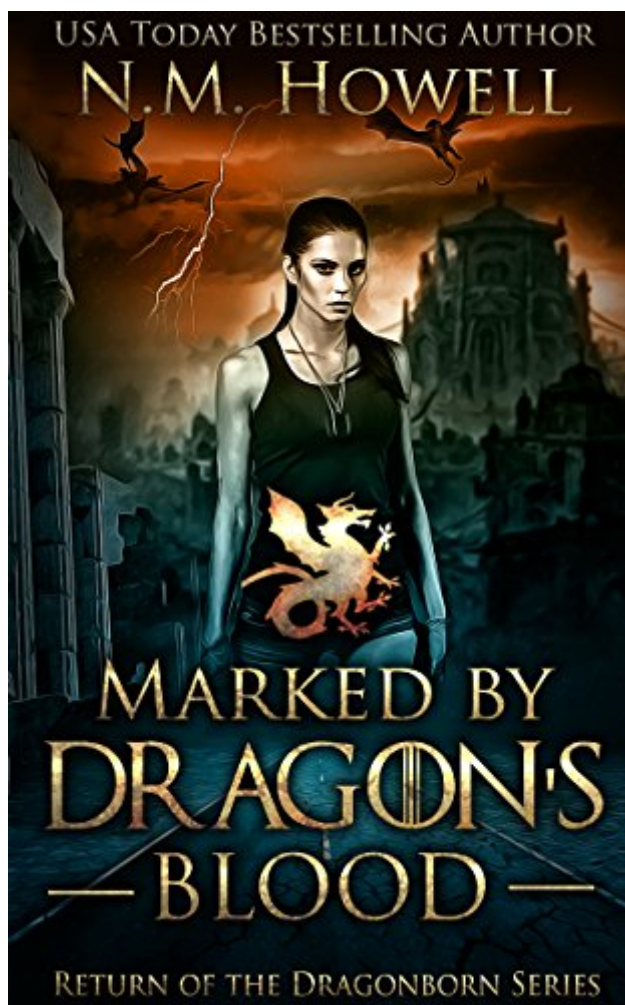


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Marked By Dragon's Blood (Return Of The Dragonborn Book 1)



Synopsis

Descended from dragons. Condemned to death. Driven underground. Andie Rogers is no stranger to secrecy. After watching her dragonborn mother get taken away at a young age, she has had to learn to use her sorcery inherited from her father to disguise all trace of her own dragon blood magic. Now, no longer a child, Andie must attend the University, center of all magic and government in Arvall City, to learn to wield her magic and become a fully-fledged sorcerer. But Andie has another goal in mind. Dreams of her tormented ancestors calling out to her have haunted her since she was a child, and Andie knows she must answer their call and discover the truth. But she must do so in the magical capital in the world, surrounded by powerful sorcerers determined to uphold the lie at all cost. If they discover that she carries the blood of the dragonborn, death will be swift and her people will never get a chance at redemption. Will Andie risk everything to shatter the lies that the world has been fed for so many years? Will she set her people free? Don't miss the exciting new young adult urban fantasy series readers are calling a "fun mix of Harry Potter and Eragon".

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I want to thank N. M. Howell for the chance to review her novel before it is published, in exchange for an honest review. It was a breath of fresh air to read this fantasy novel that merges magic with dragons. It's a page-turning, fast-paced adventure that had me hooked from the first page. In a world ruled by magic, where mages rule supreme, dragonborns (humans born with dragon blood) were slaughtered for unclear reasons. The novel tells the story of Andie, a 24-year-old with a big secret. Descendent from both magic and dragon blood, Andie must hide her true identity as she starts a new life at Arvall University where she will learn to control her magic. Together with her group of friends, the young sorcerer will learn that the dragonborn line didn't die completely and embarks on a journey to discover the truth about her people and herself, and to bring justice to the falsely accused and abused. It was very hard to put it down and I ended up reading it in two days. I really liked the descriptions; they're not very long and together with the great writing style is brought out the magic and the colour of the story. It made me want to jump into this world! I enjoyed reading about Andie and seeing the story in her perspective. I think she's very well built as a character, she's mature, logical and I could feel the weight of her secret throughout the story. Her courage, strength of character and her determination to correct all the wrongs that were done to her people were incredible to watch and read. I would have enjoyed it more if the ending didn't end in a cliffhanger because now I'll have to wait to see what happens! This story line shows great promise and I hope that the next volume will not disappoint! It was my first time reading a novel from Ms. Howell and I definitely wasn't disappointed!

This is the first book in the Return of the Dragonborn series. Andie is heading to Arvall City to attend the university. She's hoping to gain control of her magic. But she has a secret she must keep from everyone else, even her friends. She is dragonborn. The dragonborn and the dragons have been killed off, including Andie's mother. The remaining members are hunted by the Searchers, who are nothing but mercenaries out to kill their quarry. Andie must hide even her true appearance as it would give away her secret. Andie is having powerful dreams she doesn't understand. They're so vivid they sometimes cause her to release her magic. She's living and working a family friend of her

father's. His children Raesch and Carmen quickly become her friends. Raesch has a serious crush on Andie but Andie only has eyes for Tarven, a student at the university. Andie is struggling to keep her secret, maintain her class schedule and at the same time try to find more information on dragonborn (a forbidden subject) and a mysterious portal. She eventually finds the portal and secrets she never imagined. I loved this book so much that I sat in a dark parking lot at 11pm last night to finish the last few pages I hadn't been able to finish on my dinner break. It's a captivating story that kept me interested from word one. Andie did drive me a little crazy when it came to Raesch and Tarven. She caught Tarven in lies and just blew them off and she didn't take Raesch's feelings for her seriously. But she's a teenager so I guess that can happen. I did receive a free copy of this book in consideration of a review.

Ok, one thing up front: despite references to this being a series it may actually be a serial since book 1 ends in a cliffhanger. I've a strong preference for a series, where books end with at least an interim conclusion even if there's more to come (or, like the first Harry Potter book which ends in total victory for Harry yet clearly Voldemort is still out there and gonna cause problems). A talented writer - and NM Howell most definitely qualifies as such - can write a good true series book with no cliffhanger but still have her readers salivating for more. I wish NM Howell had taken that path because I know she has the ability to do so. That's why I can't give this a fifth star, though the plot, created world, characters and writing is so good that I felt obligated to give it four stars (as opposed to the 2 or 3 stars I will often give serials as a matter of principle). This is definitely a wonderful book and anyone who doesn't mind serials so long as the ride is fun will likely add that fifth star. As for everyone else, go in with your eyes wide open and expecting the cliffhanger. I can pretty much guarantee you'll enjoy that ride (and then really really want the next book to be done!). On that basis I'm happy to recommend this.

I've recently returned to reading fantasy. The first book in the Return of The Dragonborn series has not drawn me in as much as I had hoped, I still really enjoyed reading it and think it would be an enjoyable for anyone interested in magic and dragons. I was disappointed in the heroine of the story. I had trouble with her personality. I felt her personality never really matched up. In the beginning of the story she is said to be a kind girl, how is it kind when you allow yourself to be involved with people that call your friends names? If she had a goal she wanted to reach she went headlong into regardless of the cost or consequences but when confronted with bold face lies she turned away as if she had just imagined it, even when they were in regards to her. I found the pace

of the story almost perfect. There were a few times I wanted it to go faster. It kept me interested throughout the book. The environment came to life for me. I could see the buildings and the runes. The characters introduced in this book should definitely be filled out more as the series continues. While there are a couple of love interests, I hope the character puts it on the back burner for now. Once I started reading, I found myself engrossed all the way to the end, with anticipation for the next book.

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