



# Tom Swift And His Motor-boat

*Victor Appleton*

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Purchase one of 1st World Library's Classic Books and help support our free internet library of downloadable eBooks. Visit us online at [www.1stWorldLibrary.ORG](http://www.1stWorldLibrary.ORG) - - "Where are you going, Tom?" asked Mr. Barton Swift of his son as the young man was slowly pushing his motor-cycle out of the yard toward the country road. "You look as though you had some object in view." "So I have, dad. I'm going over to Lanton." "To Lanton? What for?" "I want to have a look at that motor-boat." "Which boat is that, Tom? I don't recall your speaking about a boat over at Lanton. What do you want to look at it for?"

## Tom Swift And His Motor-boat Details

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Author : Victor Appleton

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## From Reader Review Tom Swift And His Motor-boat for online ebook

### Kevin Findley says

For a book that is 106 years old, it holds up surprisingly well. I read this to my youngest as a bedtime story by chapters and it works very well like that.

This is the second book in the original series and it is appealing enough to want to track down the first and then the rest of the series. I guess I have another reason to haunt my local used bookstores.

One warning though, there is a character called Eradicate that is, unfortunately, written the way many minority characters were handled back then. Even so, 'Rad, as he was called by Tom, was an important part of the story and even prevented Tom from being seriously hurt at one point early in the book.

Buy it! Read it!

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### Rich Meyer says

If you've read the more recent Tom Swift book series, you'll probably find the originals kind of boring - and to be honest, they are. But they were written at the turn of the 20th century, so that might be expected. These predate Edgar Rice Burroughs' adventure tales by half a decade. This is more of the Rover Boys, the Chums of Scranton High, and Frank Merriwell vein.

This Tom Swift is more of a mechanic than a true inventor - at least at this point in his literary career - and is more concerned with mundane matters like helping his dad, or running a boat on the lake, or the like. The stories do have a certain quaint charm to them. This one has Tom squabbling with one of his teen-aged rivals and the thieves who tried to steal his father's patents in the first book. Everything's very polite and orderly, in a Waltons kind of way.

Not a bad book, not a completely dull one, either. It's definitely a look back on a forgotten era.

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### Bryan says

Downloaded for free at Gutenberg, and formatted for my smartphone using the free software Calibre. This made an extremely nice ebook for me, with cover art and chapters. I'll certainly do this again more often!

This book was not nearly as good as the original. Way too formulaic, and the mystery was so obviously easy to solve even while the basic plot was being set up.

However, if I were a young boy in 1911 when this was published, I would have loved it.

Even though this book seems to find the series in a bad spot (early on, as it's only book #2) and even though the series itself has already started to be a cliché of itself (self-referencing and predictable), it was still a fast, fun read.

I'll download a few more from Gutenberg and read them on my Palm phone when I've got a few minutes to spare.

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### **Mike Vendetti says**

Reading Tom Swift and his Motorboat, is a lot like riding a moped. It's fun, but no real bragging rights. The Tom Swift series is well written, and each chapter is a cliffhanger. It's a genuine feel-good book that requires little thought, that takes you back to a kinder and gentler time. I am narrating this as I read it or upload to audible.com. Here is a link to chapter 2 on YouTube [http://youtu.be/4PNAhXY\\_YA0](http://youtu.be/4PNAhXY_YA0)

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### **Tiffany Tinkham-Graves says**

Really good old classic young readers book about a young inventor that invents these awesome inventions and then goes on these wild and crazy adventures, sometimes getting into trouble in the process.

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### **Steven Hill says**

7 out of 10

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### **Paul says**

The second book of the series - actually the first three books could be considered one long tale, as the villains - the Happy Harry Gang - are present in each. In this volume, Tom buys and improves a damaged motor boat, outbidding his arch-rival Andy Foger. For some reason one of the Happy Harry gang keeps trying to get into the forward compartment of the boat and steals the wooden braces that hold the fuel tank. The same cast of characters return; Tom's chum Ned Newton is given a bit more to do this time, and Mary Nestor also appears more often, making a greater impression on Tom. Rad Sampson isn't in as many scenes, but he does save Tom from injury by warning Tom that Andy Foger has dragged a tree trunk across the road at the bottom of a hill, thinking to upset Tom on his motorcycle. Andy buys a racing boat and challenges Tom to a race, but Andy can't operate motors as well as Tom (in 1910 they needed frequent attention) so Tom wins against the more powerful racing craft.

The Happy Harry gang again steal items from Tom's father's workshops, and Tom's boat as well, but circumstances make Andy loan Tom the racing craft so Tom can find his missing motor boat. Bless my collar-button, but Mr. Damon makes an appearance, blessing everything about his person, and bless my liver, but he helps Tom track down his stolen boat.

Near the end of the story Tom saves a balloonist whose hot-air balloon has caught fire. The man, Mr. Sharp, hits Lake Carlopa and Tom swoops him up in the boat before the flaming balloon can fall in top of him. This meeting leads to the next book in the series as Mr. Sharp has half an idea for an airship that combines an airplane with a small dirigible, and needs a bright young inventor's help to work it out...

As before, Mr. Swift's stolen property is recovered, but the gang escapes to come back another day (well, the next book, obviously).

Finally, there is a big official boat race, in which Mary Nestor - after being coached by Tom - wins in the small boat class, and Tom, running against Andy and others, wins in the medium-sized boat class.

A ripping tale that all wide-awake boys and girls would enjoy! ;)

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### **Norman Cook says**

A bit better than the first volume, but still highly predictable and dated. The racism is a bit toned down from the first volume, but it's still there.

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### **Chris Potgieter says**

The same bad guys from the first book tried to kill Tom Swift but he managed to put them in prison at last. I loved when they rescued the balloonist - he is now helping them build an airship.

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### **Jeff Carpenter says**

The second book in the Tom Swift stories. This is a young adult from approx. 100 years ago. It is obviously easy reading but it paints a very interesting picture about life in a bygone era. Provides for a very pleasurable experience if you are a history buff like me.

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### **Skjam! says**

Another of the boys' adventure books from the early 20th Century I love so much. Young Tom acquires the motor-boat seen towards the end of the previous volume, repairs and improves it, and has a series of adventures on the local (very large) lake.

It illustrates how much the technology of gasoline motors has advanced in the intervening century--Tom and the other motorboat pilots must frequently tinker with the engines mid-race to get the best performance or prevent breakdowns.

The last quarter of the book sets up the airship that will be the focus of the next volume.

The character of Eradicate may come off as offensively stereotyped, and Tom shows some mild sexism when it comes to girls and motors. (The romantic interest gets better at it, but only because of his tutoring.) And towards the end, one character suddenly reveals he has more political power than he'd let on, with no foreshadowing.

But these are minor quibbles, and I think this book would be fine to share with a son, grandson or nephew.

For more adventure reviews, see <http://www.skjam.com/tag/adventure/>

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### **David Hibberd says**

I read the Tom Swift Sr. books as a child and again when I got my Kindle in 2010. They are an easy read and enjoyable. It is interesting to see how writing has changed since these books were written.

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