



## The Captive Maiden (Fairy Tale Romance Series)

By Melanie Dickerson

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**The Captive Maiden (Fairy Tale Romance Series) By Melanie Dickerson**

### **Happily Ever After ... Or Happily Nevermore?**

Gisela's childhood was filled with laughter and visits from nobles such as the duke and his young son. But since her father's death, each day has been filled with nothing but servitude to her stepmother. So when Gisela learns the duke's son, Valten—the boy she has daydreamed about for years—is throwing a ball in hopes of finding a wife, she vows to find a way to attend, even if it's only for a taste of a life she'll never have. To her surprise, she catches Valten's eye. Though he is rough around the edges, Gisela finds Valten has completely captured her heart. But other forces are bent on keeping the two from falling further in love, putting Gisela in more danger than she ever imagined.

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### Editorial Review

#### From School Library Journal

Gr 6–10—Without magic dust or musical interludes, Dickerson delivers a wonderful spin on "Cinderella" that is full of engaging, thoughtful characters amid lively medieval pageantry. Gisela, 17, works as a servant for her wicked stepmother and stepsisters. When the Duke announces a grand tournament to celebrate the return of his oldest son, Valten, she risks everything to attend. A chance encounter with Valten changes their lives and sets off a dramatic chain of events. The measured pace incorporates suspenseful plot twists, keeping readers wondering if there will be a happily-ever-after ending. Readers of Dickerson's "Snow White"-inspired *The Fairest Beauty* (Zondervan, 2013) will recognize Gabe, Valten's younger brother, and Sophie, Valten's former betrothed. The character-driven story line focuses on Gisela's and Valten's individual growth as well as on their budding relationship. Detailed descriptions create a strong sense of a 1400s' medieval town, from the vibrant marketplace to the cold castles, to knights battling in front of a gallery of beautiful maidens in their finery. The setting emphasizes the limited options available to Gisela as a young maiden with no money or family. The inspirational and reflective tone shows her to be kind and forgiving despite her hardships, and Valten, brave and chivalrous, no longer seeks fame and glory, but rather welcomes the "idea of God-given purpose." This novel has lots of appeal for fans of fairy tales and of chivalry and knights.—June Shimonishi, Torrance Public Library, CA

#### From Booklist

Never was a Cinderella tale so fraught with menacing forces! Not only does Gisela have to contend with an evil stepmother and stepsisters who would move heaven and earth to prevent the local duke's handsome son from pursuing her, but the evil knight Ruexner will stop at nothing to imprison the poor girl and force her into marriage. Ruexner is locked in a long-simmering grudge match against Valten, the duke's son, who is equally smitten with our girl. Will Valten—attractive, honorable, and gifted with legendary fighting skills—overcome his nemesis to win his lady? How much luck can go Gisela and Valten's way as they try to escape one calamitous tight spot after another? Expect high romance, melodrama, and Christian inspiration in a vivid medieval setting. Even when she seems doomed, Gisela will swoon at the thought of her handsome rescuer's features: "How could he look so handsome with a bruised eye and dried blood at his temple?" Readers will appreciate Gisela's pluck as she participates in her rescue—make that rescues—from Ruexner. Grades 7-10. --Anne O'Malley

### About the Author

Melanie Dickerson is a *New York Times* bestselling author and two-time Christy Award finalist. Her first book *The Healer's Apprentice* won the National Readers' Choice Award for Best First Book in 2010, and *The Merchant's Daughter* won the 2012 Carol Award. Melanie spends her time writing stories at her home near Huntsville, Alabama, where she lives with her husband and two daughters.

### Users Review

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A lot of people always spent their very own free time to vacation or perhaps go to the outside with them family or their friend. Were you aware? Many a lot of people spent many people free time just watching TV, or maybe playing video games all day long. If you need to try to find a new activity this is look different you can read a new book. It is really fun to suit your needs. If you enjoy the book that you read you can spent 24 hours a day to reading a reserve. The book The Captive Maiden (Fairy Tale Romance Series) it is rather good to read. There are a lot of people who recommended this book. These people were enjoying reading this book. In the event you did not have enough space to create this book you can buy often the e-book. You can m0ore easily to read this book out of your smart phone. The price is not too costly but this book offers high quality.

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