



The Brightest Night

Tui T. Sutherland

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The dragonets struggle to fulfill the prophecy and -- somehow -- end the war in this thrilling new installment of the New York Times bestselling Wings of Fire series!

One will have the power of wings of fire . . .

Sunny has always taken the Dragonet Prophecy very seriously. If Pyrrhia's dragons need her, Clay, Tsunami, Glory, and Starflight to end the war, she's ready to try. She even has some good ideas how to do it, if anyone would listen to her.

But shattering news from Morrowseer has shaken Sunny's faith in their destiny. Is it possible for anyone to end this terrible war and choose a new SandWing queen? What if everything they've been through was for nothing?

Buried secrets, deadly surprises, and an unexpected side to scavengers are all waiting for her in the shifting sands of the desert, where Sunny must decide once and for all: Is her destiny already written?

Or can five dragonets change their fate and save the world . . . the way they choose?

The Brightest Night Details

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From Reader Review The Brightest Night for online ebook

Kayla (BOOKadoodles) says

This series is too good. Loved this installment and conclusion to the first five books! I especially loved the expansion of the world and lore. I only took off a star because I wish the dragonets would've spent more time together considering this was the final book of this particular arc.

Julia Thorn says

The fifth installment in the Wings of Fire series finally comes from the point of view of sunny, the dismembered sandwing dragonet who everyone treats like she is lesser than them, and always brushes her ideas off. In the final book of the series, the dragonets are still in the jungle with the rain wings and Glory, the new queen, trying to corral the newly placed nightwings, and trying to figure out a way to end the war, once and for all. But Sunny is kidnapped by two rogue nightwings and goes on a huge adventure to get back to the rainforest, but to also gather intel on the battling queens, not to mention finally meeting her parents! On her escapade, sunny becomes a prisoner in the stronghold of Burn, one of the battling queens, almost gets killed and stuffed to be put in her weirdling tower, meets her mother, Thorn, who is queen of the outclaws, a town of sand wings who don't wish to be caught in the battle for the sandwing throne, and her father, a nightwing, Stonemover, who is an animus dragon, a dragon with untold power, but cannot move and lives secluded in a mountain. When she finally ventures back to the rainforest, her friends weren't all too worried about her, dismissing her absence as getting lost in the forest while chasing a butterfly, but immediately grew concerned as they heard a brief summary, needing the whole story, and after hearing it, thought much more of her and her ability to fend for herself. So the five dragonets of a not-so-real destiny gather up to fulfill it, whether the prophecy is true or not, and figure out a plan. Sunny will visit each of the three rivaling queens in their dreams using a dreamvisitor Starflight, the nightwing dragonet, found. She will tell them to come to the stronghold so the dragonets can choose a queen right then and there. That will be the night to decide what twenty years of fighting and bloodshed have been leading up to. Who will rule over the sand wings when it's all over? Blister, Blaze, or Burn?

If you like dragons, war, prophecies, or all of the above, then you'll love this book!

Chelsea says

While the ending was quite epic, I felt slightly dissatisfied with this as a finale.

I was so pumped for this one. **I wanted to get thrown into the action but we ended up waiting nearly a hundred pages before anything happened.** I also felt like Sunny's narration could be a little flat at times, which surprised me since her character usually has so much personality.

Once Thorn and Peril came into the story, things started picking up. I really enjoyed both characters and found them interesting.

The end was very action packed, as I had hoped. I was very invested in the story while reading it and found myself rooting for the characters.

Although I had a lot of fun with the ending, the epilogue annoyed me immensely. **It tried to wrap up all five storylines, but it just wasn't able to!** I'm left with a lot of burning questions, and I'm really hoping we'll get some sort of resolution in the next arc.

Overall, I enjoyed this but found it rather lacking in the action I'd hoped for. **I'm looking forward to getting into the next arc and meeting new characters.**

Aelvana says

Sunny is devastated. Morrowseer, the NightWing who made the prophecy about the dragonets, has told them the whole prophecy is a lie. Her life was meant to be part of a desperate NightWing gamble to find a new home, not the glorious hope of ending the war that she and all dragonkind has believed. She doesn't really believe Morrowseer, but what else is there? If the prophecy is false, how else will this two-decade war ever end?

