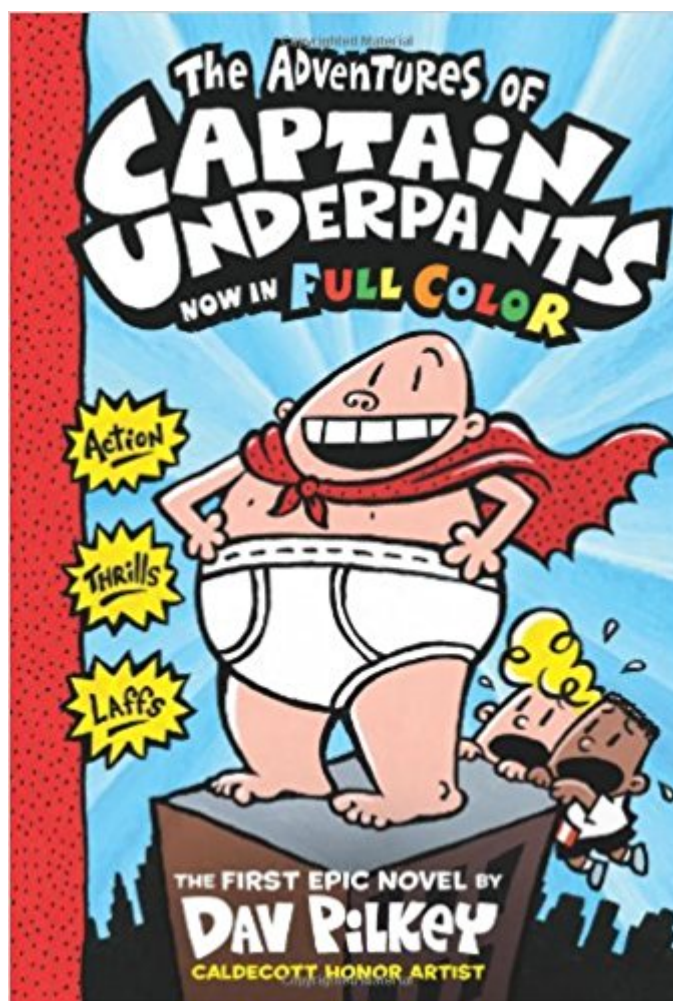


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# The Adventures Of Captain Underpants: Color Edition (Captain Underpants #1)



## Synopsis

The first Captain Underpants adventure like you've never seen it before -- in FULL COLOR! Fourth-grade class clowns George Beard and Harold Hutchins have created the greatest superhero in the history of their elementary school -- and now they're going to bring him to life! Meet Captain Underpants! His true identity is SO secret, even HE doesn't know who he is! This special edition will include an all-new sixteen-page bonus section that will reveal the origin of Captain Underpants!

## Book Information

Series: Captain Underpants (Book 1)

Hardcover: 144 pages

Publisher: Scholastic Inc.; Reprint edition (August 27, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0545499089

ISBN-13: 978-0545499088

Product Dimensions: 0.8 x 5.8 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 13.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 849 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #14,315 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #40 in [Books > Children's Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Science Fiction > Superheroes](#) #151 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Chapter Books & Readers > Chapter Books](#) #702 in [Books > Children's Books > Action & Adventure](#)

Age Range: 7 - 18 years

Grade Level: 2 and up

## Customer Reviews

Praise for Captain Underpants: 2013 PARENTS' CHOICE AWARD WINNER - PARENTS' CHOICE FOUNDATION "(One of the) 5 Books That All Children Should Read" - HEALTHY FAMILY MATTERS "Combines empowerment and empathy with age-appropriate humor and action" - BOOKLIST "Funniest Book of the Year" - PUBLISHER'S WEEKLY ("Cuffie" Award Winner) "Pick of the List" - AMERICAN BOOKSELLER "The critics are CRAZY about UNDERPANTS!" "A triumph of irreverence." --NEWSWEEK "Call Pilkey . . . the savior of the 'reluctant reader.'" --USA TODAY "For every downtrodden fun-seeking kid who never wanted to read a book."

--SCHOOL LIBRARY JOURNAL "Subversively hilarious." --PUBLISHERS WEEKLY "Celebrates the triumph of the good-hearted." --The Educational Book and Media Association "It'll make kids laugh until soda comes out of their noses." --BULLETIN OF THE CENTER FOR CHILDREN'S BOOKS

NOTES (from Pilkey.com): This book is based on a superhero that Dav Pilkey invented way back in 1973 when he was a second-grader. The comics that Dav made were very much like the comic book that George and Harold sell on the playground in Chapter 3. When I began making children's books in 1986, my goal was to one day make a book about Captain Underpants. I wrote several different versions of this story, including a 48-page comic book, but every publisher who saw it turned it down. When the book was finally accepted in 1996, it was a real dream come true! -- Dav Pilkey

