



My Life as a Stuntboy

Janet Tashjian , Jake Tashjian

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Derek Fallon gets the opportunity of a lifetime—to be a stunt boy in a major movie featuring a pretty teen starlet. After accepting the job he learns that he is the star's stunt double and must wear a wig! His friends are never going to let him live this down. If that weren't his only problem, his parents are threatening to give away his pet monkey, and his best friend just posted an embarrassing video of him on Youtube. Can life get any worse? Still the irrepressible Derek takes it all in stride and even manages to save the day.

My Life as a Stuntboy Details

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Caleb says

wow his book was really good way better than the first book.

Matthew Piotrowicz says

Twelve-year-old Derek trying to do anything other than his reading list for over the summer. He thinks that summer is a 2-3 month period of relaxing and having fun. Derek is very much a visual learner than anything else as to be seen in the novel. This book is not for a high reading level, as seen by pictures on the side to resemble what more challenging words mean, but it is a good book. Although it is a sequel to best-selling "My Life as a Book".

Derek with his friends and family are very close and seem to never turn their backs on each other. Just as it seems that way his friend and fellow skateboarder Matt joins another boy to go against Derek. He gets a once in a lifetime opportunity to be a stunt boy for a major movie. After accepting the part he finds out that he will be Scarlet, a pretty girl around Derek's age stunt double. Things seem to take a turn for the worst and his friends post an embarrassing video of him on YouTube wearing the wig.

Austin K says

My cook is My Life As A Stunt Boy. I would rate this book a 5 star because. This book is about a kid who gets a key stunt part in a major movie wan has to do a bunch of crazy stunts and his friends wont let him live this down his parents don't have that much money to live and they are trying to sell his monkey, and its keeps getting worse because every time he messes up on video all his friends will post in on the web and so everyone can see his failure. When he goes to school everyone laughs and points and he Has a rough time getting through it and i think you should help him do it!!!

Julie says

The story slides in lessons on personal responsibility and friendship without being preachy.

Debra says

I love the fact that life isn't always black and white. Derek gets singled out by an adult stuntman who sees him perform some awesome skateboard tricks at a local campus. That catapults him into the spotlight at school as a minor celebrity. But with fame...comes envy. His best friend is insanely jealous of all the attention he is getting and secretly films Derek reading painfully slow to his tutor and releases it on youtube. I can't imagine a worse betrayal and I was comforted to see that the author had Derek lock himself inside the school nurse's bathroom and cry. It was a true response to that much hurt and pain. But Derek soldiers on through monkey kidnapping and performing awesome stunts in a girl pajamas and a wig for the movie cameras.

Nicky H says

This is a great book. It is about a boy named Derek Fallon and he has trouble reading so his mom hires a tutor to help Derek. Later on in the book he was skateboarding with his friend, and while he was skateboarding he got asked to do a movie about skateboarding. When he was dressing up for a scene, he had to wear pajamas with a wig, so that's when he realized he was doing a movie for a girl so people made fun of him. This was a great book and I recommend this book to people that like action and graphic novels.

Jack .V says

This book was just as great as the first one! I really like the characters emotions and how it is presented. I loved the part where Derek climbs all the crates and saves Frank (he is a monkey). If you like Diary of a Wimpy Kid, you WILL love this book.

Wendy Kuzma says

This is a great transitional book for kids who enjoy, but are reluctant to move beyond, Diary of a Wimpy Kid. The story moves along at a nice pace and I really cared about the characters. The main character, who is a struggling reader in school, has an opportunity to be a stunt double in a movie. His family also fosters a capuchin monkey, Frank, that will eventually be trained as a companion for a disabled person. (I didn't even know this was a thing! ;)) I really enjoyed this book and read it in a day. I am looking forward to reading more books in this series.

Yeimi Alvarez says

Its a new day of the new school year and deker is nervous for this new school year. Derek gets a opportunity as a stunt double of a movie. BUt has to wear a wig he doesnt feel to comfortable with this especialñy with his friends. Derek is also being embarrassed by a video that his friends have of him. I like this book because its a fun expierence to read about a stunt boy that is in a movie as a stunt boy and at the same time having friend problems.

Karen says

Really enjoyed her first book, My Life as a Book, so no surprise that I enjoyed this one just as much. After sitting by her during a recent MacMillan dinner at NCTE, I loved getting the inside story about why her son is the illustrator of these books. Great stick figures that help with the understanding of vocabulary - a technique he used many times himself.

Tracy Bailey says

I love this series. Vocabulary words are illustrated in the margin of every page. Great for reluctant readers. The main character, Derek, is a 12 year old boy who struggles with reading. To help with reading comprehension, he illustrates tough words (these are the vocabulary words in the margin of every page). In this book Derek deals with best friend problems, cyber-bullying, and some family drama. No spoiler here - you'll have to read it.

Kelly says

I continue to really enjoy this series. This kid is not perfect, but he doesn't have a totally bummer life.

Melissa Namba says

my niece will enjoy this book. I like that it deals with the issue of adolescent friendship and how it is often very thin and tenuous. I don't really like how things seem overly easy for him, because he always seems to get what he wants and that's not realistic. the celebrity aspect also is unrealistic, in all senses.

Renee says

Summary: Twelve-year-old Derek Fallon has the opportunity of a lifetime--to perform stunts in a movie featuring a popular twelve-year-old star--but complications arise involving his best friend, a capuchin monkey, and Derek's chronic inability to concentrate on schoolwork.

More plot details: Derek and his friend Matt like to do parkour - getting around an obstacle as efficiently as possible. (doing jumps and movement stunts on stairs, walls, etc). A real stuntman named Tony sees them in action and asks Derek to be a stuntboy in a new movie. The work is only for a couple of days and he does it. Matt is jealous and mad that he wasn't picked. It turns out, Derek is a stuntgirl for Tanya Billings, a famous tween actress. Derek gets made fun of for that. Matt does a couple more cruel things to Derek. Swifty, a kid Matt has been hanging out with, ends up kidnapping Derek's pet capuchin monkey, and all the kids go try to get him back. It involves parkour and Tanya to get the monkey back from a warehouse where it is running loose. In the end, all is well. Derek gets to keep his foster monkey who almost gets taken away from him. Matt and Derek are friends. But he never gets to see Tanya again.

1st book with same character is *My Life as a Book*. This is not a series and you do not need to have read the first book to understand this book. Very different plots.

Read-a-likes: *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*, *Big Nate*

There are sketches throughout the book. On the side, Derek has little stick figure drawings that define words in the book. Derek is known for illustrating his vocabulary words, something he enjoys, his teachers praise him on, and helps him learn better.

Derek does have some issues with his reading and that comes up in this book. He gets a tutor to help him with reading. At one point they practice reading aloud, Matt (his best friend who is mad at him) video takes him reading aloud and posts it to YouTube under the title "Idiot Reader".