Sunny, in her own sweet way, is ready to stand up for herself. Her faith in everything she's ever believed has been shaken, the other dragonets think she's useless, and she's suddenly got the chance of a lifetime to find out more about the war and more about herself.

I think it's perfect that the story of these five dragons ends with her. She always sees the best in others, even when those others are doing terrible things to her. She's fiercely committed to bringing peace, but not by murdering anyone. Starflight may also believe things can be talked out, but Sunny is the one who has the heart for others that can actually pull it off. And yet she is, in a way, the most fragile of the five: no fireproof scales, no underwater breathing, no camouflage and venom, and no extreme smarts protect her. She doesn't even have a Sandwing's usual tail stinger. Worse, her own friends talk over her like she's not even there.

This doesn't go as deeply into Sandwing life as I was hoping, though there are certainly a few tasty bits of information. But it does deliver both a massive showdown and an unexpected twist. I still have my suspicions about that extra moon . . . hopefully that will be something further hinted at or outright revealed in the new books Tui Sutherland is writing in the series.

Also, several old friends return, including one in particular I have been hoping to see again. It was very nice to see some of the longstanding relationships revisited and wrapped up (at least, as much as a life-still-being-lived can get wrapped up).

This has been an easy-to-read series that cut unexpectedly deep. The resolution was unusual for the genre, and I applaud the masterful way it all works out. This is certainly a series I am telling my friends about. I rate this book Highly Recommended.

Karissa says

This is the fifth book in the Wings of Fire series and wraps up the main storyline of this series so far while starting a new one. It was an excellent continuation of this series. I really enjoyed it.

This book follows Sunny. Right off the bat Sunny is kidnapped by some NightWings, but she quickly escapes and ends up exploring the SandWing region and searching for her parents on her own. Sunny has many adventures and uncovers many secrets. In the end a new Queen for the SandWings will be chosen. Who will that Queen be and what sort of fallout will that decision result in?

I have been reading this series because my 8 year old son reads it and absolutely loves it. While I still think kids will enjoy this series more than adults, this series has grown on me. It's really well written and as the series has continued I have started to enjoy it more and more.

There is a lot of adventure and action in these books. All the characters are dragons and they are all characters I have come to love over the course of this series. Sunny is an excellent character and I really enjoyed reading about things from her perspective. Sunny is the little dragon and the happy dragon. Her friends love her but always underestimate her. This is the book where we get to see how tough Sunny is and watch her explore her full potential.

Additionally the Scavengers are in this book a lot more. A long time ago I figured out that the Scavengers were humans (however my son was still a bit confused about that and hadn't realized that they were humans until we talked about it). We see a lot more about the Scavengers past and lives. This makes me think that the Scavengers will play a larger role in future books and also that the history of the Scavengers is most likely going to influence or has influenced this world in a big way.

I am very curious to see how this series progresses. It sounds like book 6 in the series starts a different storyline. This book did wrap up the whole Dragonet Prophecy storyline really well and hinted at what the new storyline will be about.

Overall I really enjoyed this book a lot. It does an excellent job of wrapping up the Dragonet Prophecy story arc. These books remind of the Warriors series by Erin Hunter, but are better written in my opinion. I think middle grade readers who enjoy fantasy should definitely check this series out. It is a series I think middle grade readers will enjoy more than adults. If you are an adult I would recommend checking out Sutherland's Menagerie series; I feel like that is a fantasy series that adults can get into a bit better. I look forward to reading the sixth book in this series.

Seli Ombre Angeliche says

Pochi mesi fa vi avevo lasciati con una recensione davvero entusiasta sui volumi tre e quattro di questa saga, in cui avevo trovato un miglioramento sorprendente, sia a livello di stile che di personaggi. Ovviamente non potevo che essere curiosissima di buttarmi in questa nuova avventura anche se, lo dico subito, ne sono rimasta un po' delusa. Non si tratta in alcun modo di un brutto volume, ma se consideriamo che al capitolo precedente stavo per dare le tanto famigerate 5 stelle, adesso mi sembra di aver fatto un passo indietro nella qualità della saga e di essere tornata ai due volumi iniziali, che avevo trovato carini, ma niente di eccezionale. Il fatto che questo quinto capitolo sia dedicato a Sunny non ha certo aiutato visto che lei e Clay sono, tra i cinque protagonisti, quelli che da sempre trovo meno interessanti. Ma al di là di questo ho trovato tutto il romanzo un po' monotono e ripetitivo. I libri sono già tanti e alcune situazioni è inevitabile che vengano riproposte, in queste pagine però succede poco, e avere come voce narrante quella della piccola Sunny mi ha annoiata. In genere trovo che ogni volume sia interessante e utile per conoscere meglio i personaggi, non per niente con La principessa perduta e L'oscuro segreto ho scoperto di essermi affezionata a Tsunami e Starflight, che inizialmente non avevo apprezzato molto, cosa che purtroppo non è accaduta con

