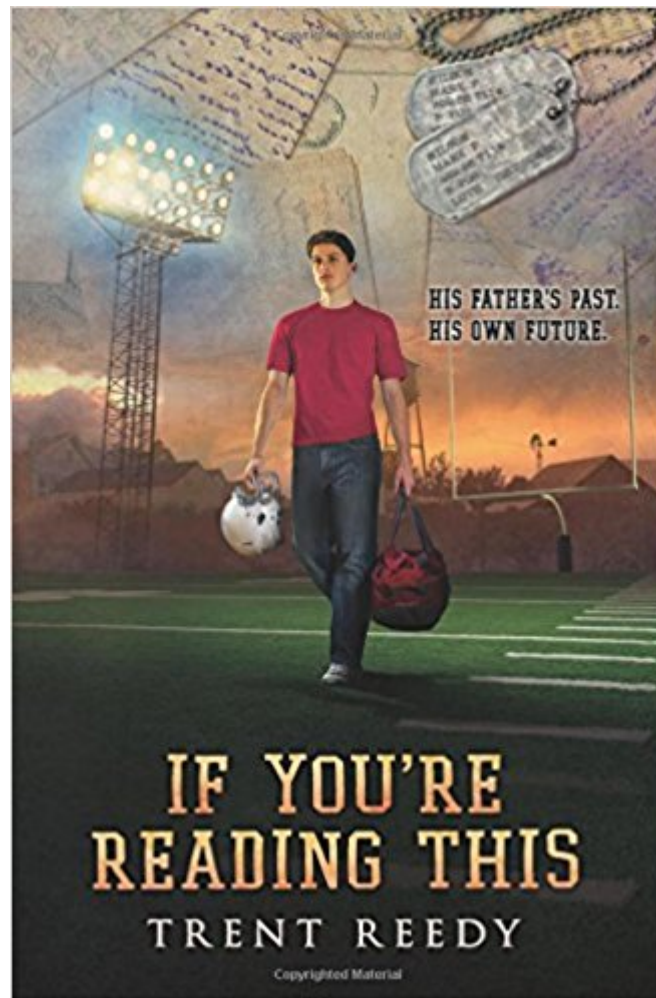


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# If You're Reading This



## Synopsis

Mike was seven when his father was killed in mysterious circumstances in Afghanistan. Eight years later, the family still hasn't recovered: Mike's mom is overworked and overprotective; his younger sister Mary feels no connection to the father she barely remembers; and in his quest to be "the man of the family," Mike knows he's missing out on everyday high school life. Then, out of the blue, Mike receives a letter from his father -- the first of a series Dad wrote in Afghanistan, just in case he didn't come home, meant to share some wisdom with his son on the eve of Mike's 16th birthday. As the letters come in, Mike revels in spending time with his dad again, and takes his encouragement to try new things -- to go out for the football team, and ask out the beautiful Isma. But who's been keeping the letters all these years? And how did Dad actually die? As the answers to these mysteries are revealed, Mike and his family find a way to heal and move forward at last.

## Book Information

Paperback: 304 pages

Publisher: Arthur A. Levine Books; Reprint edition (February 23, 2016)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.7 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (22 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #115,583 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) [#33 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Sports > Football](#) [#72 in Books > Teens > Historical Fiction > Military](#) [#98 in Books > Children's Books > Sports & Outdoors > Football](#)

Age Range: 12 - 15 years

Grade Level: 7 and up

## Customer Reviews

This was a wholesome, well-written, engaging, coming of age story. Though the subject was serious, its tone was not dark like so many books targeted at a young adult audience. I am considerably beyond that age group and thoroughly enjoyed the book!

A teen starts getting letters from his dad, a soldier who was killed seven years earlier in Afghanistan. This novel follows the boy through struggles at school and at home, aided by guidance

from his late father. This is a five-star book that will keep you turning the pages. It will especially be appreciated by football fans. While there is a great deal of detail about football plays, you don't have to be a sports fan to appreciate the bonding, camaraderie and sense of belonging that being part of a team can bring, whether in high school or the military. This is aptly portrayed in this coming-of-age story.

Sixteen year old Mike has a heavy load to carry in his young life. His father died in Afganistan when he was 7 years old. Now older, he receives letters set before his Dad died. Where are these letters and a CD coming from? He also has to deal with his mother who is living in the past and mourns the death of her husband. Sister, Mary is typical sibling, but comes through in the end. A nice girl at school is a good friend for Mike. This book deals with family relationships and peers / playing football without mother's permission. His escape is working for Derek at his farm. All of these issues come to a peak towards the end of the book. Excellent written and SO glad that there isn't a swear word in the Book. Recommended for church libraries.

As a high school teacher, I see so many young men drifting through the day with no guidance from a father figure. For 15-year-old Mike, who lost his father in Afghanistan, daily life is its own struggle. Bullies, a lack of self-confidence, no clear path in life has left Mike feeling confused until letters from his dead father arrive and show Mike that life isn't what he thought. With a set of missions (such as to ask a girl out), Mike now has a clear goal. Wanting to play football, Mike must move past his mother's disapproval and find his own identity.

This is one of my all time favorite books. *If You're Reading This* is a book about a normal teenager named Mike gets mystery letters from his dad who had died five years earlier in the war in Afghanistan. In the story Mike gets goals every week from his dead father like "Join the football team" or "Date a girl". He learns to have fun while he still is a teenager but, he still doesn't know what happened to his dad and how he died. I loved this book mostly because of the war and the sports involved in it. You are definitely gonna like it if you like these things plus a little bit of romance. Written by Connor, 7th grader

Set in Iowa, this novel is the coming of age take of a young 16-year-old boy who begins receiving letters from his father who was killed in Afghanistan when he was eight. It is a great read for reluctant readers.

Hello, Paige the Booklion here with a review on Trent Reedy's *If You're Reading This If YOU'RE READING THIS* (no pun intended) you are looking for an amazing just mind blowing book (no we are not talking about the Hunger Games nor Divergent) well you have found it dear reader! This book was soooooo amazing. Trent Reedy brings characters that are a) likable and relatable and b) that are original and non stereotypical :) If your looking for a good heart felt slight tear jerker book about families high school an life pick this up :) !!! Hope you enjoy ~be COOL and read :)

I absolutely love this book. It was an amazing read, as well as a quick one for me. Took me about a day to get through. Mike is believable as the main character being in high school, trying to be the "man-of-the-house", and being a kid. He has moments of being immature, but he makes up for it in his want to be what everyone wants him to be. Once he starts receiving the letters from his father years after his father died, he is thrown for a loop, as anyone in his situation would be. But he comes out on top of everything. And am I the only one who hears Tim McGraw's song of the same name in their head every time they read the title, or is this just me? :)

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