



In the Deep Blue Sea

Bill Nye, Gregory Mone, Nicholas Iluzada (Illustrations)

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New York Times—bestselling authors **Bill Nye the Science Guy** and **Gregory Mone** take middle-grade readers on a scientific adventure in Book 2 of the exciting new **Jack and the Geniuses** series.

The series combines real-world science along with a mysterious adventure that will leave kids guessing until the end, making the books ideal for STEM education.

In the second installment, *In the Deep Blue Sea*, Jack, his genius siblings Ava and Matt, and inventor Dr. Hank Witherspoon travel to the Hawaiian island home of Ashley Hawking, a technology billionaire. Hawking and engineer Rosa Morris have built a revolutionary electricity plant that harvests energy from the deep ocean, but someone has been sabotaging the project.

In their search for the culprit, Jack and crew navigate an unusual world of characters and suspects, including Hawking and her obnoxiously intelligent son, Steven; a family of surfers who accuse the billionaire of trespassing on sacred land; an ex-Navy SEAL with a fondness for cat photos; and a cigar-chomping man who calls himself the Air-Conditioning King of Hawaii.

Readers will learn about the mysteries of the deep ocean, the scientific process, and the potential of green energy as Jack and his brilliant siblings use all their brainpower to survive. Integrating real science facts with humor and suspense and featuring a multiethnic cast of boy and girl characters, this engaging series is an irresistible combination for middle-grade readers.

With easy-to-read language presented in a fun and accessible way, these books are great for both inquisitive kids and reluctant readers. *In the Deep Blue Sea: Jack and the Geniuses Book 2* includes information about the science discussed and used to solve the mystery, as well as a cool project that kids can do at home or in the classroom.

Bill Nye's brand-new talk show series for Netflix, *Bill Nye Saves the World*, premieres on April 21, 2017.

In the Deep Blue Sea Details

Date : Published September 12th 2017 by Harry N. Abrams

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Author : Bill Nye , Gregory Mone , Nicholas Iluzada (Illustrations)

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From Reader Review In the Deep Blue Sea for online ebook

Janice says

This series good for marrying science and adventure. This time Jack and the Geniuses are solving a mystery in Hawaii. Not as much potty humor as in the first book, but the kids will definitely laugh at loud at some of it.

Book 2. Although not really necessary to read them in order, but some of the adventures from earlier are mentioned.

Lilyn G. | Sci-Fi & Scary says

In the Deep Blue Sea is simply written, features an interesting array of characters, and is filled with a mystery which will appeal to middle-grade sleuths. Everything might seem a bit over-the-top to adult readers, but given that this seems to be aimed at the younger end of the middle-grade scale, it's appropriate.

Given that most of the characters are geniuses or obvious villain/villain decoys, the dialogue is somewhat stilted at times. In the Deep Blue Sea tries to interject moments of humor periodically. Sometimes they succeed, other times not so much. The story does consistently move forward, though. And there's definitely a tense moment or three for the kiddos. There's also an emphasis on teamwork that I love.

I got In the Deep Blue Sea from Netgalley. I was drawn to it because it had Bill Nye's name attached to it and also mentioned a "scientific adventure". So even though I hadn't read the first book in the series, I eagerly signed up to read this one. To be honest, I probably won't read more in the future, though. See, though I'm embarrassed to confess this, I can't stand Jack. I'm not sure entirely sure why, but by the end of the book I liked Matt, I loved Ava, and I wanted to not have to see Jack anymore.

Jack isn't a bad kid, but his inability to make basic connections had me twitching. I know he's meant to represent the 'normal kid' in the group, but come on! It just doesn't feel realistic. I know Jack is not meant to seem unintelligent, but that's how he comes across in In the Deep Blue Sea. It feels like the authors both have a hard time drawing an accurate picture of your average kid, and don't give Jack nearly enough credit. It's easy to write a kid genius. You just stick an adult brain in a kid's body and add a few childish quirks. Writing a normal kid is apparently a bit harder. I did like the kid's imagination, though.

My favorite character is definitely Hank. He's a solid father figure to the group but he never actually tries to be their father. He loves them but he also respects them, and that feels almost shocking to see. Unusual relationships seemed to be one of the key features of In the Deep Blue Sea. It's kind of cool to reflect upon after you're done reading the book. Hank's relationship with the kids in comparison to Ashley with her son especially. There's love and respect there in equal measure and yet the two relationships present very differently.

Overall, In the Deep Blue Sea was a good read. Once it hooked me, I had to see it through to the conclusion. I think that for certain kids in the intended age range, this could be a big hit. However, I can easily see it falling flat for a majority of kids too. It has a bit of trouble striking that note between educational and entertaining. I love, love, love that they're trying to do this, though! The experiment at the end of the book,

as well as information about the ocean was nice as well. And I'm sure each book will get better.

Disclaimer: I received a copy of this book from Netgalley for review consideration.

Tasha (Amaysn Reads) says

This is the second book in the Jack and the Geniuses series and it was just as good as the first one. This follows Jack, Hank, Matt, and Ava as they go on another adventure. This book has all the elements that I am coming to thoroughly enjoy about these books: science made easy, explaining concepts without coming off as condescending, and raising awareness of global issues. On top of all that, it tackles family dynamics. Everything that I enjoy in a middle grade. The story never felt predictable or that it was falling into a formula and the mystery was just great.

Again I highly recommend these books and I can't wait for the next one to come out!

