

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July

Predicting

- 1) Look at the title of the book. What are your first thoughts about what this book might be about?

*The title makes me think the book could be about... because...*

RISE OF THE  
**SHADOW  
DRAGONS**

- 2) Now look at the prologue. What impression does this give you of the book?

*The prologue makes me think the book could be about... because...*

PROLOGUE

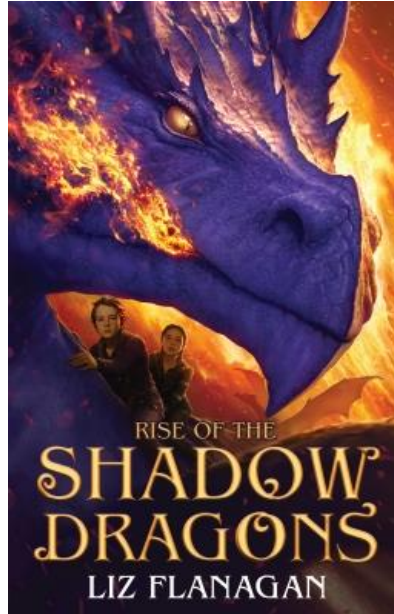


Two dragons flew in darkness. Their breath came in wheezing gasps. Their wings flapped heavily, straining hard with every beat. Their scaly flanks were streaked with blood. 'The dragons need to rest,' Milla yelled, black hair escaping from her blue scarf. Her face was caked in ashy dust. 'They won't make it.' 'They will! They have to,' Thom cried hoarsely, a grim look on his face. 'Milla, we've got to reach Arcosi, before it's too late.' As if to prove his words, a huge jet of hot steam hissed up from the slopes below, narrowly missing his red dragon. She banked sharply, almost losing control. 'Thom!' Milla screamed. 'Are you all right?' She twisted sideways and urged her blue dragon lower, searching in the gloom. His voice carried up from the darkness below. 'See? The volcano is erupting. Right now! There's no time. We have to try!' Sitting low on their dragons' backs, hunched and tense, both riders faced towards the west, urging their exhausted dragons to one final effort. Milla whispered a constant stream of encouragement, 'Hurry, Iggie, hurry! If it's the last thing we do, we have to tell them of the danger. We have to tell them what to do.' Behind them, the sky was streaked with red-gold sparks.

3) Now look at the front cover and the blurb. Does this change your first impressions? What genre do you think this book is? Explain your thoughts.

*Looking at the front cover and blurb, I now think...*

*I think this is a ..... book because ...*



*Joe longs for a dragon, just like his cousin Milla's. He knows he was born to be a dragon rider. But at the Hatching Ceremony, in front of everyone, Joe does not bond with any of the new eggs and he storms out, shaming himself and his family. Mortified, Joe goes on the run, but it's not long before he becomes swept up in adventure . . . an adventure that will lead him to a very different kind of dragon.*