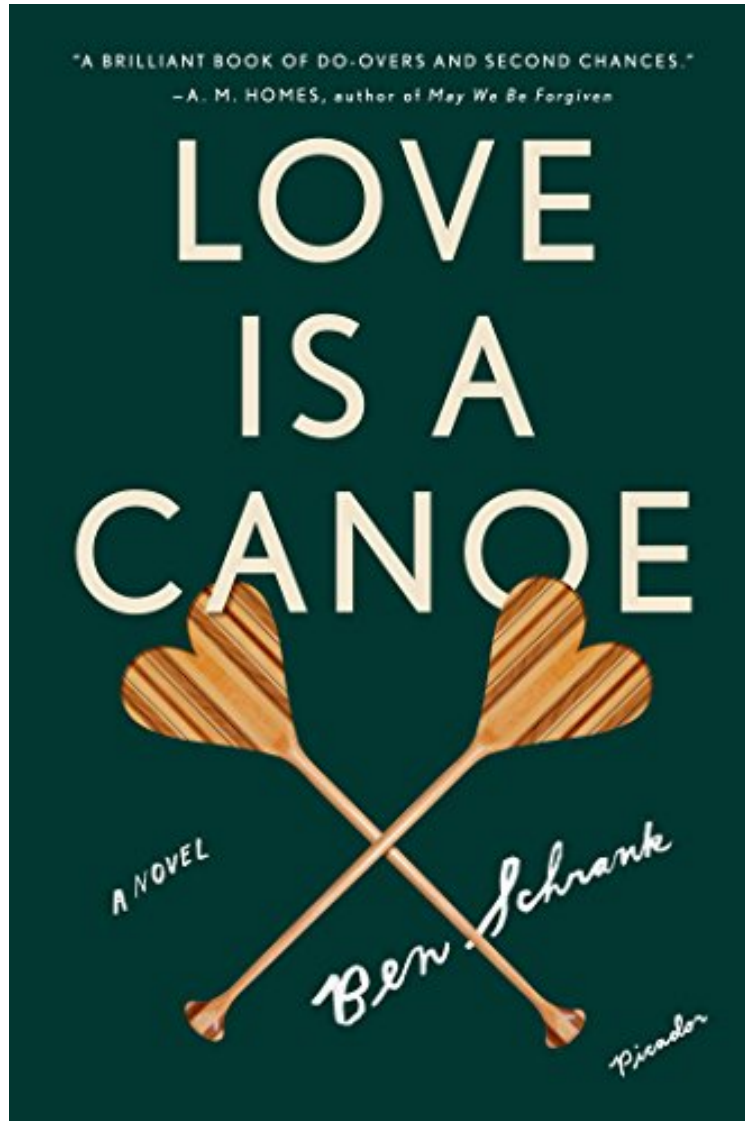


[Download free ebook] Love Is a Canoe: A Novel

Love Is a Canoe: A Novel

Von Ben Schrank

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Von Ben Schrank : Love Is a Canoe: A Novel before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Love Is a Canoe: A Novel:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen

KurzbeschreibungPeter Herman is something of a folk hero. Marriage Is a Canoe, his legendary, decades-old book on

