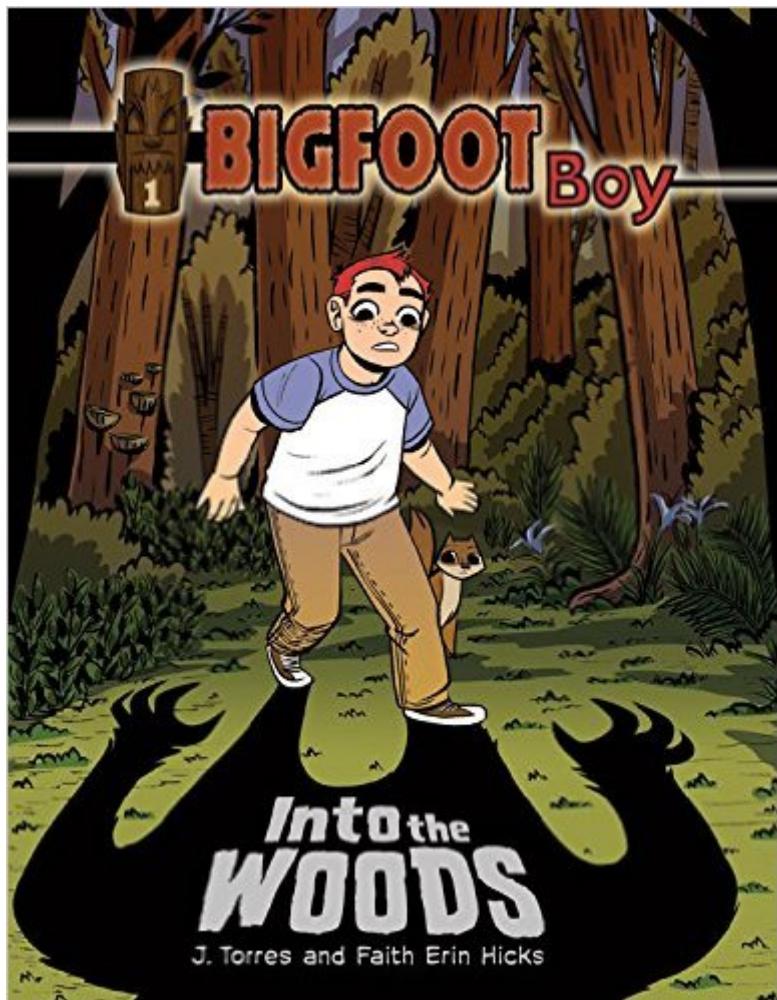


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# Into The Woods (Bigfoot Boy)



## **Synopsis**

Bored while visiting his grandmother for the weekend, Rufus, an ordinary ten-year-old boy, ventures into the nearby woods after he spies his young neighbor Penny heading there. A city kid, Rufus quickly loses sight of Penny, but while making his way back to Grammy's, he's drawn to an unusual object he sees hidden inside a tree: it's a totem, carved out of wood and hung on a cord. Rufus places the odd-looking thing around his neck and reads out loud the word inscribed on it: ?Sasquatch.? Suddenly, strange things begin happening all around him --- and to him. Rufus doesn't know what's going on, but he's sure of one thing. He'll never be ordinary again! This is the first title in the unique Bigfoot Boy graphic novel series by award-winning author J. Torres. This intriguing story about an everyday kid who unexpectedly finds himself with a special power will have young readers hooked from the start. The artwork by Eisner Award-winning cartoonist Faith Erin Hicks keeps the action moving at a fast pace. With talking animals, likable characters and a plot steeped in magic and mystery, this compelling tale told in pictures and snappy dialogue will be a popular choice for newly independent readers, with particular appeal to reluctant readers. Inspired by the mythologies of the Pacific Northwest, it could also work in the classroom as an introduction to folklore and mythology.

## **Book Information**

Lexile Measure: 190L (What's this?)