questo volume. La piccola Ali di Sabbia non è riuscita a farmi cambiare idea, ciò nonostante le ultime pagine hanno risvegliato un po' di quella curiosità che nel volume precedente mi aveva tenuta incollata alle pagine anche se, visto il punto della storia in cui siamo arrivati, mi chiedo davvero a cosa servano altri cinque romanzi. Sarò del tutto sincera, come serie penso sia davvero troppo lunga, soprattutto perché indirizzata a dei lettori giovanissimi, che dubito abbiano la voglia e la pazienza di seguire un progetto di questo genere, anche perché volendo questi primi cinque volumi sarebbero bastati a raccontare e a concludere tutta la storia. Però, se l'autrice ha scelto di sviluppare la trama nel doppio dei volumi rispetto a quelli che secondo me avrebbe richiesto, un motivo ci sarà. Insomma, la Sutherland ha ampiamente dimostrato di sapermi conquistare con i suoi giovani draghi, quindi questa piccola delusione non basterà a togliermi la voglia di proseguire. Incrocio le dita per il prossimo capitolo, a giudicare da come si è concluso questo romanzo le avventure da affrontare non mancheranno.

Connor says

[4.5 Stars] I love this series a ton. This is the conclusion to what the first book started, but it is not the end. I think what brought this one down just a tad would be that we didn't get to see a lot of the 5 dragonets. We just stuck with Sunny on her solo adventures which were great, but I was hoping to have more time with all of them. Good thing there are future books!

Queen says

I love Thorn. I'm so glad at least one of the dragonets had a worthwhile reunion. It's the perfect conclusion to the war. The amulet keeps the "blood" off of the dragonets' claws so they don't have to face hard choices with Burn, Blaze, and Blister. On the other hand, they are not unscathed by their efforts to bring peace, limping or blinded with battle scars forever. I wish the spectators had sung the prophecy while they watched at the stronghold. The "scavenger pets" are awesome, especially from the curious view of the dragons.

Sunny was exasperated with getting brushed off or overlooked in their adventure. When she returned, her friends more or less began to respect and listen to her. Old habits are harder to break than that. It was too quick of a transition. It's hard to see new value in people you've known a long time. Tsunami, especially, seemed to accept the idea of a "midnight talk" more easily than her character would normally do, always ready to fight to solve problems.

I wish Stonemover could be healed. He was depressing. The SandWing "prince" is very likeable, and he should be more involved in the inner circle. It's interesting how no one questions how or why males don't participate in the struggle for the throne. The school to intermingle tribes is a wonderful idea that will change their whole world!

Kitten Senpai says

Poor Sunny! Hope her friends accept her even more after this book and into Winter Turning

Jennifer Margulis says

Told from Sunny's point of view, this fifth novel in the Wings of Fire series is full of revelations: Sunny finds out why she is so unusual looking, she learns the truth about the Nightwings and the prophesy, and she figures out a way to end the seemingly interminable war between the three Sandwing sisters, Blaze, Burn, and Blister.

My 11-year-old son and I read this book out loud together. We both liked seeing Sunny come into her own, think for herself, act courageously, and come up with her own plans without consulting her friends. She's a likable character, always finding the good in other dragons, and the reader can't help but hope she succeeds in her daring ventures. A new cast of characters is introduced in this book: the Outclaws, a gang of lawless dragons who live at the Scorpion Den. We also meet Smolder (Blister, Burn, and Blaze's brother), who Sunny can't help finding sympathetic even though he is her jailer, and we meet several Scavengers, including Flower, Smolder's pet, who has a thatch of fur on her head and speaks in what sounds like gibberish, "Yibble, kibble, yibble," to Smolder, Sunny, and all the other dragons.

