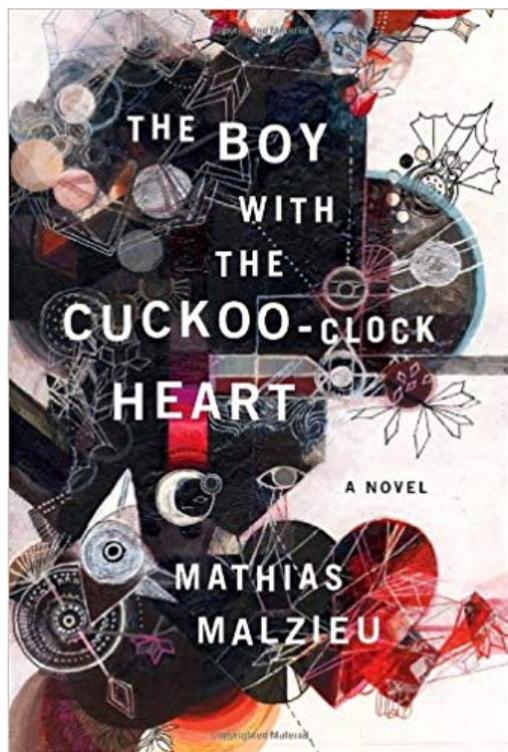


The Boy with the Cuckoo-Clock Heart (Borzoi Books) by Sarah Ardizzone, Mathias Malzieu



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Author: Sarah Ardizzone, Mathias Malzieu

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FIRSTLY: don't touch the hands of your cuckoo-clock heart. SECONDLY: master your anger. THIRDLY: never, ever fall in love. For if you do, the hour hand will poke through your skin, your bones will shatter, and your heart will break once more. Edinburgh, 1874. Born with a frozen heart, Jack is near death when his mother abandons him to the care of Dr. Madeleine—witch doctor, midwife, protector of orphans—who saves Jack by placing a cuckoo clock in his chest. And it is in her orphanage that Jack grows up among tear-filled flasks, eggs containing memories, and a man with a musical spine. As Jack gets older, Dr. Madeleine warns him that his heart is too fragile for strong emotions: he must never, ever fall in love. And, of course, this is exactly what he does: on his tenth birthday and with head-over-heels abandon. The object of his ardor is Miss Acacia—a bespectacled young street performer with a soul-stirring voice. But now Jack's life is doubly at risk—his heart is in danger and so is his safety after he injures the school bully in a fight for the affections of the beautiful singer. Now begins a journey of escape and pursuit, from Edinburgh to Paris to Miss Acacia's home in Andalusia. Mathias Malzieu's *The Boy with the Cuckoo-Clock Heart* is a fantastical, wildly inventive tale of love and heartbreak—by turns poignant and funny—in which Jack finally learns the great joys, and ultimately the greater costs, of owning a fully formed heart.



Reviews of the **The Boy with the Cuckoo-Clock Heart (Borzo Books)** by Sarah Ardizzone, Mathias Malzieu

BlackHaze

After falling in love with the movie, I was intrigued enough to want to read the book it was based on. It's actually quite interesting to see the differences between the two, as well as how faithful the movie is to the book...

First off, the story follows the movie's pretty closely (I won't spoil it here), but honestly, what changes were made to the story were for the best, the movie clearly wins out here. Also, I didn't care for the "twist" at the end...the story straddles that line between being a fantasy and being realistic, and honestly, that twist brings it too close to depressingly realistic for me. Not to mention how the ending of the film is beautiful in its melancholy - the ending of the book is just depressing. Otherwise, though, the book is well written.

Overall, I probably was spoiled by seeing the film first, but it's the better piece of media, in my opinion. If you are a big fan of the movie, I'd suggest you read the book just to get a little extra information and detail, but if you're only a casual fan of the film, I'd give this book a pass.

Runeterror

After falling in love with the movie, I had to read the original story. I was left with an ache and many questions. I read the book again, slower. I enjoy it so much more, now that I penetrated deeper into the characters' perceptions, assumptions, actions, reactions, and the story's outcome. In the movie and the book, the characters are the same, except for Dr Madeleine. Is she a brilliant steampunk surgeon who saves a child, or is she a midwife tattered by physiological and social injustice who is willing to tether a child to her own superficial heart? Watching how these characters proceed from Madeleine's motive is delightful. See the movie, read the book.

Nto

Warning: this novel is not an account of overcoming an infirmity to live a full life. Life is strange, painful and cruel for this boy with a clock instead of a heart. Translated from French, this story is for anyone who has had their heart broken, been in love, felt the repercussions of jealousy, and felt the slings and arrows of seeing the one you love forget you completely.

SlingFire

i discovered this movie on netflix. i was instantly taken with it. so, after watching the movie like, 5 times, i bought the book. it surprised me because it didn't end like the movie at all. but i still loved it and will be buying the soundtrack as well. <3

Vetalol

The book and movie are very different, but it was neat seeing the author actually had a hand in a lot of what the movie had. I can't really say more without ruining anything, but the twist at the end was amazing and it wasn't something I expected. Although the book is a short read and looks like a children's book IT IS NOT A CHILDREN'S BOOK. There are sexual moments in the book, not in completely detail but enough to know what they're doing.

Chinon

Loved the video and wanted the book. Book took a long while to receive but understanding since it is from out of US.

uspeh

I purchased this book after watching the animated movie of the same name. It is a very whimsical read. I think i prefer the book to the movie. Very enjoyable.

This is one of the best books I have ever read. It's heartbreakingly compelling. Shared it with my whole family and they all absolutely love it too. It's just one of those stories that stays with you forever.

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