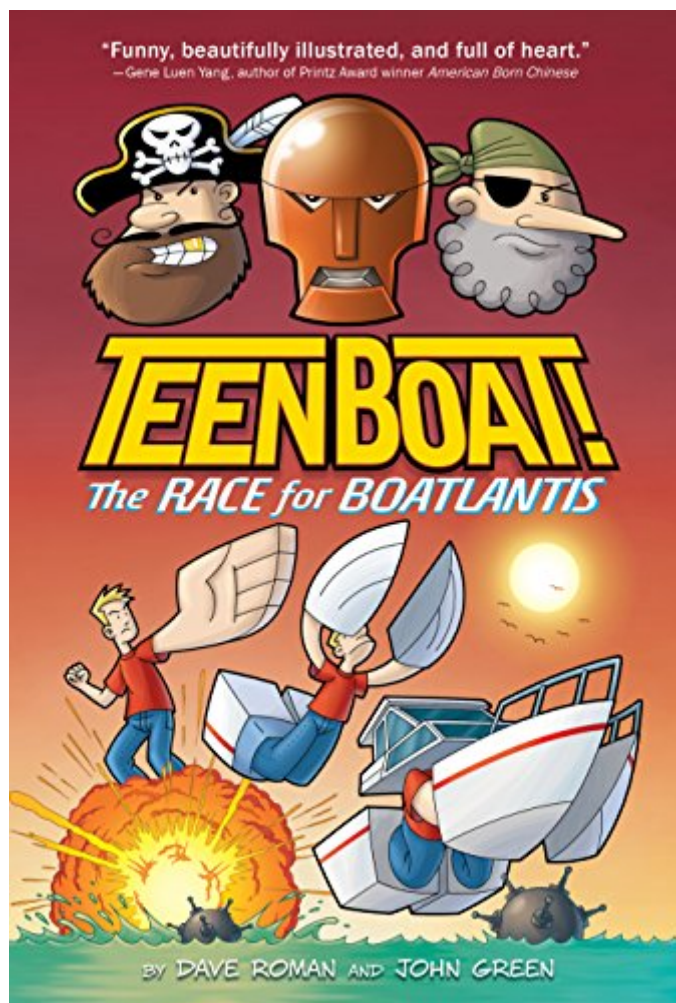


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Teen Boat! The Race For Boatlantis



Synopsis

Praise for Teen Boat! “While I am not the John Green who illustrated this book, I am a John Green who ABSOLUTELY LOVES the unadulterated brilliance that is Teen Boat!”
John Green, author of The Fault in Our Stars Teen Boat has always felt different from the other kids, which makes sense, since he’s the only one who can transform into a yacht. Now, just before his high school graduation, he embarks on an epic quest of self-discovery. He learns of a mysterious city called Boatlantis, where boats are at the top of the social ladder. Can it be true? Has he finally found the place where a half boy/half boat belongs? Or will he always be torn between two worlds?

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Customer Reviews

This sequel to be Teen Boat! may be the most insanely funny thing I’ve ever read in my entire life, but if you can somehow manage to suspend disbelief over the basic premise, it actually makes a weird sort of sense. The parodies are laid on thick and fast, but the plot is not sacrificed. Telling a single story also seems to work better than the more episodic nature of the first book.

About the only nit I can offer up is that Principal Stern didn't appear to get any closure on his issue.

It's fun. Don't take it too seriously. It's a boy that transforms into a boat. It's pretty immature and silly stupid. My dad would have loved it when he was a kid, but he was the type of man who thought the Police Academy movies were hilarious... But I guess I did watch "Turbo Teen" when I was little which is about a boy who turns into a car. I'm not saying it's bad. It's a fun light read. I'm not sad I read it before letting my son read it. I definitely smiled a few times. But my eyes rolled back into my head a number of times too! I really didn't like the euphemism exclaimed: "Motha Ruddar". I don't want my son to start thinking of things he can say close to other curse words. I don't think the exclamation was necessary or added to the story. If the kids don't get it, they don't get it. But I got it and it bothers me that it's in my kid's book. Other than that, there's not much objectionable. The teen boat has his first kiss. Authority figures are kinda blown off but not disobeyed (mainly not present). It has some teen focus with the prom, liking a girl, and the first kiss. I'm not sure if my pre-teen son will like that focus, but I think he's really love the imaginative immaturity level of the rest of the book. I think a young teen would fit in with the plot better, but I'm not sure if they would be willing to go along with the whole kid/boat thing (and the "stupid" things just keep coming throughout the book). But overall, it's a pretty fun little diversion. I think my son will like reading it, so still suggest it.

Teen Boat is a graphic novel for kids about a teenage boy named Teen Boat, who can turn into a small yacht. He doesn't know that his best friend--a girl named Joey Steinberg--has a crush on him. T.B. has a crush on another girl in school, and Joey is heart-broken and angry when, instead of asking her to the prom, T.B. tries to get Joey to help him ask the other girl out for him. Joey befriends the new boy in school, a rich kid with robotic parts, nicknamed Teen Bot. A boat race is announced, and Teen Boat discovers that the winner of the race will get to go to the secret city of Boatlantis, where sentient boats live. Who will win the race? Who will end up together? And what's the story behind Boatlantis? The first half of this graphic novel isn't that interesting, feeling something like an Archie comic, if Archie were some kind of Transformer that turned into a small yacht. The story makes little sense and is inconsistent. For example, in beginning of the story, T.B. can't help turning into a boat when he gets wet and can't turn back into a human until he completely dries. Later when he is on a ramp at sea, though, he turns into a boat and back into a human instantly at will. The second half of the graphic novel is much better, but it feels rushed. T.B. is a rather self-absorbed main character, and not very likable, though he does become more likable as the

story progresses. There are lots of jokes, although none of them are laugh-out-loud funny. I don't want to give anything away, but there are some things that happen in the story more because they're common cliches rather than because they make sense for the story. And they don't make sense. Neither does the idea of people being married to and having kids with objects, even if they are sentient. The story is weak and uneven, but it does end well. The drawings, on the other hand, are very good. The artist does a brilliant job of drawing a boy turning into a boat, not an easy task. The artist also manages to draw each character differently, which I like. Some cartoonists will give every character essentially the same face and body, but here each character has a different face shape, features, and stance. I like that. There's one panel with a goof in that Teen Bot's hand is drawn backward, but aside from that small mistake, the drawings are first rate. This isn't a great children's book, but it is fun enough. I imagine that boys between nine and twelve who like graphic novels and boats will love this.

Four of us have read this book and we have all said the same thing. This book is ridiculous. The premise alone, the only boy in the school that can morph from a boy to a boat is a pretty random way to set up a book for teen conformity angst. And it gets even more whacked from there, while somehow staying in a real world setting of a high school and community. The maturity level is strangely eclectic as well. The wackiness seems fit for 8-12, the high school setting and drama seems to be 14-17, and some of the jokes are clearly sent over their heads to parents. There were a few things I felt were perhaps a little mature for young readers like nautical puns for swear words and (spoiler alert) a woman who is impregnated by a submarine. But all in all, it is so ridiculous that it holds all readers. It is a quick read, very visual with very good, although almost computer generatedly clean graphics. It lacks an artistic looseness, but is visually wonderful. The dialogue is cleanly written and was easy for all readers from 8 to middle aged. None of us really put it down after we picked it up. Great, engaging book. We use these for road trips and it did the trick of passing 30-45 minutes per reader.

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