

My Name is Bob

James Bowen, Garry Jenkins, Gerald Kelley (Illustrator)

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Bob and James are the best of friends; everywhere James goes, Bob the street cat goes with him.

But what happened to Bob before he found James? This is the story of Bob in the early days, when his life is turned upside down and he goes in search of a new home and someone to love him...

My Name is Bob Details

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Author: James Bowen, Garry Jenkins, Gerald Kelley (Illustrator)

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From Reader Review My Name is Bob for online ebook

Brenda says

Heart touching story

The story of Bob the cat really grabs the heart but has a wonderful ending. Lovely illustrations really enhanced the story.

Candace says

Bob is a street cat looking for a forever home. One day he meets James, a street musician. James heals Bob's injury and feeds him. Soon he is well and follows James. They become a hit with James playing his guitar and Bob joining him. James and Bob have been friends ever since.

A vibrant picture book with large text, this book tells the story of Bob and his search for a home. It is a spin-off from the 2012 publication *A Street Cat Named Bob*. All about the adventures of James and Bob on the streets.

Jackie says

I loved the series of books this book was based on, so I wanted to read this book as well. It is a fictionalized, condensed version of the story, from the cat's point of view. The illustrations are lovely. It also has some real life photos at the end. Bob looks cute in a tux!

Lauren Kramer says

My Name is Bob by James Bowen and Garry Jenkins tells the incredible true story of a stray cat who was destined for fame. Bob had not always been a stray. He once belonged to a sweet, old woman. When the woman passed away, Bob had nowhere to go.

He soon found himself wandering the cold streets of London, homeless. After getting into a fight with a resident street cat, Bob found his way to James Bowen, a local street performer. Seeing that Bob was injured, Bowen took him in and cared for his wounds. What happened next was the beginning of a lifelong friendship that can never be broken.

I absolutely adore this story. I truly believe that animals have a way of knowing which human is in need of their affection. I also love true stories involving rescued animals. We rescued our cat, Miracle, from the middle of Main Street in our town when she was just two weeks old. Stories that involve animals getting a second chance at life make my heart smile.

Animal lovers of all ages will be captivated by Bob's journey from stray to celebrity. As told from Bob's

point of view, readers will be drawn to his quiet personality and charm. The illustrations by Gerald Kelley are wonderful and rich. I love the depth and emotion that each illustration contains.

My favorite part of the book is the photo album in the back. I love getting to see how happy Bob and James are living their lives together. I would highly recommend this book to readers both young and old.

Al Adams says

Too much like comic book graphic novel pictures ...

This eBook is too much like comic book graphic novel pictures , would rather have standard ebook with a few pictures ...

Nancy Kennedy says

The story of Bob the Cat and his owner James has been told for many audiences, and this one is a lovely picture book for the youngest readers and listeners. Unlike the earlier Bob books, which were in James's voice, this one is written from the cat's point of view.

The story images the cat's life before he is injured and finds his way to James's door in North London. I was surprised that James doesn't enter the picture until the last few pages. I would have enjoyed a few more pages depicting their day-to-day life and their growing affection.

This book doesn't dwell much on James's down-and-out circumstances, playing guitar for money on the streets of London and trying to kick a drug habit. A few drawings show him as sad and sitting on the ground with his hand outstretched, begging. I think only the most aware kids would ask about James's homelessness and drug addiction. There are a few drawings of Bob being menaced by street cats, which might frighten a very sensitive child.

I enjoy the art of picture books, but I like photography even more. In the back of this book are a few pages of photos of James and Bob in real life. I thought that was a nice touch. If you have older children eager to read, they might enjoy "Bob: No Ordinary Cat," which goes into the story in more depth. "A Street Cat Named Bob: And How He Saved My Life" is the version for adult readers.

Bea Charmed says

I read this in the classroom at the school where I teach. I hadn't seen it before, when one of the children handed it to me to read (a class of 2 and 3 year olds). I had just recently read the actual memoir of Bob and James and when I realized this was a fictional account, I was curious to see how James translated it into fiction for kids.

In real life, James doesn't know of Bob's background, where he came from, what his life was like. For the children's book, James invents a sweet sounding story that turns sad about what Bob's life may have been like. Bob ends up on the street and eventually, injured and hungry, finds his way to James who takes him in

and gives him a home. James leaves out some of the more unpleasant details of their life from the memoir (James' drug use, the harassment he and Bob receive, etc) and writes a sweet-but-not-sugary story of love, hope, and a new life. He writes plainly and with humor in an relateable fashion. The illustrations both add to the text and tell the story. Young children can easily look at the pictures and follow the story. This is a good addition to any child's collection.

Anthony says

The story of a homeless cat, and how he came to be named Bob. This story was inspired and based on a true story on the exploits and adventures of James Bowen, and his adopted cat that he named Bob.

Karen says

This is a illustrated children's book telling the tale of Bob the Street Cat before he became so famous. The story is very sweet and the illustrations are gorgeous.

Pam says

The story of Bob the cat. He was lost on the streets and searching for a home. He found James and they became a pair. Based on a true story of a street musician who did find the cat.

Stretchycat says

Great for children

A very basic outline about who Bob is. For kids, but enjoy able for all. Great artwork. Artist knows cats and how they move.

Donna Mork says

Great story based on a true story. A cat ends up a stray and hurt. He meets a musician who takes him in. They go together to the park to perform and he becomes popular, everyone stopping to say hello. They helped each other and wrote this book (from Bob the Cat's point of view). Now they are writing other books to raise money to help other animal shelters and such. Also, a movie is a possibility.

Kat says

A very cute and simple story about a special cat. Lovely illustrations, although I found it difficult to read

because it upsets me to see cats, even painted ones, suffering or being abandoned. The story does have a happy ending though, and the kindness exhibited is cheering.

Dena (Batch of Books) says

This book is inspired by the true story of Bob, a homeless cat, and James, a street performer. I read this book to my kids (ages 4 & 6) before bed. They stayed up well past "lights out" time to discuss it. They determined that the book was really good because it's about a cat, and the fellow named James was smart for adopting Bob. My four year old said her favorite part of the book was the pictures, while my six year old liked how the cat found a new home. My kids don't usually discuss books together, so I was surprised and happy to see them talking about it and discussing what they liked and why.

As for me, I found the book delightful. Bob becomes homeless when his owner gets sick and is taken away in an ambulance. He tries to follow her and gets lost. After many hard months of living on the street, he meets a musician. James takes the cat in and nurses him back to health. The two of them have been together ever since.

It's a beautiful story. My kids and I have read it several times together, and my four year old sighs with happiness every time it ends. There is a spread in the back with pictures of the real Bob and James. My kids always spend a long time pouring over the pictures and talking about them. The book was written from Bob's point of view. It's always fun to read a book from an animal's perspective. It captures a child's imagination and keeps them involved in the story. This heartwarming book came to life for my kids.

Recommended for animal lovers ages 4-7 years old.

Source: I received a copy of this book from the publisher in exchange for an honest review.

My blog: Batch of Books

Brooke says

I love James and Bob's story. It is very inspiring and heart warming!