Many of the things in the book are taken directly from Dav's childhood: the practical jokes, the comics, even the cheesy animation technique called "Flip-O-Rama" (Dav and his friends used to amuse themselves by making these flip-action animated pictures in elementary school). Dav Pilkey had dyslexia when he was a kid. He was always discouraged by wordy texts, small type, and lengthy chapters. My goal with The Adventures of Captain Underpants was to make a chapter book that SEEMED like a picture book. So I wrote incredibly short chapters and tried to fill each page with more pictures than words. I wanted to create a book that kids who don't like to read would want to read. -- Dav Pilkey

Fun Facts:

1. George and Harold's first names were inspired by one of Dav Pilkey's favorite movies, *It's A Wonderful Life* (directed by Frank Capra). This is a film about two brothers named George and Harold Bailey, and how George's life is changed dramatically when an angel gives him a chance to see what the world would have been like if he'd never been born.
2. George and Harold's last names (Beard and Hutchins) were the last names of Dav's two favorite "Little Rascals" (a.k.a. Hal Roach's Rascals, a.k.a. Our Gang) characters: "Stimey (Matthew Beard)" and "Wheezer (Bobby Hutchins)".
3. George and Harold's school, Jerome Horwitz Elementary School, got its name from "Curly" of "The Three Stooges". Curly's given name was Jerome Horwitz.
4. If you look at the box on page 45, you'll note that George and Harold live in Piqua, Ohio. Dav Pilkey chose Piqua as the setting because it used to be known as the Underwear Capital of the World. Every year Piqua hosts an "Underwear Festival"! It seemed like the perfect place!

It was not long ago that I treated an irrepressible 8 year old boy at the children's hospital where I worked. This kid was something else. He was smart, articulate and bubbly. We got to talking about books, and I told him about Roald Dahl's 'The Twits' (one of my long-standing favourites by that author). "Have you read Captain Underpants?" he asked me. Then he proceeded to regale me with

the story of Mr Krupp and Harold and George. I was intrigued. At the follow-up appointment, my patient brought me one of his own copies of Captain Underpants, so I could see what he was going on about. I promised him the next time he came for an appointment, I would have read the whole series. His mom told me later, "You're the only doctor here who's willing to read Captain Underpants. You're doing pretty well." And here I am. I read Captain Underpants and I thoroughly loved it. It is one of the most banned books in libraries in the US, which probably goes to show you that it is extremely effective at engaging its target audience. I laughed in delight, reading the adventures of Harold and George, and remembered all the childhood hours I spent with my brother thinking up practical jokes that landed us in trouble again and again. I remembered the stink bombs, the fart spray, the whoopee cushions, and simply remembered what it was like to be a kid. I have read a few of the reviews that express concern that the series encourages defiance of authority, but I have several points to make in response. Firstly, the authority figures in the book should be challenged. Quite frankly, if kids had to attend a school where the principal punished naughty behaviour by making them clean his house and mow his lawn, I would mount a protest. That is a highly inappropriate punishment. Secondly, I seriously doubt that reading Captain Underpants is going to turn a kid into a criminal or miscreant of the justice system. If you really looked at the kinds of things that turn kids into criminals, reading books is not one of them. Thirdly, Captain Underpants was wonderfully imaginative. It turns mundane things into objects of great potential (nefarious or otherwise). I love that it encourages kids to dream and imagine, and not be confined by the dictates of our time. If not for challenging ideas, we wouldn't know that the earth revolved around the sun, or that gravity makes apples fall to the ground, or that spores from a fungus (penicillin) could be critical in treating infection. Let's let kids enjoy being kids. Heaven knows, growing up isn't much fun. And for the love of all that is cotton-y and pre-shrunk, if they love the Captain, let them read it.

My kid loves the Captain Underpants series. Only two problems though: 1) Why does anyone want to read about a cartoon character running around in their underpants? 2) My son reads them so fast we have to order in bulk. Seriously, my son used to hate reading but read multiple books in the series at a record pace. I wish I had called Guinness Book of World records but who knew? I didn't even think he would finish one without being forced to read. +1 for the wife. Good decision.

My son was resistant to reading but loved this book. We trade off reading pages and his comprehension and confidence have soared. Like the author, my son is disruptive in class, loves to draw and has a good sense of humor -- captain underpants resonates and sustains his attention.

Such a cute and funny little book. Until I found this book we made up stories about Captain Underpants and his adventures. Didn't know there was actually a book until conversation with a friend. Thus began the quest to find this. Love sharing the stories with my great-grandson. We laugh a lot.

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I don't know how my daughter heard of Captain Underpants, she's absolutely intent having me take her to see the film next month in theatre. She's 6. Beginning level reading. This book looks like a big kids, no pictures, novel. However, it's got pictures, and is very friendly for a younger kid. Well probably get the collection, it's cute and funny, and she loves it.

My son loves this book and has now read all 12. This is a great series for young kids who might not be that interested in reading on their own but who can read, like my kid.

My nephew struggled with reading until I challenged him with Captain Underpants. Now his reading scores have improved dramatically and he enjoys reading! Double win!

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