



## The Way It Works (Rapid Reads)

By William Kowalski

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### **The Way It Works (Rapid Reads)** By William Kowalski

Walter Davis is young, handsome, intelligent, dynamic and personable. The product of a bi-racial marriage but abandoned by his father as a young child, he prides himself on three things: his drive to succeed, his fine clothes and never having been late for anything in his life. Walter is also homeless. The medical expenses that came with his mother's brief and unsuccessful battle against cancer have left him destitute. Still, ever the optimist, Walter believes that if he lives in his car for a few months, he will have the time he needs to find a good job in the business world and turn his life around. His situation gets more complicated when he finds himself attracted to a girl he meets at the mailing center where he keeps a post box. But trying to impress a girl when you have no fixed address proves difficult, and when he's caught in a lie, she shuns his company. Walter's struggles grow when his car is impounded and he can't afford to pay the fine. Only resilience, ingenuity and his drive to succeed can bring Walter back from the brink of despair.

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## **The Way It Works (Rapid Reads) By William Kowalski Bibliography**

- Sales Rank: #904031 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Raven Books
- Published on: 2010-10-01
- Released on: 2010-10-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 7.25" h x .30" w x 4.75" l, .30 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 111 pages

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### Editorial Review

#### From School Library Journal

Gr 8 Up-Walter Davis is an industrious young man who has become homeless through no fault of his own. As he struggles to regain his footing after his mother's debilitating illness and death, the story explores the plight of the unemployed and inexperienced trying to make a living in difficult economic times. Especially intriguing are the details about how Walter maintains some respectability while living out of his car, and how other characters respond when they learn that he is homeless. The plot wraps up a bit too neatly, and some may find the overall tone a tad simplistic. Still, reluctant readers will be drawn to the fast-moving story with its modern, urban setting and sympathetic, true-to-life hero.-Eliza Langhans, Hatfield Public Library, MA (c) Copyright 2010. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

#### From Booklist

The Way It Works, one of the series' strongest titles, follows 20-year-old Walter Davis from homeless job searcher to profitable small-business owner. With understated, sobering, and detailed realism, Kowalski shows how easily a person can lose everything, and the ingenuity and strength Davis summons to solve daily logistical problems, and fall in love, will hook readers. --Gillian Engberg

#### Review

"Readers struggling with literacy issues or learning English will appreciate the simple, straightforward style and plot-driven narratives...Diverse cultures, sensitive contemporary issues and social injustice are all difficult topics tackled appropriately without diverting the story...The discussion-worthy issues and themes are delivered via a high caliber plot and efficient style of writing. Recommended." (*CM Magazine* 2010-09-10)

"One of the series' strongest titles...With understated, sobering, and detailed realism, Kowalski shows how easily a person can lose everything, and the ingenuity and strength Davis summons to solve daily logistical problems, and fall in love, will hook readers. With rare voices and taut suspense, these titles provide accessible choices for struggling and strong readers alike." (*Booklist* 2010-10-01)

"You won't be able to put the book down until you're finished... While tweens and teens will enjoy the book, adults and writers will be equally fascinated with the economy with which Kowalski manages to draw full-fledged characters, create increasingly dramatic situations and then resolve it all in just a hundred-plus pages." (*CD Syndicated* 2010-10-14)

"A quick and easy read, aimed at urbanites. Educators who work with adults seeking to improve their reading skills should also find this book and series intriguing...It offers an uplifting message with a touch of romance...[and] works well at skillfully delivering an engaging character and story." (*ForeWord Reviews* 2010-11-01)

"A compelling story featuring strong characters...Despite the book's brevity, Walter's determination and resourcefulness quickly draw the reader in, and the story builds to a satisfying...conclusion." (*Quill & Quire* 2010-10-01)

"Especially intriguing are the details about how Walter maintains some respectability while living out of his car, and how other characters respond when they learn that he is homeless...Reluctant readers will be drawn

to the fast-moving story with its modern, urban setting and sympathetic, true-to-life hero." (*School Library Journal* 2011-02-01)

"This book is indeed a quick read, getting straight to the plot...[and] will give readers hope and an example of determination...Good for reluctant readers." (*Puget Sound Council for Reviewing Children's Media* 2011-02-01)

"Walter is an admirable young man, and the reader can't help but root for him...Inspiring...A quick read [that] should appeal to reluctant readers." (*BookLinx* 2012-01-30)

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### From reader reviews:

#### **Kenneth Roberts:**

Why don't make it to be your habit? Right now, try to prepare your time to do the important act, like looking for your favorite reserve and reading a e-book. Beside you can solve your problem; you can add your knowledge by the book entitled The Way It Works (Rapid Reads). Try to the actual book The Way It Works (Rapid Reads) as your friend. It means that it can to become your friend when you truly feel alone and beside associated with course make you smarter than before. Yeah, it is very fortuned for yourself. The book makes you a lot more confidence because you can know every thing by the book. So , let's make new experience in addition to knowledge with this book.

#### **James Dungan:**

The guide with title The Way It Works (Rapid Reads) includes a lot of information that you can understand it. You can get a lot of help after read this book. That book exist new know-how the information that exist in this e-book represented the condition of the world today. That is important to you to be aware of how the improvement of the world. This book will bring you inside new era of the internationalization. You can read the e-book with your smart phone, so you can read the idea anywhere you want.

#### **Theresa Pepper:**

The Way It Works (Rapid Reads) can be one of your beginning books that are good idea. We recommend that straight away because this book has good vocabulary that will increase your knowledge in terminology, easy to understand, bit entertaining but nonetheless delivering the information. The article writer giving his/her effort to put every word into enjoyment arrangement in writing The Way It Works (Rapid Reads) nevertheless doesn't forget the main place, giving the reader the hottest as well as based confirm resource information that maybe you can be one among it. This great information can certainly drawn you into completely new stage of crucial pondering.

#### **Suzanne Robbins:**

What is your hobby? Have you heard that question when you got scholars? We believe that that problem was

given by teacher to their students. Many kinds of hobby, All people has different hobby. Therefore you know that little person like reading or as studying become their hobby. You should know that reading is very important in addition to book as to be the point. Book is important thing to include you knowledge, except your teacher or lecturer. You find good news or update in relation to something by book. Different categories of books that can you go onto be your object. One of them is actually The Way It Works (Rapid Reads).

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