

# The Notebook

Nicholas Sparks

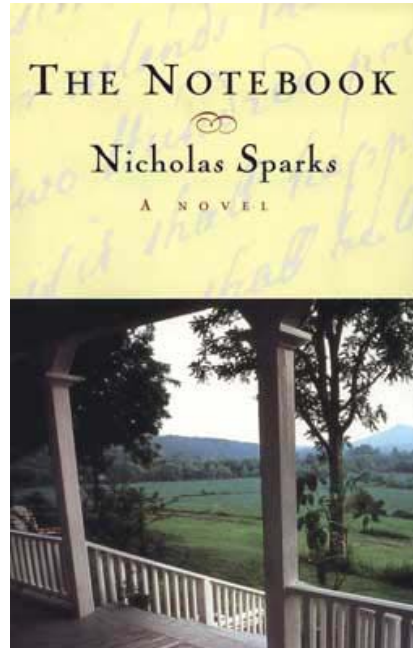
North Carolina, 1932.

Two teenagers living in two different worlds fall in love. Spending one idyllic summer together in a small town, Noah and Allie don't meet again for 14 years.

After Noah has returned from WWII, he restores the house of his and Allie's dreams. Allie is engaged to an attorney named Lon Hammond. When she reads a newspaper story about Noah's restoration project, she leaves Lon for some time and visits Noah.

Will she leave Lon for

Noah?



*~ After reading "A Walk to Remember" written by Nicholas Sparks I wanted to get to know other stories and that is why I read "The Notebook". In my opinion it is a sweet and tender love story. While reading you are immediately captivated into the story and after finishing it you have to think about it for a long time.*

*It is awesome and like a fairy-tale! ~*

*Maria L.*

I refuse to be a thief so I won't steal your heart  
- not unless I am about to miss out on the best part,  
But you may want to give your heart to me freely.  
Once you get to know me and understand me really,  
then you'll know why time flies  
and stops at exactly the same time.  
Maybe we'll one day continue to share the same rhyme.

Your truthfulness seems to amaze me  
because it's something I've never felt,  
I've always just done what I could with the hand I was dealt.  
When you speak I feel cherished, wonderful, and free  
- and I wonder, could you ever love me?

If this was wonderland  
you could pick between a red pill and blue.  
Red ending your dream - or the blue keeping me with you.  
But I have a feeling you'd pick the blue  
so your dream wouldn't die.

So you'd continue to have me by your side.  
You could have chosen the red pill over the blue,  
because in reality, I'm still here for you.  
I wouldn't fade away with the waking from the dream  
- I'm still here, trying to accept me.

The way you do... Like I'm more than enough.  
I don't think I'll ever feel that way or be able to give enough,  
you see more than I've seen of myself.  
You bring out the part of me I had long ago put on the shelf.  
But I'm here on your level - down on earth to be  
Loved.

## **America and United Kingdom**

One of the biggest problems for people under the age of 21 in the States is not being able to go to night clubs and bars to meet people. In the United Kingdom, you can visit public night clubs from the age of 18. The social life in the United Kingdom is good - there are endless amounts of night clubs and pubs as well as Social Clubs, Youth groups or Clubs for those who are not 18 yet. You might notice: British beer is significantly stronger than American beer.

So what do young people do in their free time in the States?

People usually get their Driver's License by the age of 14-16 (dependant on the State) and they can go and see friends and have house parties. In the United Kingdom you can get your Driver's License by the age of 17.

Fast Food is very popular in the States. They have started offering salads and healthy options due to the health risks involved in eating Fast Food on a regular basis. The American Burger King meals are cheaper than those in the United Kingdom and they have a lot more of a selection of Fast Food in America. To me, the American Burger King meals taste so much better than those you can get in the United Kingdom or even here in Germany. Germany tries to be all natural. There's another popular Fast Food spot in America called the Hooters but it is debatable whether this is because the food is good or the Hooters girls' dress code. I went to the only Hooters Fast Food restaurant in Germany and I really liked the food though.

The prices in the American supermarkets are in general lower but some things like bread are almost triple the cost than in the United Kingdom. Fish and Chips topped with salt and vinegar are a speciality in the United Kingdom - they are not available from American cafes and there is definitely no Fish and Chip shops as there are many in the United Kingdom. Crime is a large problem in both countries. In America, it is a big problem partly because of the gun laws. For example you can go into Asda Walmart and buy one over the counter. You can say that the crime clock continues to click: one murder every 22 minutes, one rape every 5 minutes, one robbery every 49 seconds and one burglary every 10 seconds.

In the United Kingdom drugs are very easily available and you can feel not safe to walk around your own neighborhood sometimes at night because of the amount of hooligans on the streets. In fact, men in Scotland run more than twice the risk of being murdered than those in England and Wales.

*Shila R. & Stephanie J.*