



The World According to Bob: The further adventures of one man and his street-wise cat

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Since Bob has appeared, I've made huge strides in my life. For more than a decade I was a homeless drug addict. I was lost to the world and had forgotten what was important in life. Now I've got myself back on my two feet, but as I put the past behind me, I'm still stepping unsteadily into the future. I still need help in the right direction. Bob is always there to offer guidance and friendship.'

James and his street cat Bob have been on a remarkable journey together. In the years since their story ended in the bestselling A STREET CAT NAMED BOB James, with Bob's help, has begun to find his way back to the real world.

Almost every day, Bob provides moments of intelligence, bravery and humour, at the same time opening his human friend's eyes to important truths about friendship, loyalty, trust - and the meaning of happiness.

In the continuing tale of their life together James shows the many ways in which Bob has been his protector and guardian angel through times of illness, hardship, even life-threatening danger.

As they high five together for their crowds of admirers, James knows that the tricks he's taught Bob are nothing compared to the lessons he's learnt from his street-wise cat.

The World According to Bob: The further adventures of one man and his street-wise cat Details

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Kirsty says

You do not need to have read the first book to read this book, however you should because they are both amazing. I like how honest this book is, nothing is sugarcoated, there was times where I had to have a good cry. I won't give anything away here but there is some really eye opening parts in this book in relation to drug usage. It's so good to see that James has put all this behind him.

The world according to Bob is a very easy read, the sort of book that you can easily read a few pages of and then pick up later and not be lost at all. Likewise it also reads well if you do sit and read a huge chunk of it at once, and if you have the spare time you will probably struggle to put it down.

I loved hearing more about Bob in this book. He is truly a fascinating cat who made me laugh out loud multiple times while I read this book. What a character. I sincerely hope there will be a third book as I am desperate to read more about Bob and James.

Anna K?avi?a says

18 chapters + epilogue, and illustrations :)

It was such an amazing book just like the A Street Cat Named Bob . I hope James writes a third book.

You don't have to read the first book to understand what is going on in this one.

In 2007, James was a recovering heroin addict when he found an injured tom cat. Noticing that the cat is without an owner he took him home and nursed him back to health. Since then James and Bob the cat are the best friends.

In his second book James tells about his experience working on the streets in London and how he and Bob meets nice and not so nice people, having fun together and caring for each other. And what I like from this book, is that James not only shares the good (Bob) in his life with the readers but also writes about the bad (ex-drug addict, physical & mental health, homelessness issues).

James, of course, also tells how he was approached by Ms Pachnos, an literary agent. It was interesting what was going on when he (and Bob) wrote A Street Cat Named Bob

April says

I haven't read '*A Streetcat Named Bob*' before, though I'd both heard and seen it among other books during trips to local supermarkets, it having been in the chart, and glimpsed an interview on TV one morning before

study. I don't usually (usually - there are some exceptions, of course) purchase books I spot hovering on these shelves but luckily my younger sister took it upon herself to gift me something bookish for my birthday, and whilst strolling through WHSmith for something remotely April-looking, found one with a particular 'deciding' quality: a cat! And so she bought me what I'm presuming is the sequel: *'The World According To Bob.'*

I was undeniably moved by the story of both James Bowen and Bob. It's always touching to read telling stories of how great an impact animals can have on our lives, especially (for me) our feline companions, and as a result I felt somewhat of a lump rising in my throat during the epilogue. What is astounding is the companionship of these two "damaged" characters making their own way in the world together. It was astonishing how deep a bond they both shared, and it moved me in quite a lovely and powerful way. I also appreciate how honest the author was with regards to his feelings and past.

U?itaj se! says

Nakon golemog uspjeha prve knjige o Bobu, njegov je prijatelj James odlu?io napisati nam i nastavak njihove zajedni?ke pri?e.

