



2009

Ivy's Ever After

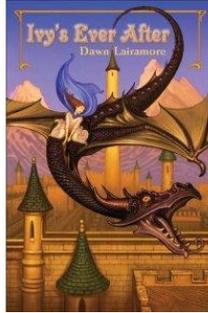
Tessa McMillan

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Lairamore, Dawn. *Ivy's Ever After*. Holiday House, 2010. ISBN 9780823422616. \$16.95. 311 p.

Reviewer: Tessa McMillan

Reading Level: Intermediate, Young adult

Rating: Outstanding

Genre: Fiction;

Subject: Princesses --Juvenile fiction; Dragons --Juvenile fiction; Fairy godmothers--Juvenile fiction; Fairy tales--Juvenile fiction; Books--Reviews;

At a young age, Princess Ivy learns that when she turns fourteen she will be locked away in a tower, guarded by a dragon, and rescued by a prince. This process was created when all the past royal families just bore girls. The treaty, known as the Dragon Treaty, was created to entice princes to rescue and wed the kingdom's princesses and rule over the land. When Ivy approaches the date for her "imprisonment," she meets Prince Romil. Ivy over hears Romil's plans to take over Ivy's kingdom and the neighboring countries. The king doesn't believe Romil's plans and makes Ivy go to the tower. Ivy decides to escape from the tower and is helped by the dragon, Elridge. They go in search of Ivy's fairy godmother, Drusilla, to gain help in overthrowing Romil and his men. Ivy and Elridge find Drusilla and take her to meet the Dragon Queen. They plan with the Queen to attack Ivy's castle and drive Romil and his men from the kingdom. Elridge helps Ivy secretly enter the castle, but she is captured by Romil. Romil duels against Elridge but Romil loses. The castle staff drive Romil's men out to the awaiting dragons. Romil and his men are banished from the kingdom and Ivy is free to marry whomever she wants.

Lairamore's story is an interesting twist of seeing "Prince Charming" as the villain and the evil dragon as a best friend. Lairamore's writing is witty and introspective. This debut novel for Lairamore is a great start to a fruitful future career.

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