



# Carmine

*Alan Janney*

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**Carmine** Alan Janney

She wakes as society crumbles

She wakes up with no memory

She wakes up a queen

The girl once known as Katie Lopez wakes up in an abandoned Wal-Mart with no memory, possessing only the vague sense that something has happened. Where is her family? Where is her boyfriend? She has a faint recollection of him, a ghost of a memory. The world, she discovers, is staggering from the weight of rampaging mutants, victims of a bizarre surgery gone wrong. Once intended to bring about a utopia, now the victims threaten societal meltdown. Much to her surprise, the girl with no memory discovers she is their queen.

Due in late 2016.

## Carmine Details

Date : Published by Sparkle Press

ISBN :

Author : Alan Janney

Format : Paperback

Genre : Science Fiction, Dystopia, Fantasy, Paranormal, Romance

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## From Reader Review Carmine for online ebook

**E.A. says**

*( I received this book free form the author in exchange for my honest review )*

**My Rating:** 3 1/2 Stars

This book reminded me so much of Resident Evil, well the second movie. As someone who grew up on the games, and have watch all the movies, it wasn't hard for me to make that instance connection. Was this a good thing? Well i'm up in the air about it. I guess when I made that connection I started comparing, so this made me have to put the book down so I could refresh my mind and get back to this story and the difference elements it presented.

This story did start with a bang, fast pace, mysterious and down right awesome. Carmine has to adapt and overcome, she has no memories and the world she remembers has gone literally to hell. I was drawn in and I couldn't stop, but, there were some things that didn't make sense to me. One is a major spoiler so I won't say it, only that it came out of no where and I just can't seem to figure out why.

It's at that turn that the story goes from high seep to, slow going, lazy like. It was, weird, this was a first for me, I'm not use to reading a story where the flow goes from 60 to 10. I lost some interest in reading and that's why this story gets a 3 1/2 star and not the 4.

I have to say, despite the weird pacing, I do recommend this book. I enjoyed this read, and I'm looking forwards to the next book, I'm hoping some of my confusion and unanswered questions will be touch up on and explored.

Happy Reading

-E.A. Walsh

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**Domoni says**

She wakes up alone, naked, and with no real memory inside a Walmart. She knows her world has changed. She knows she is a variant. Kidnapped and experimented on, she is stronger than a human. The other changed beings flock to her. She is only 18, but she is strong and they need a leader. She doesn't remember being Katie Lopez. But she will be Carmine and she will protect them. America is divided. The humans fear the variants, they are hunting them. Some of the strongest infected ones want to use their abilities to rule the country. Carmine just wants peace, for variants and humans alike. Her kingdom of New Los Angeles will be a land where those who work, will eat. Those who follow the rules, will be protected.

I really enjoyed this story. The way it was written was unique and captivating. From the first paragraph to the end, I was pulled through the story and didn't want to put it down. Carmine is a great character. She has depth and complexities. Her personality and conflict make her more interesting. Watching her battle who she is and what she was created to be while grappling with a past she does not fully remember gave me a deeper connection to her story.

The variants have a strange need to be lead and bond closely with the strong person in charge. Carmine has amassed a large following and given them a purpose outside of the destructive force they were created to be. This makes her a target of the other strong changed ones. She has many enemies and allies she did not want. One of those allies is The Outlaw Chase Jackson, who just happens to be Katie Lopez's boyfriend. Though Carmine does not remember him, the pieces of Katie that survive in her crave him. His undying devotion to Katie also makes him hard for Carmine to resist. He is stronger than her in his abilities and this evokes the inner warrior drive in the variants who follow Carmine, which can be a problem. It is hard to decide how you feel about someone when all of your people want to kill him, and you kind of do too.

All of the characters are well developed and the decaying city of Los Angeles is crafted well. It is easy to fall into the world created by the author and embrace the battle for basic rights. This book is an easy to read stand alone story that has captured my attention enough that I will be purchasing and reading all of the Outcast series and learning more about The Outlaw and this world he lives in.

I received an ARC copy of this book to review.

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### **Sarai Henderson says**

I was given a copy of this book for an honest review:

This book started off with a bang. The main character, Carmine, wakes up in a Walmart without any memories. She learns about an infection and super human people and these people seem to be drawn to her. After gathering a small group, Carmine decides to go to LA to take over another group of super humans, don't ask me why, it just all of a sudden happens. The whole middle of the book seemed to fly by without a lot of excitement or extra content to keep me interested. It seemed like every chapter there were way more super humans gathering in LA, and all though they all considered Carmine their leader, not a lot of them knew who she was.

The concept and writing were good. I just wished there was more excitement throughout the story to keep me hooked. For this, I gave the book three stars, because I had hoped for more.

See more of this review at <http://www.exballerina.com>

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### **William Howe says**

#### **Not sure**

I'm not sure whether I like it or not. There aren't any gross continuity errors and the prose flows well. The plot is imaginative.

