



Escapement

Ciara Knight

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Ten years after the great war of 2185 the queen's reign is threatened by uprisings and fear. In celebration of my sixteenth birthday it is my duty as princess to sacrifice a slave to be initiated into the ruling council, solidifying my mother's empire. When my own erratic powers surface I'm captured and tried for treason. Slaves hate me, my mother wants me executed, and my only chance of survival rests in the hands of a young man, Ryder Arteres, whose sister I sentenced to death.

Escapement Details

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Author : Ciara Knight

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From Reader Review Escapement for online ebook

Nancy The book junkie says

Review coming soon!

Angela says

5 November 2015: \$0.00 FREE on Kindle

5 May 2014: \$0.00 FREE on Kindle

Moments says

I really wasn't sure what rating to give this book.

The plot is really interesting with many new ideas and exotic fantasy beings and gifts. There is a lot of action in it and there are a lot of twists and turns.

But here is the problem... as many ideas as there are, I had a feeling that none of them was really thought through. Nothing was explained fully, everything was hinted at and sometimes a character that I wasn't even aware had arrived said or did something. At times this was really puzzling and at some points it even got on my nerves. The fantasy animals were never really described, so I couldn't get a feeling for anything...

The characters were likable but just like the story they would have needed more detail. Conflicts were hinted at and foreshadowed but the moment they appeared they were mysteriously solved or forgotten.

I would suggest to the author get a good editor and revise the book. It has the potential to be great but I feel like it was written in a great haste.

So in sum I would give it 2,5 stars.

InD'tale Magazine says

A fantastic new dystopian story with partial cyborgs, elemental powers, fights, explosions, prophecies, and more than a big dollop of romance thrown in the mix!

Read full review in the 2013 July/August double issue of InD'tale Magazine.

Jan Niblock says

I have to say that I loved this book. Yes, it moved very quickly but you were caught up in the excitement and it was not a bad thing. I love when books move you along and not drag out to the point that I am bored to tears. There was enough tension and things that you got glimpses of but you never knew the whole story. Ms. Knight did a great job of developing her characters and making you either love or hate them.

I am not going to give a lot of details about the story, that has already been done by others. But this is a great read and from the moment I started it, I could hardly put it down.

Rachel V. says

I really, really love this series. I read this book as fast as I could because I couldn't wait to see what happens. Unfortunately things like work and sleep got in the way. Now that I am finished all I have to say is how much longer do I have to wait for the next book?

First I am going to start with the cover of this book. I love the cover! It is awesome and like the prequel it goes so well with the story. The cover alone makes me want to read this story. Again the clock is on the front and this time Princess Semara is on the cover whereas with Weighted the cover featured Raeth. Do I dare hope that Ryder may be on one of the covers?

The characters in this book are written wonderfully. I feel like I know them after reading this story. This story takes place 4 years after the prequel. This story is written from Princess Semara's point of view. There is some romance in this story also. It is not insta-love nor is it fated. It just slowly builds. I thought that the romance was very well written and it is to be continued in the next book.

The ending had some definite things left open to be answered in the next books. The author really knows how to write an ending that leaves you waiting to find out what happens next and clear up some of the mystery without leaving you feeling like the book just cut off.

I can't wait for the next in this series. I know I already said that but I really can't wait. I hope it comes soon because waiting for this story to come out was long enough. If it wasn't for some other issues I would have had this book read and reviewed last month. All I want to do now is go back and re-read it again! Trust me this is a great series to get in to.

I received this ARC free from the author in exchange for an honest review.

Green Butterfly says

I love the dystopian world that has been created and Ciara does a wonderful job developing the characters and making you feel connected to them. The main characters, Ryder and Semara are fighting for their lives as they try to join up with the rebellion. They are running from the Queen, who is no other than Princess

Semara's mother! Full of action and a developing loving story I highly recommend this book to anyone!

I would also like to say that I love the cover of this book! A lot of covers look good, but this one in particular is not only beautiful, but also pertains to the story within.

Lindi Peterson says

A riveting tale of justice, mercy, honor and love. Take a deep breath and hold on, because you'll be turning the pages of Escapement quickly. Three unlikely comrades, Princess Semara, Ryder, and his sister Raeth, embark on a journey that will alter their lives forever. The beautiful love story nestled into these action-packed scenes will make you sigh and remember why you love to love. After reading the prequel Weighted, I knew this story would be amazing, and it was. Ciara Knight truly has a gift for creating awesome worlds and characters you won't forget.

