

League of Dragons Book Club Questions

1. The alternate world League of Dragons is set in looks very much like our world, except there are Dragons who sometimes fight in our wars.

How does this change impact Napoleon's war, and the rest of the world's response to him?

2. The military hate Laurence for having given the Cure to the rest of the dragons in the world, instead of letting them all die and maybe ending the war earlier.

Do you think like they do that duty to Country should outweigh everything, or is there another moral code as a human (or dragon) that sometimes need to come first?

Would you have "committed treason" and done what Laurence did? *Was* it actually treason in your opinion?

3. The different countries in the book all have varying standards for how they treat their Dragons.

The Russians use cruel devices to keep them pinned down, whereas the Chinese exalt and almost worship their dragons.

What do you think led to the different approaches and mentalities around the treatment of dragons around the world?

4. Duty is talked about frequently in all of the Temeraire books. What are the biggest examples of people or dragons performing their duty?

Are there any examples of their duty being ignored?

5. We finally meet the baby dragon that comes from Iskierka and Temeraire's mating, Ning. What are your impressions of her? In what ways is she like her father, Temeraire? In what ways is she different?

6. In the Aerial corps, getting married and having children isn't really done, since it can conflict with the relationship a captain has with their dragon.

Does this way of doing things make sense? Why or why not?

7. If you lived in this fantasy world, would you want to Captain a dragon? What breed or kind of dragon would you want to be paired with?

8. We learn the Sapa Inca, Napoleon's Empress, made a deal to allow Napoleon to be captured if it meant her son could stay on the throne of France (with her as regent).

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Do you accept the excuses she gave to Laurence for why she did it? Do you agree that anything less and Napoleon would have started another war?

9. One reason Napoleon was so popular with the world's dragons was he treated them differently than most other countries.

In what ways did he make changes for the dragons? Do you think those changes were motivated by selfishness or real concern for dragons? Does his motivation actually matter?

10. Laurence was always despairing of the "farce" that made him a Prince of China, and the next emperor's "brother".

Do you think political appointments like that are less real? Or are they a genuine tool for diplomacy? Why or why not?

11. Laurence and Temeraire finally have time to rest after the war, but it seems like they are going to go live on Tharkay's estate so that Temeraire can stand for Parliament.

Is this what you expected their next move to be? How did you envision the series actually ending?

12. Would you ever reread Naomi Novik's Temeraire series? Why or why not?

13. Are there any questions from the book you are still thinking about? What are they?