But it didn't really keep me engrossed. I didn't care enough about the characters.

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## **James Gilley says**

### **Excellent read**

I am not your typical reader of this kind of book. I happened to see The Outlaw on my Kindle and was intrigued. After finishing the series I wanted more and Carmine fit the bill. The characters are well developed the plot nicely thought out and the book is just plain fun

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## **Crazy4Books says**

I loved how this story started off with a lot of fast pace action. I was pleasantly surprised by how much I enjoyed it. Our main character Carmine wakes up genetically enhanced with no memory in a country torn a part. Shes fighting for survival while trying to rebuild her little corner of the world hoping to provide a safe haven to civil war refugees and mutants like her. Now they call her Queen Carmine. I loved reading about how they were rebuilding their own little society. The way their community functions almost felt liked paradise.

This story is a spin off from the author previous series Outlaw. In this book we meet the character Outlaw after the event of the series. I thought the Outlaw was charming bad boy with a lot of patience and determination. Since our main character doesnt remember him I didnt feel like I needed to read the other series to enjoy this story. Even though this book probably had some spoilers for the Outlaw series Id still love a chance to review it. I dont mind the spoilers because it was nice to be able to uncover what happened along with the main character.

I found the mystery aspect was compelling. Although it was frustrating that the main character didnt want to learn about her past. I loved how she felt very different from the usual protagonist. Shes bad ass and still goes to college. I thought the main characters perspective and interaction with the other mutants was fascinating but it drove me crazy when they spied on her and tried telling her she couldnt date. She can make her own freaking decisions. For the most part I liked the whole cast of characters, especially Kayla. I also thought the Cheerleader and the Shooter were intriguing.

The writing wasnt the best but the plot and characters made up for it. I think it could use a bit more editing but it wasnt anything major. I noticed some info was unnecessarily repeated but it was only at the beginning when the world is being introduced. I felt like a third of the way through my reading pace slowed down a bit even though there was plenty of action but I was probably just distracted. I also really enjoyed the references to other books Ive read and social media. The Cinder reference was awesome.

The amount of mutants the Chemist was able to make seems unrealistic. More than half of the way through and I still had no idea who the inheritors were but the mystery didnt bother me too much. The antagonists, Blue Eyes and Walter felt like a very real threats, although we dont see much of Blue Eyes. When you build paradise people are going to try to steal it from you. With the president under her spell and seeking more power, Blue Eyes sends her soldiers with specialized weapons to destroy what they've built and Walter isnt far behind.

\*Participating in the Book Tour November 11th\*

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## **Bruce says**

### **Great book!**

I enjoy this series of books. They are very engaging and the story moves quickly, you don't get bored with all of the details because the details are intriguing.

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## **Sandilawlor says**

### **Carmine**

This book is amazing and fits in well with the rest of the story. Also the twists and turns make the book addictive and hard to put down.

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## **Paula Phillips says**

The synopsis of this book interested me when I saw that the main character had awoken in a dystopian world and had no memory of who she was and why she was the way she was. Carmine started off with a punch with Carmine waking up in an abandoned store in a world which she didn't recognise and as the story goes along, we discover that she has abilities which has changed her from the girl she was before. The story then goes along, as she wanders to safety trying to make sense of it all and somehow learns that she is powerful and not like the others - the infected. This causes her to become someone that others follow and look up to and eventually as she travels and more people follow her to safety she becomes a Queen - someone for them to look up to despite her never actually wanting the title. There is a boy called "The Outlaw" who is also infected but he is different also, he has been infected since birth and we learn that Katie Lopez aka Pre-Carmine used to date him and that he is one of the causes of why she is who she is now. I found it was around this time that for me the book started to slow down in pace and I found myself just plodding along with the book. There were a few things that confused me about this book and being Book #1, I was a little disappointed as the first book should be able to answer all the questions. However, in saying that if you are the type of reader who loves those strong female characters like Katniss with the balance of good and evil like Tris Prior and the Dystopian/Futuristic worlds that these books bring us then you will enjoy Carmine by Alan Janney.

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## **Samuel says**

Well written book. Fun to read.

Interesting character development. Though I must confess I like the Chase Jackson character more.

You can't help but like Carmine and can't help being a little annoyed with her as well. Teenagers.....

But really well written and ties in well with the outlaw series.

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## **gavin says**

### **Gear shift**

Dry opening but I found it quickly interesting. Unfortunately it eventually begins to devolve from reluctant leader struggling to make a safe haven against an unjust world into girl struggling to not fall in love with her pre-amnesia\personality split crush. 47% killed my interest in continuing to read.

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## **Mike Siedschlag says**

I won a print copy of Carmine in a Goodreads Firstreads giveaway.

Carmine: The Rise Of The Warrior Queen by Alan Janney is apparently connected to The Outlaw series by Mr. Janney. This is the first book I have read from this author.

