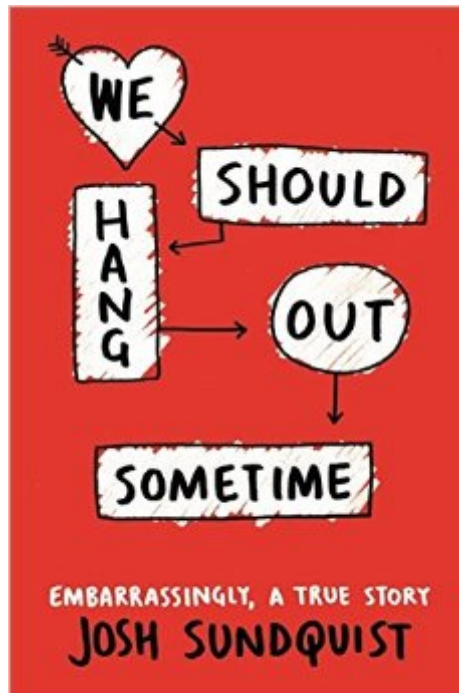


The book was found

We Should Hang Out Sometime: Embarrassingly, A True Story



Synopsis

When I was twenty-five years old, it came to my attention that I had never had a girlfriend. At the time, I was actually under the impression that I was in a relationship, so this bit of news came as something of a shock. Why was Josh still single? To find out, he tracked down each of the girls he had tried to date since middle school and asked them straight up: What went wrong? The results of Josh's semiscientific investigation are in your hands. From a disastrous Putt-Putt date involving a backward prosthetic foot, to his introduction to CFD (Close Fast Dancing), and a misguided "grand gesture" at a Miss America pageant, this story is about looking for love--or at least a girlfriend--in all the wrong places. Poignant, relatable, and totally hilarious, this memoir is for anyone who has ever wondered, "Is there something wrong with me?" (Spoiler Alert: the answer is no.)

Book Information

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Age Range: 12 - 17 years

Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

Have you ever had a defining moment in your life where certain insights about yourself that should have been obvious finally come into focus and you have that AH HA moment? That moment where it becomes clear to you why you made the decisions you did, everyone else knew this about you but you didn't. Josh had a moment like that at 25, when he realizes that the relationship he thought he was currently in was less than he thought it was. Josh's best friend has just told him that the girl he thought was his girlfriend was actually someone else's girlfriend and Josh was the last to know. Josh realizes then that he is 25 and never had a real girlfriend and in true

High Fidelity (great John Cusack movie) fashion decides to revisit some of his prior near misses at coupledom to figure out why.

TOP FIVE things I liked about this book:

1. I Liked Josh as a narrator. He is funny and has interesting observations about the world. He sees things a little uniquely as he is missing 5 of something most people have, toes that is. He is also missing a foot, calf and femur all on the same side of his body luckily. But he keeps it pretty light and he has made some rules for himself. 1. Never be a burden. 2. Never be different.
2. Not only is Josh missing a leg he also was homeschooled until 9th Grade by some very Christian conservative parents. This totally leads to some funny dialogue on how to talk your parents into letting you go to public school or date before 16. Mom and Dad weren't so excited about the idea. Christian school, maybe. But public school? It was a well-known fact among Christian homeschoolers that public schools were bastions of gangs, drugs, teen, pregnancy, rap music, pop culture, secular humanism, witchcraft, and body piercings.
3. Some of the stories were funny and reminded me just how awkward I felt when I was in that middle school/high school age group. When you used your friends as go betweens for all of your critical information.
4. There are fun little charts and graphs along the way to illustrate a few key points in the stories. I totally liked these as almost all of them made me laugh a little.
5. Generally I like Josh's life to date. I may even read his other motivational book and like it a little more. Josh had some great insights into people and how they react around those who are different. Sometimes avoiding and other times overcompensating. And people never know what you're supposed to do when the one-legged guy falls down. Are you allowed to laugh at him? Should you help him up? Maybe take him to therapy?

Josh is an interesting person and while I liked the stories about dating and trying to date I think I would have like even more stories just about his life in general.

