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The Agitator: A Novella (Emancipation Warriors)



Synopsis

Sheâ™s Been Imprisoned. Tortured. Reconditioned. But Sheâ™s Never Forgotten the Truth. Eighteen-year-old Sunshine Hemmerly has completed her training at the Great Plains Academy for Children and Young Adultsâ”training intended to brainwash her and make her fit into the corrupt society of the United Regions of North America. But Sunshine has never forgotten the lessons from her rebel parents. Faith. Hope. Truth. And the determination to never, ever stop fighting for freedom. Once released, her laser-like focus is to find the Emancipation Warriors and join them in their quest to overthrow the government of the United Regions of North America. But to do that, Sunshine will have to be more cunning than she thought possible, stretch her abilities to beyond the breaking point, and face a choice that will force her to leave every moment of her old life behind. The Agitator is the throat-clenching companion novella to Marissa Shrockâ™s critically acclaimed novel, The Liberation.

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Customer Reviews

Set in a future time period where Christianity is outlawed, this fast-paced adventure written for

young people was an enjoyable read for me, a middle-aged female. It's not very long, apparently a set up for the series, but it's a complete story in itself (with a few loose ends to hook you into the next book!) The government is trying to eliminate Christians, whom they refer to as "rebels," and the true Bible has been replaced by a watered-down, government-approved version. The protagonist, Sunshine, is forced to work writing social media comments meant to sway public opinion. She's torn between a job that offers her prestige and financial perks and staying true to what her parents taught her. The story is not overtly preachy - it only makes brief references to Sunshine praying, but the point is clear. There's some humor, and the minor romantic interest takes a back seat to the story. There are enough surprise twists to keep the story fresh, but not enough to confuse the reader. I was given a free copy of this book in exchange for an honest review, but I liked it enough that I already bought the other book in the series without any incentives. I recommend it.

In this prequel to her Emancipation Warrior series, Marissa Shrock introduces us to one of the significant characters in the series, Agatha Sparks. When we meet Agatha in this novella, she is still using her real name, Sunshine Hemmerly. Sunshine lives in a dystopian world following the collapse of the world's economy and the deterioration of nations and society. Government, society and the economy are now controlled by the elites who permit no dissent. Religion is banned except for a government-authorized edition of the Bible. A small group known as the Emancipation Warriors fights back. Sunshine's parents were sent to prison for practicing a banned religion and supporting the warriors. She and her younger brother were sent to a reeducation academy to wash out any remnants of their parents' rebelliousness. The story opens when Sunshine turns 18 and ages out of the academy, leaving her brother behind. She is given a job as an agitator where, using multiple false profiles, she monitors the web to counter wrong opinions, to stimulate public outrage against the Warriors and to reinforce the government's agenda and spin on events. She wants to know what happened to her parents and to find a man named Jethro who visited them in the days before their arrest. She soon draws government scrutiny and the interest of the Warriors. She is put through loyalty tests and quickly faces the dilemma of who to trust. She is framed by the government for murdering her boss and is rescued by the Warriors and meets Jethro. She needs Jethro to get her brother out of the academy. Otherwise, the government will hold him over her head to keep her compliant. She is asked by the Warriors to help plant a computer virus that will destroy vital government programs. Now she faces tough, tough choices. Will she join the warrior cause? If she joins, what dangers will her brother face? What will be her fate if she doesn't? She is already facing execution for murder. The author does a great job of

establishing the world of her story and of creating a heroine who is vulnerable under her bravery. Sunshine is someone we can identify with a root for. Tension, suspense and mystery are on every page as everybody seems to have a secret agenda and Sunshine has to figure out who's on which side, and who can she trust. The Agitator is an excellent introduction to the larger series and I highly recommend it. I was given a free copy of the story in exchange for an open and honest review.

Sunshine Hemmerly has gone through it all—imprisonment, torture, and starvation. All to be reconditioned by the United Regions of North America. Did it work? No. She held steadfast to the faith of her childhood. Now on her eighteenth birthday it was time to leave the Great Plains Academy for Children and step out into the real world. However, she was leaving a piece of her behind—her brother. They were taken captive by the government when their parents were imprisoned. Now, Sunshine vows to find them and the Emancipation Warriors—a rebel faction trying to fight the dystopian world. Can she do it without tipping off the government and putting her brother in danger? She lands a job as an agitator within the enemy camp where she has to use different personas to comment on rebel social media sites and articles, reinforcing the government's agenda and stirring up the pot. She's soon thrust into a world of secrets, loyalty tests, and even murder. Who can she trust? How can she keep her brother safe? Will she fall prey to the lies and deceit of the government? The Agitator is a delightful novella that sets up Marissa Shrock's Emancipation Warrior series nicely. It takes us inside one of the main character's world—Agatha Sparks (aka Sunshine Hemmerly). It reveals what Agatha went through to take us to where we see her in the book, The Liberation. Ms. Shrock does an excellent job of setting up her characters. They're well rounded with good and not-so-good traits. The plot keeps the reader turning the pages and she throws in some nice twists. Her use of sensory details is effective and puts the reader right where they should be—right in the pages of the book. I give The Agitator five stars. It's one rebel cause you'll want to jump on board with! **I received a complimentary e-copy of this book from the author in exchange for my honest review.

It is refreshing to dive into young adult science fiction that promotes trust, loyalty, and perseverance. Amidst lies and intrigue, Sunshine is a determined heroine worth cheering for! I received a free copy of The Agitator in exchange for an honest review.

This book sucked me in! The characters are real & the plot moves fast. I really couldn't put it down. Sunshine/Agatha is a great role model for anyone who want to live boldly & risk it all for their Faith!

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