What’s The Great Brain about?

Here is a great book about a young boy who has two older brothers. They live in Adenville, Utah, in 1896. J.D. is the youngest brother, and Sweyn is the oldest brother, but the brother who is the most interesting is Tom—the middle brother. He is known as the “Great Brain” because he is so much smarter than everyone else. Each chapter of this awesome book is about how Tom uses his great mind to help people out. Unfortunately, in addition to a great brain, Tom also has a “money-loving” heart, and many of his exploits are designed to fill his pockets. When J.D. tells the stories about his brothers adventures, they often end with Tom getting in trouble for cheating others out of money.

Meet Tom—the “Great Brain” who has a money-loving heart!
Chapter 1: “The Magic Water Closet” You’ll read about the family becoming the first house in Adenville to have an indoor toilet!

Chapter 2: “Revenge Can be Sour” You’ll read about the time J.D. wants to be the first one in the family to get mumps so he can infect his two brothers with it.

Chapter 3: “The Great Brain Saves the Day” You’ll read about a time that Tom uses his great brain to help find two boys and their dog lost in a cave.

Chapter 4: “Abie Glassman Finds a Home” You’ll read about how the family helps a traveling peddler find a home in Adenville.

Chapter 5: “Greek Immigrant” You’ll read about how Tom uses his great brain to make bullies be nice to a new kid who doesn’t speak much English.

Chapter 6: “A Wreath for Abie” When the peddler from chapter 4, the Great Brain uses his brain to find out what was really kept in a mysterious box the peddler had.

Chapter 7: “The New Teacher” You’ll read about how the Great Brain battles a strict new teacher at school.

Chapter 8: “The Great Brain’s Reformation” You’ll read about how when Tom helps a one-legged boy be a little more normal again, he changes his “money-loving ways”...just temporarily.

What’s the Plot of this Wonderful Book?
A young boy with an older brother (who has a great brain) tells us about his brother’s schemes and adventures, as well as his moments of kindness. Each chapter tells a different adventure about “The Great Brain.” The stories are based on the real-life boyhood of the author, who really had a brother named Tom.

What is the Setting?
The book takes place in 1896. The family lives in a small (fictional) Utah town called Adenville.

Who are the Main Characters?
- J.D. is the youngest brother and narrator
- Tom is the middle brother with the “Great Brain.”
- Sweyn is the oldest brother who sometimes still plays with his brothers.
- Mama is the three boys’ mother.
- Papa is the three boys’ father.

Story Elements!!!

Need More Great Brain?
Have you read The Great Brain and felt sad that it was over? Guess what? There are more books in the series. When you have this many books in a series, you know the books have to be good; otherwise, why would the author keep writing them, right?

Here are the other seven books in this awesome series!

1. More Adventures of the Great Brain
2. Me and My Little Brain
3. The Great Brain at the Academy
4. The Great Brain Reforms
5. The Return of the Great Brain
6. The Great Brain Does it Again
7. The Great Brain is Back