love and relationships, has won the hearts of hopeful romantics and desperate cynics alike. He and his beloved wife lived a relatively peaceful life in upstate New York. But now it's 2010, and Peter's wife has just died. Completely lost, he passes the time with a woman he admires but doesn't love-and he begins to look back through the pages of his book and question homilies such as: A good marriage is a canoe-it needs care and isn't meant to hold too much-no more than two adults and a few kids.It's advice he has famously doled out for decades. But what is it worth?Then Peter receives a call from Stella Petrovic, an ambitious young editor who wants to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of *Marriage Is a Canoe* with a contest for struggling couples. The prize? An afternoon with Peter and a chance to save their relationship.The contest ensnares its creator in the largely opaque politics of her publishing house while it introduces the reader to couples in various states of distress, including a shy thirtysomething Brooklynite and her charismatic and entrepreneurial husband, who may just be a bit too charismatic for the good of their marriage. There's the middle-aged publisher whose imposing manner has managed to impose loneliness on her for longer than she cares to admit. And then there is Peter, who must discover what he meant when he wrote *Marriage Is a Canoe* if he is going to help the contest's winners and find a way to love again. In *Love Is a Canoe*, Ben Schrank delivers a smart, funny, romantic, and hugely satisfying novel about the fragility of marriage and the difficulty of repairing the damage when well-intentioned people forget how to be good to each other.PressestimmenSchrank has done something here that may sound impossible: He's written a funny novel about publishing that is not caustic but optimistic, not biting but bighearted--a story about the delusions with which self-aware, smart people are all too willing to live in order to avoid the painful (yet entertaining) upheaval that comes with truth. Dean Bakopoulos, *The New York Times Book* What results when Emily and her self-satisfied husband turn up at Herman's lakeside cabin is expertly wrought farce--Schrank skewers the publishing industry and modern relationship talk, while somehow still making us care about the fate of this wounded young marriage. His portrayal of present-day Brooklyn, with its artisanal businesses and self-conscious foodways, may someday feel as nostalgic as Herman's sepia-tinged memories of paddling a canoe with the ever-wise Pop. Kate Tuttle, *The Boston Globe*A crackling sendup of book-marketing schemes and an inquiry into twenty-first-century togetherness. *Vogue*Peter Herman's marriage manual is a classic, but what does he really know about love? Whip-smart and highly entertaining. PeopleThe strength of the novel lies in its well-rounded, passionate characters. Emily the controlling introvert makes a strong contrast to the extroverted, passionate Eli . . . [readers] will find Schrank's novel a pleasure to read and his characters easy to appreciate. *The Dallas Morning News*With brilliant subtlety, Ben Schrank reveals the ways in which belief in popular, sentimental bromides about marriage can impede real connection and true, long-lasting love. *Love Is a Canoe* is a sharply funny, beautifully original novel filled with interesting, tough-minded characters, great dialogue, and a riveting, excellent plot. The ending is perfect. Kate Christensen, author of *The Astral* and *The Great Man*I don't think of myself as loving particular kinds of fiction, but this book made me realize I do: fiction, for instance, like this--smart, darkly funny (but not jokey) books that are knowing and wise but a little skeptical of knowingness and the possibility of wisdom. *Love Is a Canoe* would join Martin Amis's *The Information* and Michael Chabon's *Wonder Boys* on my shelf devoted to terrific satirical novels about writers and publishing, if I had such a shelf. Kurt Andersen, author of *True Believers* and *Heyday**Love Is a Canoe* captures the most essential difficulties of marriage and commitment--our fears of love and loss. A brilliant book of do-overs and second chances, Schrank's novel is mordantly funny and an all-too-real meditation on modern life. A. M. Homes, author of *May We Be Forgiven* and *This Book Will Save Your Life**Love Is a Canoe* takes a good look at the world of self-help and both mocks and embraces our dearest and corniest desires. Ben Schrank's terrific new novel is a real self-help book, and you should help yourself to it. Daniel Handler, author of *Why We Broke Up*Our bookshelves all have an empty space waiting for the book we long for but cannot quite imagine because it can't be described as the next A' or Author X by way of Author Y.' *Love Is a Canoe* fills that nameless void. Funny, tender, wholly original--it's as if all the good fairies came to its christening (story, dialogue, character, heart). I loved it. Laura Lippman, author of *And When She Was Good* and *The Most Dangerous Thing*It's not surprising that Ben Schrank would produce a witty, insightful novel about the world of publishing. The real revelation here is how wise Schrank is while navigating the far more complicated terrain of love and human relationships. *Love Is a Canoe* is a wonderful and deceptively breezy novel--heartfelt and wise; light as feathers, strong as iron. Adam Langer, author of *Crossing California* and *The Thieves of Manhattan*Three stories of personal and literary authenticity weave through this novel of love and books that gets sharper and smarter as it progresses . . . The honesty doled out as events unspool is bracing and frank, and gives these characters added depth and wisdom. *Publishers Weekly* (starred review)Schrank has firm command of the story, never letting the plot turns descend into farce, and the closing pages are a convincing portrait of how relationships shift in ways no self-help book can anticipate. A wise imagining of modern-day love, unromantic but never cynical. *Kirkus* sKurzbeschreibungPeter Herman is something of a folk hero. *Marriage Is a Canoe*, his legendary, decades-old book on love and relationships, has won the hearts of hopeful romantics and desperate cynics alike. He and his beloved wife lived a relatively peaceful life in upstate New York. But now it's 2010, and Peter's wife has just died. Completely lost, he passes the time with a woman he admires but doesn't love-and he begins to look back through the pages of his book and question homilies such as: A good marriage is a canoe-it needs care and isn't meant to hold too much-no more than two adults and a few kids.It's advice he has famously doled out for decades. But

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