Jenia says

I knew I was going to love this novel, before even reading it. I've been wanting to read this book, since I read Weighted back in summer. I was happy when Ciara contacted me and sent me Advance Reader's Copy in exchange of review. This is the series that I would recommend to everyone. If I could give it more than 5 stars I would. What is there not to love about this series? There's action, romance and a lot of action. I did not want to put it down, I found myself turning the pages. Only time I did put it down was when I had to work. After reading Escapement, I'm eager to read the rest of Ciara's books.

GOODREADS SUMMARY

Be Bold

Be Brave

Be Free

Ten years after the great war of 2185 the queen's reign is threatened by uprisings and fear. In celebration of my sixteenth birthday it is my duty as princess to sacrifice a slave to be initiated into the ruling council, solidifying my mother's empire. When my own erratic powers surface I'm captured and tried for treason. Slaves hate me, my mother wants me executed, and my only chance of survival rests in the hands of a young man, Ryder Arteres, whose sister I sentenced to death.

I loved the cover. How can you not look at the cover and get curious? If I didn't know what the book was about, ahead of time, I would totally wonder by looking at the cover. I think that Escapement has one of the most creative covers that I've seen in while. How can a reader not wonder what is happening, by looking at the cover. Even if I read the summary, I found myself wondering what is happening to the girl in the picture, why she's chained up like that and what she's thinking. The background is beautiful; in general the photograph is stunning. The cover seems to tell the story itself, it seems to bring the story more to life for me.

I loved the friendship between Semara and Raeth. Despite what happened between the two of them, the way that

Semara thought she put her to death, Raeth seems to truly care for her, otherwise she wouldn't have come to her rescue. Fact that she decided to hide what happens from Ryder, just so that she wouldn't lose her, now that's a true friendship right there. Raeth and Semara's friendship reminds me of couple of my friends, the type of friends who would do so much for me. Through the book, I saw how Semara and Raeth's friendship grew, way they helped each other. I'm hoping that two of them would be able to stay, for years to come. I was afraid that there chance their friendship might break once Ryder found out truth, but glad to see that it didn't.

Ryder : Never did I imagine that Semara and Ryder would end up together, mostly because of way that Ryder treated her in beginning. To be honest, I didn't even think that he even cared what happens to her, he was just doing it because of his sister. But as the book progress, I could see that Ryder began to care about her, even if at first he showed nothing but distrust with her. At first I was sure that he even let her come with them was because of his sister. Once the book progressed, I could practically feel the tension between the two of them, whenever the two of them had time, to be alone. I loved reading the scenes between two of them, even if Ryder was not always most fun to talk to, they made me smile. I was eager to see when they will kiss and what would happen once they did. I was afraid that Ryder might hate her once he found out the past between Semara and sister, I was actually surprised how easily he forgave her, like Semara I was sure he never speak to her again. The scenes between two of them, once they kissed were pretty intense and made me smile each time. Of course now I'm even more eager for next book, I want to see what happens between two of them next.

I loved the action, the adventure of Raeth, Semara and Ryder in this book. There wasn't a single page that didn't keep me on the edge of my seat. There were so many times that I was afraid, there was no escape for them, and which was it. Only to find out that I'm wrong. I know that this is going be one of my favorite's series. I would highlyly recommend this series, it keep you on edge of your seat till end. Even when you reach end, you find yourself wondering what's next for Raeth, Ryder and Semara. I know I'm eager for the next book already. One of best series I read this year. I was glad that I got to read an early copy of the book.

Rachel (The Rest Is Still Unwritten) says

This book sounds fantastic!! And I just LOVE that cover!

