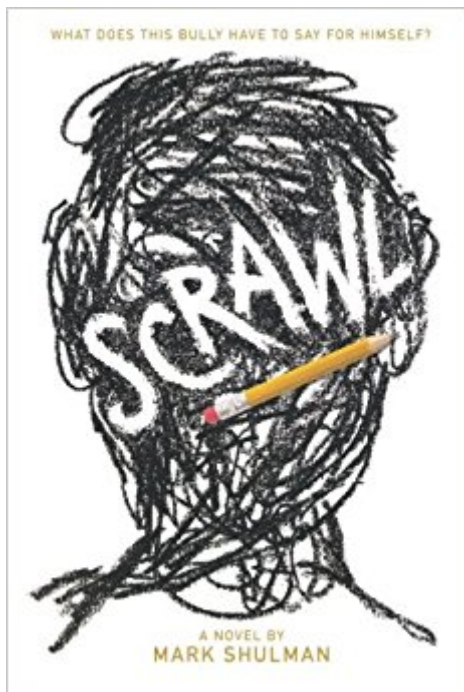


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# Scrawl: A Novel



## Synopsis

Tod Munn is a bully. He's tough, but times are even tougher. The wimps have stopped coughing up their lunch money. The administration is cracking down. Then to make things worse, Tod and his friends get busted doing something bad. Something really bad. Lucky Tod must spend his daily detention in a hot, empty room with Mrs. Woodrow, a no-nonsense guidance counselor. He doesn't know why he's there, but she does. Tod's punishment: to scrawl his story in a beat-up notebook. He can be painfully funny and he can be brutally honest. But can Mrs. Woodrow help Tod stop playing the bad guy before he actually turns into one . . . for real? Read Tod's notebook for yourself.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 650 (What's this?)

Paperback: 240 pages

Publisher: Square Fish (August 21, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1250012694

ISBN-13: 978-1250012692

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.7 x 0.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars 29 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #269,134 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #57 in [Books > Teens >](#)

[Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Peer Pressure](#) #162 in [Books > Teens >](#)

[Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Bullying](#) #2073 in [Books > Children's Books >](#)

[Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > School](#)

Age Range: 12 - 18 years

Grade Level: 7 - 12

## Customer Reviews

Gr 7 Up  
"I know what you think. You think I'm fixable, don't you? You want to fix the bad guy." Readers slowly learn what makes Tod, a self-confessed bully, tick by reading the notebook he writes in (not, he insists, a journal) during after-school detention. He is supervised by Mrs. Woodrow, the guidance counselor, for a school break-in with his buddies (droogs), who increasingly resent that he's gotten this cushy punishment while they are consigned to clean the school grounds. Tod is no dummy. He reads, does his homework, and gets good grades. But he's poor. His mom, a seamstress, does alterations for a dry cleaners (Tod helps), and he tries to stay

away from her husband, whom he describes as “unpredictable.” Lacking money for basic necessities like food and clothes, he extorts it from “losers” at school and otherwise tries to keep a fairly low profile. The plot is thin, as Tod gets roped into providing the costumes for a school play written and produced by “that spooky goth girl Luz Montoya.” Still, he is a funny, quirky, interesting character. There are loose ends, but in the end it’s not so much what happened, as the fun of getting there, finding out whether Tod is right or not when he writes, “I’m a loser, okay? I was born a loser and I’ll live a loser and I’ll die a loser. And nothing you do here is going to ever change that.”

Joel Shoemaker, formerly at South East Junior High School, Iowa City, IA (c) Copyright 2010. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

After class-bully Tod and his “droogs” get caught vandalizing school property, his punishment is to spend every day in after-school detention writing in a notebook. “About anything?” he asks Mrs. W., his jailer. “Okay. Fine. You asked for it. I’ll write about this desk. I hate this desk.” The classic smarter-than-his-teachers underachiever with a rotten home life, Tod has a real way with words (the way he crashes, then dominates the spelling bee is priceless), and he soon warms to his enforced writing therapy. Some readers might wish he’d stayed a little more bottled up though his wordy tendencies sometimes drag the narrative but Shulman establishes a nice voice for him, as Tod rips jokes so dry they can float away and shows some real heart dealing with his less-than-desirable lot in life. Much to his horror, he gets involved making costumes for the school play, and his increasingly confrontational clashes with them spell both trouble and growth. An unusual sort of bully redemption story, with patient, not reluctant, readers squarely in its sights. Grades 7-10. --Ian Chipman --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

perfect

Interesting and not as boring as most summer books. A cool and different way of telling a story which was very intriguing.

While the book is a bit slow in places, the surprise at the end made up for it. I had to read it twice. Rarely does a story catch me off guard. Can’t wait for some of my students to dive in.

I like how the book was different from the rest. The book made me feel like the teacher, reading the notebook. The book was well written and would definitely recommend this book to all incoming 8th graders.

Product as described and delivered on time

My students looked forward to hearing this each and every day and, more importantly, "Scrawling" afterwards for at least fifteen minutes. It has made journaling something my kids look forward to each and every day.

I loved the ending of this book! Listening to a audio book and reading I really suggest u do! I highly recommend.

Engaging perspective from the bad kid.

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