Series: Bigfoot Boy (Book 1)

Paperback: 100 pages

Publisher: Kids Can Press (September 1, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1554537126

ISBN-13: 978-1554537129

Product Dimensions: 6.5 x 0.2 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (10 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #568,996 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #60 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Canada #1177 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Boys & Men #2423 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Multicultural Stories

Age Range: 7 - 10 years

## Customer Reviews

Reason for Reading: I love Faith Erin Hicks and read anything new she has out, even if she is only the illustrator. So not the most original story in the world when a boy ventures into the woods, finds a talisman, reads the word inscribed on it and turns into a 'Bigfoot', uttering the word backwards turns him back to human. But things get better when we add in the fun characters and side plots. Rufus is bored staying with his grammy who is watching her soaps and meets a girl who is very attuned to 'her' woods and has the attitude to match her self-imposed ownership. He also meets a talking squirrel who becomes his ally once he turns Sasquatch. When the local wolf pack discovers he's found the long lost totem, they try to get it for themselves by kidnapping the girl and blackmailing Rufus into turning it over. The bad guys are out of luck today. The book ends with a finite ending to these events but clearly sets the stage for a continuing series. Hicks illustrations are wonderful and really the highpoint of this graphic. Her characters are cute and lovable and yet 'real' with an edge. I always find that she seems to draw the same female character over and over again in her books but this time the main female character has some of the same qualities found in her usual style while venturing out to look different. Hicks' characteristic style is highly present though and this is a visually pleasing and well-presented piece. With a Canadian author and illustrator it makes a great addition to Canadian comics. I enjoyed it and would read the next book.

When Rufus goes into the woods by his grandmother's house, he discovers a totem. Now when he says the word "Sasquatch" he turns into . . . a Sasquatch! But the wolves in the woods want the totem and kidnap his friend Penny to force him into giving it up. IN THE WOODS isn't long, but it still manages to deliver a good story. The developing friendship between Rufus and Penny is well done, and I liked that there wasn't any drama about Rufus trying to hide his powers. There's only hilarity as he ends up without his clothes and needed to borrow a sheet from Penny's clothesline as he ends up naked after transforming back. (Rufus mind end up going through a lot of clothes over the course of the Bigfoot Boy series.) I liked Faith Erin Hicks' art in FRIENDS WITH BOYS and I like it in IN THE WOODS too. Her characters are quite expressive. Unlike FRIENDS WITH BOYS, the art in IN THE WOODS is in full color, which suits the age group. She also gets a chance to show off some action chops as Rufus faces off with the wolves. This fun story will appeal to kids who like stories of friendship and magic. It has something of a folklore atmosphere, but INTO THE WOODS isn't based on any legend I know. Definitely a good choice for young fans of graphic novels. Here's to more

adventures featuring Rufus and Penny!

Rufus is staying with his grandmother for a few days. While exploring the woods near the house, he meets Penny, who claims to own the forest. Rufus gets separated from Penny while in the forest and finds a totem on a necklace with the word "sasquatch" carved into it. He puts the necklace on and says the word. Magically, he's transformed into a sasquatch! He finds he now has incredible strength and can talk to animals. To return to normal, he must say the word backwards. The story by J. Torres is a fun read. The animals Rufus encounters are interesting characters and it's funny how every time he returns to normal, his cloths have disappeared. The art by Faith Erin Hicks is crisp and clear. The characters are very expressive and the woods look authentic. I look forward to the next installment in this series. I recommend this book to all ages.

I liked this book very much. I'm also 7 years old. I like pretty much everything in this book. It is so exciting. Rufus, the main character, is funny. The only hard word was sasquatch backwards.

A city kid in the woods, a little magic, a new friendship and an adventure that tests our hero's courage and resourcefulness. How's that for a nice combination? Rufus isn't crazy about visiting his grandmother, and a snarky girl from next door doesn't help. Neither do the scary woods. But Rufus finds he has a bit of an adventurous streak. He makes friends with neighbor Penny. He starts to understand the woods. He finds a magical talisman and learns even more about himself. This is a bit more than a chapter book, and a bit easier than what I think of as middle grade fiction. There isn't much in that in-between area, and this engaging book may help to fill in that gap. It's a graphic novel, but there's a fair amount of prose and the writing is at a higher than average quality. I could see this as having fairly broad appeal and it certainly seems well designed to capture a kid's imagination. Very solid. Please note that I received a free copy of this book for review purposes.

I would recommend any parent to buy this book to their school-age children. My 8 year old loves it and he read it in no time. I would have liked a little more narratives in the book

I adored this book. I won't write a summary because other's have, but the graphics were very good and the story itself was delightful. My grandchildren will love this book.

I've been buying lot's of graphic novels for my kids. I wasn't crazy about it. Not sure you should

care.

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