

# **Robot Dreams**

Sara Varon

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Richly endearing and full of surprises, *Robot Dreams* follows an ill-fated friendship between a dog and robot. After a Labor Day jaunt to the beach leaves Robot rusty and immobilized in the sand, Dog, unsure what to do, abandons him. As the seasons pass, Dog tries to replace his friend, making and losing a series of new ones, from a melting snowman to epicurean anteaters. Meanwhile, Robot passes his time daydreaming, escaping to better places...Through interwoven journeys, the two characters long to recover from their day at the beach.

Although its adorable characters and playful charm will win over young readers, *Robot Dreams* speaks universally to the fragile nature of friendship, loss, and redemption.

#### **Robot Dreams Details**

Date : Published August 7th 2007 by First Second (first published August 1st 2007)

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Author: Sara Varon

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# From Reader Review Robot Dreams for online ebook

## Kelli says

I pre-read this wordless graphic novel before giving it to my son. I will be interested in his take on it. I liked it, though it was sad. Loved the robot (and his dreams), the dog...not so much. 3.5 stars

## Pooja says

#### Wonderful.

I recommend it to everyone!

Please don't miss out on a graphic novel like this!

With simple pictures, the author has stimulated many emotions in my head.

My heart has shrunk a little after reading it.

I'm still stuck in the moment thinking about this dog and his robot, their friendship, their memories of each other and everything they had between them. Their library visits, dog beach tour, reading Castle in the Sky, Mobi Dick, leisurely watching television, eating together.

This graphic book is emotional, touching, poignant, powerful and will not leave you without making you attached to it completely.

Even in the end, just when you think everything is getting better, just then, it will turn itself into a heart-breaking story.

I hope these graphic books with attractive pictures and brilliant titles come with a warning that they will bewitch you for a moment and shake your grounds afterwards.

They do come with a warning, yes, and still you can't prevent yourself from reading it.

This is a kind of graphic book that one never forgets. This is very very strong!!!

Archit, I want to thank you for introducing me to such books.

## allison says

Recommended for anyone who ever read and loved *The Little Prince* but secretly thought there was too much text. And not enough robots.

## **Brittany says**

If you were even under the impression that a children's graphic novel about a dog and robot could be anything but emotional, you'd be wrong.

# **Archit Ojha says**

I'm starting to get a knack of reading these Graphic Novels.

Sharp and scintillating.

Brings out the best in you.

The feebleness of friendships and how you both long to get back to old times but it's the time that has separated your friendship away.

Not tore apart. But drifted apart.

The dog tries to replace his old friend but never gets the same joy as his endeared Robot gave.

There's a hindi song that you may very much relate to after reading this review and the book.

phool khilte hain,
log milte hain magar
patjhad main jo phool
murjha jate hain,
woh baharon ke aane se khilte nahin
kuchh log ek roz jo bichad jate hain
woh hazaron ke aane se milte nahin
umr bhar chahe koi pukara kare unka naam
woh phir nahin aate,
woh phir nahin aate...!

Who says graphic novels are for children.

#### Moving and heart warming

#### Jordan says

At first, I didn't like this book. During my initial read, I thought the dog was a jerk. He gave up on his poor robot friend too quickly, too easily, and left him to be poked and prodded, pried apart, and become birdnesting grounds. So as the robot is left on the beach and unable to move, and time passes and seasons

change, and all he is left to do is dream about somehow being with his dear friend dog once again, but dog is out trying to become friends with animals and snowmen, it hurt me on the inside. Damn it, it upset me.

But that was then.

Time goes on, and things happen, and knowing what *Robot Dreams* "is about", I gave it another try. And damn it, I sorta fell in love with it. *Robot Dreams* is a graphic novel for teens, but it somehow feels like it's for adults, as it deals with the heavy subject matter of relationships, and how they can be all-encompassing, yet extremely delicate. AND, it's wordless. Yeah. (Unless you want to count the beep-boop-clank-bang noises that are occasionally made.)

Cause when you go through a breakup, honestly, it doesn't matter why. Each person involved is going to handle it differently. One (the breaker) is going to try to move on, put him or herself out there and meet new people, but at the same time, feel for the other that he/she was with. And the other (the breakee), is going to sit around and think about it, and yearn over it, and try to figure out how to get back together with him or her who broke their heart.

