



My Teacher Glows in the Dark

Bruce Coville

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Kidnapped in Space?

Peter Thompson has had some pretty weird teachers in his time. By the time he discovers that his newest teacher glows in the dark, he's flying away from Earth in a spaceship full of aliens and there's no one he can call. How do you report an alien to the F.B.I. anyway?

Before Peter can do anything, he's taken on the strangest field trip of his life! His friends, his father, his school are suddenly a million miles away!

My Teacher Glows in the Dark Details

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From Reader Review My Teacher Glows in the Dark for online ebook

Sean Chick says

I recalled losing interest in the series with book three and it is the same this time around. Peter's part of the story is not that interesting as Coville fails to make the aliens very interesting beyond them being hypocrites. They basically think "your planet so so violent we need to blow it up!" It reminds me of protesters talking about love while throwing rocks. Coville though hardly plays up that part, which is the problem of maintaining peace through strength. It also reminds one of extremists who, although they can see the intelligence of their opponents, think they are so dangerous they must be exterminated or at least controlled. To understand that, consider the actions of Mao or your average slave-owner who thinks they are "civilizing" their chattel.

The more personal message of the book is "people care about you" and "learn to express your feelings." This is pretty standard stuff from the 1990s and even today. The other caveat is that if you are intelligent you will be liberal/left on issues, one of the more persistent and debilitating myths among liberals and leftists.

Still, it was an easy read, with great sci-fi moments, such as Peter's getting telepathy. The ending made me want to read the final book, but to be fair so too did the end of the superior *My Teacher Fried My Brains* and this one was fairly disappointing or to be more fair extremely average.

Colleen says

I think the best way to characterize what well-written sci-fi this is (while still perfectly enjoyable for any 4th-6th grade-ish aged kid) is that the issue of going to the bathroom on an alien spaceship is handled logically and humorously. Also, I will forever give Coville credit for describing the 'wiki-walk' phenomenon at least a decade before such a thing existed, in the scene in which nerdy protagonist Peter gets understandably lost in the aliens' virtual reality encyclopedia.

Coville seems determined to trope-bust his way through every sci-fi cliché from 'wrinkly foreheaded aliens' on down, as in the scene when the captain of the ship turns out to be a tank of crystals, which rebukes Peter for his 'carbon-based' biases about what constitutes life.

All of this in a hilarious book about a sixth grader whose teacher is an alien. What more can you ask for?

Anna Kozlowska says

This is my science fiction book. *My Teacher Glows in the Dark* turns out to be an interesting story about Peter Thompson and his adventure in space. Peter willingly gets kidnapped in a spaceship, but somehow enjoys it and goes through cool experiences, like getting a language implant and understanding alien's words, gestures and expressions or traveling in a transcendental elevator. While I was much hesitant about this type of a genre, I enjoyed it very much. *My Teacher Glows in the Dark* is an absorbing sequel to *My Teacher is an Alien* and *My Teacher Fried My Brains*. I certainly recommend this book as a read aloud or an

independent read to students in the intermediate grades. I think that they would enjoy Peter's adventures with the aliens, his transformation and his plan to save the earth.

Myriam says

J'en garde un assez mauvais souvenir. Déjà enfant, la science-fiction ne me convenait pas!

John says

Odd, the workings of serendipity. This came off the pile just now immediately after Jack McDevitt's *Cauldron*, and I realize that in a way they're not so dissimilar in terms of plot. This time it's a kid, Peter, who's transported to the far reaches of the galaxy, where He Has Adventures. A mighty difference is that this book can't be more than about 20% of the length of McDevitt's. It's also far more lightly written (and has better jokes). One could make the same sort of criticisms of it, I guess, as I have of *Cauldron*, yet in this instance, long before I'd had a chance to weary of the lack of a proper plot, I'd finished the book. No classic, but I'll be looking out for others in the series.

Kurt Pankau says

Still fun, and I'm still amazed at the details that stayed with me from when I read it two decades ago. Have to admire this entry for going full-on weird with the aliens. The kids liked it too.

Kressel Housman says

This series just gets better and better! It's the third in the *My Teacher Is An Alien* series, this one told from the POV of Peter, the bullied nerd. How's *this* for a quote:

"All these guys picking on smart kids and calling them geeks and dweebs are going to grow up and want to know why *they* don't *do something* about the terrible state the world is in. I can tell you why. By the time they grow up, most of the kids who really could have changed things are wrecked."

And then picked-on Peter gets his chance to save the world. I can hardly wait for the resolution in the next book!

Jen says

I'll be honest, I didn't finish this book when I was younger (3rd/4th grade). And I'm not sure why. It is an excellent addition to the series.

