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# No Good Dragon Goes Unpunished: Heartstrikers, Book 3



## Synopsis

When Julius overthrew his mother and took control of his clan, he thought he was doing right by everyone. But sharing power isn't part of any proper dragon's vocabulary, and with one seat still open on the new ruling council, all of Heartstriker is ready to do whatever it takes to get their claws on it, including killing the Nice Dragon who got them into this mess in the first place. To keep his clan together and his skin intact, Julius is going to have to find a way to make his bloodthirsty siblings play fair. But there's more going on in Heartstriker Mountain than politics. Every family has its secrets, but the skeletons in Bethesda's closet are dragon sized, and with Algonquin's war looming over them all, breaking his clan wide open might just be the only hope Julius has of saving it.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

**CLASSIFICATION:** The Heartstriker series is an action-packed urban fantasy series with a strong dose of comedy, post-apocalyptic SF themes and dragons.**ANALYSIS:** After the fantastic sequel that was *One Good Dragon Deserves Another*, I couldn't wait to see what Rachel would cook up for Julius, Marci, and the rest of the clan (except Bob because he steers his own path). The following review will contain mild spoilers for the preceding two titles and so readers be forewarned! [The book opens up almost immediately afterwards the events of the 2nd book and we get to see the mayhem that has been caused due to Julius seizing control away from Bethesda. Plus now that there will be a vote for the council membership, all the Heartstriker dragons have

assembled into the mountain and it literally turns into a madhouse. Marci has been relegated to the sick bay after the tumultuous events but sheâ€™s one person who never lets things go by and with Julius busy, sheâ€™s left to her own devices. Thereâ€™s a whole host of other Heartstrikers introduced in this volume besides Amelia, Bob, Chelsea, Conrad and the others whom we have met so far. Plus the prologue also gives a look into the distant past and we see Chelsea before she has been tuned into her role as enforcer. This book deals with a lot, a real lot of stuff. Thereâ€™s twin strands that the plot breaks down into. The first strand deals with Julius as he tries to make sure that the selection for the 3rd council seat goes smoothly. Heâ€™s very much unprepared for the venomous onslaught that is coming his way via all the ambitious Heartstrikers. He also has to worry about Bethesda and her backhanded politicking to undo what has happened to her both magically and politically.

Rachel Aaron's writing feels a lot like Brandon Sanderson's, but with a lot of quirky humor thrown in. And I mean that in the best twisty, plot-within-plot-within-meticulously-plotted-plot human-condition sort of way. Her series start out deceptively light, and as they twine on, the plots thicken and twist, even as the characterizations become deeper and more refined. This book is a bit different than the first two; there's less humor and more plot points left hanging at the end of the book. That's not to say a lot of plot points aren't wrapped up and answers to questions given, because there are. It's just as the plot complexities multiply, some threads must continue on to the next book. In *No Good Dragon Goes Unpunished*, Julius, the nicest dragon in question, stands his ground despite shyness, fear, manipulation, his mother, his brother, his other brother, broken bones, cuts and bruises, and a dragon flaming. Our nice dragon stares down death and refuses to budge from his principles, and we love him for it. Marci grows even more as a mage and love interest, Ghost, well, acts even more ghostly, Justin seems to have added several IQ points, Ian climbs the corporate/dragon ladder with finesse, Chelsie is Chelsier with a really cool backstory thrown in that fleshes her out in ways we didn't see coming, and Bob is, well, Bob. Throw in a few mages - dragon and human - for good measure and there's just a bit of tension brewing. When you add in Bethesda - not the cuddliest of moms, Algonquin, giant slugs, a magical construct or two, and hundreds of Heartstriker dragons stuffed into one mountain fortress at the same time, well... the story just gets better and better as the tensions mount.

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