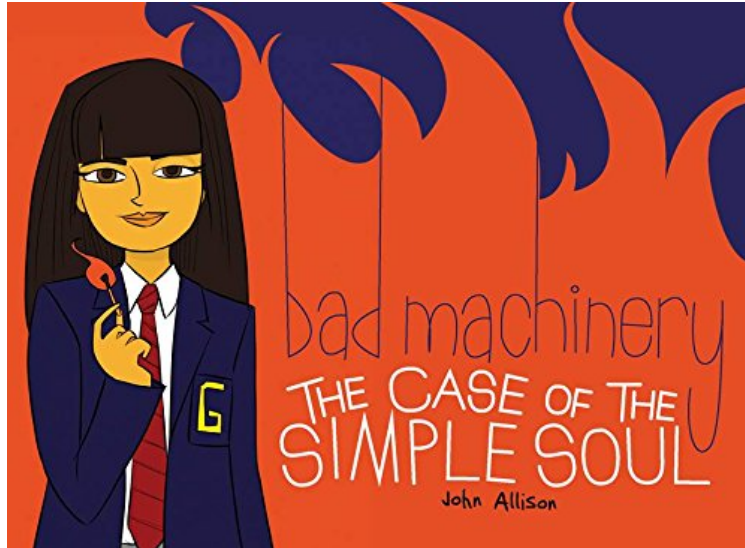


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## Bad Machinery Volume 3: The Case of the Simple Soul

*John Allison*

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**John Allison : Bad Machinery Volume 3: The Case of the Simple Soul** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Bad Machinery Volume 3: The Case of the Simple Soul:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Wonderfully written and fascinatingly drawn.By Nathaniel DicksonEverything about Bad Machinery is wonderful. The artwork perfectly matches the gentle, happy tone of the writing.Speaking of which...John Allison is one of the most talented writers of dialog in the business these days. His characters all speak with their own voices, their own thoughts. He's been honing his craft for decades now and it shows. The story and art in this book show him at his finest.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Making Print More Relevant than Electronic MediaBy K. KuzbaWhile the online story was good all on it's own, the book is a feast for the eyes no mere pixels can every hope to provide. When you receive your book and hold it in your hands, you may be tempted to throw away all of your electronic gadgets as pointless distractions from the real world. I would not blame you if you did. But consider... there will be more books like this from this author. If you do not have your electronics, you will not be able to find and purchase them. And when you have read this one to tatters, how will you get another copy?1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. I still highly recommend it.By Nanette Dudar LawsonWhile the story was weaker than the greatness of last volume, I found Volume 3 to be the funniest so far. I still highly recommend it.

“A good, humorous addition to school and public libraries' graphic novel collections.” - School Library JournalThe Tackleford gang is back with a new case that demands solving! When Tackleford's derelict barns begin going up in flames, Linton and Sonny are on the case with a moderately mysterious new friend. Paths cross, however, when Lottie and Mildred meet a terrifying yet misunderstood creature living beneath a bridge! Throw in an overly enthusiastic Fire Brigade, a transforming skate ramp, and a new French teacher and you've got the kind of charming genius that can only be found in John Allison's BAD MACHINERY.

From School Library JournalGr 7 Up—In this third installment of the series, Allison brings the wit and charm of his British webcomics to fans in the U.S. Readers follow the group of young teens and their attempt to unravel mysteries in their town of Tackleford. The book trails various story lines, such as the boys trying to solve arson incidents and the girls endeavouring to "clean up" a troll they found under a bridge. Although the mystery-solving aspect isn't solid, what stands out in this work is the authentic dialogue, characters' constant questioning, and the protagonists' experiences as "new" teenagers. Allison addresses how they are coping with physical and emotional changes, balancing friendships, and romantic relationships in a humorous way. However, the relegation of conversations about love and romance conversations to the girls' narrative and the mystery-solving adventures to the boys' section makes this work in some instances feel too gendered. The comic-strip look and layout are solid and along with the vivid illustrations and bold colors enhance the appeal of the series. VERDICT A good, humorous addition to school and public libraries' graphic novel collections.—Sujei Lugo, Boston Public Library, MA