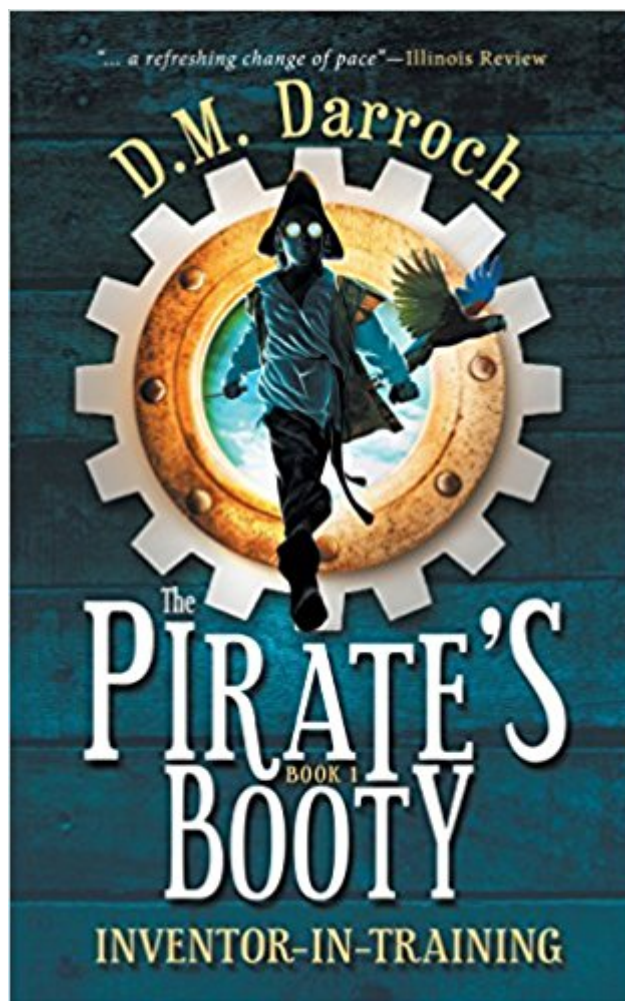




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# The Pirate's Booty (Inventor-in-Training) (Volume 1)



## Synopsis

A parallel universe, a pirate ship, a talking bird, and one seriously eccentric captain. After a laboratory mishap, inventor-in-training Angus Clark finds himself aboard the Fearsome Flea. The pirate crew mistakes the middle schooler for his alter ego, a dirty, rude cannon boy. Clever Angus must face a sea battle and a nasty mutineer, and walk the plank. Will the scientific Angus survive life on the leaky Fearsome Flea? Why is Maniacal Marge out to get him? Will he ever return to his own world? And can his mother endure the mischievous pirate who now lives under her roof? Helped by a sassy, body jumping macaw and a fastidious, cookie-baking pirate captain, Angus uses his ingenuity and trusty screwdriver to set the worlds right. *The Pirate's Booty* begins the story of Angus Clark, a middle schooler striving to be an inventor. While working on his latest invention, Angus accidentally transports himself to a parallel universe where pirates still terrorize the waters. Along the way, he discovers that his most loyal friend may very well be that annoying girl in his math class. D.M. DARROCH introduces the Inventor-in-Training trilogy with smoke and a sizzle. Breakneck pacing, lighthearted humor, and two overlapping storylines will delight quick-witted readers looking for an adventurous good time.

## Book Information

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Science Fiction

## Customer Reviews

"...a refreshing change of pace...demands a slightly higher reading comprehension level and introduces scientifically challenging vocabulary...what good Young Adult books should demand of

our children... . The science in this book is fantastic and any science-loving child will relish what the author has to say on the subject of theoretical physics and chemistry." - Illinois Review"...highly recommended for young readers." - The Midwest Book Review"...a refreshing change of pace...demands a slightly higher reading comprehension level and introduces scientifically challenging vocabulary...what good Young Adult books should demand of our children... . The science in this book is fantastic and any science-loving child will relish what the author has to say on the subject of theoretical physics and chemistry." - Illinois Review"...highly recommended for young readers." - The Midwest Book Review

I came up with this idea when I told my son bedtime stories. One of my son's favorite characters was an unlucky pirate captain who was forever losing his ship. Sometimes he was attacked by other pirates, sometimes he slipped on the wet deck and fell overboard, sometimes his crew mutinied. One time a spaceship full of aliens ejected him with a laser beam. These stories did not have the intended effect of lulling my son to sleep. He was generally laughing too hard at the misadventures of Pirate Hank. I'm a sucker for kids' laughter. My idea for Angus came from my messy garage. Many parents of inventive boys and girls have similar spaces in their homes. During a hike with my son, I had an epiphany. What if a young inventor-in-training like the one who lives in my house were to have an accident and wind up marooned with Pirate Hank? And what if a boy pirate from Hank's ship moved into my house? My son began laughing as I told him the story. I just love that sound.

