



Stuck on Earth

By David Klass

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Ketchvar III's mission is simple: travel to Planet Earth, inhabit the body of an average teenager, and determine if the human race should be annihilated. And so Ketchvar—who, to human eyes, looks just like a common snail—crawls into the brain of one Tom Filber and attempts to do his analysis. At first glance, Tom appears to be the perfect specimen—fourteen years old, good health, above average intelligence. But it soon becomes apparent that Tom Filber may be a little *too* average—gawky, awkward, and utterly abhorred by his peers. An alien within an alien's skin, Ketchvar quickly finds himself wrapped up in the daily drama of teenage life—infuriating family members, raging bullies, and undeniably beautiful next-door neighbors. And the more entangled Ketchvar becomes, the harder it is to answer the question he was sent to Earth to resolve: Should the Sandovinians release the Gagnerian Death Ray and erase the human species for good? Or is it possible that Homo sapiens really are worth saving?

Wickedly wry and hysterically skewed, David Klass's take on teen life on our fabulously flawed Planet Earth is an engrossing look at true friends, truer enemies, and awkward alien first kisses.

Stuck on Earth is a 2011 Bank Street - Best Children's Book of the Year.

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 5-9-On a mission to evaluate Earth and determine whether or not its dominate species (Homo sapiens) will be allowed to continue or will be exterminated (quickly and painlessly, of course) so a more deserving race can have the planet, Ketchvar III, a snail-like superintelligent being inhabits the body of a 14-year-old boy so he can experience human existence up close and personal. Horrified by his host's dysfunctional family, incarceration in a mind-numbing environment (high school), and the bullying of other students, Ketchvar has nearly written off humans for good when he meets the girl next door. Humorous misunderstandings and poignant moments with his host's alcoholic father and bitter mother save this from being just another "people have ruined the planet; let's get rid of them and start over" book. Ketchvar's social gaffs and misconceptions provide some laugh-out-loud moments as do his internal dialogues with his reluctant host. Though no new ground is broken, *Stuck on Earth* will resonate with kids who feel like aliens in their own homes.-Jane Henriksen Baird, Anchorage Public Library, AK (c) Copyright 2010. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

From [Booklist](#)

Before being vaporized by a Gagnerian Death Ray, humans (aka "the laughingstock of the universe") get a last chance to prove their worth when superintelligent alien Ketchvar III arrives for an evaluation. The size of a snail, Ketchvar crawls into the nose and inhabits the brain of 14-year-old Tom, a bullied nerd living in suburban New Jersey. In theory, this gives Ketchvar the opportunity to operate covertly, though his stiff new speech patterns have everyone thinking Tom's acting even weirder than normal ("Let us live in harmony, like the moss and the lichen," he implores his bratty sister). Between the shocking violence of the "voluntary daily incarceration" known as school and examinations into the "empty constructs" of war and love, Ketchvar reports to his mothership via e-mails with subject headings like "Old Hip-Hop Songs That Sucked." Klass even manages to work in an effective environmental message. There are no major surprises—the sweet "earth girl next door" wins Earth another chance—but that doesn't hamper this fast-moving and irascible comedy. Grades 6-9. --Daniel Kraus

Review

"A witty and penetrating satire of American life." *?The New York Times Book Review*

"Humorous misunderstandings and poignant moments with his host's alcoholic father and bitter mother save this from being just another 'people have ruined the planet; let's get rid of them and start over' book *Stuck on Earth* will resonate with kids who feel like aliens in their own homes." *?Starred, School Library Journal*

"Klass's (the Caretaker Trilogy) thoughtful, often wrenching book offers plenty to think about, from what's really going on in Tom's head to questions about human responsibility to the planet and each other." *?Starred, Publishers Weekly*

"Ketchvar's adventure will win fans." *?Kirkus Reviews*

"Touching, weird, relevant, and a great piece of storytelling, *STUCK ON EARTH* is a uber-quirky middle school favorite in the making." *?Richie Partington, Richie's Picks*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Robyn Pugh:

Do you have favorite book? When you have, what is your favorite's book? E-book is very important thing for us to learn everything in the world. Each publication has different aim or perhaps goal; it means that guide has different type. Some people feel enjoy to spend their the perfect time to read a book. They are really reading whatever they acquire because their hobby will be reading a book. Consider the person who don't like examining a book? Sometime, particular person feel need book whenever they found difficult problem or even exercise. Well, probably you'll have this Stuck on Earth.

Mindy Simmons:

The knowledge that you get from Stuck on Earth is the more deep you searching the information that hide inside words the more you get considering reading it. It doesn't mean that this book is hard to know but Stuck on Earth giving you buzz feeling of reading. The article author conveys their point in specific way that can be understood through anyone who read the idea because the author of this guide is well-known enough. This particular book also makes your own personal vocabulary increase well. So it is easy to understand then can go along with you, both in printed or e-book style are available. We propose you for having this Stuck on Earth instantly.

Martin Song:

Reading a book tends to be new life style within this era globalization. With looking at you can get a lot of information that will give you benefit in your life. Using book everyone in this world can easily share their idea. Ebooks can also inspire a lot of people. A lot of author can inspire their own reader with their story as well as their experience. Not only the story that share in the ebooks. But also they write about advantage about something that you need case in point. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach your sons or daughters, there are many kinds of book that you can get now. The authors these days always try to improve their skill in writing, they also doing some study before they write to the book. One of them is this Stuck on Earth.

Walter Rojas:

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