

# **Rites of Passage**

By Joy N. Hensley



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In this fast-paced, high-stakes debut novel, sixteen-year-old Sam McKenna discovers that becoming one of the first girls to attend a revered military academy means living with a target on her back. As Sam struggles to prove herself, she learns that a decades-old secret society is alive and active . . . and determined to force her out. Fans of Simone Elkeles and Trish Doller will love *Rites of Passage*'s perfect blend of sizzling romance and edge-of-your-seat suspense.



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## Rites of Passage By Joy N. Hensley Bibliography

Sales Rank: #367853 in Books
Published on: 2014-09-09
Released on: 2014-09-09
Original language: English

• Number of items: 1

• Dimensions: 8.25" h x 1.29" w x 5.50" l, .0 pounds

• Binding: Hardcover

• 416 pages



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### **Editorial Review**

From School Library Journal

Gr 9 Up—Sam McKenna can never turn down a dare, and before one of her older brothers committed suicide, he proposed the ultimate challenge—be one of the first females to matriculate and graduate from prestigious Denmark Military School. Her military family can do little to help her as Sam faces harassment, sexism, and outright abuse from members of an all-male secret society on campus. This group is determined that no females will remain at the academy, but they have vastly underestimated the protagonist's fortitude. Hensley's contemporary novel is not an easy read because of the graphic depictions of hazing, but this worthwhile addition to the YA realm is notable for its portrayal of a strong female in the face of adversity. For fans of Catherine Gilbert Murdock's "Dairy Queen" trilogy (Houghton Harcourt) and Trish Doller's Something Like Normal (Bloomsbury, 2012).—Amanda C. Buschmann, Atascocita Middle School, Humble, TX

From the Back Cover

Sam McKenna has never turned down a dare. And she's not going to start with the last one her brother gave her before he died.

So Sam joins the first-ever class of girls at the prestigious Denmark Military Academy. She's expecting push-ups and long runs, rope climbing and mud crawling. As a military brat, she can handle an obstacle course just as well as the boys. She's even expecting the hostility she gets from some of the cadets who don't think girls belong there. What she's not expecting is her fiery attraction to her drill sergeant. But dating is strictly forbidden and Sam won't risk her future, or the dare, on something so trivial . . . no matter how much she wants him.

As Sam struggles to prove herself, she discovers that some of the boys don't just want her gone—they won't rest until she gives up. When their petty threats turn to brutal hazing, bleeding into every corner of her life, she realizes they are not acting alone. A decades-old secret society is alive and active . . . and determined to force her out.

At any cost.

Now time's running short. Sam must decide who she can trust . . . and choosing the wrong person could have deadly consequences.

About the Author

Joy N. Hensley is a middle school writing teacher. She spends her twenty-minute lunch breaks hosting author Skype chats for her students. Once upon a time she went to a military school on a dare. She lives in Virginia with her husband and two children, finding as many ways as she can to never do another push-up again. *Rites of Passage* is her debut novel.

#### **Users Review**

From reader reviews:

#### **Linda Banks:**

Information is provisions for those to get better life, information currently can get by anyone with everywhere. The information can be a know-how or any news even a huge concern. What people must be consider any time those information which is within the former life are hard to be find than now's taking seriously which one is acceptable to believe or which one the particular resource are convinced. If you receive the unstable resource then you buy it as your main information you will have huge disadvantage for you. All of those possibilities will not happen throughout you if you take Rites of Passage as your daily resource information.

#### **Katie Cardiel:**

A lot of people always spent their very own free time to vacation or go to the outside with them friends and family or their friend. Did you know? Many a lot of people spent many people free time just watching TV, or even playing video games all day long. If you would like try to find a new activity this is look different you can read a new book. It is really fun for yourself. If you enjoy the book that you simply read you can spent the entire day to reading a e-book. The book Rites of Passage it is quite good to read. There are a lot of those who recommended this book. These were enjoying reading this book. Should you did not have enough space to deliver this book you can buy typically the e-book. You can m0ore easily to read this book from a smart phone. The price is not to cover but this book offers high quality.

## **Gary Spengler:**

People live in this new day of lifestyle always try and and must have the time or they will get great deal of stress from both day to day life and work. So, whenever we ask do people have time, we will say absolutely yes. People is human not really a robot. Then we ask again, what kind of activity have you got when the spare time coming to you actually of course your answer will certainly unlimited right. Then do you try this one, reading ebooks. It can be your alternative throughout spending your spare time, typically the book you have read is Rites of Passage.

### **Mary Perez:**

As a scholar exactly feel bored to help reading. If their teacher expected them to go to the library in order to make summary for some guide, they are complained. Just small students that has reading's spirit or real their passion. They just do what the educator want, like asked to go to the library. They go to right now there but nothing reading critically. Any students feel that reading through is not important, boring in addition to can't see colorful photographs on there. Yeah, it is to become complicated. Book is very important in your case. As we know that on this era, many ways to get whatever we wish. Likewise word says, ways to reach Chinese's country. So, this Rites of Passage can make you really feel more interested to read.

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