Kira says

****SPOILER FREE****

Escapement by Ciara Knight is ruthless, exciting, and action packed. The story takes place in a dystopian United States ten years after the great war of 2185; its population is divided into three races: humans, Kantian, and Nuemarian. The Nuemarians are enslaved and viewed as parasites by the Kantians. To make matters worse Semara, the Kantian princess, must choose a Nuemarian who will be sacrificed so she can take her place among the council. Yet, Semara does not have the heart for the cruelty her mother, the Queen, wishes her to possess. To make matters worse, on the day of choosing the sacrifice Semara spots Raeth, a

Nuemarian girl whom Semara let get tortured and then dumped in the desert to die. In her one last attempt to save Raeth, Semara frees the power bubbling inside. The Queen does not take the betrayal well and she punishes her daughter by forcing her to get a new heart. As the lasers cut open Semara's chest, she is saved by a mysterious figure, who turn out to be Raeth's brother. Her only chance of survival lies in the hand of Raeth's brother.

I have to say, I absolutely loved Escapement; it captivated me from the very first chapter. I loved how rich the characters are. The Queen (Mother) is cruel and blood thirsty, Semara starts out as lost and unsure but quickly comes into her own, and let's not forget Raeth's brother, Ryder, who is very swoon worthy (but you will have to see that for yourself). I recommend this for anyone who is looking for something refreshing, creative, and imaginative; the book is full action, danger, monsters, and even some romance.

Kara says

these are not my official comments, but I did love this story! will re read at a later time and then leave more comments :) for now, this is an excellent, clean YA read that i quickly read and utterly enjoyed!

Finished reading on 3-31-2014 and wow yet again! This book is soooooo good and still a quick read! Will post a proper review after I have finished the series (hopefully in April) :) Go Semara!!! *love, love, LOVE this book cover*

DEDICATION-To those that have suffered under an iron fist. Be bold. Be brave. Be free.

My Comments

Knight has managed to create an epic world where the human race is no longer alone, Neumarians are a slave race that seemingly must be controlled because they are dangerous, the United States are a thing of the past, and you must work to survive. Princess Semara was raised by her father, but since his death she is now in the custody and under the abusive rule of her Queen mother who is determined to get Semara on the council with her and marry her off to a tyrannical general. This is the kind of YA book that will hook readers from the first chapter and keep you longing to know more about how Semara escapes!

There are three races in this book...humans, Kantians (they possess the gift of a supreme mind), and Neumarians (called parasites, monsters and considered a threat/danger to the Queen and other Kantians). The Queen is Kantian so Semara believes herself to be one also. Her father was human. She will need to discover who she really is and where she belongs.

When Semara first meets Ryder, he saves her life, but he's annoying at first. He comes across as very smug, arrogant, and resistant about helping Semara. However, as they learn to depend on each other through one disaster after another, Ryder becomes much more protective of her and a friendship develops. I was very satisfied with how slowly they get to like each other. There is some kissing between them and literally sparks go off, but I didn't consider their chemistry inappropriate.

Raeth is Ryder's younger sister and was once friends with Semara. Raeth is also protective of Semara and reminds Ryder that Semara is worth whatever trouble they must overcome. Little does Ryder know of the secret between Raeth and Semara, their friendship started 4 years ago until Semara was forced to witness the destruction of Raeth. It's something Semara has never forgiven herself over and now that friendship between the girls will be restored (more about Semara and Raeth's friendship is described in book 0.5, Weighted).

There's a few scenes with the general that imply his intentions are not pure (slight understatement), both with Semara and with another woman, but he gets interrupted both times. It's not difficult to hate him. The Queen mother is so wicked she makes Darth Vader seem like a harmless robot (think Johnny 5 from Short Circuit without the cute personality). She works on controlling, manipulating, and scheming against others to keep her reign and torment others. She'll gladly torture and kill whoever gets in her way, and she'll do so proudly and while laughing. Thankfully, she only has a few scenes in this book but her presence is felt throughout.

My fave characters in this story were Bender, Fallon, Dred, and Maggie.

Ryder, Raeth and Semara MUST survive; they must constantly escape crazy scenarios; they must take a dangerous and unpredictable journey if they want to succeed in creating an uprising that will stop the Queen. They will face creepy creatures in the Wasteland (those spiderats are the grossest things ever written), Scavengers who would just as easily shoot you then trade with you, being trapped, imprisoned, and constant injustice as they are just three teens banded together on this impossible quest. Yet they find strength within themselves they never knew existed and they each risk one another's lives to help the other two. That was what drew me most to this book. Despite the deadly creatures and characters they come across....there is hope, unity, romance, tenderness, and loyalty between them. Even though Ryder curses in his own language several times, there is no actual bad language and that was another aspect I appreciated in this adventure. These 3 teens fight for one another and stand together in determination to bring true freedom to a land that is being destroyed mercilessly by a cold queen. It's always amazing when three young adults risk everything to put a stop to this farce of a reign and they make a real difference along the way!

