



Atlantic Island: The Event / The Leadership / The War

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For once, seventeen year old Theo Essex thought he could put aside his worries and just enjoy himself. A summer weekend at the shore. An evening with his friends. A beautiful girl in his arms. That was before the Event. Now Theo finds himself stranded in a strange new world, surrounded by death and the sea, and trapped between rival forces determined to take control of survivors like him. Facing overwhelming odds, Theo must search for the strength to escape Atlantic Island.

Atlantic Island: The Event / The Leadership / The War Details

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Kimberly C. Winslow says

Apocalyptic with a twist!

Engrossing trip into a familiar place plucked out and put into the unknown. Very imaginative with its storyline. Shows how quickly things can go badly when an evil person puts themselves in power and uses fear to intimidate and control others into following along.

Good use of young characters and showing they believe strongly and are more willing to act - on both sides! Enjoyed and look forward to the next book.

Ivory M says

When we first meet Theo, he is undecided and unsatisfied with his life. He has stopped enjoying going along with the flow and was looking for purpose. Strangely enough, Theo begins to find his purpose after the weird earthquake thing happens that leaves him and other survivors on an island. As devastated as everyone is by the displacement, they find themselves continuing with life under the guidance of the Mayor Sam Lucas and the Deputy Mayor Tiberius. It begins to follow a pattern of what I would expect if something like this would happen with protesters to the reorganization. I did think the alternative universe was a good twist because it offered hope and hopelessness all in one go.

Theo as the main character was well-developed but mainly because the story is being told from his point of view. The other characters are developed but do not show the complexity seen within Theo. Kylee is amazingly strong and has a good mind for tactical warfare. Ryan is the science nerd and Bill the fighter for the underdog. I think the story was well paced and although predictable in some aspects still had enough of a original story line to keep my interest. I would recommend this to anyone who loves science fiction with a touch of post-apocalyptic although I will caution it is a little long.

Jerry says

If you are a teen then this one is for you

If you are a teen the. This one is for you. You may like it you probably won't...not nearly as good as hunger games or something of that nature

Red says

I love a good book!! And (spoiler) there are NO ZOMBIES in this book! LOL. I get so tired of reading about zombies even though I love them. This was a good book from start to finish. I wondered a little at the beginning about whether this was going to be a teen romance or something mild like that, but it turned out to

be pretty exciting. The young people grew into amazing responsible young men and women. The book was pleasantly exciting...not the kind of exciting you have when battling zombies...but a pleasant and tense, maybe this could happen, kind of exciting. I'm always disappointed when I get to the end of a new book and find that it's a series...even though I dearly love all the series that I am reading because of this. The way the book ended was a complete ending (compared to some of the series books that I have read that drop you off in the middle of an exciting event, with no apparent conclusions). I felt that I could stop reading and be satisfied or I could read the next book. I'll be reading the next book for sure!!

Elizabeth Prata says

I've read book 1 and I'm halfway through book 2. The first few pages seemed to be yet another superficial, shallowly written modern novel with no depth, character development, or substance. It was the lure of the disaster and dystopian society that kept me going. But that notion only lasted a few pages and *very* quickly the story got rolling and before I knew it, I'd finished book 1! I'm devouring book 2.

The character development is excellent. Even though the main characters are a gaggle of teens, one can distinguish among them because of the development of their characters and the writing. The story is interesting beyond description. One day beach-going vacationing youths and general populace experience an "event" that severs their barrier island from the rest of the barrier islands to their north and south, and the rest of the world disappears under water. It appears that the 12,000 people left on the remaining surviving island are all there are in the world. The early chapters are focused on survival and aftermath, and reconstructing a civilized society, which is interesting how they do it.

But then an evil totalitarian-leaning leader takes over in a coup and things darken.

It's a YA book but I like it for an easy summer read. No gore so far and only minimal profanity (spoken under duress, the world disappeared, after all.) I'm looking forward to the next book.

