



## Free Thaddeus!

*John Gosselink*

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Designed like a case file, chock-full of notes, journal entries, letters, e-mails, illustrations, and more, *Free Thaddeus!* is an uproarious middle-grade novel that argues why the irreverent Thaddeus should be released from his in-school suspension and explains the unbelievable circumstances that led to his punishment. Soon readers will be chanting, “Free Thaddeus!”

## Free Thaddeus! Details

Date : Published September 1st 2011 by Harry N. Abrams

ISBN : 9781419700842

Author : John Gosselink

Format : Paperback 240 pages

Genre : Young Adult, Academic, School, Humor, Fiction, Childrens, Middle Grade

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## From Reader Review Free Thaddeus! for online ebook

### **Jeremiah says**

Not something I would read again, but it's pretty entertaining.

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### **Celine Wang says**

I don't get why so many people hated this book. Personally, I think it's one of the funniest middle school books I've ever read. Thaddeus is one weird kid, but he's so weird that eventually you just give up on all logic and accept the fact that all of these things happened in his world. Great for middle school kids who need a laugh, or even if you're older and up for a wacky story.

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### **Jenny Mock says**

I love the humor of this book! But I'm a teacher so I'm not sure if that's why I enjoy Thaddeus so much. I'm going to have my friend's son (current middle schooler) read this book and give me some student insight. I think Thaddeus would find this to be a highly efficient way to determine student interest.

The younger opinion: enjoyed the story but he doesn't believe most middle schoolers will get the sarcasm.

So combined rating of 3.5.

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### **Emma says**

This book was amazing. Plain and simple. Here are my top 5 reasons why.

- 1) I love case style and journal style books. It makes it easier to see relationships
- 2) I know that it's sad but I like when the character has a traumatic event whether it's embarrassing or if it is just depressing. It makes the character(s) seem more relatable.
- 3) I'm in middle school so I can relate to the school aspect (detention referrals etc.). However I'm not religious so I can't relate to the church parts of the story. I don't know what an acolyte is. But it seemed explained well.
- 4) I love fun facts!!!! Call me crazy but it is so much fun to learn about things in small doses (and more effective).
- 5) The story line of this child trying to improve the school and getting ISS for the whole year seemed a little far fetched before I started it. But when the author can remember little details about school right down to the school lunch every single day!? That is one clever author.

Every book I love has its down falls. Usually it's 3 or 4 of them. But this time there is only 1.

- 1) Why aren't Alison and Thaddeus together!!!! The both are so sweet and they clearly like each other. Maybe the author is trying to make it seem that way. Who knows?

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### **Laura says**

He was so annoying.

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### **Tiana Coffee says**

what i thought of this book was it was a good book.this book is about this kid named thaddeus who tries to make up so many excuses so he wont get into trouble.he also loves Nachos.Theddeus gets so many referrals like for example:it says that he tried to run over a kid with a bus, and he also tried kill an old lady.

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### **Peggy says**

It's school time again, and that means my son has to read a bunch of books. Last year, I decided to read them before him so we could eventually discuss them. This was my first read for this school year and at first, it looked very childish for an 8th grader; but the story is in between the lines. It's a story of a young boy who lost his Dad, and his antics are all a part of what he learned from his father, and the outcry of a child who doesn't want to show his true feelings. I loved it. As a guardian ad litem, any time a child is hurting, I want to take away their pain, and that's how I felt when I read about Thaddeus.

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### **Kerrie says**

Hilarious. Witty. And yes, even heartfelt. Reminds me of a kid I know...

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### **Avery says**

This was one of our Sunshine State books this year, so I had to read it.

Let's just say, the only thing I liked about this book was that it was short. I don't think I could stand much more of this so-called humor. I see it as an amazing gift to be annoying so much, that the reader wants to punch a FICTIONAL character.

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### **Kim says**

Free Thaddeus! is a middle-grade novel that argues why the misunderstood and quirky Thaddeus should be released from his in-school suspension and explains the unbelievable events that led to his punishment. It was a cleverly written novel. Thaddeus' Mother was strangely a small focus. The lawyer uncle played a greater and somewhat at a loss role trying to bail Thaddeus out of his ongoing predicaments.

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### **Jake k says**

This book was great because of the personality Gosselink gave Thaddeus. He had crazy and creative ideas. He was developed well and was intelligent and witty. I found this book funny even though it was about a serious matter.

The only thing I disliked was the book went from one event to another. I would have preferred on event at a time instead of them switching.

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### **Diana says**

Read this when the title was The Defense of Thaddeus A Ledbetter

This book has a really great format - it's told through artifacts in a case file, including e-mails, school referrals, and letters. You get the pieces of the story bit by bit. Will appeal to Wimpy Kid fans.

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### **Luke. Getman says**

I am reading the book FREE THADDEUS by John Gosselink .I like this book for its humor and educational purposes .Your probably wondering " educational purposes " "What".Its educational because the book has little Thaddeus fun facts . This book is about a kid ,Thaddeus that is being sentenced for ISS ,for pulling the fire alarm on a school fire drill.He says it was preparing the school for the worst and is good.It also says schools should have bee drills instead of fire because more people get killed by bees.The fun facts are usually in his defense letters that share facts or words in his defense letters that shares sarcasm that makes his principle look stupid or help him defend his case .Thaddeus is using all his resources like his uncle(Lawer),Alison(his best friend)and most importantly his genius wits.I like Thaddeus a lot .I like Thaddeus a lot because he's like me,he's a genius.By the way the alarm is just one out of the many helpful but still accused situations by Thaddeus.I also like this book because its rich.It is rich because it has so many subjects from problems in the snow cone industries to the so many diffrent topiced Thaddeus fun facts.The fact that this book is hilarios makes it so hard to stop reading.One really funny part in book was , "HOW TO IMPROVE THE SNOW CONE INDUSTRY ,it says "Lose the tiger blood flavor.Were kids not vampirers.Plus, do you really want to encourage the slaughter of an endangered species as a kids snack.No Pina Colada and Margarita flavors.Getting the kids hooked on the flavors of alcoholic drinks isn't very responsible .No naming flavors after popular cartoon characters.What does that mean?How are we supposed to know how a fictional charecters taste like?

And why wuuld we whant to eat one?Increase knowledge of food in the natural world.Like the flavor "Blue Coconut ".Have you ever seen a coconut?They could not be less blue.If anything,that color would indicate spoilage,or at least some fungi growth.Either way,it isn't very appetizing.Spend more on pest control".I think Gosselink is very smart for figuring out in the book HOW TO IMPROVE THE SNOW CONE INDUSTRY.Adding up all the fun facts,homor ,richness, and reality its my by far most faviorte book ever.So far I am in the rising action .I will look forward to more of Gosselink's books.

P.S. this book had a lot of topics out of the few I named

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### **Sherrie says**

This light, entertaining "Wimpy Kid" style book is recommended for reluctant readers. This is one of the Sunshine State Young Reader Awards (SSYRA) books for 6th to 8th grade for the 2013-2014 school year.

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### **Shane says**

Thaddeus causes a great deal of havoc across the case-files included in this novel, though he does so with perfectly understandable reasons. This realistic fiction novel will have higher level middle-grade readers enjoying the deadpan manner in which Thaddeus describes the events that have gotten him finally placed in ISS (In School Suspension) for the year as he makes a case for why he should not only be allowed out but also be given praise as a hero. Anyone looking for a witty protagonist would be remiss in skipping out on this humorous read.

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