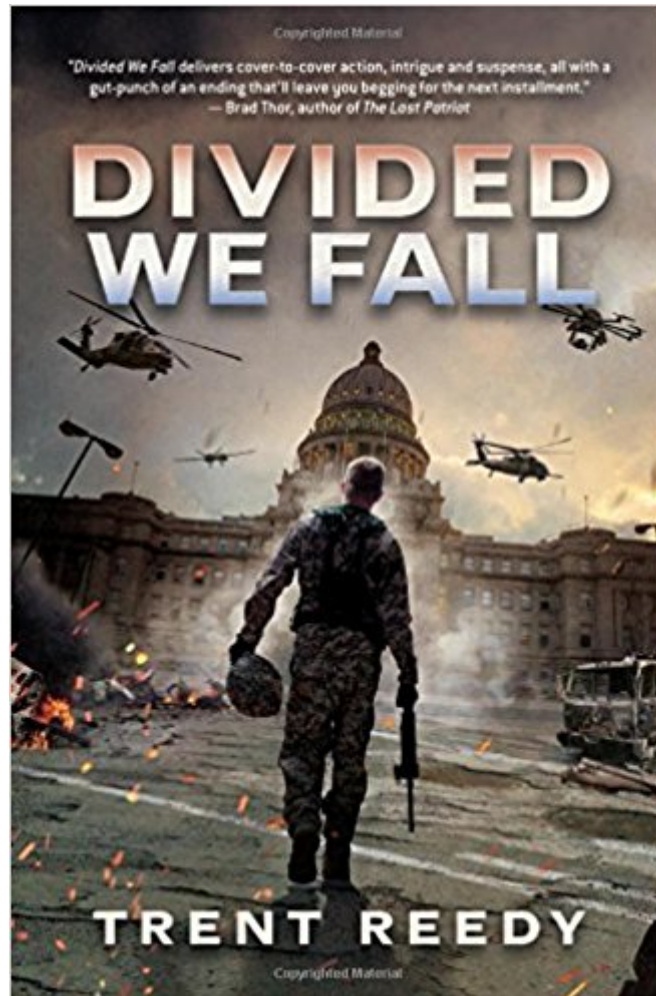




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Divided We Fall (Divided We Fall, Book 1)



Synopsis

Danny Wright never thought he'd be the man to bring down the United States of America. In fact, he enlisted in the Idaho National Guard because he wanted to serve his country the way his father did. When the Guard is called up on the governor's orders to police a protest in Boise, it seems like a routine crowd-control mission ... but then Danny's gun misfires, spooking the other soldiers and the already fractious crowd, and by the time the smoke clears, twelve people are dead. The president wants the soldiers arrested. The governor swears to protect them. And as tensions build on both sides, the conflict slowly escalates toward the unthinkable: a second American civil war. With political questions that are popular in American culture yet rare in YA fiction, and a provocative plot that asks what happens when the states are no longer united, *Divided We Fall* is Trent Reedy's very timely YA debut.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Gr 8 Up — Popular high school football player Daniel Wright loves his country, so the moment he turns 17, he joins the Idaho division of the Army National Guard. Daniel is looking forward to a bright future in Freedom Lake with his girlfriend JoBell at his side; he hopes to earn enough money from the Guard to help pay for auto tech classes and eventually purchase full ownership in his deceased father's garage. When his company is mobilized and sent to Boise to help maintain the peace between protestors and proponents of the Federal ID Card Act, Daniel never imagines that people would die, that he would be the cause of their deaths, or that his future—and the future of the

