir by warning readers that, "this series will contain frozen mountains, foetid swamps, hostile foreigners, hostile fellow countrymen, the occasional hostile family member, bad decisions, misadventures in orienteering, diseases of an unromantic sort, and a plenitude of mud." Writing in an ornate, Victorian style with painstaking attention to detail (but also a generous leavening of dry, self-deprecating humor), the

fictitious "author" describes how her girlhood obsession with dragons led to her career of studying and drawing them and her first foreign expedition to the mountains of Vystrana. Although her story takes place in a fantasy realm, readers familiar with the worlds of Jane Austen, Georgette Heyer, and the like will understand the tropes and norms of high-society Scirland. Similarly, Drustanev, where dragons are supposed to lair, is reminiscent of imperialist Russia, from the geography of snow-capped mountain villages to the depictions of surly peasants and power-hungry boyars. Sketches of the various dragons and dragon-related scenes that Isabella encounters are scattered throughout the narrative. The pen-and-ink documentary style, which echoes textbook illustrations, adds to the atmosphere of scientific reality, which will appeal to fantasy readers and those who enjoy books such as Pierre Dubois's *Great Encyclopedia of Faeries* (S & S, 2000). The one criticism devoted dragon fans might have is that more attention is paid to establishing Isabella's entry into the world of scientists than to the magical beasts and their behavior.—Evelyn Khoo Schwartz, Georgetown Day School, Washington, DC (c) Copyright 2013. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

## Review

"Her Ladyship is a determined and canny woman in search of dragons—I wholeheartedly approve!"  
—Melanie Rawn, bestselling author of *Touchstone*, on *A Natural History of Dragons*

"Saturated with the joy and urgency of discovery and scientific curiosity."—*Publishers Weekly*  
(Starred Review)

"If you've ever secretly wished dragons were real, this story is for you. Fans of Naomi Novik and Mary Robinette Kowal will especially enjoy this book."—*RT Book Reviews*

"Told in the style of a Victorian memoir, courageous, intelligent and determined Isabella's account is colorful, vigorous and absorbing. A sort of Victorian why-what-whodunit embellished by Brennan's singular upgrade of a fantasy bromide and revitalizingly different viewpoint."—*Kirkus Reviews*

"Lady Trent is the Jane Goodall of dragonkind, and I'm glad she's finally sharing her story with the world."—Jim C. Hines, author of *Libriomancer*

"*A Natural History of Dragons* stands somewhere between Naomi Novik and Elizabeth Peters, but rock-solidly in its own world and on its own terms. Highly recommended."—Daniel Fox, author of *Dragon in Chains*

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