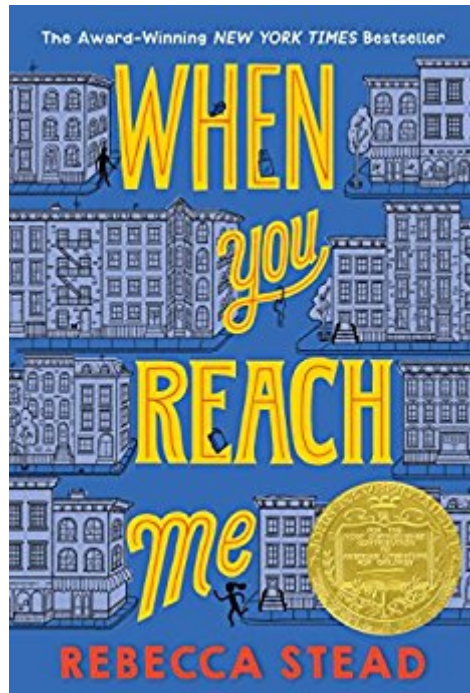




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# When You Reach Me



## Synopsis

This Newbery Medal winner that has a fantastic puzzle at its heart has been called “smart and mesmerizing,” (The New York Times), “superb” (The Wall Street Journal), and “incandescent” (The Washington Post). When Miranda starts receiving mysterious notes, she doesn’t know what to do. The notes tell her that she must write a letter, a true story, and that she can’t share her mission with anyone—not even her best friend, Sal. It would be easy to ignore the strange messages, except that whoever is leaving them has an uncanny ability to predict the future. If that’s the case, then Miranda has an even bigger problem—because the notes tell her that someone is going to die, and she might be too late to stop it. “Lovely and almost impossibly clever.” The Philadelphia Inquirer Winner of the Boston Globe Horn Book Award for Fiction A New York Times Bestseller and Notable Book

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I had no idea what to expect from *When You Reach Me*, but I ended up loving it. Perhaps as an adult reader, I would give this four stars, but I'm trying to view children's books through the lens of a young reader. I know this is a book I would have been obsessed with as a kid. Miranda is a great protagonist, and her world is a realistic one. The story itself is smart - it doesn't attempt to talk down to the reader, but rather gives kids a lot credit. There were a couple of loose ends that I would have liked to see tied up in the end, but overall, I was happy with the way it ended. I'll definitely be looking for more of Rebecca Stead's books at the library!

I know I'm in the minority here. The characters are interesting, and it has an interesting twist at the end. However, it took a long time to get there with a story that doesn't really seem to go anywhere. Though I respect that it has a lot of merit from a literary standpoint, I read this to my 5th grade son, and it was hard for me to get him engaged in the story. It could be one of those award-winning children's books that the parents enjoy and appreciate more than the kids.

I was eager to read this book because it won a Newberry award, but it wasn't as exciting as I had hoped it would be. It may be in part due to the fact that I have been reading mostly YA books and this one involves a lot less of the elements of YA that I'm used to, but I still enjoyed it and finished it in a few hours! I am usually horrible at predicting what will happen in stories, but I had a hunch that the ending would relate to the laughing man and time travel. I will admit my brain was stuck at some of time travel conversation, but I got it overall. I liked how everything tied together at the end; everything was explained and made sense. Very cute story.

I purchased this because several literary agents mentioned it as a favorite. And, the premise of the story interested me. Once the introduction of the game show, how it works and details about how the mother is preparing for it passed, I couldn't put the novel down. The author managed to bring in so many details about her characters in such a natural way. All the while she wove pieces of the story itself together as beautifully as a pretty braid and propelled it to a tension-filled ending. I would recommend this story to kids and adults. It contains some good societal messages and information, brings us back to a time when kids could go out and about on their own without much parental policing and is just a really neat and well-told story.

*A Wrinkle In Time* has always been one of my favorite books; this is one of the few books that has

grabbed me in the same way. It's NOT a copy or imitation; it's nothing like AWiT, but AWIT does play a huge role. I'm just going to leave it at that. Rebecca Stead, if you're reading this, I wrote a fan letter to Madeleine L'Engle in 1985. She answered--and her signature was just the way you describe.

When Miranda receives the first mysterious letter, she tries to convince herself it was meant for someone else. When she gets the second one, she knows there was no mistake. As she tries to decode the clues in the notes, the events in her life reveal clues of their own. The two weave together until they form a startling intersection that will change her future. Beautifully written. Miranda is a character you won't soon forget.

My folks didn't know what kind of books to buy me when I was a kid because they hadn't been readers. So they started buying me Newberry winners and they were all great, which is why this book shouldn't be a surprise- but it is. Heartfelt, complex, smart and fantastical- it's a mystery in many parts, including the bizarre language of middle-school age friendship and time travel. Highly recommended (for adults, not just kids).

I liked the book a lot it was well written. Although it got confusing at times and reading it for a second time I understand it a lot more but I think that's kind of the point. The author wants you to be confused along with the main character until the end when everything makes sense and is revealed. Very good book overall

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