



The Book of Us A Young Adult Novel by Shane Peacock

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Ages: 13+

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The story of one teenage boy's journey of self-reflection and reckoning with his role in a complacent culture that treats women as property.

It's the summer before grade twelve, and sixteen-year-old Noah Greene is in the relationship of a lifetime with his brilliant and book-smart girlfriend, Miranda Owens. But when Miranda overhears his private conversation with another girl, what he says destroys everything they've built, shattering Noah's world.

Determined to make amends, Noah sets out to truly understand the harm his words have caused and maybe become worthy enough for Miranda in time for prom. Along the way, he's been turning his journey into a manuscript called *The Book of Us* and wants to give it to Miranda to prove to her how far he thinks he's come.

What did Noah say that upset Miranda so much? What will she say when he finally asks her out again? Has he been able to mend the harm he's caused, or are some things beyond repair?

The Author: Shane Peacock is an author, playwright, journalist and screenwriter, published in twenty languages in eighteen countries. He is a seven-time winner of the Junior Library Guild of America Selection, twice winner of the Arthur Ellis Award, and has been shortlisted for the Kirkus Book of the Year, the Governor General's Award, three times for the TD Canadian Children's Literature Award, and the Marilyn Baillie Picture Book Award. His young adult novels include the acclaimed *Boy Sherlock Holmes* series, the *Dylan Maples Adventures*, and *The Dark Missions of Edgar Brim* trilogy. He lives in Cobourg, ON with his wife, journalist Sophie Kneisel.

Reviews:

"The Book of Us captures the intensity of first love and demonstrates the positivity of a relationship based on mutual respect and honesty.... The story is told from Noah's perspective; thus, his inability to understand how his words could affect a female's reputation helps readers implicitly understand the stigma surrounding female sexuality and male sexual conquest. It also helps teens realize the importance of their words and the impact they can have on others." –Melissa Connolly, *Canadian Children's Book News*

"Because Noah is writing this for Miranda, it was in the back of my mind that Noah was now an unreliable narrator – was he really changing for himself, or was he still doing what he hoped would impress Miranda? The author, Shane Peacock, masterfully plays with this tension, allowing Noah to be aware of what he is doing and why." –Jonine Bergen, *CM: Canadian Review of Materials*



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