Carmine definitely makes me want to read more of Mr. Janney's work. It satisfies my craving for good apocalyptic stories. Our heroine, the aforementioned Carmine, is a genetically altered female attempting to bring order to a new kingdom in the wake of ongoing societal collapse (no spoiler; this is from the cover).

Most of the main characters are in their late teens or early twenties (made me feel a bit old), so I'm guessing this is the target audience. But unlike other books aimed at that demographic, Carmine does not necessarily make folks my age the bad guys, okay by me (big of me, huh?).

Great action. The main characters are by turns; sympathetic, frustrating, humorous, endearing, frightening, aggravating, but always well developed. although the violence is at times quite graphic, it is well balanced with moments of humor and levity. We also get romance; budding, unrequited, sometimes coerced and artificially enhanced. Not much in the way of sex, but plenty of sexual tension.

The only glaring mistake? Using the word "eluded" instead of "alluded" in a reference to Of Mice And Men.

At the end of the book Mr. Janney makes the generous offer of a free copy of Book one of The Outlaw series. Think I'm gonna go for it, Alan Janney appears to be a new author on my horizon (I can almost here some of you saying "about time!"). Carmine: The Rise Of The Warrior Queen is seriously worth your time. Enjoy!

Mike

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## **Kati says**

### **WRITING STYLE:**

This book is told in the first person from the perspective of Carmine. The amount of effort put into building

the world of New Los Angeles is what drew me in. The plot slowed in some places but I feel this was to allow room for character development, the introduction of new characters and some epic world building.

#### CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT:

The readers are reminded on many occasions that Carmine is only nineteen and in charge of a large number of people. Carmine herself states that she gets bored of strategic planning and has been designed for fighting... Carmine begins this novel waking up in an abandoned Wal-Mart with amnesia and suddenly finds herself the leader of a new created race of people and trying to find a place for them, just wanting to survive. The arc of Carmine's character was amazing to read. Carmine slowly learns how to come to grips with her new power and become the Queen others see her as.

#### THEMES:

**POWER:** Power and might play a strong role in this novel. From political power and the development of a new type of government to strength and using that strength for great good or great evil.

**POLITICS:** When building a new dystopic society in fiction politics will always play a strong role. Much of this novel was devoted to world building and developing a society that is slowly being able to support itself and its citizens.

**PASSION:** Whether it is passion for her people, passion to survive, or passion for someone that she can't seem to remember. Carmine displays this passion through the book and the outcomes of this passion on the society that has been built.

#### OVERALL THOUGHTS:

This was a book I went in not knowing what to expect. The world building of this dystopian society was amazing. I enjoyed the different personalities and new regime in New Los Angeles and found that there was something there for pretty much everyone. With action, romance, grit and angst... everyone will find something to enjoy about Carmine.

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#### **Ian Denner says**

##### **Excellent**

I really enjoyed this book and am already planning on buying the second book. About half way through the book I almost lost interest in the story but at the end I'm glad that I didn't.

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#### **Nancy (The Avid Reader) says**

Here we have a young woman who awakens in an abandoned Wal-Mart with no recollection of who she is. She has a faint feeling that she has a boyfriend but she doesn't know who he is or where he is. She has also wonders where her family is. After waking up she starts to explore Wal-Mart and decides she needs to do a little "shopping" while she is there before she sets out on her journey. While she is shopping she sees other



people there doing a little shopping of their own. It doesn't take her long to realize that these people are watching her and begin to follow her.

She wonders why all these people have decided to follow her but she decides to keep quiet about it for the time being. She soon learns that they consider her their queen. She tries telling them that she is not a queen but they don't listen. But with Carmine being the person she is with a big soft heart and someone who has always liked taking care of people and being like a mother to them just lets it go. Besides these people just need someone take charge and tell them what to do. So she does what she does best and that is to help people. So she becomes their leader and helps them to build up a new society and a new L.A.

While Carmine has a big heart and lots of people following her she still has a few enemies out in the world who want nothing more than to destroy her and take over their new home. But Carmine won't back down to anyone. She may have a soft heart but she is very strong and becoming stronger everyday with the virus running through her body. Although she is strong her enemies are stronger.

She does have a few people out there that are like her or born with the infection who is on her side and wants to help her fight her enemies but Carmine does not trust easily and has no intentions of accepting help from anyone. She can fight her own battles. War is coming. Can Carmine fight her own battles or will she end up needing help from her new friends?

I liked the world that the author has created for Carmine and her new family. I like all the character well most of them anyways but I would like to know more about Carmine and her life before. I would also like to know more about the "Outlaw" who he is and what is his story? And what about Kayla and her life/story. I would also like to see more of Kayla and a certain someone get to spend more time together. I can't wait to see what the author has in store for Carmine, the Outlaw, Kayla and all the rest of the characters. Where will they go next?

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