

TIME: 1960s

PLACE: Berlin, Germany

TIME PERIOD: The Cold War

**August 13, 1961
-and- 1965**

A Night Divided begins August 13, 1961 when Gerta first sees that the Berlin Wall to separate East and West Berlin had been erected overnight. At first the wall was just a barbed wire fence. Later it was made of concrete blocks 12 feet high and four feet wide. The book jumps forward to 1965 and Gerta says her family had been separated by the wall for four years.



The book takes place in Berlin which is the capital of Germany. Gerta, her mother, and brother Fritz live in East Berlin while her brother Dominic and father live in West Berlin.



The time period is during the Cold War. After World War II, the allied powers divided Germany into East and West. Great Britain, France, and the United States controlled West Germany and West Berlin while the Soviet Union (Russia) controlled East Germany and East Berlin. At this time there was great tension between the democratic governments of the West and the communist government of the East.