The Strange Case of Origami Yoda Tom Angleberger Reviewed by: Paufa Phanachet, 14 Star Teen Book Reviewer of Be the Star You Are! Charity <u>www.bethestaryouare.org</u>

The Strange Case of Origami Yoda is a quirky novel that presents itself in the form of a casebook that includes testimonies from various characters. In the story, Dwight, a strange 6th grader, makes an Origami Yoda finger puppet and begins giving advice to his classmates in a bad imitation of Yoda's voice. The surprisingly good counsel causes many students to believe that the Origami Yoda has a connection to the force. Tommy, our protagonist, compiles this case file and convinces some of his classmates to write about their experience in an attempt to figure out if Origami Yoda is real or just Dwight pretending to be Yoda.

I found the book surprisingly entertaining and intriguing. The book has an air of mystery and humour while also touching on all the best things about a friendship drama. The book was designed to look like a child's crumpled notebook which just adds to the playful air. I would warn any Star Wars fans that there is not a lot of Star Wars references. The Origami Yoda is as much as you are going to get. This book is also very Diary-of a-Wimpy-Kid-esque. If you do not like that style then you might not enjoy this book.

I would definitely recommend this as a gift for an elementary or middle school boy. I am a girl and I enjoyed it, but the book mostly targets boys so that may be something to keep in mind. It is a book that is targeting young boys from around grade 4 to middle schoolers or around 8-12 years old. Some adults or older teenagers may enjoy it, but they need to have an open mind.

Recommended Titles:

- Diary of a Wimpy Kid series by Jeff Kinney
- The 13-Story Treehouse by Andy Griffiths (Book #1 of the treehouse Series)
- Dork Diaries series by Rachel Renée Russell
- Captain Underpants by Dav Pilkey