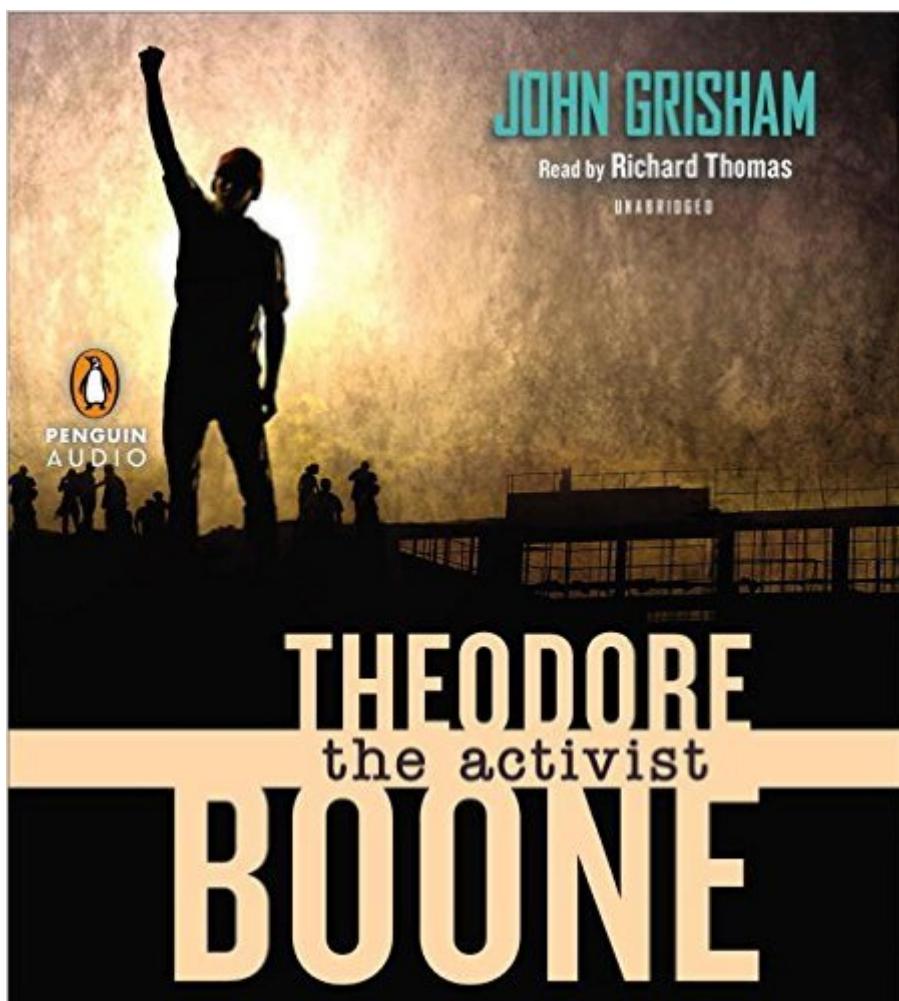


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Theodore Boone: The Activist



Synopsis

Theodore Boone is back in action! As all of Strattenburg sits divided over a hot political and environmental issue, Theo finds himself right in the thick of it. The county commission is fighting hard to change the landscape of the town, and Theo is strongly opposed to the plans. But when he uncovers corruption beneath the surface, no oneâ "not even Theoâ "is prepared for the risksâ "and potential harmâ "at stake. Torn between his conscience and the law, Theo will do whatever it takes to stand up for what is right.

Book Information

Series: Theodore Boone

Audio CD

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Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

My husband and son are huge fans of Theodore Boone. Grisham has done a great job of transitioning to a voice that the younger audience can connect to. The situations are real and the characters deal with them honestly. The plot is interesting and does not resolve quickly or easily. They have learned a lot about the legal world and how it impacts the everyday life.

This book is the fourth book of the Theodore Boone Series. The series is all about Theo who is the only child of two lawyers. His father is an estate lawyer and his mother is a divorce lawyer. Theo loves the law and plans to be a famous trial lawyer some day. He loves the law so much that he has his own small "law office" within his parents' offices. He gives advice and helps out friends as much

as he can. In this fourth book of the series, Theo is faced with a problem that has something to do with budgets. He is very sad to learn that budget cuts are forcing his school to make certain changes. But, as there are cutbacks on one hand, the town council is considering voting on a project that will cost \$200 million dollars. To make things much more worrisome, Theo's friend Hardie asks him whether the government can simply take the land that has been in his family for almost a century just to build something. As he and his friends are spending some time fishing on the property that Hardie's family calls their own, his dog Judge gets brutally attacked by men who claim to be surveyors. They even shoved one of the boys and was rough with Theo himself. Judge is lucky to be alive and Theo's parents take the men to Animal Court for cruelty. Theo has to explain about eminent domain and I have to admit that the explanation is clear and easy to understand especially for young children. The concept of acting on something that kids passionately care about is well presented. However, the story starts out rather slowly. It only picks-up after an incident at the Quinn property which is pretty far into the book.

First and foremost, I am a teenager who has read every book of this series. I've been keeping an eye on the release date of this book for a couple months after getting my hands on the third installment of this series. It was really quick and arrived on the day it was released (preordered). Overall, I did like the novel, giving it a solid B+. It included some modern topics that are currently being debated. It doesn't follow the previous installments where Theo Boone focuses on Pete Duffy and the murder case; it was very refreshing and showed Theo's continued strength to fight for what he thinks is right. The book includes politics (it will become very obvious), environmental issues, and the shady business Mr. Boone does. It does get a little bit bloody halfway through, but I felt the ending was a bit rushed and wished the ending could be a bit better. I was surprised Theo knew what "eminent domain" is, but has no idea where tax dollars go, basic economy, or what an "activist" is. Simply put, it's glaringly unrealistic. The book is pretty good. I cannot wait for the fifth installment.

I find John Grisham's, novels to be a treat, like a full sized Snickers bar to be consumed in one sitting! The Theodore Boone series has been one that never panders to young readers but its themes resonate with young teens. Theodore is something of a nerd with his interest in law and individual rather than team sports. His parents are both lawyers but with a different array of clients. Mom does family law and divorces, Dad civil and real estate law. This book has Theo at a point where he must measure his heart against the law when his friend's family farm is threatened by

eminent domain as the site of a highway bypass. Theo learns all he can about the pros and cons of the proposal and also finds himself a pivotal figure in the controversy. This is resolved a little more neatly than some of his adult novels but never the less it is an interesting read.

I'm not the type to give away books. Really. You can review it over and over but seriously. You can never tell how much you like a writer...no matter what the story is. If you like John Grisham...then you'll like this book. In fact, it will help convert a younger reader who likes to read...into reading more complicated John Grisham Novels. My mom and I always talk about people with Dementia or Alzheimers. We've come to the conclusion that Reading will Help. Seriously. If you read and you think about scenery. Colors of hair, the car, the building. The texture. using words that make your mind REACT or THINK. It will help stave off the horrible suffering of Dementia or Alzheimers. If it doesn't....well, I just can't believe that reading doesn't help. I got my mom to try reading this...she's not big into books. She liked magazines, especially tabloids. This got her excited. It got her to read another Theodore Boone book then another. Then she wanted to read a more adult John Grisham book. Well, what can I say? Its good to see my mom reading my books. Share your books with your friends and family. Teach them to read. Their health may be at stake.

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