

Nu Haven: The First Fight

Raiza Denise , Brandon Hopkins (Illustrations)

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Nu Haven is a gripping reality show that airs twenty four hours, seven days a week. The program broadcasts the lives of teenage orphans with superhuman powers. Adah Trevino is the star of the show, but she has no idea the whole world is watching her. She believes she's the survivor of a nuclear apocalypse.

Will Harrison tunes in on a daily basis. Like millions of other males around the country, he is head-over-heels for the gorgeous star, but his attachment to Adah goes far beyond superficial attraction. The two have a past that links them together, which leads Will to suspect Adah's life is in real danger. He is determined to do whatever it takes to set her free, even if it means putting his own life at risk.

Nu Haven: The First Fight Details

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From Reader Review Nu Haven: The First Fight for online ebook

Sarah-Jayne Briggs says

(I received this book for free as part of Goodreads First Reads giveaways).

(This review may contain spoilers).

The plot of this book reminded me quite heavily of the Truman Show. I haven't seen it in a while, but I remembered that I liked it quite a lot.

I liked this book, too, though in a different way. Reality television has become a pretty major thing - Big Brother and Shipwrecked are two examples that spring to mind. It's not much of a stretch that producers would trick a whole group of young people that they were the only survivors of a nuclear war. Or even to do experiments on them without their knowledge or permission.

The characters in the book were pretty interesting and quite well-rounded. Even Adah wasn't all-powerful and it was nice to see that she couldn't beat everyone in everything.

I did a get a bit thrown with the two different first person POVs, though it was easy to tell whose head I was in after a while. I did notice a few errors in the writing - there were a couple of awkward-sounding sentences and a couple of occasions where the wrong word was used. The writing was mostly really good, though, and I was able to picture a lot of the events happening in my mind. I did notice a few times where events were summarised over, though.

I did believe in Will and Adah's growing relationship and it was sweet how Will shared his memories with Adah to help her see the images of her past. But the book ended on a cliffhanger and I do really want to read the next book in the series to find out what's going to happen.

Tammy K. says

All dystopian stories call upon the reader to analyze the morals within the story, and to consider the similarities of the stories world verses that of our own. Yet rather than telling you how this book is similar to other dystopian novels, I am going to share with you the unique aspects of this story.

The games are played not for the pride of a people or a district but because a morally corrupt television producer and his equally corrupt audience sought out entertainment at the expense of orphans. This aspect reminds me of so many of today's "reality" television shows that play upon the vulnerable, the hopeful, the desperate, asking audience members to cast a vote for the fate of these pleading souls.

The plot is expanded with an innocent teen love that's complicated by a clouded past and a divided heart. I found the characters to be rich with originality and complexity.

The superpowers (and the way they were obtained) are new to this genre. I feel that they added to the progression of the plot and the characters uniqueness.

And yet, I struggled with several "logic flaws" with the story, all having to do with the main characters knowledge and acceptance of things without having had them explained to her during her time of memory loss. These were major hiccups for me, causing me to break with the rhythm of the story as I kept going back and arguing with myself over the integrity of the scene.

Overall though this is a good read. I give it 4 stars.

I recommend this book to readers of the young adult, dystopian and romance genres.

McKenna says

It's cool when you start a book unsure of how it will go, or if you will like it, and then end up becoming engrossed with it because of the way it grows on you.. This book was a grow-on-you book:) The way Raiza Denise chose to go about developing the story was soo good at maintaining my interest. I loved the way things were connected and how the sequence of events wasn't obvious - I was genuinely suprised by turns in the story! I really like when I can't predict every single event in advance. At first I wasn't sure how to take the romance that was growing in the story either - or the way it grows, more like - but it was so much more fun and unique, I like relationships that have more substance and that take a good amount of time. I had the case of "I want this to be my life" syndrome:) Can't wait for the sequel!!! COME FAST!!:)

Rebecca McNutt says

Interesting idea for a book, and different from the usual dystopian things although I think the characters could've been developed more.

Lidia says

This was a fun read. Sort of like Truman Show meets the Hunger Games... But with the best of both worlds instead. Looking for a quick weekend or vacation read... Download Nu Haven. Has a little bit of everything and while there may seem to be some, it's not heavy with the YA cliches. Give it a shot! Love supporting independent writers! Can't wait for the next book in the series!!

E.B. Hood says

When I read the description I loved the idea of a reality show were the contestants were mutants. They had been put on this Island, Nu Haven and raised there since they were young. The children were genetically modify to have superpowers; at the same time they were secretly being filmed for a reality show.

The story is well written and the leading characters are great. The book takes off fast and I read through three quarters of the book in two days. The end of the book was a little rocky as she sets it up for two more books. Still I am giving this five stars so you know I loved it.

Side note, the author does something I haven't seen before. I don't know if it is original or not. Most books that are written in a first person point of view, stay with the lead character; that way the reader may become one with the character and live out there adventure. She writes this book from two different lead characters first point of view. And to top it off, at the end of the book they are together in the same sense. I found it to be a little distorting to be on both sides of the relationship. I will be interested to see how that plays out in the next two books. I highly recommend this book for any age.