Mom's Review: Honestly, super clever kids in books tend to be \*annoying\*. Either someone overestimates how smart kids talk/act/behave, or someone truly understands them but gets caught up in trying to be clever themselves. Not this author! Her main protagonist, Angus, shows all the characteristics of a very smart boy -- while still being just a regular kid in many ways. Any parent with an inquisitive, sometimes exasperating kid will enjoy this book, as will the multitude of kids who can relate to Angus, not to mention Ivy. D.M. Darroch also doesn't fall into the trap of replicating the clever-but-goofy boy with sharp-as-nails female friend (a la Harry Potter and the Heroes of Olympus series). Both Angus and Ivy are unique characters that the reader likes and wants to follow along on the adventure. The whole book is clever, funny, and a quick read. Can't wait to read the sequel! Daughter's (10) Review: I liked how the main character was switched with his pirate self, and how the pirate self has to learn how to act in the 21st century. I also like how the girl in Angus' class (Ivy) is in different forms in the pirate world. It's a really good book and people should read it.

I loved this book! It is full of adventure, science, problem-solving and teamwork. I couldn't wait to see what was going to happen next! I found that I could relate to almost all of the characters at various points throughout the story: from the mom who had resigned herself to cleaning up after her son's failed inventions but never budged on her core principles, to the pirate ship captain who just wanted to keep things clean and orderly, to the young inventor who felt that he was wasting his time in school and just wanted to invent, to the intelligent girl who is uniquely connected to all nature offers, and even to the pirates who realized they were better off with a captain who could count. It is such a creative story with many heroes and a whole lot of excitement! This book is perfect for children ages 7-13 who will find lots of adventure, giggles, and good solid intelligent heroes and their parents who will find plenty of humor and maybe even a bit of themselves and their children in the pages. I look forward to the next one!

My 10yr old daughter says: "Its adventurous, exciting, and it's one of those books that takes you places. I liked reading the Pirates Booty because the language is exciting enough for kids who like words and the action is great for kids who like adventure stories. I like both of those, so this book is perfect for me." I couldn't have said it better! Everyone in our house is reading this book and loving it. We are all hoping for more books by D.M. Darroch.~ ~ The Pirate's Booty (Inventor-in-Training)

As an elementary school librarian, I love finding books by new authors that have unique plotlines and intriguing characters. The Pirate's Booty (Inventor-in-Training Book 1) certainly has those qualities! Angus, the young inventor, discovers that one of his inventions really transports him to a parallel universe where he is on the pirate ship, the Fearsome Flea. In a unique twist, he has swapped experiences with a pirate named BP. With help from his friend Ivy, they try to get back home. Intermediate aged readers will enjoy this humorous tale of adventure.

D.M. Darroch is a master of creativity and fun. Her new book is a delightful read for elementary aged children, teens and adults. Anyone who loves to exercise his imagination "muscle" will be thoroughly enchanted right from page 1. And if you're a school or public librarian, your collection is definitely not complete without this book!

I read this book aloud to my 8 year-old son and we both loved the book. We laughed out loud multiple times. My 11 year old daughter also read this book (to herself) and thoroughly enjoyed it as well. I have read probably hundreds of books aloud to my kids over the years, and while I enjoy

many of them, at times the characters and plot feel very familiar. Not so with Angus and The Pirate Booty. What a clever, creative, fun book! The characters were real and multi-dimensional, even while the plot dealt with multiple time dimensions and was utterly original. We can't wait for the next installment!

D.M. Darroch has written a story full of action, suspense, and humor. Young readers will be able to relate to Angus and Ivy and will cheer them on as they try to find their way home. BP's antics will keep them laughing. I'm recommending this book to my fourth grade students and can't wait for a sequel!

D.M. Darroch's arrival on the literary scene has been long awaited. What a great read! Anyone who has ever had a little inventor living in their home will see themselves in this story. Fast-paced and exciting, the story entertains and draws the reader in. One can't help but chuckle along at the misadventures of BP (great name, by the way), Angus, and Ivy. Definitely, an intriguing encounter for young readers. Great vocabulary, wonderful use of description, a great addition to anyone's library. I can't wait for Angus's next adventure!!

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