

[Download] The Long Haul

The Long Haul

Antony Johnston

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#4256089 in Books 2005-03-09Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.00 x .50 x 5.50l, #File Name: 193266405X176 pages | File size: 18.Mb

Antony Johnston : The Long Haul before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Long Haul:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Graphic Novels in the ClassroomBy Elizabeth G.I have just recently finished using this text in my high school literature classroom. I chose the book for a reluctant readers class. It was very well recieved! The students enjoyed the spaghetti western motif and we frequently read ahead of the assignment. However, the book was almost too easy, and I wished I would have ordered a more complex graphic novel. I may use this in the coming weeks with a younger class (7th grade) and I think this will be more successful.A note: This isn't a completely "clean" novel. There is mild profanity and one semi-nude scene.

The year is 1871 and a government grant of \$100,000 in bonds (the last payment for the building of the Central Pacific Railroad from San Francisco to Promontory) is about to be sent from Chicago to the Western Pacific offices in San Francisco, over 2000 miles of railroad away. Several Government freights have recently succumbed to the growing plague of railroad theft and the stakes of this shipment are simply too great to leave to chance. To that end, a Pinkerton agent has been brought in to oversee security. The details for this operation are top secret. The public is not even aware that the money is being sent, let alone how. But professional thief Cody Plummer has discovered the plans... and the prize is too sweet to resist.

From Publishers Weekly Johnston and Barretto offer proof positive that westerns haven't yet given up the ghost, offering a hybrid of horse opera and caper film that's a solidly entertaining page-turner. Bank robber Cody Plummer has returned to society after a seven-year stretch in the hoosegow. When the opportunity to snatch a train shipment of \$19 million in cash comes up, Plummer sets out to commit an impossible heist. The train is fortified with period-plausible safeguards such as 14 heavily armed guards and Pinkerton agents (led by the man who sent Plummer up the river), regularly scheduled telegraph security protocols and triple-thickness steel barriers for the safe car. Daunting obstacles all, but to a brilliant criminal strategist like Plummer they present both an intriguing challenge and a chance for get-him-where-it-hurts vengeance against his former pursuer. Assembling a team of specialists that resembles John Ford's answer to Ocean's Eleven, Plummer and his cohorts launch a nail-biting assault on the train, resulting in a blend of smooth planning and execution coupled with ticking-clock suspense that will keep readers entranced. Johnston's script is tight, with no wasted words, and Barretto's clean Joe Kubert-inspired visual storytelling communicates like a movie on paper, making this a must for western fans and definitely worth a look for the casual comics enthusiast. (Mar.) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.