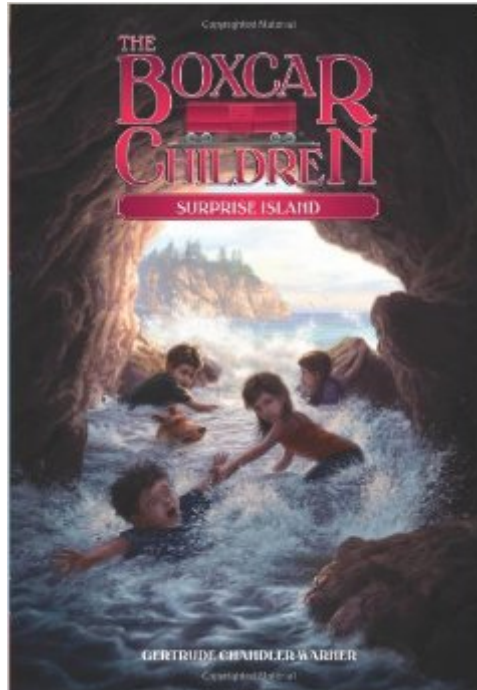


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# Surprise Island (The Boxcar Children Mysteries #2)



## Synopsis

Summer vacation on an almost private island gives the Aldens a challenge.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 530L (What's this?)

Series: The Boxcar Children Mysteries (Book 2)

Paperback: 192 pages

Publisher: Albert Whitman & Company; Reprint edition (January 1, 1989)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0807576743

ISBN-13: 978-0807576748

Product Dimensions: 5.3 x 0.6 x 7.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (121 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #11,569 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #117 in [Books > Children's Books](#)  
> [Mysteries & Detectives](#) #801 in [Books > Children's Books > Action & Adventure](#)

Age Range: 8 - 11 years

Grade Level: 2 - 5

## Customer Reviews

I still enjoy these books even though the real thrill of reading them only happens when you're still a child. I remember not liking this one much the first time through, actually, but then a year later or so re-reading it and liking it. Basically it's a summer of re-living the survival skills of the first book, except they are in a barn on their grandfather's island. A captain and his so-called handyman live close by to help if anything should happen. But the handyman seems to know a lot, and the children find it hard to believe that he's only a handyman. This book also marks the first appearance of Benny's friend Mike, who plays a pretty important role in some of the books to come. It also hints at the yellow house, which was what spurred the story of the third book (the first real mystery in the series). Definitely should be read as part of the real Boxcar Children experience - not the foundationless fluff written by various authors of today.

When I say "So many surprises," I really mean it! For example, the children find Indian artifacts, when they never thought they would. Benny and his friend found a mini-cave. I like this book because it had so many surprises!

The Boxcar Children #2 Surprise Island is a great book for kids and others 15 and under. My favorite part was when the kids found Indian Point and all the artifacts hidden there. After they found all the artifacts they made their own museum. My other favorite part was when the dogs raced each other. When they had to leave they weren't very disappointed because they knew that they were going to come back. The author is such a realistic writer that when you read this book you think that you are there with them.

This is an awesome book. For young children, this is great for getting them interested in reading. It captures attention and gets them emotionally involved in the characters. Considering this book is an early volume in a large series, if you get it you can ensure you'll have options available to continue on with your child's love for reading. If your child doesn't like to read, try reading this book, or even the first one, to him or her, and then letting them continue on, as they'll surely want to be involved in more of the Walden's adventures.

Mysterious adventures welcome The Boxcar Children to Surprise Island, a mysterious private island that the children visit in the second book in THE BOXCAR CHILDREN series. One of the very rare original books, truly written by Gertrude Chandler Warner, it follows the newest adventures of Henry, Jessie, Violet, and Benny as they attempt to solve the mystery of the island's stranger who cannot reveal his identity to them.... This book is even more gripping and mysterious than the forerunner, THE BOXCAR CHILDREN, and will delight those who consider themselves friends of the Alden family. Also Recommended: The Boxcar Children (#1), The Yellow House Mystery (#3), Mystery Ranch (#4), Mike's Mystery (#5), Blue Bay Mystery (#6), The Woodshed Mystery (#7), The Lighthouse Mystery (#8), Mountain Top Mystery (#9), Schoolhouse Mystery (#10), Caboose Mystery (#11), Houseboat Mystery (#12), Snowbound Mystery (#13), Tree House Mystery (#14), Bicycle Mystery (#15), Mystery in the Sand (#16), Mystery Behind the Wall (#17), Bus Station Mystery (#18), Benny Uncovers a Mystery (#19)

Growing up in the same town as Ms. Chandler, I was lucky enough to go to the library to hear her read her stories. I loved them. I wasn't sure if my kids 30 years later would love them as much as I did. I think we've read the Boxcar #1 at least 6 times. The kids just love the idea of setting up a home, without adults, and taking care of themselves. Who doesn't love the pink cracked cup and the stream cooler. I wasn't sure if Surprise Island would have the same kind of magic. It did! Not

only did it have a lot of the same elements as the first one, my boys loved the kids finding Indian relics, and mystery of who Joe was and of course why can't they go into the yellow house? (read #3 for that one). It is so refreshing that a book written so many years ago can be relevant today, that you don't need potty humor, TV show references or violence to engage children's imaginations.

I've loved this series for many years, so I'm introducing it to my sons. But although they enjoyed this one, they didn't like it quite as much as the first book. Still, I suspect that they'll grow to like it more as we proceed onwards through the series and may want to come back to it in the future. Lots of surprises already and many more to come in this fabulous series!

I discovered these and read these to my children in the 80s and 90s. Although I like the first four volumes the best, we read them all. Now I send them to my grandchildren, who report loving them as their parents did. Not sure about all the political correct fussing. The plot presented in this book is a child's dream. I wanted to spend the summer at a place like this with my cousins without parents bugging us.

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