UPDATE- it held my attention to the end, which ramped up in action but held true to suspension of disbelief, AND had a nice twist I didn't see comin'!

I'm reading Kindle edition. The "dates read" refer to Book 1, "The Event".

David Rose says

This is an intriguing book and concept, quite well executed, and a gripping YA-SF adventure story. It starts off ordinarily enough with a group of American teenagers, but their situation becomes increasingly tense following the Event. The central characters are well and sympathetically drawn, with the possible exception of the enemy in chief - but I suspect that there may be good reason for this. The story development does not quite mesh perfectly with the characters, but I still had to know what happened, and the pages just kept turning. The ending is excellent. In short, I would rate the book from 3 stars to 5 stars for various elements, so I have settled on four.

Loopy says

Oh dear, if I wrote a story, this is probably how it would read which is why I'm not an author.

I can say one positive thing, unlike a lot of books where a calamity is key to the story, in this one you didn't have to wait long for it to happen.

yep, I'm done

Logan Snyder says

The story opens on a rite of passage known to generations of redblooded American males: the summer roadtrip. Theo and his friends are off to Atlantic City with nothing more on their minds than a well deserved getaway filled with sand and surf. Oh, and girls. Definitely girls. Enter Kylee and her friends, also headed for the Jersey Shore. With thoughts of summer flings dancing in their heads, the boys and girls soon find themselves pairing off as they travel together.

Everything is going great at first. The weather is beautiful, the water is fine, and everyone is getting along swimmingly. That is, until a bizarre phenomenon shatters the peace and tranquility of the Shore, reshaping its very geography in the process. The Event changes everything about life on what comes to be known as Atlantic Island — including, most subtly, the balance of power. Slowly but surely, in the absence of any authority greater than themselves, the former municipal government takes increasingly drastic measures to maintain order. Theo, Kylee, and their friends witness these changes firsthand. With each new edict they're drawn deeper and deeper into the coming struggle to shape the future of Atlantic Island. Will it be a totalitarian police-state, or a beacon of freedom and civility?

Atlantic Island is a fast-paced, action-packed adventure about the bonds of friendship and the importance of standing together under even the most extreme and unpredictable circumstances. As there is a good deal of violence, I'd recommend this book for teenagers and up.

Lea's *~*Book Nook*~* says

DNF

MK says

Liked book 1, not as much book 2, or the start of book 3, but after the arena fights, it got good!

Judy Mcadam says

Sci-fi? Sheesh

Not very realistic. Young boys overthrowing a government on another planet? Not supposed to be a sci fi as far as I knew. Boring people too.

Eamon Ambrose says

The story is fast-paced and thankfully Shernoff wastes no time allowing the characters to be thrust into their impossible situation before developing them, and it's interesting to see how they initially adapt to their circumstances, given their age. To some extent we don't really need to know what they were like before The Event (as the incident is referred to) as they now have a clean slate and just need to concentrate on survival but as in most disaster situations, not everyone makes the best use of this opportunity.

Once the power struggle escalates on the island, Theo finds himself the unwilling leader of his group and much of the story is focused on both his struggle to accept his role and his determination to embrace it once he does accept it.

There are definite coming-of-age elements to the story but instead of a bunch of whiny Glee teenagers we get a pretty grounded bunch making the best of their situation (and not singing about it every five minutes!) and as the events unfold to the riveting conclusion we see the bonds of their initial friendship strain through some pretty scary events and some canny plot twists nicely topped off with a sweet cliffhanger leaving the reader both shocked and curious for more.

Overall it's a gripping story and while it's easy to spot the influences it defiantly stands on it's own two feet as an action-packed and entertaining addition to the Y.A. genre.

Kathy Volkmer says

Excellent read

Very very good. Totally believable. Can not wait until I get to read the next book in this good series.

Bonnie says

This is one of those books I could not put down. Some people found themselves in an alternate reality. Some teenagers did a great job in the new location and some were not so great. The ending was a surprise.
