

The Spectacular Now

By Tim Tharp

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This National Book Award Finalist is now a major motion picture -- one of the most buzzed-about films at Sundance 2013, starring Shailene Woodley (star of *The Fault in our Stars* and *Divergent*) and Miles Teller (star of *Whiplash*).

SUTTER KEELY. HE'S the guy you want at your party. He'll get everyone dancing. He' ll get everyone in your parents' pool. Okay, so he's not exactly a shining academic star. He has no plans for college and will probably end up folding men's shirts for a living. But there are plenty of ladies in town, and with the help of Dean Martin and Seagram's V.O., life's pretty fabuloso, actually.

Until the morning he wakes up on a random front lawn, and he meets Aimee. Aimee's clueless. Aimee is a social disaster. Aimee needs help, and it's up to the Sutterman to show Aimee a splendiferous time and then let her go forth and prosper. But Aimee's not like other girls, and before long he's in way over his head. For the first time in his life, he has the power to make a difference in someone else's life—or ruin it forever.

From the Hardcover edition.

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The Spectacular Now By Tim Tharp Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly
Starred Review. Unlike most high school seniors, Sutter Keely—the narrator of this smart, superbly written novel—is not concerned with the future. Hes the life of the party, and hes interested in the Spectacular Now. In stream of consciousness–style prose, Sutter describes his lurching from one good time to the next: he carries whiskey in a flask, and once its mixed into his 7Up, anything is possible. He will jump into the pool fully clothed, climb up a tree and onto his ex-girlfriends roof or cruise around all hours of the night. Without ever deviating from the voice of the egocentric Sutter, Tharp (*Knights of the Hill Country*) fully develops all of the ancillary characters, such as socially awkward Aimee, the new girlfriend who tries to plan a future with this quintessential live-for-the-moment guy. Readers will be simultaneously charmed and infuriated by Sutter as his voice holds them in thrall to his all-powerful Now. Ages 14–up. *(Nov.)*
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From Booklist
All the seniors in Sutter Keely's high school are planning for the future, except for him. The Sutterman is the original party boy, with a perpetual 7-Up and whiskey in his hand and a story to entertain all who will listen. He is a ladies' man, but he loses interest when the ladies demand that he pay attention to them, instead of himself, or make other unreasonable requests, such as remember dates or call when he promises. But it is Aimee, a social outsider, who gets under his skin and loves him in spite of his flaws. Tharp offers a poignant, funny book about a teen who sees his life as livable only when his senses are dulled by drink and only as fodder for the next joke or story. Lulled into believing he is happy in spite of his father's abandonment and his mother's emotional neglect, Sutter is an authentic character, and his unsteady sense of himself, as well as his relationships with his friends, will strike a chord with teen readers. Grades 8-12. --Frances Bradburn

Review
Starred Review, Publishers Weekly, November 17, 2008:
"[A] smart, superbly written novel."

Starred Review, The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books, February 2009:
"A sobering look at the rationalizations of a teenage alcoholic."

From the Hardcover edition.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

David Dugas:

Information is provisions for people to get better life, information nowadays can get by anyone from everywhere. The information can be a knowledge or any news even restricted. What people must be consider whenever those information which is inside former life are difficult to be find than now could be taking seriously which one works to believe or which one the actual resource are convinced. If you get the unstable resource then you get it as your main information you will see huge disadvantage for you. All of those possibilities will not happen inside you if you take The Spectacular Now as the daily resource information.

Maureen Daniels:

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Santa McNabb:

In this period globalization it is important to someone to receive information. The information will make anyone to understand the condition of the world. The fitness of the world makes the information simpler to share. You can find a lot of references to get information example: internet, paper, book, and soon. You will observe that now, a lot of publisher which print many kinds of book. Often the book that recommended to you is The Spectacular Now this e-book consist a lot of the information on the condition of this world now. This book was represented how can the world has grown up. The language styles that writer use for explain it is easy to understand. The writer made some study when he makes this book. Here is why this book suitable all of you.

Lane James:

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