



Booker's Song

Hannah Walker

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Rillian Mascini is one of the most knowledgeable mages in the world. Spending his days and sometimes nights with his nose in a book has taught him magic and histories that few care to remember. He has a passion for dragons that pulls him to learn all he can about them, including their language. He is one of the last people left alive who can speak to the magnificent beasts.

Conwyn D'Aver is squad leader of the Dragon Riders. He will do whatever it takes to protect the dragons and people he has given his oath to serve. Nothing is more important, and when Neela, his personal dragon, is attacked, Conwyn is out for blood. He vows to find the threat and defeat it.

When an old spell book is found that gives a person the power to control all dragons, Conwyn will do anything he can to keep it from getting into the wrong hands, even if that means teaming up with the bookish Rillian to find a way to overcome the evil enemies who seek to gain the power.

Together with the dragons, the two men must find a way to protect everything they both love, but while doing so, they risk losing their own hearts to each other. As their enemies seek to destroy them, they learn that sometimes it takes love and trust to defeat the things we fear the most.

Booker's Song Details

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From Reader Review Booker's Song for online ebook

Achim says

3.5

World Building: entertaining enough to help getting over some logical lapses and foot holes

Magic Concept: let's say there is magic and funny applications and no real need for a concept

Steam: not too much and later in the story and one field for magical applications

Dragons: no shifters, mind you, but real dragons who once ruled an empire but are now seen as something between useful beast and intelligent pet. Only Rill understands their language and it's really amusing to hear their intervening talks

Romance: E2L although everyone else can see that it's more intense but unwanted attraction disguised as animosity. I always enjoy this topic and through most of the story it's much fun to see the guys struggle and even get into a pretended lover situation - until there's no reason for that false pretense anymore. I couldn't believe what happened afterwards and even the last scene some month later couldn't soothe my frowning.

Cover: Definately deserves a better cover

Overall: really enjoyable read with some shortcomings. It sometime just tries too hard to be entertaining and that was so not necessary. Was it good enough to read the next part? No doubt about it.

Daesy says

grm

This author is always a sure bet for me, and If I want to read some book that will not make me angry or annoyed, I know I can read hers.

This first book was a nice start to a new series. The story was sexy, cute and with a good dose of jealousy(mostly velied) and a little bit of angst. If I had to point out something the story was missing, that would be a bit more of background about Rillian and Conwyn's pasts. I wanted also to know more about the Empire and its customs and the other reigns. Hopefully most of these things will be explained, or will find some kind of answer, along the way in the next books.

I loved the Dragons so much that now I'm a bit sad I can't have one of them to ride and pet ¢_¢

S.J. Himes says

Well done!

Excellent world building and full of explosive chemistry. Rill and Con were great. The dragons were sweet and charming. I would love more books set in this world.

E.M. Leya says

I have loved Hannah Walker's other books and was excited to see her venture into a more fantasy genre now. I've loved dragons back from my old Dragonlance days. This book didn't let me down. It was a fun and exciting adventure meeting the dragons and the guards who fight with them. It was enjoyable to see a humble mage go toe to toe with a gifted warrior and see the relationship build between them. The danger to the dragons, the ancient spells, and the way it all comes together makes this such a fulfilling read. I really hope there are other books and this becomes a series. I would love to see more of this fantastic world that Ms. Walker created. A fun, refreshing read. Well worth the time to sit back and enjoy.

~ Lei ~ Reading Is An Adventure ~ says

★★★★? ~ 4 Stars

So, Dragons. The dragons had great personalities. And yeah, their humans did too, lol. Rill and Con have been dancing around each other for a while. When Con's dragon, Neela, is attacked, Rill's secret is exposed. He is one of only a handful of people who can talk to the dragons. This begins a grand adventure that will follow in a trilogy, I believe.

There's magic, suspense, treachery, romance and DRAGONS!

Katrina Passick Lumsden says

Okay, where do I start? None of the motives in this story made any sense. Why are Con and Rill so determined they won't make a good match? Con keeps saying he and Rill won't work long-term because Rill isn't a warrior, and that, for some reason, was what Con thought he needed. But this thought process was never explained. If the society as a whole believed a "booker" and a "warrior" should never mix, that theme was never explored.

As for the horrible, dragon-controlling spell? This is a spoiler, so don't read any further if you don't want to know...

Rill has to use the spell so that the invading forces stop trying to get a hold of the tome that contains the spell. So after Rill does this, the invading army gives up and goes home, and everyone close to Rill is like, "Well, he won't need any protection anymore since no one will try and get the tome now."

