



Name _____

Date _____

A Night Divided

by Jennifer A. Nielsen

Here is a little background information about our First Chapter Friday title and its creator. Feel free to add your own notes and thoughts in the bottom box.



Read Aloud Video

What's It About?

A With the rise of the Berlin Wall, Gerta finds her family suddenly divided. She, her mother, and her brother Fritz live on the eastern side, controlled by the Soviets. Her father and middle brother, who had gone west in search of work, cannot return home. Gerta knows it is dangerous to watch the wall, yet she can't help herself. She sees the East German soldiers with their guns trained on their own citizens; she, her family, her neighbors and friends are prisoners in their own city. But one day on her way to school, Gerta spots her father on a viewing platform on the western side, pantomiming a peculiar dance. Gerta concludes that her father wants her and Fritz to tunnel beneath the wall, out of East Berlin. However, if they are caught, the consequences will be deadly. No one can be trusted. Will Gerta and her family find their way to freedom?

Who Wrote It?

For as far back as Jennifer can remember, she has shared her brain with imaginary characters. She figures it's okay if she talks to them as she's working on her stories, as long as they don't start talking back. Jennifer began writing in elementary school, writing in spiral notebooks or plucking out keys on an electric typewriter (yep, she's that old). Jennifer has won multiple awards including the Sydney Taylor Notable Book Award (RESISTANCE, 2019), multiple Whitney Awards, and several state book awards. Jennifer's favorite food is Pho and she loves watching movies. Her favorite is The



Lord of the Rings. You can learn more about Jennifer by visiting her website: <https://jennielsen.com/> or watching the interview at the end of this video.

AR Reading Level: 5.4

Lexile Level: 810L

I want to read this book: YES / NO



WHAT I THINK



