



Dark Life: Book 1

By Kat Falls

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Dark Life: Book 1 By Kat Falls

Dive deep into the vivid underwater world of Dark Life!

The oceans rose, swallowing the lowlands. Earthquakes shattered the continents, toppling entire regions into the rising water. Now, humans live packed into stack cities. The only ones with any space of their own are those who live on the ocean floor: the Dark Life.

Ty has spent his whole life living deep undersea. When outlaws attack his homestead, he finds himself in a fight to save the only home he has ever known. Joined by Gemma, a girl from Topside, Ty ventures into the frontier's rough underworld and discovers some dark secrets to Dark Life. Secrets that threaten to destroy everything.

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 6-10—The wild frontier meets Jacques Cousteau in this futuristic novel (Scholastic, 2010) by Kat Falls. Global warming has done its job and the oceans have risen. The coasts lie beneath hundreds of feet of water and people living topside are crammed into stacked housing developments, fighting for inches of space. Ty and his family have all the space they want. They have chosen to homestead the ocean floor—in the Dark Life. Gemma is a topsider who has come to the deep-sea colony looking for her brother and hoping to escape being placed in an orphanage. Ty and Gemma team up to help each other when outlaws begin attacking the ocean settlements. Ty calls upon his dark gift—the ability to communicate with sonar—to rescue his community and Gemma. Narrator Keith Nobbs distinguishes the characters well, and his quick pacing will appeal to listeners. Action, suspense, romance, and a few surprises make this a good choice for middle school boys.—Tricia Melgaard, Centennial Middle School, Broken Arrow, OK (c) Copyright 2010. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

From [Booklist](#)

Sixteen-year-old Ty, first child born to the pioneers who live in the depths of the ocean, has little patience for topsiders (land dwellers) until he meets feisty Gemma, who immediately enlists his help to locate her missing older brother. Their search is interrupted by pirate attacks of the notorious Seablite Gang and an ultimatum from the Commonwealth Government (located topside) that makes the pioneers responsible for stopping the raids. Ty and Gemma uncover connections between the pirates, illicit medical experiments, and Gemma's missing sibling, who happens to have secret supernatural gifts—like Ty. Although set in an undersea future, this rousing adventure has all the hallmarks of a western, including outlaws, homesteaders, and plenty of shoot-'em-up action (only with harpoonlike weapons). Good guys and bad guys are fairly obvious, as is the outcome, but the exotic setting and well-conceived details about undersea living, along with likable characters and a minor surprise at the end, will keep readers turning the pages. Try this with the ecofiction of David Klass. Grades 6-9. --Cindy Welch

Review

"[T]here's no denying the nifty premise, solid characterization, and tense moments that contribute to a cinematic reading experience. Falls's undersea world warrants further exploration." -- *Publishers Weekly*

"Falls creates an interesting reality in her new novel. . . . Based on the young ages of the characters, this book will appeal to middle grade readers, who will enjoy the novel's mystery and suspense. It is a definite must-read for SF fans." -- *Voice of Youth Advocates*

"A Western . . . with plankton instead of cows, harpoons instead of six-shooters and submarines instead of covered wagons . . . and a few plot twists keep the tension high. A thrilling conversion of the classics to one of our newer frontiers." -- *Kirkus Reviews*

"[T]he exotic setting and well-conceived details about undersea living, along with likable characters and a minor surprise at the end, will keep readers turning the pages." -- *Booklist*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Jack Lau:

This Dark Life: Book 1 book is simply not ordinary book, you have after that it the world is in your hands. The benefit you obtain by reading this book is usually information inside this reserve incredible fresh, you will get facts which is getting deeper you read a lot of information you will get. This specific Dark Life: Book 1 without we realize teach the one who reading it become critical in considering and analyzing. Don't possibly be worry Dark Life: Book 1 can bring once you are and not make your case space or bookshelves' turn into full because you can have it in the lovely laptop even cellphone. This Dark Life: Book 1 having great arrangement in word and layout, so you will not experience uninterested in reading.

Carmel Smith:

Within this era which is the greater particular person or who has ability to do something more are more valuable than other. Do you want to become one of it? It is just simple way to have that. What you need to do is just spending your time very little but quite enough to experience a look at some books. One of many books in the top collection in your reading list is Dark Life: Book 1. This book which can be qualified as The Hungry Hillside can get you closer in becoming precious person. By looking up and review this book you can get many advantages.

Sunny Weaver:

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