United States-would forever be altered. Author Reedy's first book in a planned trilogy is an action-packed look at what could happen in an America where state and federal governments are at odds with each other. Set in a not-too-distant future, the book mixes patriotism with incredible realism, creating an all-too-possible pre-dystopia. Using the enactment of a controversial law as the catalyst, Reedy effectively places the audience in Daniel's shoes as he struggles with his feelings and actions in the aftermath of the riot, and it is this first-person perspective that will resonate with readers long after the thrilling final pages. Strong characters, a fast-paced narrative, and complex questions about what it means to be an American make Reedy's speculative novel a must-read. —Audrey Sumser, Cuyahoga County Public Library, Mayfield, OH --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Here's a unique premise that could become disturbing real. Danny Wright, 17, signed up for the Idaho National Guard, in part because his father died in the war. He has completed summer training, and until he graduates, his commitment will be minimal. Then the governor of Idaho gets into a squabble about sovereign rights with the president. Danny's unit is called up to quell a riot in Boise; when a rock hits him, he accidentally shoots a protester. Now, all hell breaks loose. As each side's position hardens, Danny is caught in the middle, wanted by the feds, and protected by the state. As the situation spirals out of control, Danny's choices become narrow and inevitable. Novelist Reedy adds length, if not always substance, as Danny tries to keep life normal with football, rodeo, and his devoted girlfriend. But Reedy does a very good job of presenting all sides' opinions, especially through the tweets and news reports that end chapters. This has the dual advantage of giving readers an action-filled story that will also make them think. The dramatic ending promises more. Grades 8-12. --Ilene Cooper --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I bought this book after seeing it in a high school library. It looked interesting so I picked it up since it was cheap to buy the Kindle book and audio copy together. I did enjoy the book, but I thought it didn't really fit well into the YA category into which it had been shoehorned. It's told from the POV of a teenager, but it has a lot of violence, profanity and references to sexual activity. Now, I don't doubt for a minute that this is realistic....I have a teenage son, I know what his life is like. But it seems as if this would make it unsuitable for the YA heading, while the age of the protagonists would make it unlikely that adults would be attracted to the title. And that's a shame because it is a very well written tale. I don't think the political and military aspects are necessarily very likely or realistic, but they are

certainly more plausible than most dystopian civil war novels. The characters are fairly well drawn, though a couple of the supporting cast are less deep than the others, and I generally wasn't taken out of the story at any point by their actions. All in all, a satisfying novel that sets up well for the rest of the series.

"Divided We Fall" tells a gripping story of the state of Idaho and the US government in an escalating and tense situation when two legitimate forms of government contradict each other. The author draws from previous National Guard and high school teaching experience to tell a surreal story that keeps you on edge. I highly highly recommend purchasing the audio book, as the narration, sound effects, and music all contribute to experiencing a powerful plot. The end leaves you eager to start the second book immediately after you finish the first.

I have no idea how I truly feel about this book. It hooked me at first than lost me in the middle than literally hooked me the last 3 pages. It sure if I have the drive to read the 2nd but kind of feel like it will be incomplete if I don't. Ugh!

I am not a teen boy, but I found this story very gripping and believable. It is set in a very near future, and the details of our media-obsessed world are very well rendered. The author doesn't choose sides, but makes the main character's ambivalence, as a very new member of the national guard, between his loyalty to his state and governor and his loyalty to the nation and the president very palpable. I look forward to the sequels.

With DIVIDED WE FALL, author Trent Reedy has the makings of a classic apocalyptic-genre trilogy for the ages. With a scene right out of 1970 Kent State - but bolstered by today's 24/7 news cycle & the varied professional protest groups en vogue today - young Danny Wright, a 17-yr-old Idaho National Guardsman finds himself at the center of a conflict, growing disproportionately every day, to rival that of the events of early 1861. Not certain of just what happened in what's being called "The Battle of Boise", young Danny nonetheless feels responsible for all the turmoil roiling around him & the outcry over the incident itself. It's only through the solid foundation & trust of his tight-knit group of friends that he's able to cope at all, because keeping it all inside him is tearing him apart. And that, along with the support of Idaho's governor, makes the situation bearable, if only just. Until things begin to spiral out of control nationwide, finding Danny once again at the center of it all. Author Trent Reedy has written the beginnings of a cult classic. A 'Red Dawn' in the homeland. But

there's no foreign aggressor. With young Danny Wright the protagonist, and his tight-knit group of high school friends as an excellent supporting cast. DIVIDED WE FALL will keep you on the edge of your seat, biting your lip, and up late reading . . . "just one more chapter." I wasn't even halfway through this first book of the trilogy when I bought the second & third installments. And I can't wait to get started on Book 2.

This book is an extremely gripping and a very good book. The scary thing of all of the events in this book is the fact that this could happen in real life, read it and see what I mean

I was hesitant to buy this book after reading some of the reviews, but read through it in one day... engrossed in the most unusual post-apocalyptic yarn I've read to date. No retired special forces officers, no preppers, and thank God no zombies or mutant viruses! Just a small group of believable teenagers who are thrown into the maelstrom of an American Armageddon... all told through the eyes and voice of a frightened 17 year old boy who is forced to grow up all too fast. I am buying the second book as soon as I hit "submit". PS - I am a 66 yo retired military officer and know what it's like to grow up that fast, it's often painful and emotionally difficult, and the author has captured this angst rather well.

Happy with my purchase

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