This book follows Peter in his time immediately after he runs off with Broxholm and his adventures on the

spaceship New Jersey. While on board, he meets a variety of aliens from all over the universe.

Peter has always wanted to go to space but his trip up to the stars isn't going exactly how he thought. First he was stripped naked. Sure he got his eyes fixed and got a translator installed that allows him to communicate with those onboard the ship but it is still a little embarrassing to be naked in front of strangers (alien strangers).

Space jumps are horrible, making Peter nauseous every time they happen. But while he is exploring, he makes a few friends and learns exactly what Broxholm's mission was. And now Peter knows his planet is on the verge of being destroyed.

Its odd how much of the book still fits the times. We still are a world full of smart people who have wars and let people starve. I would hope that some day kids reading this book have no idea what any of that was but I highly doubt it.

Looking forward to finishing out this series!

Jazz Feylynn says

The third in a great kid's series "My teacher is an Alien" quartet. A fun read. As well as, showing that different doesn't mean scary, bad, nasty, horrible. But, can mean opportunities, change for the better, growth/learning.

Sri says

Sayang ini buku yang ketiga. Setelah selesai membacanya aku jadi kepengin baca dari buku pertama. Lumayan menarik ceritanya. Lumayan seru dan penuh imajinasi. Alien-alien-nya selain aneh dalam segi wujud, gesture mereka juga aneh-aneh. Sayang sampai akhir buku aku masih nggak ngerti kenapa Hoo Lan jadi sakit setelah berusaha bertelepati dengan Peter a.k.a Krepta. Mungkin di buku selanjutnya dibahas? Aku juga nggak ngerti kenapa Peter sebel cenderung benci pada ayahnya. Mungkin di buku pertama dan kedua dibahas?

Satu lagi yang aku sayangkan, aku membaca versi ebook tanpa ilustrasi :D padahal aku bayangkan ilustrasinya seru.

Kalau serial Ramona cocok untuk bacaan anak-anak cewek karena manisnya cerita, seri ini cocok untuk bacaan anak-anak cowok karena unsur petualangan dan humornya.

Pandora says

Covers the same time span as My Teacher Fried My Brians only now we find out what happened to Peter when he left for outer space. This does mean the book loops back to the ending of My Teacher Fried My Brians but, the loop is handled pretty well.

Spoiler Alert:

The book does contain some good philosophy of about why humans are so messed up. Covers the same ground as Alan Dean Foster covered in many of his books. Of course Alan Dean Foster was writing for adults and is a sci-fi writer so the books are higher quality. My problem with this series is that although Coville has some good ideas they are not fresh to me. He also spoils the stories in going to far out there. Removal of a brain! Even Classic Trek couldn't pull that idea off. Then there are the creations of the aliens. It seems that Coville just decides what would sound weird and makes that an alien. Again I use to read sci-fi and I'm use to the idea that an alien should fit his/hers function and personality. For example Alan Dean Foster created a cat like alien to be his second best warrior. A blob like alien who didn't think of individuality was the enemy. Along with meaningless aliens is that the devices they use are more fantasy creations that scientific. Beside the main idea the humans are strange creatures and need to get it together everything else in the series is what I refer to as junk sci-fi -a fantasy trying to pretend it is a sci-fi and becoming neither. HG Wells is the only who could manage this idea well I think.

A fun read but, one I wouldn't recommend for sci-fi book reports not that there is a lot out there. Need more HM Hoover. Coville it seems should stick to fantasy.

Tatra says

Bruce Coville is one of my favorite authors. So imaginative and uplifting. Most of all, it really is fun and I liked the characters.

Janis Knox says

My son loved it

We have continued reading this series and he liked this one just as much as the others. I think this was was probably almost my favorite.

Books Kids Like says

While Duncan Dougal has a mind-full of trouble on earth, Peter Thompson is millions of miles away on the space station New Jersey where he learns of Earth's impending doom. Human brain capacity has allowed earthlings to develop scientifically much faster than any other "people." Yet, their lack of civility towards one another has the space community in an uproar. Many fear that earthling space travel will lead to interplanetary wars. Some aliens are calling for earth's destruction. Others are advocating forced isolation. Hoo Lan, a glowing alien, becomes Peter's adviser. He is part of the group that hopes to save Earth. Peter agrees to let CrocDoc examine his brain. The aliens hope to find an organic reason for earthlings' willingness to destroy their planet, kill each other, and let people starve. Peter is unconscious for 10 days. While asleep he dreams of Susan, Duncan, and his father. He also sees a tall teacher in a dark classroom.

Alison Condliffe says

Really enjoy this series. This was the most challenging to read as all set in space, so nothing to ground the descriptions. Peter not as engaging narrator as Duncan or Susan but still a really good book.
