The new Houdini is a book about a boy named Brandon. Brandon's parents go on a vacation and Brandon stays home with his grandma. Brandon has 3 rules. Brandon cannot have friends at his house, he needs to go directly to school, and he cannot drive his father's car.

In order to drive the car, Brandon disconnects some cables from the other car and now he needs to drive his dad's car. He drives the T-Bird to school and impresses his friends and a special girl named Jamie. He goes to a restaurant with Jamie (and not his friend Jake) and there is a terrible accident. The accident is really just some ketchup that explodes in the car.

Brandon needs to clean the car, so he uses vinegar and then when the car has a bad smell, he drives the car to a place where it costs \$300 to clean the interior of the car. The next day, Brandon goes to school in the car again and he and Jaime go on a date before school at a restaurant. Brandon wants to kiss Jaime but can't but his car "kisses" another car with a crash. There is a scratch in the car and Brandon repairs the car with a blue marker.