However, time heals all wounds. I think that's why the passing of the months plays a role in Sara Varon's story. And it's only then, after some time has gone by, that one can really appreciate what he/she shared with the other person; you aren't ever going to forget them (or what you had), you're just going to have to tuck away those good memories in your pocket, and in the end, you'll be a better person because of it -- you yourself, and for the person you'll be with next.

Nothing is a waste. You're always improving. Of course, it'll just take some time.

## Kate says

A really sweet and heartwarming graphic novel about the friendship between a dog and a robot. Despite using no (very few) words, it still evokes lots of emotions.

## dirt says

i was excited to read this book because it is about robots and dreams which are some of my favorite things. the book would receive five stars if dinosaurs had been somehow incorporated. one of the best scenes is when the robot is turned into a radio and then he and the repairman start dancing.

most people can identify with the gain and loss of friendship that is the theme of this book. you always remember the people were great friends but for whatever reason you stopped talking. you still wonder where that person is and what it would be like to see them again. even when you have moved on, your previous friendships have a constant effect on you. they may even give you a song without you knowing it.

## **Brandy says**

At a glance, this is a quick, wordless comic about a dog and his robot friend, and how the robot got rusty at the beach. But the kick in the gut is that *after* the robot gets rusty, Dog doesn't know what to do. So he leaves. And tries to make new friends, all of whom abandon him in some way or another (the duck family that flies south, the snowman who melts, the anteaters whose epicurean tastes don't agree with Dog's stomach). All the while, Robot lies on the beach, dreaming of salvation so he can go find his friend again.

What I particularly liked (in addition to the art) is that we manage to have a happy ending--Robot's salvation and both making new friends--without the expected ending. No, Dog doesn't rescue Robot, though he at least tries. For a book so cute, I'm left wanting to cry over the bittersweet ending, the fragility of relationships, the impermanence of friendship, the reality of loss despite the best intentions.

## Larnacouer de SH says

Alright mates, I can tell you few things about this book: not enough robots and also text. But if you are interested in sadness and disappointment, ta-daa what a fucking right place you're in!

Not funny at all Sara Varon, not funny.

# Misty says

It's not very nice to toy with people's emotions like this, Sara Varon...

#### Amy says

Dog is the biggest literary jerk since Edmund sold his family out to the White Witch for some Turkish Delight.

## Malbadeen says

If you read this book, you might start to think it's about relationships or the inevitability of loss and how people deal with it. you might begin to empathize with a robot or a dog. you might gasp out loud and you might feel like crying at some points. you might recognize that people change people unintentionally and that few interactions go by that don't form some new reality. you might feel equally hopeful and sad when you close the last page. and then you might over use the word might because you don't want to claim full ownership for being that impacted by a bunch of cartoon drawings! geesh! and then you'll try and redeem your pansified self by giving it only 4 stars and not the 5 that your gut is telling you to give.

## Calista says

What the Happy Crappy was this?

This is a wordless comic book about a dog and a robot who are supposed friends. They spend a day at the beach and the robot rusts and can't move and it's the last day of the season and the dog leaves the robot there. He doesn't climb over the fence to help him or ask authorities to help. He leaves the robot alone on the beach throughout the entire winter. It's horrible. I mean horrible.

Then the dog moves on and goes out and buys another robot. In May when the beach re-opens he does go back and the robot was removed by a junker. At the end, the robot sees the dog and nothing happens. I mean what is the point of this story. It is terrible and makes little sense. The dog is a dog and horrible. It's like this book is a lesson in how to be a terrible friend. What's the worst thing you can do to a friend and then, lets do it. I mean - horrible.

I don't like the art here and the story is about abandonment. IT's horrible. My word. This is a miss for First Second. I see people giving this 4 and 5 stars and I guess I'm missing something here. I don't see what they see. It's not sad, it's sadistic.

## Jordan says

What a surprise this book turned out to be. It looks like a charming little story for kids about a dog and his robot best friend, told all in pictures without any dialogue. And sure, it works on that level. But there is a real emotional depth, too.

I sat and flipped through it with my 2-year old nephew before really reading it and pointed out to him some of the cute pictures. "Look at the robot swimming," I said. "Look at the dog flying a kite." I'm glad we stopped before I got to "look at the tears shed over the impermanence of the fragile bonds we share and the near-impossibility of ever connecting wholly with another soul."

It's a pretty amazing and heartbreaking meditation on friendship in the simplest package possible.