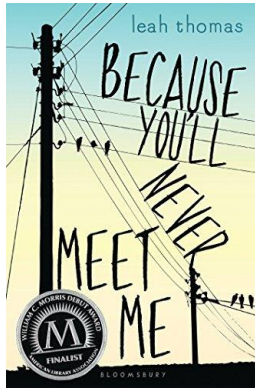


Booklist Review

Books For Youth - Fiction - General Fiction



Because You'll Never Meet Me.

Thomas, Leah (author).

June 2015. 352p. Bloomsbury, hardcover, \$17.99 ([9781619635906](https://www.amazon.com/dp/9781619635906)). Grades 9-12.

[REVIEW](#). First published May 1, 2015 ([Booklist](#)).

Ollie, 14, lives sequestered with his mother in an A-frame house in the woods of northern Michigan. He can see the colors and shapes of the electricity to which he is allergic. Moritz, a 16-year-old who lives in Germany, has no eyes but can see through superecholocation. He also requires a pacemaker, which means he and Ollie can never meet. Ollie lives in an overprotected world, while Moritz goes to school and is bullied. Both boys need a friend, and through a pen pal relationship, they find the strength to go on. Their disparate lives open up worlds the other can't imagine, yet they share a dark common secret. Thomas' debut novel tells the stories of these two characters through alternating letters. The solitude and blank-page potential inherent to letter writing foster the ability to examine oneself in a way no other means of communication allows. Although it may be considered sci-fi, the humanness of the boys comes across as nothing short of real. — *Jeanne Fredriksen*



Awards and Honors

- *Morris Honor Books: 2016*

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