A host of characters from previous books also reappear in this one: the fiery and terrifying Peril who burns everything she touches, Queen Scarlet (she's alive), and several others. And finally--finally!--there's a relatively satisfying climax when one of the main problems in the series is finally--finally!--solved.

Is it terrible to admit that I wish this were the LAST book in the series? As clever and popular as these books are, I dread the idea of reading five more. Or even one more for that matter. The Brightest Night would have been a good book with which to end the series.

Susan Wojtas says

That was a fantastic ending to the first five books in this series! When I first started reading these, I liked Sunny but I never really thought too much about her. After reading this, she is now one of my favorite dragons. Glory is still my number one but Sunny is verrrrrry much right up there with her. She was absolutely amazing in this book! If you've never read this series I highly recommend them. I'm glad my daughter convinced me to read this series :D

Aloha says

#SWAGAWESOMENESSYOLO

oh my gods. Best ending ever. Ever. Except maybe Percy Jackson. that was an awesome ending. Also the Fault in our Stars. Also Divergent--Okay, well, it's one of the best endings ever. But not just the ending. The entire book--the entire series--is AWESOMESAUCE!!! I cannot comprehend how good this book was. The. Best. Book. Ever. Kidding. Eight. The. Fultano stars. Oh my gosh I can't believe how good it was though. You should totally be if you thinking about leaving it, because it's the best book in that might even come close to the Fault in our Stars. Except Percy Jackson, divergent, the hunger games, and seeker series. I might seem like a lot of books, but listen up, those are the only series that actually felt like it was worth my time reading. And this is one of them. So respect this book.

D.B. says

I read the 1st 5 Wings of Fire books with my 9 yo son. This one was my least favorite - it felt like the author either couldn't relate to the narrator or was ready to move on from this part of the story. Ideally, this one would have ended the series.

These books are intense. If the characters were people, the political intrigue and treatment of POWs would mean it was not a children's book. But they are not people, they are dragons, so it works. These books are wonderfully thought-provoking around questions about destiny, war, kinship, and identity. Each book is told from a different character's point-of-view.

Korra says

My Review

THIS BOOK WAS SO AMAZING!!!!!!

I'm sure Wings of Fire fans will definitely NOT be disappointed!

After waiting in days of agony for this book, I put it on hold at our public library, and when it came I raced in, grabbed the book, and was prepared to spend the rest of the day reading. My brother, who also reads the series, kept incessantly insisting before the book came in that because I read the Dark Secret and all the other books in the series first, that it was his turn to read this one first. We argued for days over this, and finally he won the debate. But when I brought it back from the library at ten thirty in the morning, my brother was still asleep and so I found it fair that I could read it until he wakes up. So I did, devouring each page and enjoying each page, and when he did wake up, it was no use prying the book away from me because we were inseparable! And so I read for the entire day, finishing the book in one sitting, and was shrieking for the last few chapters due to untamable excitement, and especially at the end when - I shouldn't say, should I? After all, I shouldn't be the one spoiling a good book, the most unforgivable crime in the world...

But anyway, Ms. Sutherland created such a plot twist at the end of the Dark Secret, what with Morrowseer declaring that the prophecy is - I don't want to spoil anything for anyone, so let's just say that if you've read the Dark Secret, you know what I mean, and in The Brightest Night, there are SO many unpredictable and shocking plot twists that just add to the awesomeness of this book! Plot is such an important factor in a book; it's the story, the *point* of the book, and The Brightest Night...I found the plotting incredible.

Character development of the dragonets was, I think, quite awesome since the very first book, and in this one...well, it's just as consistent, and you just end up loving all the characters! You get to know a lot more about Sunny's true personality, though (more on that later), which adds more to the development of her character, and I think that since the beginning I always thought I knew Sunny the least well...or maybe I'm just saying that because I already knew everyone else better because in the previous books they had all had their turn narrating!

And you love the characters, the main dragonets, so much that before you read The Brightest Night, you're just thinking: how can this be the END???

Well...the last page - Oh, the last page! - I shouldn't say this, even though it's not technically a spoiler, because I was so shocked and happy and surprised that I ran up and down the stairs and all around the house until my mom told me to go get a drink of water. Let me tell you, it's not a spoiler to the book, but if you think you'd rather discover it on your own, don't read this spoiler:

(view spoiler)

If you loved Wings of Fire from the start, you will love this conclusion you'd never expect!

