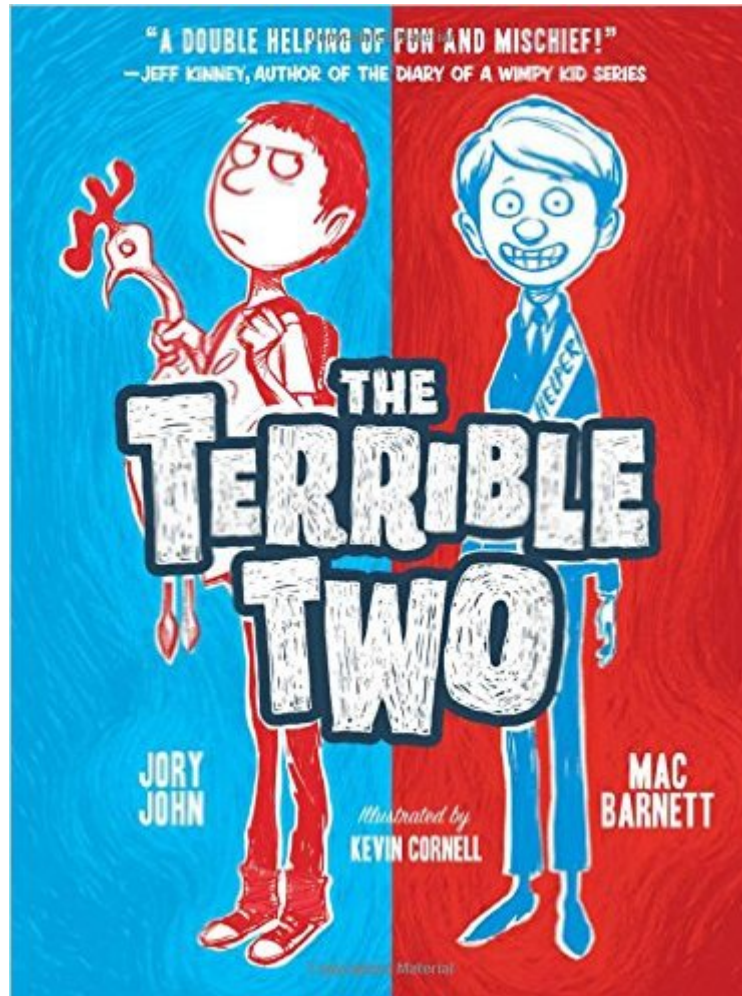


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The Terrible Two



Synopsis

“A double helping of fun and mischief!” —Jeff Kinney, author of the Diary of a Wimpy Kid series
“Hilarious.” —Dav Pilkey, author of the Captain Underpants series
Miles Murphy is not happy to be moving to Yawnee Valley, a sleepy town that’s famous for one thing and one thing only: cows. In his old school, everyone knew him as the town’s best prankster, but Miles quickly discovers that Yawnee Valley already has a prankster, and a great one. If Miles is going to take the title from this mystery kid, he is going to have to raise his game. It’s a prankster against a prankster in an epic war of trickery, until the two finally decide to join forces and pull off the biggest prank ever seen: a prank so huge that it would make the members of the International Order of Disorder proud. In *The Terrible Two*, bestselling authors and friends Mac Barnett and Jory John have created a series that has its roots in classic middle-grade literature yet feels fresh and new at the same time. “The pranks, the brotherhood, the art, the heart! What’s not to love about the *Terrible Two*?” —Sara Pennypacker, author of the *Clementine* series
“You don’t have to be a cow, like cows, or even know a cow to love the *Terrible Two*.” —Dave Eggers
“This book is terrible! Terribly funny, terribly full of pranks, and terribly wonderful.” —Jon Scieszka, author of *The Stinky Cheese Man* and the *Frank Einstein* series
“The *Terrible Two* are my kind of kids. And what’s more, they’re kids’ kind of kids.” —Annie Barrows, author of the *Ivy & Bean* series

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 620 (What’s this?)

Series: *The Terrible Two*

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Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (92 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,334 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #3 in [Books > Children’s Books >](#)

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Customer Reviews

There are a lot of middle grade books out there that are funny. Some are clever. Some are manic. Some are silly. But very few have the kind of deadpan wit and subtle throwaway lines that you will find in this book. The plot is antic enough. Our hero, Miles, is the new kid at school, plans to be the school's top prankster, and has to dethrone the current anonymous top prankster. Right off the bat I was concerned, because usually prankster books turn on farts, boogers, and gross out humor. I was wrong to be concerned. The actual pranks, which are sort of incidental to the larger story, are actually pretty clever. The prankster angle mostly serves to set up some reason for Miles and student X to compete, then meet, then cooperate. (And once that happens student X becomes a major satisfying character in his/her own right.) This is really more of a new kid/new challenges/new friend comedy of middle grade manners book. Miles is a bright, observant, articulate narrator, and is fine company for the reader. He's not happy about moving to a new dead end burg, but there isn't a lot of whinging. Miles is a can-do, jump right in kind of kid. The tone of the book is consistently upbeat and even though it has some sly and cutting little bits it never seems "off" and never hits a flat note. You can toss in a lot of little zingers in a book like this if you're cheerful about it, and this book never feels sour. It helps that in addition to the main plot we have a few running secondary plots, (Principal Barkin's attempts to find the prankster, Barkin's son's inept bullying), and some very funny one-off set pieces, (the cow-centric nature of the town, Miles' Mom's conversations with Miles, deadpan comments on the action by classmate Holly, and so on).

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