The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy

Douglas Adams

Reviewed by: Daniel Gliksberg, 16

Star Teen Book Reviewer of Be the Star You Are! Charity

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The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy by Douglas Adams is a science fiction novel about the adventures of Arthur Dent and Ford Prefect after they left Earth for the rest of the Galaxy. They hitchhike from planet to planet trying to survive, going on adventures, and sometimes being chased. The story is usually very absurd and purposefully outlandish, and the strange planets they encounter and people they meet are equally crazy and likeable. The book is meant to spur the reader's imagination.

The narration of the book is incredibly interesting, with the beginning of many chapters being excerpts from a galactic travel guide, rather than the story of the book itself. The narration is also not afraid to add comments of its own while telling Arthur's and Ford's story, and most of the humor of the book comes from the small comments of the narration, instead of the characters themselves. *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* is a good choice for both adults and teenagers, with a fast-paced storyline that holds the reader's attention and narration that has a personality of its own.

The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy is not a good choice for younger readers, however, because of its mentions of alcohol and occasional mentions or depictions of violence, but these mentions are never common or extreme enough to be unsuitable for people who are more than 13 years old. It would be great to receive as a gift, because it is a great book to re-read once every few years. The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy is also the first of a series of 5 books, and the story of each book continues into the next.

Recommended Titles:

Other books in the Hitchhiker's Guide series, Douglas Adams:

The Restaurant at the End of the Universe

Life, the Universe and Everything

So Long, and Thanks for All the Fish

Mostly Harmless

Fahrenheit 451, Ray Bradbury

Childhood's End, Arthur C. Clarke