

Dugo, Andre illustrator

illustrated Defoe's: Roxana  
or the Fortunate mistress  
(Marburo Books)

Turn It Off! <sup>4/8/53</sup>

TOM'S MAGIC TV. Story and pictures by Andre Dugo. Unpaged. New York: Henry Holt & Co. \$2.

For Ages 5 to 7.

IF André Dugo had written "Tom's Magic TV" for adults, to illustrate how some of the current television programs build up nightmares among the small fry, his book would be worth the asking price. As a juvenile, however, it deserves little of the praise that Mr. Dugo's past efforts have justly received.

The "magic" in the story occurs when Tom falls asleep watching TV, and in his dream becomes a participant in various shows. As disaster approaches each time, his sister turns the dial, and plunges Tom into a new cliff-hanging episode. In one program he is chased by terrifying Hairy Sharks that become "bigger and bigger and BIGGER" as they draw "nearer and nearer..." In another an Indian tries to scalp him. But our hero carries on, falls off a tightrope in the circus, is mauled by animals at the zoo, threatened by puppets and finally crashes a space ship into a mountain.

The telling is in the tradition of the bogeyman. Even Mr. Dugo's sprightly illustrations fail to convince me that a 5- or 6-year-old child will find this much fun to remember after he has said his good nights.

PAT CLARK.

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Szemes-Dugo