



The UnValentine

Sam Beeson

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From Reader Review The UnValentine for online ebook

Jaylynn Miller says

I'm doing a review on "The Unvalentine" by Sam Beeson. This book is about a young girl named Lily and how she doesn't believe in love. Lily also hates Valentines day, until she gets a love note on her desk from Ray.

This book would be in the Genre Poetry. I thought this book was very interesting because after Lily got the love note it changed her whole mood about Valentines day. I rated this book a three star because I thought it was a cute, short, love story.

Lexi says

This book is right up my ally, slightly odd, a little funny, and over all adorable with the abnormal childhood love story that blooms. I mean who hasn't felt this way about Valentine's day at one point or another. I just find this cute that the boy made sure to tell her that he didn't need a silly holiday to tell her he liked her. This story was like it was saying that you don't need to be normal to be liked, and that is an important lesson for some children to learn as they start to get older and hit the ages where peers opinions matter. Yes the book is kind of dark, but that is one of the things I find endearing about it. It just left me with a sense of, that was so cute, but so different, I like it.

Cassie Paries says

I am impressed at how this book is cleverly written and illustrated. I like how the author is dramatic and makes this book funny. I love how the character has no expression and is so passionate about her distaste from Valentines day at such a young age. I love how this book illustrates the passion of a young child and her beliefs. I also enjoyed the ending when Lily found love with a boy who also did not like Valentines day. I thought it was funny how the words went with the pictures. It is a fun book to read with children around Valentines day.

Katie Turley says

This is a book written in poetry form.

The book is about a girl named Lily who does not believe in love. At least she thinks she does not. She doesn't like Valentine's Day until she gets a note from Ray. Ray does not like love either and understands what she doesn't like. They love each other by being unvalentines.

I would share this book with my students to help them have humor about Valentine's Day and to introduce poetry to them. Maybe then have them write a poem of their own.

I liked this book.

Jill says

This tiny book of verse, written by Sam Beeson, with illustrations by Jesse Draper, follows the story of Lily, a young girl who despises Valentine's Day. It is charming almost in spite of itself. Featuring beautiful paintings done with a dark sense of humor (the best part), the story is delightfully tongue-in-cheek. The book also has perforated cards that you can tear out to give to your own "UnValentine." This book would make the perfect little Valentine's Day gift for that cynical someone you hold dear.

Hollie Robb says

I absolutely loved this little book. About a girl who didn't believe in love. Something that I am sure that almost every single can argue, just for the sake for an argument, can say that there is no such thing as Romantic Love and say how much we hate Singles awareness day. With the sickening little candy's, the love sick stuff animals, then the pressure of saying something lovey dovey on a little 7 by 12 cards. This little book just tells you that maybe, just maybe you need to find someone who is just as intense and crazy as you are.

Alas Poor Yorick! At one time I knew you. Now we don't see, talk, or even live by each other.

Not really Shakespeare I know, but it makes perfect sense to me.

Natalie says

It just so happens that I read *The UnValentine* on Valentine's Day, when I had no valentine of my own. It spoke to my soul. It was the perfect amount of sarcasm. I literally laughed out loud on multiple pages. Maybe I am just morbid, but this book was great. I used to **hate** Valentine's Day when I was younger, and I would have loved this book. My distaste has lessened, but I still found this book enjoyable. Plus, it has a happy ending and includes funny valentine cards to tear out and use.

Kaylie says

I really actually enjoyed the quirkiness of this book! A few of the people in class that read it said that they weren't sure how they felt but I absolutely loved the idea behind it. Some people don't like valentines day and not very many people write books about that point of view. Although the plot twist half way through it was spectacular and I like that her opinion of Valentines day didn't change even though she was a lot happier about it. It showed her stubbornness about her emotions yet in the end she was "happy"" and I really like that she found somebody that was just as cynical as she was. It was a very cute interesting ending not to mention I absolutely loved the pictures and I really think it fit the style and theme of this book.

Brooke Teichert says

Oh My Goodness. This is a book I am going to need to own. It is so hilarious. I mean who really likes valentines day when you get to be an early teenager and there aren't valentines for everyone. This was just dripping with sarcasm and sass and I loved every minute. Not to mention the hilarious "un- valentines" in the back. This would be a fun one to teach and have activities for in middle school or high school. Loved it.

Kenia Lopez says

Funny and smart book! I was quite surprised with this delightful book. Sam Beeson did a great job creating this clever story that has heart and just the right amount of cynicism to appeal to both Valentine-haters and lovers alike. This book can be related to the life of pre-adolescents because the way that they think love is silly. I remember myself being just like the protagonist, I liked that I was able to relate my life as a 5th and 6th grader. It is a great book to read if you are looking for something that is not mainstream. The artwork is kind of bizarre and simply fantastic. You can appreciate and enjoy the facial expressions, they really add emotion and humor to the book. A must have and a perfect gift for a non-romantic valentine!

Hillary says

I personally enjoyed this because I can identify with the main character! I am not, nor have I ever been a fan of Valentines day! This book is great for boys and girls of all ages, and will make anyone laugh. It's perfectly sarcastic, and I think that little boys and young adults disenchanted by valentines day will appreciate it! It has a sweet ending, and some great bonus Valentines in the back! I need this book just for the Valentines!

kelley says

The UnValentine is a small about 5" by 6", that contains (by my count) a 24 stanza poem for people who aren't thrilled to celebrate valentines day. It is a perfect gift for a teenage girl who might be a little bit bitter about love. Here is a stanza from the poem:

*Exactly midway through the frigid month of February
A day is celebrated by the dull and ordinary.
And all around me notes are passed by idiots and stupids--
Packed with sugar mottoed hearts and naked pudgy cupids.
This ritual conducted under heart shaped crimson flag,
Does absolutely nothing for me, but to make me gag!*

The book is wonderfully illustrated by Jesse Draper

Speckeh says

I remember when this book came out. It was a HUGE hit in my elementary school and I saw it tonight and it brought back slews of memories. I decided to read it because I've been really bad with reading this whole summer and sometimes you need to read short books. The art is amazing, that's where the one star comes in. But the poem is bad. The story line is bad. The Boy's valentine to woo the girl who hates valentines is cringe worthy and reminds me of children trying to act cool because they're not "normal" like everyone else. He's not like "other boys." she's not like "other girls." Get your superiority complex out of my face. I wouldn't recommend reading it. It's a cheap knock off of trying to be a young Addams' Family and it's not worth your time. Even the valentines cards at the end of the book is cringe itself. The art is its only saving grace.

Kristine says

By far a very favorite! It was fun and fresh to see this outlook on Valentine's day, especially when I remember growing up and getting so tired of all the silly middle school girlfriend/boyfriend stuff. It wasn't about having "love" for the sake of a holiday, but because the two of them found a kindred hatred over something, and really, what more can you ask of two young kids for their definition of love? I'll definitely need to grab this for later.

Patrick says

This is like 3 3/4 stars. I have met the author as he teaches high school in my district. He sent a free signed copy to our school library. The librarian thought of me when she read it because of my "Shakespeare hates your emo poems" T-shirt. She gave it to me to read in between things and this is actually pretty funny. I like that it uses ambitious vocabulary and that it is very non-traditional. It's light, but cynical at the same time. I can name certain teachers and friends who would find this funny, and others who would find it annoying. It's literally a five minute read, so why not give it a shot? There are funny unvalentines included in the back that you could actually tear out along the perforated edges and use if you wished. The one I remember is "I hate Valentines Day. Me too. Let's kiss."
