

**Former Ghostwriter Comes Out of the Shadows
with Children's Novel:**

Zoxil Prolot: First Report from Earth

You are 10 years old, your whole school calls you “turd-burger,” and the only person who understands that you are not from this planet just went into the hospital...

It's tough being Zoxil Prolot.

ZOXIL PROLOT: First Report from Earth is the new book by David Gray. The Book tells the story of a 10-year-old boy who is certain that he is an alien from another planet sent to live among humans, learn about them, and report back. But fitting in on Earth isn't so easy. And he really wants to know just how long he has to stay here.

He relies on his beloved grandfather to help him understand his mission on Earth. But his Grandfather is not well and Zoxil is not prepared to lose the old man.

The story, set in Princeton, New Jersey, is told through Zoxil's diary. He recounts his difficulties, tells about his family, his school, and his efforts to study the Earth. Like many explorers, his sense of humor carries him through, and his voice resonates with kids everywhere. The opening sentence perhaps says it all, “Parents are stupid...”

Zoxil's situation goes from bad to worse, finally bringing him to the attention of the local police. In the end however he learns that fitting in among humans does not need to be as difficult as he was making it for himself.

In addition to being a fun read for 'tweens, the book also offers a catalyst for dialogue about growing up, fitting in, dealing with the loss of a loved one, and a child's trepidation in visiting a mental health professional. Getting boys to talk about feelings isn't easy, having the “safe” outlet of a book discussion can provide a way in to let boys express difficult emotions.

Zoxil Prolot is David Gray's second book. His first book was part of a popular series of children's mysteries for which Gray worked as a ghost writer. Gray grew up in Princeton and left when he attended college. In 1999, Gray and his wife, New York City Ballet Principal Dancer Kyra Nichols, moved to Princeton, primarily for the free babysitting. The Grays are raising two boys, Joe (seen on the cover of *Zoxil Prolot*) and Cameron. Gray is the President of Finance Arts, Inc., a consulting firm providing planning, training and leadership solutions to nonprofit organizations.

ZOXIL PROLOT: First Report from Earth is available in paperback and hardback online at www.zoxil.com, amazon.com and barnesandnoble.com.

For further information about **Zoxil Prolot**, and the author, or for subsidiary rights questions, please contact dgray@financearts.com.