



Between You & Me

By Marisa Calin

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Phyre knows there is something life-changing about her new drama teacher, Mia, from the moment they meet. As Phyre rehearses for the school play, she comes to realize that the unrequited feelings she has for Mia go deeper than she's ever experienced. Especially with a teacher. Or a woman. All the while, Phyre's best friend-addressed throughout the story in the second person, as "you"-stands by, ready to help Phyre make sense of her feelings. But just as Mia doesn't understand what Phyre feels, Phyre can't fathom the depth of her best friend's feelings...until it's almost too late for a happy ending. Characters come to life through the innovative screenplay format of this dazzling debut, and unanswered questions-is "you" male or female?-will have readers talking.

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Between You & Me By Marisa Calin Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #2462604 in Books
- Brand: Bloomsbury USA Childrens
- Published on: 2012-08-07
- Released on: 2012-08-07
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.47" h x 1.00" w x 5.96" l, .78 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 256 pages

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 9 Up-Phyre wants to be an actress. As such, she is dramatic and self-involved. She is popular, but has a reputation for being cold and aloof because she never dates any boy for long. The 16-year-old has one longtime best friend, referred to, in an obvious plot device, as "You." In her theater studies class, Phyre comes under the spell of Mia, the student teacher. She becomes obsessed with the pretty young woman and lives for the time she can spend with her, oblivious to the effect it's having on her best friend. The story is told as a screenplay, and although the format fits the action, it also hinders it. Readers get no description or details beyond the most superficial. Phyre's crush ends as quickly as it begins. Much of the action is highly unlikely: Mia starts teaching the first day, there is no appearance of a supervising teacher, and many of Mia's actions would end her career before it began. The LGBTQ hook is weak; Phyre's crush on her teacher, her first on a female, seems to cause her little soul searching, and the failure to reveal the gender of "You" at the end is irritating. Although this novel is an easy read, it has little appeal for reluctant readers. Drama enthusiasts or girls questioning their sexuality may find it intriguing, but its purchase is strictly additional.-
Suanne Roush, Osceola High School, Seminole, FL(c) Copyright 2011. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

Review

Kirkus *Starred* Review, Kirkus Best Book of 2012 A girl in love with the theater tells the story of her first great love in the form of a script... Phyre falls head over heels for Mia, their charismatic new theater instructor... The direct-address/script format works beautifully for her story; her self-absorption is so extreme that she can't see what's going on with "you," but readers do, in those bits of dialogue Phyre records but does not reflect on...

This total-immersion emotional experience is one readers will both recognize and thoroughly enjoy.

Publishers Weekly

Calin's first novel, a story of romantic entanglements and self-discovery, has a few tricks up its sleeve that help it stand out from the pack. First is the pseudo-screenplay format, which has dialogue appearing between prose sections written from the first-person perspective of 16-year-old Phyre... Calin's second hook is that Phyre's closest friend is referred to only as "You."

The novel reads more like an extended monologue than a conventional screenplay, but readers will feel as if they are sitting beside Phyre on her emotional roller-coaster.

Booklist

Phyre's roller-coaster emotions carry her through her crush, the school rumor mill, and a play within this loosely screenplay-styled first novel... This is a quick read that addresses the pain and exhilaration of infatuation--with a same-sex teacher, no less; the basic need to love who you love; and the confusion and possibilities of questioning one's sexuality, without judgment or sensationalism.

About the Author

Marisa Calin was born in the U.S., grew up in Bath, England, then moved to New York City at the age of eighteen to attend the American Academy of Dramatic Arts and pursue her dreams of being an actress. She is still in hot pursuit, and when not on stage or on set uses all her spare time and training to create vivid character-driven worlds on paper.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Patrina Eaton:

Often the book *Between You & Me* has a lot of information on it. So when you make sure to read this book you can get a lot of advantage. The book was compiled by the very famous author. This articles author makes some research just before write this book. This specific book very easy to read you can find the point easily after looking over this book.

Donna Clark:

Reading can called head hangout, why? Because when you find yourself reading a book particularly book entitled *Between You & Me* the mind will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in every aspect that maybe mysterious for but surely will become your mind friends. Imaging just about every word written in a book then become one type conclusion and explanation in which maybe you never get previous to. The *Between You & Me* giving you an additional experience more than blown away your brain but also giving you useful information for your better life in this era. So now let us explain to you the relaxing pattern at this point is your body and mind will probably be pleased when you are finished reading it, like winning a. Do you want to try this extraordinary investing spare time activity?

Robert Schrader:

Are you kind of stressful person, only have 10 or even 15 minute in your day time to upgrading your mind talent or thinking skill possibly analytical thinking? Then you are experiencing problem with the book compared to can satisfy your small amount of time to read it because this all time you only find guide that need more time to be go through. *Between You & Me* can be your answer given it can be read by you who have those short extra time problems.

Mark McKinney:

What is your hobby? Have you heard that question when you got learners? We believe that that question was given by teacher to the students. Many kinds of hobby, Everybody has different hobby. And you also know that little person just like reading or as looking at become their hobby. You must know that reading is very important as well as book as to be the matter. Book is important thing to increase you knowledge, except your current teacher or lecturer. You find good news or update with regards to something by book. Different categories of books that can you decide to try be your object. One of them is *Between You & Me*.

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