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Tom Gates: Extra Special Treats (Not)

Jessica Mellor

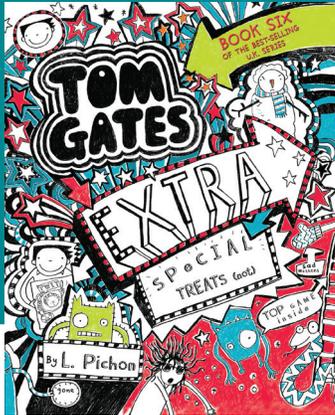
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Book Review

Tom Gates: Extra Special Treats (Not)

Author

L. Pichon

Illustrator

L. Pichon

Reviewer

Jessica Mellor

Rating

Excellent

Level

Intermediate,
Young Adult

Pages

221

Year

2019

ISBN

9781536207750

Publisher

Candlewick Press

Tom Gates, doodler extraordinaire, can get into some mischief. Whether it's sneaking into the special treats that are hidden around the house, playing loud music to annoy his sister, or doodling all over his homework, there's always some adventure going on. Tom's ultimate goal is to become a star pupil, something that Marcus (a current star pupil) mocks him about. But Tom won't let that get him down as he combats the forces of evil (aka Marcus) to work hard and turn in all of his crumpled homework in the hopes that he can one day be a star pupil too.

This book could best be described as having the aspects of a graphic novel with much more text. Each page is full of doodles, small pictures, and little comments that give the book comedic qualities. For students, this is a perfect bridge between graphic novels and heavier texts. It's a quicker read that both entertains and gives a sense of accomplishment to readers, especially those who struggle to make it through a whole book. The characters feel real, as you get some of their thought processes and side notes throughout the novel. This book feels like it really was written from the perspective of a young person. It has the potential to create an outlet for young aspiring writers to see a way that they can also write. There is a lot here that can help students to feel confident in their writing abilities and to understand that they can just write who they are and make it fun as well. If you're looking for a fun read that can help students become more interested in reading, then this could be the book for you.