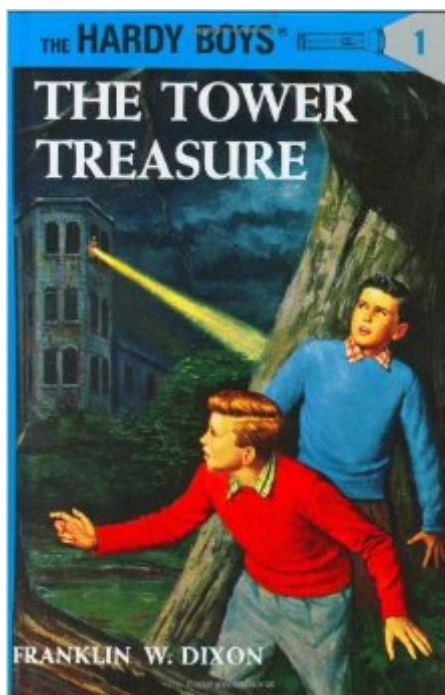


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The Tower Treasure (The Hardy Boys No. 1)



Synopsis

A dying criminal confesses that his loot has been stored "in the tower." Both towers of the looted mansion are searched in vain. It remains for the Hardy boys to make an astonishing discovery that clears up the mystery and clears the name of a friend's father.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 740L (What's this?)

Series: The Hardy Boys (Book 1)

Hardcover: 180 pages

Publisher: Grosset & Dunlap; New edition edition (June 1, 1959)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0448089017

ISBN-13: 978-0448089010

Product Dimensions: 5 x 0.7 x 7.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars See all reviews (244 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #9,825 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #68 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Boys & Men #88 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Siblings #102 in Books > Children's Books > Mysteries & Detectives

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

Hopefully, the reader will not mind if I wax nostalgic for a paragraph, but The Hardy Boys were an important part of my childhood. I got one book on the holidays and one for my birthday for some 5 years straight, and these were my entire personal library for some time. I owe all the thousands of books I have come to enjoy to a royal elephant, a detective pig, and Frank and Joe, the two inquisitive sons of Fenton Hardy. Now it is forty-some years later, and the temptation to see if I could go back again is simply too strong. 'The Tower Treasure' is the very first, in which Frank and Joe start out trying to track down a stolen car for a friend, and suddenly find themselves embroiled in a jewel theft at the Tower Mansion. The father of another of their friends is a suspect, and the boys join with their father in the effort to bring the right man to justice. What makes these books work is that, while the plots are not particularly convolute, the books are peopled with many delightful

characters and narrative. Adventures are had, wonderful secrets are divulged, the bad are punished and the good rewarded. In this day and age of equivocal messages, the clean, straightforward approach to life of Frank and Joe Hardy is like a breath of fresh air. I found the book quite engaging, even after all these years. I was quite envious of the Hardys, who even had their own motorcycles, and I find flickers of the same feelings even today. After all, I still don't have a motorcycle. I wish I could have grown up solving mysteries and adventuring with my sibling and father, but books like 'The Tower Treasure' turned out to be the next think. I learned a lot from Frank and Joe, and I think those values are still worth promoting.

Although my 9-year-old son is willing to read when he has to, reading is pretty far down on his list of desirable leisure activities, below TV, video games, computer, Hot Wheels, and so on. However, this book, dated though it may be, changed all that. He stayed up late to read it, carried it to school with him, read it in the car, while he was eating... you get the picture. He hardly put it down until he was finished. I have already ordered the next 5 in the series. (Get the starter set, it's cheaper.) Yes, the characters are dated, the language is stilted, the plot is contrived and the details are unrealistic, especially to an adult jaded by "Law & Order" and "CSI." But the characters demonstrate independent problem-solving; they're respectful to their parents, other adults, and the girls they date; there's no inappropriate language or toilet humor; and best of all, the kid loved it. Three cheers for the Hardy Boys!

This review is about the Applewood reprint edition of the Tower Treasure. Revision of the Hardy Boys mysteries began in 1959 with the revision of Tower Treasure and a few other titles. We are very fortunate that Applewood has published the original text of the first 15 Hardy Boys stories. This is the first time readers have had the chance to read the original text of The Tower Treasure in 40+ years. This original text story is richer than the revised text version. Most notable is the inclusion of humor, but character development is also more in depth than the more modern stories. Subplots are also used more freely. This is an enjoyable read. Adults under 50 have probably not read this version of Tower Treasure, so it will be a revelation.

The original Hardy Boys were written in the 1920's but the one I just purchased on the kindle was the re-written version from the 1950's and 1960's and not the original like the date said. please update this information on your pages so that no one else is misled

Kudos to Applewood books for re-issuing this original text Hardy Boys book that started a line- up of great stories for youth that are still being published today. Most younger baby-boomers will not remember this story in its original form, as the text was substantially revised in the latter 1950's. This earlier, more hearty (no pun intended) story makes the revision pale by comparison. Applewood's reissue of Tower Treasure puts the series in its proper context. This story is truly the reader's introduction to Frank and Joe Hardy, and their mysteries. More than just nostalgia, this book is fun to read. If you read it to your children, you may have to put some of it in proper historical context, but that's part of the fun. I have found all of the original-text stories much more entertaining and substantial than the revised editions. Applewood has released six original-text Hardy's so far. I own them all, and highly recommend each one. In fact, I plan to purchase any of the original text Hardy stories Applewood will issue.

Starting in the mid-1960s, the publisher of this series started to rewrite these books. In part, of course, this was to spike sales. The publishers were sure that sagging sales in the 60s were due to obsolete slang terms, and that spiffing the language up would help. So, "roadster" becomes "hot rod," "bowler" becomes "hat," and "hip flask" becomes "stash." If only this was the end of it, though. In 1927, it was just fine to use ethnic stereotypes and labels. The white people in the book casually used shocking terms to describe women, Mexicans and African Americans. I won't repeat them here, in deference to today's well-placed sensibilities. But Franklin W. Dixon also rendered ethnic speech in a literal sense not seen today, and this, too, fell victim to the revisionist sensibilities that informed the editing job. Art is lost. Given the opportunity, the "rewriters" also could have resolved several unsolved problems in the 1927 original. These issues remain a mystery, even eighty years later: 1. How did Chet actually recover his yellow roadster? 2. It seems, on page 67 of the original, that Frank and Joe actually trade identities. Did they ever revert to their actual selves before the end? 3. Who's Peggy? 4. The purpose for which the Tower was built is never established. If you can get a hold of any copy of the rare 1927 original, you'll like it better. Well, in any event, this is a fun read, even as deconstructed.

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