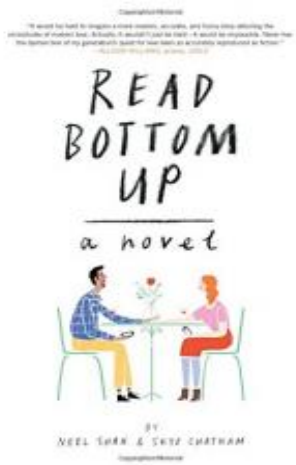
Read Bottom Up

by Neel Shah and Skye Chatham



About the Book

Madeline and Elliot meet at a New York City food event. Flirtation, online, ensues. A romance, potentially eternal, possibly doomed, begins.

And, like most things in life today, their early exchanges are very public, available to be scrutinized and interpreted by well-intentioned friends (a.k.a. amateur love doctors) who are a mere click away. Of course like all good email trails, this one reads from the bottom up.

Madeline and Elliot?s relationship unfolds through a series of thrilling, confounding and funny exchanges with each other and with their best friends. The result is a brand new kind of modern romantic comedy, both in format and in content. READ BOTTOM UP is a brilliant, fresh portrait that captures how enchanting, exciting and downright confusing falling in love 21st-century style can be.

Discussion Guide

1. How did the book?s format influence your read? Were you surprised the first time that an email was forwarded?

2. This book is a scarily realistic portrayal of dating and communication these days. Do you think having the book be written by two authors made the book even more realistic? Why or why not?

3. Did you have a favorite character among Elliot, Madeline, David or Emily? If so, why did that person resonate with you?

4. Which email/text exchange rang the most true to you and your experiences? Please share that story!

5. Were you rooting for Elliot and Madeline to make it as a couple, or did you have reservations about the relationship from the beginning? How did watching their relationship unfold in real-time work for you versus just hearing about it from a third person narrator?

6. This book is just as much about modern friendship as it is about modern dating. Which friend are you in your inbox: the Madeline or the Emily; the Elliot or the David?

7. Did you see the ending coming? Were you happy about it?

8. Share your own nightmare dating story with your book club!

9. What do you think Madeline or Elliot could have done differently to avoid relationship hell? Or are relationships like theirs part of life?

Author Bio

Neel Shah is a screenwriter in Los Angeles. He used to be a reporter at the *New York Post* and his work has appeared in *Glamour*, *GQ* and *New York* magazine.

Skye Chatham is a writer living in New York. Her work has appeared in various publications, including *GQ* and *Maxim*.

Critical Praise

?It would be hard to imagine a more modern, accurate and funny story detailing the vicissitudes of modern love. Actually, it wouldn?t just be hard --- it would be impossible. Never has the dysfunction of my generation?s quest for love been so accurately reproduced as fiction.?

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Publication Date: April 7, 2015
Genres: Fiction, Romance
Hardcover: 256 pages
Publisher: Dey Street Books
ISBN-10: 0062262130
ISBN-13: 9780062262134