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You & A Bike & A Road



Synopsis

In 2016, acclaimed cartoonist and illustrator Eleanor Davis documented her cross-country bike tour as it happened. The immediacy of Davis's comics journal makes for an incredible chronicle of human experience on the most efficient and humane form of human transportation. Eleanor Davis is a cartoonist and illustrator. She lives in Athens, GA and was born in Tucson, Arizona. In 2009, Davis won the Eisner's Russ Manning Most Promising Newcomer Award and was named one of Print magazine's New Visual Artists. In 2015, her book *How To Be Happy* won the Ignatz Award for Outstanding Anthology or Collection.

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Customer Reviews

"You & a Bike & a Road works incredibly well both as a travelogue revealing something of the state of the country Davis moves through and a personal reflection on quests, travelling and goals in general." • Woodrow Phoenix, *The Slings & Arrows Graphic Novel Guide* "This is the perfect graphic memoir to give to budding artists. And those who like riding bicycles." • Louise Capizzo, *The Nonfiction Detectives* "Davis's diary is also about the physical side of emotional healing and the factor of endurance • really challenging yourself to do things that border on impossible • in that healing." • John Seven, *The Comics Beat* "Davis's comics have an immediacy that pulls the reader in. That even these on-the-go comics demonstrate her mastery of line and shape is testament to how superb a cartoonist she is." • Zainab Akhtar, *The Guardian* "Cartoonist Eleanor Davis's excellent illustrated diary of her journey from Tucson, Ariz. to Athens, Ga.

captures the long silences, strange run-ins and constant battles against oneself that marathon cyclists endure." • • Michael Melgaard, National Post • "Not quite a year ago, cartoonist Eleanor Davis set out on a giant road-trip via bicycle from her childhood home in Arizona to her current home in Athens, Georgia. As cartoonists do, she documented her journey along the way, posting pages to Instagram that chronicled her individual, up-close experience of flyover country." • • Hillary Brown, Paste • "You & a Bike & a Road is a lovely, slow book about going a journey • not an epic, world-dominating circumnavigation, but something quieter and more intimate." • • Jon Day, The New York Review of Books

Eleanor Davis is a cartoonist and illustrator. She lives in Athens, GA. She was born in Tucson, Arizona. In 2009, Davis won the Eisner's Russ Manning Most Promising Newcomer Award and was named one of Print magazine's New Visual Artists. In 2013, her short story "In Our Eden" received a gold medal from the Society of Illustrators. In 2015, her book *How To Be Happy* won the Ignatz Award for Outstanding Anthology or Collection.

I am thoroughly enjoying this book! The illustrations and text convey so much feeling in such an uncluttered, uncomplicated way. I am trying to move slowly through this book because I want the experience of it to last. I keep smiling to myself and wanting to share the book with my bike-riding friends.

One of the best reads I've had in months!

ELEANOR DAVIS IS A COMICS TREASURE

This is a master cartoonist's trip journal, drawn day by day as she bicycled cross country. Davis posted her journal entries on line as she travelled, which gives the story an unplanned immediacy (early on, when her knees are giving her trouble, she says, "I can't quit. I've already tweeted about it"), but at the same time it's as meaningful and well structured as any of the great fictional journeys. Part of the story is about Davis' internal struggles, part is the changing landscapes, natural and man-made, as she travels from Arizona to Mississippi, but the heart of the story is her openness to, and appreciation of, the people she meets along the way.

This is a wonderful treasure. I really felt like I was along for the ride. The illustrations and text are

brief and minimal which make for a very relaxing and focused read. It was a great experience reading this book, which I have several times now. I bought a few copies to pass onto friends. I hope Eleanor Davis produces more autobiographical comics. One thing I found that made me feel a part of this book was the reasons she gives for making the ride. She did not dwell on negative things despite her ups and downs. Personally, I found this a great story of rising against overwhelming challenges in the most beautiful, creative and constructive ways. I hope many people take the time to slowdown and experience You & a Bike & a Road.

Oh my god, this book. Many travel books show you what the guide saw, but this book gets me to see what she saw with simple, striking clarity, and pain, and love. I finished this book a little more in love with and alive to the world than when I started.

This is another stunning book by Eleanor Davis.

Eleanor Davis' book is candid, honest, playful and filled with human insight, accompanied by her delightfully playful line drawings. Both the book and Ms. Davis are treasures.

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