Did Walker not consider the fact that all anyone would have to do is kill Rill (laughing), and take the tome from him, then perform the spell? If anything, he was in *more* danger *after* he used the spell than he'd ever been when he was just suspected of having the tome.

Derp.

Lack of forethought makes me irritable. This irritated me so much that I kept considering what Walker wanted conveyed in the story in regards to the spell. I considered that perhaps Walker meant to imply that the spell could only be used once. But this is completely contradicted by the fact that a mage had already used the spell once. That was how the Dragonis Empire fell...

On top of that ridiculousness, this story is so full of sticky sweet sentiment that I almost got glued to it. Rill is a Marty Stu whom everyone but Con loves... Until Con loves him, too. Of course. Even during the bonding ceremony at the end, the mage that's performing the ritual talks about all of Rill's good points, none of which involve Con. But when he gets to talking about Con's good points, they almost all have to do with how strong he is *with* Rill. In the entire story, Con is treated like nothing more than an accessory to Rill.

And did I mention Rill is magnificent?

Gag me.

Claudia says

nice but somehow not enough there could have been more

~nikki the recovering book addict says

Very fascinating world building

I love the world building. I love the dragons and the magic. But gosh darn it, the characters behaved more like high school kids than grown adults. Certainly not master chronicler and team leader of the dragon rider squad.

They squabbled like children. They pranked each other like teenagers. It basically just read like a YA book to me. I'm not trying to be nasty. I'm just a tad bit frustrated because the premise was awesome! The world the author built was honestly really fascinating. But then it gets spoilt by the tone of the characters and the way they behave. Incidentally, if the characters were younger, I might have been okay with the tone. But alas, I doubt a master chronicler is 20.

Oh wells....*shrug*

Daniel Mitton says

(Originally reviewed for Love Bytes Review with a copy from Amazon Kindle Unlimited. Rated 4.5 out of 5.0 Love Bytes.)

I have to tell you that I love the recommended row on Amazon. Especially the Kindle Unlimited recommendations, and particularly the M/M Sci-Fi/Fantasy recommendations. I get tons of books through the regular review channels to review, but I also particularly like searching out and finding new to me authors who are self-publishing on Amazon. I sometimes find a gem.

Hannah Walker is one such author. I'll be honest, the blurb for the book grabbed me first, and then I saw a dragon on the cover and I was hooked. I had a couple things I had to do very early this morning, and I was exhausted while trying to do them because I stayed up more than half the night reading this book! I loved it. Ms. Walker's world building and character development were very well done. I particularly enjoyed that there was no chunk of pages given up to tell us about the world, as too often is the case elsewhere. This author left it for the reader to figure out as they went along, and it worked. She used a combination of standard American English terms and some made up terms to lend a sense of 'other'.

The story takes place on another planet. A planet that is inhabited by two races. One is a race of dragons, who we learn are the remnants of a mighty civilization that fell sometime back in history. The other race is human, and communication between the two races is one sided, since no one can talk to the dragons.

Enter our hero, Rillian Mascini. Rillian, or Rill, is a powerful young mage with a secret. He can speak to dragons. But he keeps it hidden because if everyone finds out, he might lose his position working with the books which are his passion. But can both books and dragons be in his future?

The bane of Rill's existence is a Squad Leader from one of the Dragon Rider teams. Conwyn D'Aver, or Con. Con and Rill HATE each other. They snip and dig at each other whenever possible. But then something unexpected happens...Con kisses Rill and neither man can forget it.

Along the way the world learns of Rill's ability to talk to dragons when Con's dragon is injured in a mysterious event. Con, the dragons, and the other inhabitants of Rill's country all learn that Rill is one of only four or so known individuals on the entire planet who have the ability. The dragons are ecstatic! Finally...someone who can hear them and communicate. But dark plot are afoot and strange things keep happening. There is also an underlying mystery involving a dangerous tome containing some very powerful spells.

I really enjoyed this story and the author's writing style. I'm going to have to check out her Sci-Fi series next, and I'll bring you my thoughts on those down the road. For now, let me tell you that I highly recommend this book. It is free on Kindle Unlimited. I'm not sure if more is planned in this world she has created, but I for one would welcome it eagerly. I think...since we never found out who sent Rill the spell book that is central to the story...that we might see more! Enough spoilers. If you are a M/M fantasy reader, give it a try. I think you'll like it.

Leaundra says

I loved this. I think I'm a little in love with the dragons. They were one of my favorite things about the book. Loved Rill too. I thought him and Con were perfect for each other. But omg can we say clueless with Con, lol. It was just a great book.

JadeSarah. says

'There would be no other for him after this. Rill had laid claim to him. He belonged to Rill now and Rill belonged to him.'