Knight pens this book in such a way that the reader is THERE with Semara and rooting for her the entire time while QUICKLY turning the pages to see what happens next. This book is over 30 chapters, but it's such a fast/enjoyable experience that the reader forgets everything else! The ending of the book is to be continued so I strongly recommend purchasing the ebook set so you don't miss out on the other two parts. We'll see what Pendulum brings!

after reading the second time, still loved the story and worth five stars, but really surprised how violent the ending was. great characters but they never get a break

Jessica (Goldenfurpro) says

This and other reviews can be found on The Psychotic Nerd

MY THOUGHTS

It took me awhile to get into this book, but once I did, I found a very interesting read!

This book takes place in a dystopian/steampunk future. In this society, there are three different races: humans, Kantian, and Neumarian. The Neumarians have supernatural abilities and are enslaved. The world is taken over by a ruthless Queen, Semara's mother. As princess, Semara has to sacrifice a Neumarian on her birthday. When she comes face to face with Raeth, a childhood friend that she betrayed and thought dead. Raeth is also meant to be the sacrifice. Semara refuses and discovers that she has her own supernatural abilities. With the help of Ryder, Raeth's brother, Semara is able to escape. They have to figure out a way to stop the Queen, all the while a price is on their heads.

I had a hard time getting into this book at first. The story was a bit confusing at first and I had issues with Ryder. At the beginning, Ryder supposedly hates Semara for who she is. He also rescues her because of Raeth. But he is always saying, in the beginning, how much he hates her. Then, in the next paragraph, he would help her out. Yeah, I can sort of understand it, but it was very crazy having him have completely different feelings every other paragraph. Thankfully, this didn't last that long.

The further along I got into this book, the more I enjoyed it! The world-building was phenomenal! And the characters were also really great! I loved Raeth especially! She is much stronger than she looks and she is just such a great girl! She is loyal, and even though Semara did horrible things to her, Raeth still loves and forgives her! I absolutely loved her! I also loved how much Ryder would do to protect his sister and, eventually, Samara.

The romance was iffy for me. I loved them together, but I did think it was too fast. It wasn't insta-love, but I thought they were exchanging "I love yous" too soon.

IN CONCLUSION

It was hard to get into this book at first, but I ended up finding an enjoyable read! If you would like to read an interesting dystopian, steampunk, and semi-fantasy book, this is the book for you! I do plan on continuing this series.

Kristina Snyder says

Escapement was a riveting story that reeled me in and never let me go. I could not put this book down. I didn't want to. What I loved about this book was its uniqueness and originality. I haven't read another book like it so that makes it even more special. The world building was well crafted and well thought out. I felt as if I was right there with the characters, experiencing everything they felt. I was able to see what they saw, feel what they felt. This story was written beautifully. The character development was spot on. The characters grew so much by the end of this book. That is what makes them so real and lifelike.

I adored the characters in Escapement. Ryder, Raeth, Semara and Bender were my favorites. I feel as if I could be friends with them if they really existed. Princess Semara wasn't anything like her mother, but everyone believed her to be especially Ryder. She had to constantly prove to herself and the others that she wasn't. I loved how she would always put the others before herself. Always sacrificing herself to save the others. Semara was no damsel in distress. She always fought and never gave up. I was able to relate to her in that way. Raeth is Ryder's sister and I wanted to jump in the book and protect her myself. She is such a sweetheart. She was no weakling either. She fought until the end too. I felt really bad with what happened to her, but to me, that made her stronger. And that shows how tough she really is. Ryder and his smexiness!!! I couldn't help but love him. He was big and tough on the outside, but such a sweetheart on the inside. It was nice to a guy's softer side. That's what makes them real. I loved seeing how he was with his sister and how protective he was over Semara and Raeth. I can't wait to see what happens between those two. It was so endearing watching these three characters become each other's family because they have no one else. Bender was a very mysterious character. I was glad that I got a little insight about him at the end of the story. He is a sweetheart.

