



TEEN SERVICES COMMUNITY SERVICE TEEN BOOK REVIEW

Bob By Wendy Mass and Rebecca Stead Reviewed by Christopher Siebor

Name: Christopher Siebor

Grade: 11

Book Title: Bob

Author: Wendy Mass and Rebecca Stead

Number of Pages: 201

Rating (on a scale of 1-5): 4/5

Character List:

- **Bob** – Bob is a small, green, 10 year old zombie, who for five years has been locked in the same closet. He wishes to find his home, through the help of Livy.
- **Livy** – Livy is an 11 year old girl, native to the United States, who visits her grandmother often in Australia. This leads her to meet Bob, and she plans to help him reach his home.

Review:

Livy's recent trip to Australia was turned upside-down in the down under when she met Bob... err Re-met Bob. During Livy's previous visit to Australia, she met Bob for the first time, and made a promise to help him find his home, a home which he doesn't remember how to get to. He is left in a closet for 5 years, as Livy returns to the United States. Over time, Bob teaches himself to read with the dictionary in the closet, memorizing near halfway through the "T"'s. Upon Livy's return, the reunion is short and sweet as they quickly get back to work to get Bob back to his home, despite having to overcome the challenge of leaving Bob's presence causes Livy to forget all about him. Through some clever problem-solving, they learn Bob's true nature of being a Well Dweller, a magical creature that induces rain, and bring him back to his parents. This causes his parents to become overjoyed, and to bring rain to an Australia that had not seen rain for 5 years.

For what may seem to be a simple middle-school-age novel, this book tackles some deep themes, including the effectiveness of youthful thinking, forgetting one's childhood, and the responsibilities of adulthood. However, it is written in a very cute and bite-sized way, warming the heart of any person trying to relive their youth. Beautiful illustrations are also provided, that convey whatever tone the words convey. This is a perfect blend of simple yet complex, of a low-fantasy mystery adventure of a tale of a girl coming to terms with her growing up... And a zombie dressed in a chicken suit, appealing to everyone looking for a quick and pleasant story.