Roger Flores-Chacon says

I chose the book because it was continuing my reading from where Jack left off on the first one. It was quite nice and I had no idea what would come next. The book is about Jack traveling to one of Hawaii's islands along with his siblings. They find themselves in a water powered base. The base is not working because someone was sabotaging it. Jack and his siblings along with a new friend try to sneak into the base to see if the saboteur would come back. They fail on getting there and drift away from the Island. They have to survive on a small boat in the middle of the ocean. A day later, they find themselves approaching home base while sending an SOS. They come back onto the Island and realized that the saboteur was the base designer's son. He didn't like the place and wanted to go so they left a few weeks later. Bill Nye has been educating kids since the 80's and is still doing that. Even in books like this one! This book almost bored me but I still thought that the book was amazing! The title does support the book since Jack is mostly surrounded by water.

Marla says

This is a great book for boys or girls and has lots of science wrapped in it. If you have a middle schooler, make sure to get this series for them.

American Mensa says

“Those moments when I know more than my siblings, well I live for them,” Jack often thinks about his genius foster siblings, Ava and Matt. In this adventure of Jack and the Geniuses in the Deep Blue Sea, the kids fly to an island in Hawaii called Nihoa on an underwater plane with their scientist mentor Hank Witherspoon and billionaire Ashley Hawking. Jack and his siblings investigate the Thermal Ocean Energy System, known as the TOES, the invention Rosa Morris created to make energy and reduce pollution by using cold water. They realize they were invited to Hawaii for Steven’s birthday party, but when the TOES stops working, they help find out what went wrong. There are many different suspects along the way, but

only one is correct. Who has sabotaged the TOES?

Jack and the Geniuses is a science mystery book filled with inventors and inventions packed with creativity. My favorite part was when Jack, Ava, Matt, and Maya (the granddaughter of one of the suspects) venture out on a handmade boat to the middle of the sea and get stranded. They have to eat raw fish, use a jacket for toilet paper, and tap S.O.S in Morse code on a shark tracking device to get home.

I give this book 5 stars because of the twists and cliffhanger ending, cool science, and the exciting feeling you get when you really want to know who did it. I think this book is good for girls and boys who are interested in mystery books and science technology. Best for ages 7+. Jack and the Genius is a 300 page book and the second in a series you'll want to keep reading.

Bianca M., 8, Denver Mensa

Meghan says

Focusing solely on the story, I have to say that it is a great follow-up to the first book in the series and I know that my students enjoyed it as well and are looking forward to the next book in the series. However, I'm not too happy with the publisher. I was given a signed copy of the book as a gift, however, as I was reading the book, I discovered that a whole section of the book was missing. I contacted the publisher, and have yet to hear back. So for several days, I was not able to read the story as I waited to hear from the book store to see if they could get their hands on another signed edition of the book. They were, and I was able to exchange it for a completed copy, but it was a pretty frustrating situation.

Alison says

Not my cup of tea and hard for me to finish, but a good science/action-adventure book with a diverse cast of characters. Also, I read this without having read the first and it didn't not effect my ability to understand what was happening.

aem says

Bill Nye, science guy us a good story teller too!!!

Apollo says

Great book with a spectacular twist at the end, but Jack is a bit too silly

Tiffany says

Another winner in the new "Jack and the Geniuses" series. This one finds Jack, his siblings, and their mentor, Hank, traveling to Hawaii to help with a clean-energy machine.

As with the previous "Jack" book, there's science, new discoveries, and mystery! There's plenty of basic science that kids probably already know, but that builds up to "Really?" science that is explained in the book (mainly to help Jack, the not-genius of the family, understand what the geniuses know, but of course that also helps us readers, young and older, who don't know the science) and further explained in the afterword "Eleven Absolutely Essential Questions About the Deep Blue Sea." And once again, new scientific discoveries lead to possible jealousy and sabotage, and Jack is determined to discover who can and can't be trusted.

Like the first book, this one also hints at gender equality (half of the smart people are female), and now race equality, too. It's subtle, but it's there. Two sentences (one question and one answer) toward the beginning of the book, but just poignant enough that it sticks in the memory of the reader, young and older.

Felix says

good book

Maximilian Lee says

I liked this book because I thought it was VERY realistic. It was realistic when the kid were lost at sea and didn't know their way back home (well, they kind of did). It also was not realistic because of the kids DID find their way back home! I did not like the ending because I thought it was kind of weird becsue it it just a few sentences that said that Hank's lab was a mess (like somone sabotaged it) right after they solved the mystery. I did really like the beginning because it connected perfectly with the last book.

Kristina Callender says

Exciting pace and plot makes science & reading fun. I read all 3 and as an adult I enjoyed them and learned a few things.

Kelley says

ARC received courtesy of Goodreads.com First Reads Give Away

I hadn't heard of this new series written by Bill Nye. I'm so incredibly glad that I ran across it on Goodreads. Our middle school is starting a new STEM program this year and I will happily turn this novel over to the 5th and 6th grade teachers!

The kids in the novel will appeal to both boys and girls. The mystery is wrapped in layers of science in which a kid could become interested. I loved the addition of "Big Questions about the oceans" at the end of the book. The experiment described for kids to try calls for materials that an average middle school kid would have access to use.

To top it all off, the novel is printed in orange ink, which if my research is correct, is trying to address some learning disabilities.

It's a win all the way around!
