



2016

The Geography of Me and You

Aylea Stephens

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Stephens, Aylea (2016) "The Geography of Me and You," *Children's Book and Media Review*: Vol. 37 : Iss. 11 , Article 35.
Available at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/cbmr/vol37/iss11/35>

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Book Review

Title: The Geography of Me and You

Author: Jennifer E. Smith

Reviewer: Aylea Stephens

Publisher: Poppy

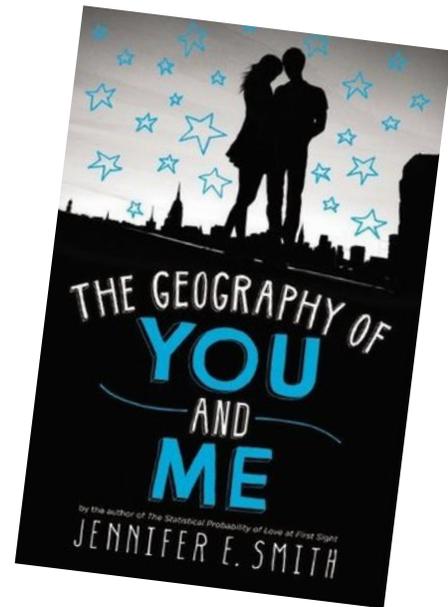
Publication Year: 2014

ISBN: 9780316254779

Number of Pages: 337

Interest Level: Young Adult

Rating: Significant Shortcomings



Review

Lucy and Owen might never have talked if the city hadn't experienced a long blackout, leaving them stuck together between the tenth and eleventh floors of their apartment building. After they are rescued, they wander the dark streets together until the power comes back on. Shortly after the blackout, Lucy moves to Edinburgh with her parents and Owen moves to the West. They both find other people they are interested in, but they still miss each other. They keep in touch with postcards and emails as they travel to different places around the world, waiting for the day when their lives will finally reunite and they will be in the same place at the same time, both emotionally and geographically.

Owen and Lucy have very little personality. They bond because they are both mostly friendless and lonely, and those character traits are the dominant ones throughout the book. It's also hard to like Lucy when all of her problems have to do with being rich and her life involves the great cities of Europe and Owen is dealing with trying to hold his family together and dealing with the death of his mother. The beginning is interesting, but the insta-love part where they meet is one of the few parts of the book that has something going on. At first the postcards coming from across the world is cute, but later on in the book it feels directionless and neither of the characters change during the course of the story. While it has some beautiful moments and is a light love story, it's aimless narrative, lack of character development, and mediocre plot will make it less appealing.