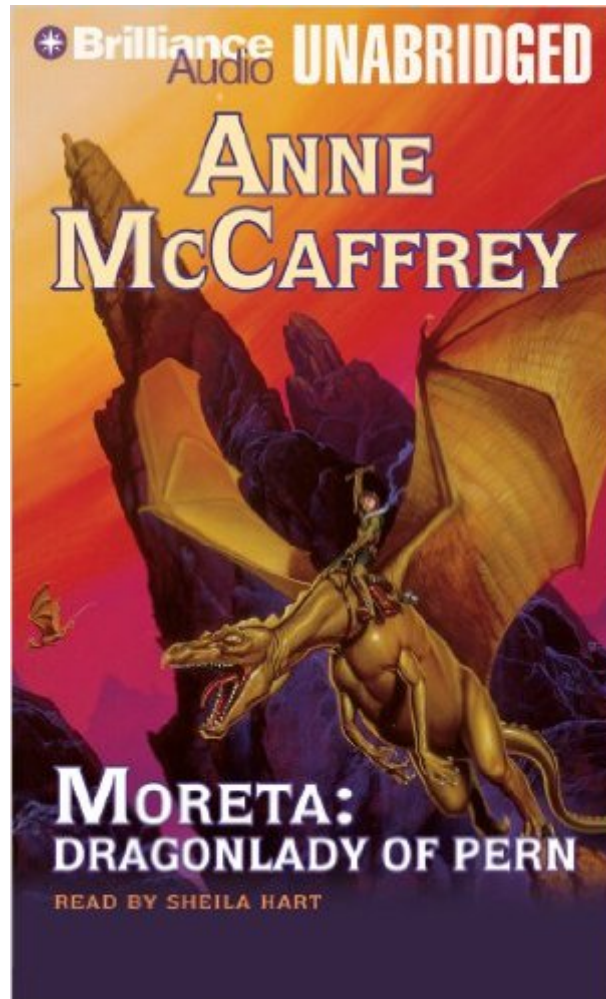


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Moreta: Dragonlady Of Pern (Dragonriders Of Pern Series)



Synopsis

An air of pleasant anticipation hung so thickly over the Halls, Holds, and Weyrs of Pern that it had affected even the businesslike ways of Moreta, the Weyrwoman of Fort Weyr. Her dragon, Queen Orloth, would soon clutch; spring had made a glorious debut; the Gather at Ruatha Hold was extremely merry; and Moreta was enjoying the attentions of Alessan, the new Lord Holder of Ruatha Hold. With only eight Turns remaining before the deadly Thread would cease to Fall, all seemed well on Pern. Then, without warning, a runnerbeast fell ill. Soon myriads of holders, craftsmen, and dragonriders were dying; and the mysterious ailment had spread to all but the most inaccessible holds. Pern was in mortal danger. For, if dragonriders did not rise to char Thread, the parasite would devour any and all organic life it encountered. The future of the planet rested in the hands of Moreta and the other dedicated, selfless Pern leaders. But of all their problems, the most difficult to overcome was time.â |

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Moreta is Weyrwoman at Fort Weyr with Sh'gall as Weyrleader. Moreta loves Orloth, her dragon queen, and would do anything for her, but she does wish that someone else had flown her during her mating flight. Sh'gall is a very able weyrleader in the air when fighting thread, but he does not do as well with people. Moreta is sure that they will go together to the Ruatha Gather, after all it is Lord Alessan's first gather as a Lord Holder and everyone will be there. However, Sh'gall decides to go to

the Telgar Gather and to see the strange cat that was captured in the ocean and put on display there. Desdra, Moreta's anxious housekeeper insists that Moreta cannot go without Sh'gall and that it is a terrible slight to her mistress, but Moreta wouldn't miss a good gather for the world! Moreta has a wonderful time at the gather with Lord Alessan. They are both avid racers and enjoy watching the runnerbeasts compete. When one of the runnerbeasts suddenly collapses, no one is sure what is wrong with the beast, but the fun of the gather continues. Moreta lingers at Ruatha Hold, but is finally forced to leave. She is awoken in the early morning hours by a frantic Sh'gall claiming that Masterhealer Capiam has diagnosed a plague that the wild cat brought over with it from the Southern Continent. All of Pern is in a panic as news of the unknown illness spreads. All too soon there is no hold or weyr that is untouched by the unknown ailment. But Moreta is a healer and she is determined to help in whatever way she can. She continues to urge the dragonriders to take care and helps unite multiple weyrs to fly thread together, as well as help care for the sick and wounded.

This entry into the longrunning PERN series is set 1500 years after the events of DRAGON'S DAWN and 900 years before the events of DRAGONFLIGHT, DRAGONQUEST, THE WHITE DRAGON etc. At this time the people of Pern have settled the Northern continent and developed a society very like medieval Europe, Lord holders control (held) large tracts of territory supervising farming, mining or fishing settlements. The skilled crafts are organized into autonomous Halls and all of Pern supports the aristocracy of the Weyrs, who, with their dragons protect the planet from the periodic invasion of Thread, an alien lifeform that devours every living thing with which it comes in contact. By this time the Pernese realize that they have lost knowledge and skills that their ancestors possessed and are eagerly planning exploring the mysterious Southern Continent at the end of this current Fall of Thread, in about 8 years. As the story opens Moreta, rider of a Queen dragon, is enjoying herself at a Gather (party). Unfortunately a flu virus had been inadvertently introduced into the population and quickly spread through out the population, both human and equine. The various segments of Pernese society work together to combat the now dual threat of virus and Thread in order to save the planet with Moreta thrust into a center role. As always with this series the main interest, at least for me, is the basic premise. Since there are books about a later time obviously disaster was averted, Moreta has become a legend and therefore her ultimate fate is pretty much known to any fan of the series. What is exciting is that McCaffrey has created an entire new world. Each book gives the reader a glimpse into this world from a slightly different viewpoint or time.

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