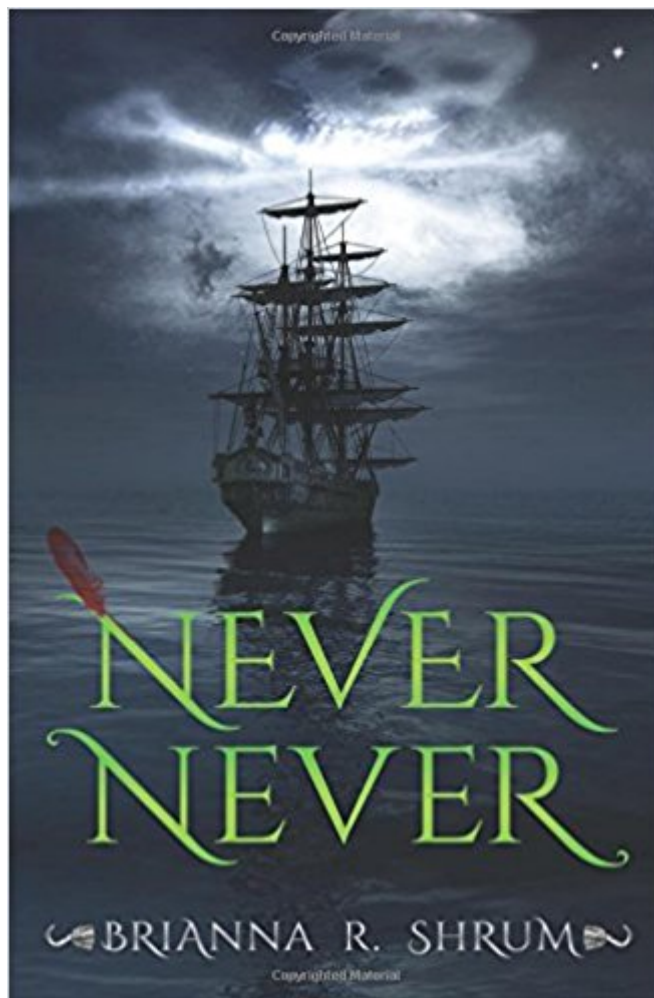


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Never Never



Synopsis

James Hook is a child who only wants to grow up. When he meets Peter Pan, a boy who loves to pretend and is intent on never becoming a man, James decides he could try being a child - at least briefly. James joins Peter Pan on a holiday to Neverland, a place of adventure created by children's dreams, but Neverland is not for the faint of heart. Soon James finds himself longing for home, determined that he is destined to be a man. But Peter refuses to take him back, leaving James trapped in a world just beyond the one he loves. A world where children are to never grow up. But grow up he does. And thus begins the epic adventure of a Lost Boy and a Pirate. This story isn't about Peter Pan; it's about the boy whose life he stole. It's about a man in a world that hates men. It's about the feared Captain James Hook and his passionate quest to kill the Pan, an impossible feat in a magical land where everyone loves Peter Pan. Except one.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Gr 8 Up •A masterful debut novel that delivers a unique and striking perspective on J.M. Barrie's beloved world of Neverland. The focus is on James Hook, a 13-year-old Londoner who cannot wait to be an adult. His only childhood indulgence is at night, when he dreams of being the captain of a pirate ship filled with ruffians and scallywags. When he happens upon Peter Pan in Kensington Gardens, James is bewitched by the lad's description of a magical world filled with mermaids and adventure. Unable to resist, he agrees to visit as long as he is back before boarding school begins. The Neverland he encounters is a dark and dangerous place, and James is shocked when Peter

gleefully slits a pirate's throat. Pan refuses to return James to London, and the boy's initial admiration turns to hatred for this callous creature. Anguished and homesick, he is sickened to discover that while those around him do not age, he is rapidly maturing into a man. Hook embraces his destiny as a pirate and vows vengeance on the Pan. Filled with familiar characters such as the Lost Boys, the Darling children, and a bewitching and sensual Tiger Lily, Shrum's retelling is a deeply satisfying dark fantasy that just might change readers' perception of Peter Pan and Neverland itself. VERDICT A must-have for all young adult collections. (Amy Nolan, St. Joseph Public Library, St. Joseph, MI < School Library Journal)

Brianna Shrum lives in Colorado with her high-school-sweetheart-turned-husband, two boys, and two big, floppy hound dogs. She thinks chai tea is proof of magic in the world, and loves all things kissy, magical, and strange. She'd totally love to connect with you. You can find her saying ridiculous things on Twitter @briannashrum.

This book, you guys. THE FEELINGS. I AM HAVING THEM. I was up way too late last night finishing this sucker because I could not. put. it. down. First of all, just want to get this out of the way real quick, F THAT MOTHER FING PETER PAN. Okay, whew. Feels good to get that off my chest. Though loving the story of Peter Pan since I was very little, I have never liked The Pan himself. (With one notable exception - the live action movie starring Mary Martin. Which I watched on repeat.) And I have always loved Captain James Hook. So nice to have those feelings validated in this amazingly well-written, beautiful retelling. Brianna has created a Neverland that comes alive on the page as you read it. It's wonderfully fun to get lost in. She also rips your heart right out of your chest, puts it through a blender, and pastes it back together (with a few important pieces missing). So if that's a thing you enjoy, you're in the right place. My heart ached for the little boy James Hook through the entire novel. And I wanted to kick The Pan in his "little pan" like 11,000 times. Do yourself a favor and pick up a copy of this beautiful book. You will not regret it. (I mean, when it's 2am and you have to be up in 4 hours but you can't stop reading and you're being crushed by the weight of emotion, you will curse Brianna's name but...you won't regret it. :))

This story was great from beginning to end. I have always loved the Captain and this story made my heart go out to him even more

This retelling from Hook's perspective walks an amazing line between whimsy and dread, and you

can feel both, even as the tale gets darker and darker. I loved the story and James and his pirates and Tiger Lily and everything.

If you love anything about Peter Pan, this book is for you.

Great read. So many emotions. Definitely buy this book. I cried like a baby more than once.

Not the story I expected. With so many retellings of stories from Batman to Pride and Prejudice, I expected another cookie-cutter 'bold re-imagining.' Not so with Never Never. The author gives a unique take: at first I was troubled by this. When I decided to let the author tell her story I was very pleased. The ending is quite unexpected and lingered with me.

Great characterizations of Pan and Hook. This is Captain Hook's story, to be sure. Shrum has made him a complete, dimensional character. Where I feel the author lets the reader down is the ending. I was hoping that she wouldn't stick to the expected, I suppose. Would I recommend it? Yes, with reservations.

Exactly as described

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