



## **My Life as a Book**

**by Janet Tashjian**

**review by Good Reads**

**Like many boys, 12-year old Derek is identified as a reluctant reader. He admits that it is not that he doesn't enjoy reading – he would just rather have real adventures than read about someone else's adventures. When given a summer reading assignment, derek does everything he can to avoid reading the assigned books. He stumbles across an old newspaper article about a girl who drowned at the beach on Martha's Vineyard. Derek's mother explains that the girl drowned while she was babysitting for him. Derek sets his sights on finding out all he can about this girl and what happened that day so many years ago. The margins of the book are filled with various cartoon drawings of some of the vocabulary words from the text – a strategy Derek has been using while reading.**

**As Derek learns about the drowning, we learn about Derek – his life is never dull! As with most 12-year old boys, he is very active and seems to find trouble and adventure wherever he goes. Fans of the Wimpy Kid series may enjoy this book as a nice transition to more involved chapter books.**