Rill is a skilled mage and spends his days with his nose in books. He has a huge love for dragons and is one of very few who can speak to dragons in their language.

Squad leader Conwyn will do anything to protect his dragons. And the people around him. Even if that means pretending to be the lover of the man who he's in mutual hate with when it seems the dragons are in danger.

"...After all, it was only pretend, right?"

I'm so happy I came across this book! It was so good!
Magic, Dragons and enemies to lovers goodness!!

I loved both Con and Rill and the relationship between them! The enemies to lovers was done really well. The building passion and lust between them was so exciting and just as HOT as when they finally do get together. Two men are equally strong and stubborn and knew exactly how to get under each other's skin. I loved how both of them shared control and how it happened who won the control depending on the situation. I loved the nicknames between the two, how they changed when their relationship changed. I honestly loved everything about them.

'The next moment, Con was kissing him like he needed it as much as he needed water to quench his thirst. Rill managed to pull his lips away briefly.

'I hate you.'

'I know. I hate you too,' Con murmured as he bit his earlobe before reclaiming Rill's lips.'

This book was a great surprise because I wasn't expecting to love it but I actually did. The magic, the suspense and the romance all blended together brilliantly! The dragons! Gah! They were one of my favorite things about the book! They were charming, hilarious and so much fun! And I adored the relationship between them and Rill. The only reason this isn't 5 stars is because like most fantasy books sometimes the language and the wording can be hard to grasp and it was but only a little at the start. I didn't want to put this down at all! I loved the world and the secondary characters and can't wait to see what's next in this series!

? Todd says

Despite the rather lackluster covers (*both of them*), I thoroughly enjoyed this story even more than I'd hoped I would.

Was it perfect? Definitely not.

A few things did tend to drive me crazy. Like use of the MC's **pet names**, "Frosty" and "Curls," and the use

of **internal monologuing** as they fought against their developing feelings. I felt that both of these were **extremely over-used and felt forced**.

However, aside from a feeling that the book (pronounced "*author*") was **trying too hard** here and there, this story was **so much fun and kept me smiling more often than not**.

The intrigue surrounding **Rill** being spied on, who'd sent him the mysterious tome with the **power to control dragons**, and the very real threat of attack **kept me extremely engaged**.

Then there was **the comradery** between **Con**, his Dragon Rider unit and the dragons, with their **banter and pranks**, which **I found very entertaining**.

Basically, **I never felt bored** and was constantly **dying to find out what was going to happen** on the next page, in the next chapter, in the next book. That feeling never waned for even a moment and I *will* be reading book 2 next, mostly because **I'm completely hooked and I'm itching for the story to continue**.

What's going to happen *NEXT???* #DyingHere

So if you're looking for a story that is, at times, **sappily cute and non-stop fun**, you might also want to give this **4 star** story of dragons and magic a read, too.

*This book is *FREE* with Kindle Unlimited membership.*

See All My Latest Reads (Review Quick-Links)

Josy says

~ 3.5 stars ~

This is a fun story for dragon lovers! I really enjoyed reading this book with an enemies-to-lovers AND pretend-boyfriend trope. Add some funny and fierce dragons and I was a happy girl :)

This story wasn't perfect, though. I, for one, was wishing for more world building. I don't need or want an info dump at the beginning of the book but I would have appreciated a little more detail about the world this story was set in. On the one hand, this story gives the reader enough room for their own interpretations but if you are like me and your imagination is practically nonexistent, it gets a tiny bit frustrating. By the time I had finished this book, I still had no real feeling for time and place. I found this book on the list Best Gay Spacemen so I'm guessing it takes place in another universe or on another planet but if you ask me, it could also have taken place on earth (if we had dragons, lol!). It also had a medieval feel to it but then the author

would use modern words like 'video surveillance' and it kind of threw me out of the story.

Also, not everything made sense plot-wise and one particular scene made me scratch my head in confusion because it was presented as a solution but for me, it only added more potential danger and possible future conflict but maybe this will be addressed in the next book.

There were also too many monologs for my liking because both MCs had a habit of talking to their 'inner voices'.

Despite all that, I had fun reading this book and especially the antics of the dragons made me laugh out loud quite often. I'm definitely looking forward to the next book!

Michael says

5+ Stars. I loved this book enough that I read it on Kindle Unlimited and then went back and bought a copy. Rill was great and even though I wanted to kick Con's ass (along with everyone else in the book) I still liked his character. And of course Dragons! I am definitely going to check out the rest of Hannah Walker books.

Viki Evans says

This was great, had dragons in it, (I love dragons) and its free on Ku. What more could you want. X

I love the cover too xxx
