

(Free pdf) Dragonhaven

## Dragonhaven

Von Robin Mckinley

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**Von Robin Mckinley : Dragonhaven** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Dragonhaven:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Courtesy of Teens Read TooVon TeensReadTooFor his entire life, Jacob Mendoza has lived in Smokehill National Park, one of

the last and largest wildlife preserves for *Draco australiensis* in the world. His father, who heads the Institute dedicated to the study of the endangered dragons, has kept a tight leash on him since Jacob's mother died while on sabbatical a few years ago. Finally, though, Jacob's father has agreed to let him finally go on his first solo overnight stay deep in the park. Although not as excited as he probably would have been about it before his mother's death, Jacob hikes out on his own, determined to cover some good ground before he has to meet up with the head Ranger the following morning. However, his plans for doing so are cut short when he comes across a horrific site. A wounded mother dragon who has just given birth lies next to the remains of the poacher who presumably attacked her. Jacob creeps up to the massive creature and finds himself drowning in her eyes before she dies, leaving him with strange sensations of anger, despair, and hope swirling inside him. Stunned and crying, he begins to stumble away, passing by her babies who are now scattered on the ground...and he notices that one is still alive. Instinct takes over, and Jacob now finds himself a surrogate mother for a creature that nobody knows how to raise. What's worse is that, now that a dragon has killed a human, all of Smokehill may be gravely in danger, for, not only is it against the law to kill a dragon, but it is also against the law to save one's life. Although I enjoyed watching the bonding of Jacob and his foundling, and the descriptions of some of these otherworldly sensations impressed me, I found this book very difficult to read. Jacob as narrator tends to ramble a lot, and he "speaks" in an extremely informal manner. However, some readers may find this style more appealing and easier to understand than traditional narration. The idea of a dragon preserve is nevertheless an appealing one, and I think that any fans of dragons may find this story fascinating if for that reason only. Reviewed by: Allison Fraclose

**Kurzbeschreibung** Dragons are extinct in the wild, but the Makepeace Institute of Integrated Dragon Studies in Smokehill National Park is home to about two hundred of the world's remaining creatures. Until Jake discovers a dying dragon that has given birth and one of the babies is still alive. From School Library Journal Grade 7 Up A novel set in an alternate contemporary world. Viewing dragons as fire-breathing, non-sentient animals with gigantic appetites for livestock, humans have hunted them for centuries, and now they survive only in a few wilderness havens. Jake Mendoza has grown up at one such haven, the Smokehill National Park in the American West, and has inherited his scientist parents' commitment to the park's secret inhabitants. When he rescues an orphaned baby dragon, he sets in motion a cascade of events that may eventually save these top predators from extinction. Readers will find the book to be less about the joys of the human-dragon bond and more about the challenges of raising an infant and communicating in a vastly different language. As an exhausted Jake explains, he is the first human in history to find out that a marsupial baby dragon out of its mother's pouch still expects a round-the-clock source of food, warmth, and company for over a year. Also, their telepathic communication gives Jake and his fellow Smokehill residents debilitating head-aches, and no one on either side is ever entirely sure they've got the message right. Once readers get through Jake's overdone teenage diction in the first few chapters, they will be engaged by McKinley's well-drawn characters and want to root for the Smokehill community's fight to save the ultimate endangered species. Beth Wright, Fletcher Free Library, Burlington, VT Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. Pressestimmen A sharply incisive, wildly intelligent dragon fantasy . . . Penetratingly insightful . . . Quietly magnificent. "Kirkus s", starred review Readers will be engaged by McKinley's well-drawn characters and want to root for the Smokehill community's fight to save the ultimate endangered species. "School Library Journal" A sharply incisive, wildly intelligent dragon fantasy . . . Penetratingly insightful . . . Quietly magnificent. "Kirkus s", starred review Readers will be engaged by McKinley's well-drawn characters and want to root for the Smokehill community's fight to save the ultimate endangered species. "School Library Journal" A sharply incisive, wildly intelligent dragon fantasy . . . Penetratingly insightful . . . Quietly magnificent." - "Kirkus s", starred review "Readers will be engaged by McKinley's well-drawn characters and want to root for the Smokehill community's fight to save the ultimate endangered species." - "School Library Journal"