TOP FIVE minor issues:

1. I enjoyed the first 3 stories about Josh and him clearly not understanding the signals these girls were putting out for him or how just unsure we feel when we are younger and why. But by the time we got to the college years I really wanted him to clue in already. Still every story had really great moments in it.
2. Did every girl have to be spectacularly beautiful? Okay so maybe this is a case of beauty is in the eye of the beholder and all that but still at least 3 girls seemed to be liked based solely on their looks more than who they actually were as people.
3. I would have liked just a little more resolution with a few of the girls in the book. I know that that is not how real life plays out most of the time but there were definitely 2 stories that really had hoped for just a little bit more from the other party.
4. While I liked that Josh figured things out and had that AH HA moment followed by success in the realm of dating it did seem slightly tacked onto the end. I really hoped for a little more about his currently relationship perhaps. However I did like how it was shown that he grew to trust someone else with all of himself

including that he too needs help sometimes.5. I really don't have a 5, but 5 is a really good number. It's prime, its the fifth Fibonacci number and its easy to count with since most people have 5 fingers and toes. All and all Josh is a likable guy to spend a book with. He has some interesting stories and I think I'd check out his other book since with some variation of the story content I would most likely enjoy it more. Still it was an interesting take on dating, emotions and being truly comfortable with who you are. Thank you to Little, Brown and Company via Netgalley for the ARC. All quotes were from an uncorrected proof and may not be in the final book.g

This is the first time I read a memoir and I'm so happy that it turned out to be a fantastic read. Actually, hilarious is the right word. I laughed so hard with Josh's unsuccessful attempts to get himself a girlfriend when he was younger that I actually feel a bit bad about my reaction because it shouldn't be funny, but the way Josh tells it makes it impossible NOT to laugh. We Should Hang Out Sometime doesn't really feel like a memoir (not that I know much about them) but like I said, it's extremely entertaining and I found myself rooting for Josh and groaning or feeling embarrassed for him every time something would go wrong on his dates (or when he would ask someone out). This is the kind of book that makes you want to put down just to deal with the intense embarrassment, or to cry out loud "OH YOU DID NOT!", and then break out laughing. I liked how Josh writes about every almost-relationship he ever had. He goes from explaining the background of each girl-why he liked her, what he did when the time came to take the next step-to then pointing out his hypothesis and meeting up with said girl in the present and asking her about it (the nerve!). It was brave of his part (and a bit stalkerish too) to seek answers like that, and then make it publicly in this book. But awesome nonetheless. To be honest, I had never heard about Josh Sundquist before this book. I didn't know he's famous, or that he's an amputee, or that at age 25, he had never had a girlfriend. But now, I can call myself a fan of his. I liked his upbeat personality while telling us about his memories and about his theories, and I can certainly see why he's a great motivational speaker. I highly recommend this book! I'm certain you will enjoy it.

It was an easy read, and broken down into very manageable parts (if you like to read a section and then put it down for awhile). I'm the type of person who rates a book 5-stars if I'd actually read it again; 4-stars if I keep it around and would consider reading it again but probably won't; 3-stars if I don't want to read it again, but I'll keep it around on my bookshelf; 2-stars if I finished it but will donate it because it wasn't worth keeping on the bookshelf; and finally 1-star if I won't finish it. This is definitely a book I'll keep around, maybe loan it to a friend and not be concerned if I never get it

back.

I felt let down after about the 3rd "relationship" or about one fourth of the way through the book. After every section/woman, Josh went back and explored his relationship with that woman (albeit, 10 years later as an adult). That exploration fell extremely flat. I could not reconcile the figure he was desperately trying to portray - awkward - and the person he did not explore and left out of the book - the likeable prom king, guy with a lot of friends, and Olympic participant. I personally felt like he was skewing one part of his personality to sell me a story that was semi-entertaining at best. His revelation at the end of his analysis left me wondering why I had bothered to pick up the book in the first place. I have a lot of respect for him personally, but the book itself left me unmoved, much like most of the women he tried to date.

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