



## The Year Without Michael

By Susan Beth Pfeffer

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### **The Year Without Michael** By Susan Beth Pfeffer

Named as one of the 100 best books published for young adults in a 25 year period, The Year Without Michael is the story of a family torn apart when 12 year old Michael disappears one day while going to a friend's house.

Told from the viewpoint of Michael's sixteen year old sister, Jody, the novel explores the emotional agony of a family forced to struggle with unanswerable questions while coping with daily routines and stresses.

Stylistically similar to New York Times best selling author Susan Beth Pfeffer's novel *Life As We Knew It*, and as emotionally compelling as her most recent novel, *Blood Wounds*, The Year Without Michael is a classic novel for middle school and high school students and perfect for classroom use.

"A book that offers a sensitive and probing view of a contemporary family in agony. Though it is characterized as contemporary fiction for young adults, The Year Without Michael...should appeal to readers of all ages." New York Times Book Review

The Year Without Michael is a South Carolina Young Adult Book Award winner, as well as an ALA Best Book For Young Adults, a School Library Journal Best Book, and a Booklist Editor's Choice.

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## **The Year Without Michael By Susan Beth Pfeffer Bibliography**

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### Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Pfeffer chronicles the disintegration of a family in this bold, heartbreaking book about a missing child. Ages 12-up.

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From School Library Journal

Grade 7-12? Alyssa Bresnahan's skillful reading of the book by Susan Beth Pfeffer (BDD, pap. 1988) takes listeners on a rollercoaster ride through the unraveling lives of a typical middle class family faced with uncertainty of the most horrifying kind. When 13-year-old Michael vanishes somewhere between home and the softball field, his parents and sisters, 16-year-old Jody and 9-year-old Kay, are completely unprepared for the emotional devastation his disappearance unleashes. The story of how they cope with the suspicion of foul play and the psychological toll their fear take on their relationships with one another makes for compelling listening. While the family waits for word of Michael, their lives slip into increasing disarray. Mr. and Mrs. Chapman stop speaking to one another, Kay becomes angry and defiant, and Jody finds a wall growing between herself and her friends. There is no neat ending or even any satisfying resolution to Michael's story. Still, the struggles of each member of the Chapman family to come to terms with the ambiguity surrounding Michael's absence and to move forward with their lives despite their loss provide a deftly wrought and riveting story.?Cindy Lombardo, Ashland Public Library, OH

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Review

“A story of breaking apart and coming together with a clarity that should appeal to readers of all ages.”—*The New York Times Book Review*

*From the Hardcover edition.*

### Users Review

From reader reviews:

**Floyd Goshorn:**

The book The Year Without Michael give you a sense of feeling enjoy for your spare time. You should use to make your capable far more increase. Book can to become your best friend when you getting strain or having big problem with the subject. If you can make reading a book The Year Without Michael to become your habit, you can get much more advantages, like add your current capable, increase your knowledge about a number of or all subjects. You can know everything if you like start and read a e-book The Year Without Michael. Kinds of book are a lot of. It means that, science reserve or encyclopedia or other people. So , how do you think about this publication?

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