Point of view: Sunny

This stunning sequel is told from Sunny's point of view, the harmless, sweet, optimistic and loveable SandWing, and there is a powerful insight to Sunny's personality which wasn't as visible in the other books, which might be obvious because they weren't 'her' books (the others focusing on Clay, Tsunami, Glory and Starflight), but even in the other dragonet's books, I found I still had a clear sense of their personalities, which were accurate. I thought I knew Sunny too, and I did, but in this one, I *really* got to know her, and I love Sunny! If you've read my other reviews for the Wings of Fire series, you'll know that I always thought Glory as my favourite, but as I was reading this, my favouritism started shifting to Sunny, because Sunny is....so adorable and lovely!

Although really, no dragon beats Glory!

Sunny also finds out a lot about her own personality, and I find a lot of this book is actually about the precious SandWing's discovery about herself. Many of her chapters are sprinkled with thoughts about what her friends think of her. I remember she often thinks at several different parts of the book that she's the 'sweet, friendly, harmless and not-worth-listening-to' dragonet, and what I liked was that Sunny went on her own self-quest throughout most of the book, where there was just her, and none of the other four dragonets of prophecy accompanied her. Also, like I said before, our sweet little SandWing finds out so much about herself; shocking truths that will leave the readers...well, shocked!

I also said The Hidden Kingdom was my favourite of the quintet, but this might just overtake it, it was utterly amazing!

I don't really consider what I'm about to say a spoiler, because all the dragonets discover this about themselves in their own books, which is to say, discover who their parent, parents, or relatives are. So, Sunny finds her parents - I'll leave it at that - and along with that she finds out the shocking truth, which to be honest I predicted to myself at the beginning of the thirteenth chapter, why she looks different from most SandWings.

The fact that Sunny doesn't look like the dragons from her tribe kind of set her apart from the other dragonets, and this part of self discovery about herself will never allow you to think of Sunny in the same way ever again, because it's so shocking, and it's one of those things which seem kind of obvious since the start about things you didn't consider.

Also you can tell by the way Sunny 'narrates' that she's constantly thinking, thinking about what her friends would say, what they'd do if they were here, how they felt about her, what the right thing to do is...thinking about everything, and trying to see any situation from another dragon's point of view, and most of all, wanting the best for every dragon, which is so like the Sunny we all love!

Things I Liked

I actually liked everything about this book! But since the beginning to the end, I was quite hooked to it, and it was a different kind of hooking feeling. In The Dark Secret, I was hooked because Starflight's narrations always ended in cliffhangers which obviously pressed you forwards into the book; Sunny's chapters always ended with a kind of brief conclusion, which left you kind of yearning to know what happens next. Or maybe that's just me, but I liked this component of brief conclusions. I think that's what got me to finish it in a day. Also, you just had to read on after the prologue was introduced, from *Queen Oasis*'s point of view, can you imagine? It dawns on something that had been talked about but not gone into detail about since the beginning, and it's what started the raging war between the SandWing sisters, so naturally, you must want to know more about *how*, and now you do! After the prologue, I'm sure you'd only set the book down with great reluctance.

Another thing that stood out to me was that scavengers - *humans* - were reasonably important in this book, and I liked humans being described from Sunny's point of view, especially their speech, which Sunny described as: "Yibble, yibble! Yibble, yibble YIBBLE!". Something that just made you laugh, because dragons are like the superior species in Pyrrhia, and I find it enjoyable how the dragons consider humans as beings that 'might actually be an intelligent species'.

There's a kind of 'main' scavenger in this book named Flower, who is the 'pet' of a dragon, and just this piece of information kind of made me think more about human-dragon contact.

All in all, the entire book was amazing, though!

The Conclusion!

I am NOT going to spoil the conclusion for anyone, but I must say that it is definitely not what anyone could have expected.

From the start, I was always curious about what the 'power of the wings of fire' meant, and components that Ms. Sutherland so expertly added in The Brightest Night made, I find, the conclusion fall together beautifully, and it's such a perfect conclusion, too!

Sean says

This was such a great conclusion to part 1 of this series! I love these characters and already miss them so much:(
