

Discussion Questions for *His Majesty's Dragon* by Naomi Novik

1. Did you like the book? If so, why? If not, why not?
2. How did you feel about the characters? Whom did you like or not like and why? Which character would you most like to meet?
3. Which characters underwent change? What brought about these changes?
4. What ethical decisions did the characters make?
5. How does the setting figure as a “character” in the story?
6. Did any of the secondary characters stand out for you?
7. Did you find the dialog in the story realistic?
8. What did you think of the plot line development? How credible did the author make the plot? Did the plot take turns you did not expect, or did you find it predictable?
9. What was more important, the characters or the plot? Was the plot moved forward by decisions of the characters, or were the characters at the mercy of the plot?
10. Did the author convey the era well? Does anyone know whether the book is historically accurate (aside from the presence of dragons, of course)? Did it feel like the author did her homework?
11. Were there parts you especially enjoyed? (For example, Temeraire meeting Volly for the first time; Berkley's relationship with Maximus; and the scene where Levitas died and Laurence forced his captain to go see him.)
12. Do you want to read the next book in the series? Are there elements in this first book that you think will reappear or be important in later books in the series?
13. If you could talk to the author, is there a question you would ask her?
14. What did you think of the ending?
15. Are there any questions you would like to ask, or other issues or elements you would like to discuss?