Escapement was a phenomenal book that I will definitely reread. This story full of action, mystery, adventure, suspense and romance. I have no words how wonderful this book was. It was a real page turner. I was constantly turning page after page, because I had to know what happened next. The ending definitely left

me waiting more!!! I can't wait to start the next book. Escapement was the first book I read of Ciara's and it won't be the last!!! I highly recommend this book!!!! It is a MUST read!!!!

Isis says

Ten years after the great war of 2185 the queen's reign is threatened by uprisings and fear. In celebration of my sixteenth birthday it is my duty as princess to sacrifice a slave to be initiated into the ruling council, solidifying my mother's empire. When my own erratic powers surface I'm captured and tried for treason. Slaves hate me, my mother wants me executed, and my only chance of survival rests in the hands of a young man, Ryder Arteres, whose sister I sentenced to death.

Unbeknownst even to herself, Princess Semara possesses a Kantian mind, yet also has Neumerian powers. Raised by her beloved father until he was killed, she was then given over to the mother she'd never met - Queen Mandessa Valderak. For some reason the Queen seems to detest her daughter, and has her reprogrammed at least twice, the first time for not being cruel enough, and then for trying help her friend. Semara's young life has been filled with pain, for aside from the Queen, her General, and Semara's two secret friends, no one has any idea she is anything other than a pampered Princess. Without her wonderful childhood memories of being with her father and Bender's constant care whenever the Queen isn't watching, Semara would have broken years ago.

Now that her 16th birthday is upon her she is required to kill a sacrifice before getting the implant that will initiate her into the ruling council. The slave pulled forward turns out to be Raeth, her secret childhood friend from her time on the Queen's ship. The friend she was forced to watch being tortured, and the one she was supposed to have killed. Semara had risked much the day she rolled poor Raeth's body off the gangway and onto the desert sand, giving her the only chance she could to survive. So when she sees Raeth is to be her victim Semara refuses to kill Raeth and refuses to accept the implant. Her powers become active, forcing her to flee the Queen's ship or risk becoming a Slag slave. Her refusal of the implant starts a violent chain of events; the Queen orders her to be Slagged - replacing part of her body with mechanical device, but she is rescued by strangers at Raeth's request before they put the mental implant in, but not before they slice her open to replace her "weak human heart" with one of metal. The rebels heal her and she stays with them, for the Queen has labeled her a traitor and put a bounty out for her capture. Somehow Princess Semara possesses a Kantian mind, yet has Neumerian powers, reason enough for the Queen to turn her into a Slag slave or marry her off to the evil General - though it would be a marriage in name only. In reality she would be his slave.

Those that rescued her shelter her at great risk. During this time it is discovered that her powers combine with both Raeth's and her brother Ryder's - creating the prophesied Triune. Once the people see that these three form the Triune they risk everything to get the three young people over to Europe, where the bulk of the resistance is, for the prophecy says the Triune will be what destroys the powers of the Queen and ruling class. Of course the journey is beyond risky, and has a very slim chance of success, particularly with the

extra things they must do, or get, while on their way across the Wastelands and hostile territories.

For the trip to even have a chance of success someone needs the mental implant in order to repel some of the creatures that inhabit the desert Wastelands. So less than a day after her refusal of the implant she finds herself unable to escape it, this time by her own choice. For the only options were to force Raeth to endure yet one more invasive piece of machinery or accept it herself. Ryder can't take it as he doesn't have a Kantian mind and would die instantly, and Raeth only could because of all the circuitry the Queen had already put in her while torturing/experimenting on her. Semara would do anything to save Raeth from having to undergo that again, even at her own expense. Her worst personal nightmare come to life - having the implant and Neumarian powers while on the run from the Queen.

From the very beginning of their journey things go wrong, yet somehow they manage to survive each calamity as it occurs. As they journey together they grow closer, all the while Semara is terrified that Ryder, who she is falling for, will hate her beyond all reason once he learns that she was with Raeth when his sister was tortured. The three experience numerous adventures while trying to reach the coast to catch an ENR ship and help the resistance, each learn from the others. The book ends with a bang, leaving you itching to get your hands on the second book in the series, *Pendulum*.
