



The Divide Book 1: Uprising

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During the Second Civil War, a new U.S. political party called the Family Protection Movement established The Divide, which separates Normal people from those who are gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgender.

Seventeen-year old Serenity Blackwater lives in the normal Midwestern town of Mapleville, but she is not normal. She hacks into an illegal gay chat room and meets Dawn, a lesbian who lives in a gay community less than a mile away. Serenity discovers normal people can bribe their way inside the walls and decides to go, both to meet Dawn and check out what may be her future home.

Dawn is even more beautiful than Serenity hoped, and the two soon become a couple. But Serenity only has a few months before she must take the Normal Verification Test, and then she'll be separated from her family forever. So she joins the Human Equality Organization, an underground group working to end The Divide. Dawn thinks the rebellion is too dangerous, and since Dawn's ex-girlfriend Malaki is also a member, Serenity doesn't tell Dawn about her involvement.

Serenity reveals to the HEO that her parents are leading a campaign to organize attacks on all Gay Communities. With her help, the HEO creates Project Jericho, in which all Gay Communities walls will implode at once. But after too many delays, and when Dawn discovers Serenity has been spending more time with Malaki than her, Serenity knows she has to start the revolution herself. She heads to D.C. to contact a group of senators secretly against The Divide ... or straight into a trap set by the Family Protection Movement.

The Divide Book 1: Uprising Details

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Lynn Lawler says

I just finished reading this wonderful book. The story grabbed me from page 1. I just love the main character Serenity. She is fiercely determined and determined to fight for something that will benefit all. She stops at nothing including hacking and sneaking into a heavily guarded community. Her mission is equality for ally and freedom to be part of society openly.

Serenity reminded me to hold on to my visions. Nothing to too big to conquer.

This is an easy read and is full of daring action.

I highly recommend this book.

Lynn Pierce says

Awesome read and would also make a really cool movie too!!! Can't wait until the next book comes out...

Liz says

can't wait to read more!

Justina Johnson says

This is a totally riveting read! As the first of two books this presentation is extremely fascinating, intense, in big picture terms somewhat terrifying, and might reasonably be considered a variation on a theme that is more prevalent in other places in the world, but not actually in existence on the North American continent now, to the best of my knowledge. It is hard to actually place the timeframe as the political and geographic differences from current United States history could make it contemporary or several decades in the future or possibly the past. That is less important than how plausibly it is presented elevating the shocking nature of the story. I completely recommend this series and in particular this first book.

Serenity Blackwater is in a real pickle at the very opening, which is a prologue set at the present time within the book. Immediately following the prologue, I got the back story and all the events leading up to her most uncomfortable situation as presented in the prologue. Serenity has known she is a lesbian for several years now and when she will be forced to take the "Normal Verification Test" upon turning eighteen, her sexual orientation will "out" her. She has the option to request to be banned and unceremoniously forced to live in a "gay" community. She lives in a "normal" town now and not a gay one behind walls, with military guards. Outed gays are forced to have large tattoo markings on their arms and carry implanted monitoring devices marking most residents as "not normal" and tracking their every movement. Gays, which cover all LBGTQIA people, have been horribly misrepresented to the "normal" population and the entire geo-political structure in the United States has been perverted by a despotic and corrupt organization called the Family

Protection Movement. Everything is also thoroughly tied to a most powerful religious structure, that additionally supports the oppressive misrepresentations force-fed and pounded into the “normals” day in and day out. On the bright side, Serenity is a computer genius who has linked up with the gay world, manages to sneak into their prison-like community, gets a girlfriend, and signs up and participates in an underground resistance movement. Serenity is totally incredible and I love her!

Dawn Delgado is the girl Serenity connects with through a technically illegal gay chat room where Serenity can ask questions and start to understand. Dawn has lost a family member to a resistance mission and has chosen to be comfortable, satisfied, and compliant with her imprisoned status. Her relationship with Serenity is initially palpably passionate however a bit bumpy, but her story is a shining and beautiful delight. After all, she is also only seventeen years old with her youthful age probably encouraging her to chose to bury her head in the sand for somewhat understandable reasons. Anyway, I also loved her!

There are many more wonderful, courageous, and winning characters in this book. In keeping with human nature in general, some of them are also a pain in the butt at times. Isn't that truth true about everyone? The author does make the “normals” and especial the Family Protection Movement personnel quite gruesome, but I'm willing to give the author artistic leeway and I felt it served the story well overall. This is an entirely imaginative and immensely compelling story that really shouldn't be missed. Remember, this is only the first part. I would unequivocally encourage everyone to read the entire series as I have. I was swept away, while spending a great deal of time on the edge of my seat! Dazzling!

NOTE: This book was provided by JMS Books for the purpose of a review on Rainbow Book Reviews.