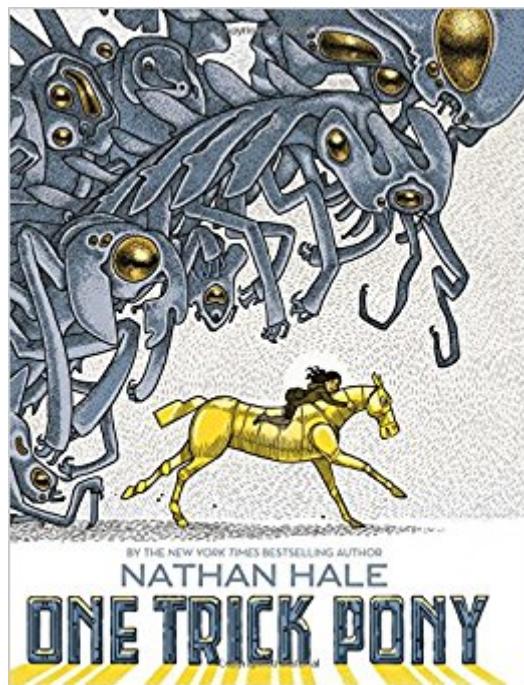


The book was found

One Trick Pony



Synopsis

The aliens have arrived. And they're hungry for electricity. In the Earth of the future, humans are on the run from an alien force—giant blobs who suck up electrical devices wherever they can find them. Strata and her family are part of a caravan of digital rescuers, hoping to keep the memory of civilization alive by saving electronics wherever they can. Many humans have reverted to a pre-electrical age, and others have taken advantage of the invasion to become dangerous bandits and outlaws. When Strata and her brother are separated from the caravan, they must rely on a particularly beautiful and rare robot pony to escape the outlaws and aliens—and defeat the invaders once and for all.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 260 (What's this?)

Hardcover: 128 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 16 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #116,911 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #65 in Books > Children's Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Science Fiction > Robots #946 in Books > Children's Books > Comics & Graphic Novels

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

"Hale imbues his latest with pathos, action, and perfectly timed moments of comedy, but it's the imaginative landscape, spot-on visual pacing, and confident line work that make this adventure tale really zing." (Booklist)"The aliens themselves are visually exceptional—huge, gluttonous, and oozing privilege in both their actions and their physical presentations." (Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books)"Set in a land that blends Stone Age elements and highly advanced technology, this graphic novel adventure features the same mix of humor and derring-do that makes Hale's "Hazardous Tales" so popular."

(School Library Journal)"Hale blends adventure, aliens, an apocalyptic future, and folklore into an easy-to-read stand-alone." (Kirkus)" The story combines an exciting science fiction plot with down-to-earth teenage characters...The real allure to the work is the use of different kinds of lines used to build textures, provide atmosphere, and portray characters." (School Library Connection)"With an engaging, racially diverse cast this high-stakes epic adventure should have wide appeal...Hale shepherds this complex narrative with the same sure hand as his graphic novel series of real stories from history." (Horn Book Magazine)"Hale's illustrations are textured and visually move the story forward, while his original storyline effortlessly combines aliens, adventure, and apocalyptic fun." (VOYA)"While beautifully concise, it still manages to squeeze in loads of suspense, chills (though nothing too nightmare-inducing), action and entertaining character dynamics • all within a refreshingly original take on post-apocalyptic hellscapes." (New York Times Book Review)

Nathan Hale is the #1 New York Times bestselling author and illustrator of Nathan Hale's Hazardous Tales. He also illustrated the graphic novel Rapunzel's Revenge, which was an ALA Book Club for Kids selection, an ALA-ALSC Notable Children's Book, and a YALSA Great Graphic Novel for Teens. He lives in Provo, Utah.

"You might know Mr. Hale from his awesome Hazardous Tales historical graphic novel series. If you don't - you're gonna love those too! This novel is set in a post-apocalyptic near future where alien invaders are devouring every last trace of human-made metals and electronic devices. All that's left of humanity are small bands of survivors trying to outwit and outrun the aliens. The main character is a girl named Strata who finds a beautiful and rare robot pony when she's out scavenging with her brother and her friend. Strata insists on keeping the horse even though the presence of something technical makes them a target of the aliens who are soon chasing after them. Here are three things to love about One Trick Pony:1. Kleidi, the robot pony. She is gorgeously golden and pops out in Nathan Hale's distinctive two tone yellow/gray coloring for this novel. She adds comic relief when she only listens to Strata and no one else. And plays a surprising role at the end of the book. I gotta say, the ending shocked me - in a good way. It took a twist I was not expecting at all.2. The aliens. These are seriously scary multi-limbed, disjointed, frightening giant blobbing aliens called Pipers that release bubbles to capture electronics they scavenge from the earth. And if you're holding to that technology - you could lose your limb. They are like a cross

between the creature from the Alien movie and an Hieronymous Bosch painting.

It's creepy good!3. The concept of the caravan. The main character, Strata, lives with this traveling band of digital rescuers who save data and technological devices before the aliens can get to it in the hopes that one day civilization can be rekindled. That idea is so, so powerful and timely when you think of efforts to suppress scientific data now. Our own digital rescuers are heroes. I know all you teachers and librarians and book lovers listening can relate when I say that the burning of the library at Alexandria stills shatters a part of my soul to think of all that knowledge lost. And I love how Nathan Hale captured that concept in this graphic novel. In One Trick Pony, Nathan Hale has masterfully combined two seemingly disparate elements - a girl and her pony story and a fierce science fiction battle book. And it is wonderful!" - This review is an excerpt from Books Between Podcast, Episode 19

This is a book that younger readers and probably adults might find interesting. Older children may not like the obvious pandering to kids: making the hero a young girl who meets a "magical" robot pony - your older kids raised on more cynical fare may find this too syrupy sweet. Yet, it is very well done. The story is well drawn and plotted. It is hard to write a good all ages story that is both interesting, has good action and yet, not be too graphic. There is one very intense moment at the end (spoiler *** the pony dies to save the girl and all of humanity ***). It is written well so that we as an adult can understand the deeper meaning and point of what the characters are saying without making it hard for younger children from following along. The design of the aliens and their fundamental motive is also well executed. This is a bit of a change for Mr. Hale who had previously done historic fact based graphic novels. It is well done and perhaps we might see further adventures of this girl and her family as they rebuild human civilization.

Creepy tech eating aliens mine and destroy the Earth. Enter Strata and the cool robot pony she uncovers. Can they defeat the pipers and save Earth? Nathan Hale ventures into the future with this graphic novel and cool twist on the classic tale of the Pied Piper. I think the Hangman would LOVE this tale!

My kids loved this book. You can never go wrong with Nathan Hale.

One of the best writers out there! All his books are truly works of art! great stories too!

It was nice and fun cool

It's the end of the world and a small mobile village is trying to preserve the last vestiges of human culture from the ravages of the robotic Pipers. A startling find by a girl named Strata leads her and her friends on a wild adventure of survival and discovery. Nate's classic humor breaks the tension just enough to keep you on the edge of your seat throughout. Highly recommended.

It's hard to come up with an ending to a good idea. Most of the book is lovely, especially if you like horses, but the ending is quite abrupt and flat. I don't blame the author really, I can't think up a better one either.

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