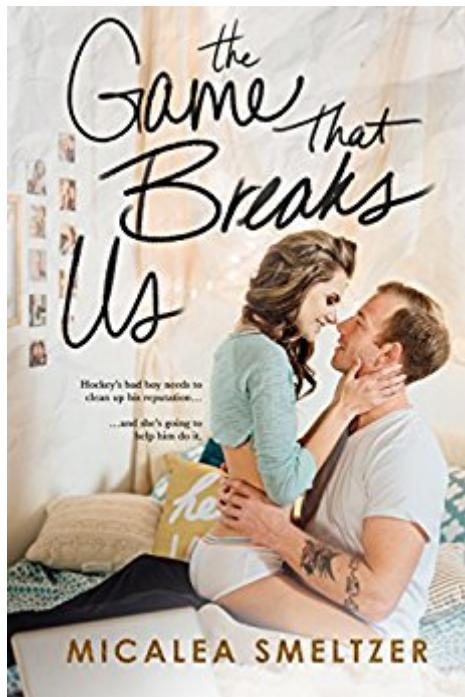


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# The Game That Breaks Us



## Synopsis

Hockeyâ™s bad boy needs to clean up his reputationâ |Bennett James has built his career at being the best, on and off the ice, and now itâ™s come back to bite him. The media has turned against him, and with a near career-ending injury, he needs to clean up his act and prove that heâ™s serious about the game. For Bennett, working with his old coach at his alma mater feels like a step back, but it might be just what he needs.â |and sheâ™s going to help him do it. Grace Wentworth has always been the good girl, and sheâ™s tired of that stigma. She wants to prove that she can get down and dirty with the best of them. The problem? She doesnâ™t know how. Bennett will teach the good girl how to be bad, if she pretends to be his goody two-shoes girlfriend in front of the media. But what happens when the game becomes real?

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

4.5 Stars - The Game that Breaks Us is another fantastic Us Series novel from Micalea Smeltzer. Bennett and Graceâ™s story exemplifies the new adult genre, transporting readers to Graceâ™s college campus and highlighting the trials and triumphs of stepping out on your own for the first time. These two were enchanting right from the start, effortlessly reeling me into their world of unavoidable fame, unexpected feelings, and sour patch kids. Where Bennett was wild, Grace was tame and together they made the perfect match. Their instant spark grew with each passing page

until their undeniable connection had me absolutely hooked on their happily ever after. Micalea Smeltzer has a talent for writing memorable characters that are both out of reach enough to be utterly intriguing and genuine enough to be relatable. Grace and Bennett were certainly no exception, each of them charming me instantly and making me feel deeply as they grew in different ways over the course of this story. Bennett was a fun character to unravel. I quickly fell for the bad boy who turned out to be pretty darn sweet and a whole lot sexy. His relationship with his family and the rediscovery of his love of hockey served to further expose the normal guy beneath the limelight and it was that authentic, lovable man that I swooned over. Grace was equal parts the girl next door and the unattainable product of famous parents, a dichotomy that was fascinating to explore. Just as Grace brought Bennett back down to earth, Bennett helped Grace to let go. I absolutely adored seeing Grace experience life, make mistakes, and go a little crazy. Graceâ™s roommate Elle provided a sharp contrast to Graceâ™s soft demeanor but Elle made her bold and sure and brave in a deeply satisfying way.

I just adore Micalea's beautifully written stories. Imagine my excitement when I was given the chance to review an ARC. I was ecstatic because I knew it would be good. I was more than right, it was amazing. This is a wonderful 5 star story. ARC of *The Game That Breaks Us* by Micalea Smeltzer provided in exchange for an honest and spoiler free review. While I was reading it I never caught on that Grace is Dean's sister. Their parents are friends with the Willow Creek band members. So I guess I can safely say it's a complete standalone. Grace embraces a new adventure by going to college. A chance meeting puts her in the path of Bennett an hockey player. They will form an alliance that will soon start to feel more real. This is their story. This story has so many different facets to it, it's humorous, sweet, romantic, sad at times and it also has a hint of suspense. Micalea has the ability to create stories that suck me right in, manages to keep me there throughout even after being done reading. It's a refreshing story about the good girl who meets the bad boy. After starting reading it, I just couldn't seem to want to put it down for very long. The author has created wonderful, funny, engaging and loving characters that made them impossible to ignore. The story was fun, entertaining, and addicting that kept my undivided attention focused on this book. The characters had connection and chemistry. This is not an overly sappy, sad full of angst kind of story. It's the kind that the readers will enjoy the back and forth between Grace and Bennett. The comebacks that Micalea comes up with, are just great. Bottom line I just loved everything about this amazing story. Standalone told in a dual POV with a HEA.

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