James i Bob jedan su drugoga našli u klju?nom trenutku svojih života i jedan su drugome pomogli da, sada zajedni?ki, taj život okrenu u pravom smjeru. Nakon odluke da se u potpunosti o?isti od svoje ovisnosti o drogama i da prestane živjeti na ulici, Jamesu je, uz Bobovu pomo?, to kona?no i uspjelo. Kao uli?ni prodava? ?asopisa za besku?nike, James uspijeva osigurati dovoljna sredstva da on i Bob (relativno dobro) prežive iz mjeseca u mjesec, ali rad na ulici svejedno svakodnevno sa sobom nosi i brojne potencijalne opasnosti. Sve više shva?aju?i da ne mogu cijeli život provesti rade?i na ulici, James o?ajni?ki traži nešto, neku priliku, koja bi mu pomogla da se i on i Bob oslobođe stalne strepnje i nesigurnosti ovakvog života, a ta mu se prilika napislijetku i pokaže - u obliku ponude za pisanje knjige.

'Svijet prema Bobu' sjajan je nastavak 'Fantasti?nog ma?ka Boba' - knjige o simpati?nom ma?ku koja je osvojila svijet. U njoj nam James pri?a o nastavku svog zajedni?kog života s Bobom, njegovom dijelu od trenutka u kojem je James uspio preokrenuti svoj život (a s kojim prva knjiga završava) do cijele te pri?e o tome kako je knjiga, a i sama ideja o knjizi, uop?e nastala.

Pri?aju?i o Bobu i o sebi, James je još jednom brutalno iskren - i u toj svojoj iskrenosti nevjerljivo hrabar. Sumnjam da bi mnogi od nas bez zadrške uspjeli govoriti (makar i pisati) o demonima iz svoje prošlosti, svojim strahovima, sumnjama i nesigurnostima, kao što to ?ini James. On u više navrata priznaje kako mu potpuno ogoljivanje samog sebe na ovaj na?in nije nimalo lako, te kako iskreno sumnja u to da ?e itko uop?e htjeti ?itati ono što on napiše. Mislim da je upravo u tome i posebna ?ar ove knjige, tj. obje knjige: to što se jasno vidi koliko je cijela pri?a u njoj ispri?ana iskrena i pisana iz srca.

Neki ?e re?i da je financijska korist jedini razlog zbog kojeg je James nastavio pisati knjige o Bobu, a i na to se - iskorištavanju Boba za koje ga neki optužuju - James osvrnuo. U jednom dijelu knjige pri?a o tome kako ga je, u po?etku, strašno ljutilo i rastuživalo to što su ga neki ljudi gledali kao na osobu koja iskorištava ma?ka kako bi se njime financijski okoristio, no kasnije se pomirio s time da ?e uvijek biti zlobnih i zlonamjernih ljudi, koji nikada ne?e shvatiti da Jamesu Bob nije samo ma?ak, samo ljubimac, ve? i najbolji prijatelj i životni suputnik.

I ovdje se James doti?e svojih problema s ovisnoš?u, svoje loše životne situacije i op?enito problemati?nog

života kojim je živio prije Boba. Ono što je super oko svega toga je to što on time podiže svijest o problemima s kojima se suočavaju beskušnici i bivši ovisnici, ali i o problemu društva koje na njih gleda kao na nekakve kriminalce, dok su to većinom samo ljudi u nevolji. James i Bob svojim su knjigama i svojim javnim nastupima uspjeli i da se, koliko god malo, ta negativna slika javnosti koju većina ima o beskušnicima ipak počne mijenjati.

Jedna mi se stvar posebno svidjela kod Jamesa: iz njegovog pisanja i načina na koji govori o svom i Bobovom životu vidljiva je njegova skromnost, njegova zahvalnost i ljubav prema Bobu i njegova namjera da sve ono dobro što mu se dogodilo na neki način vrati - što je upravo ono što on i Bob danas ičine, potpomažući razlike udruge za beskušnike i udruge za brigu o životinjama.

James i Bob više nisu beskušnici, niti više rade na ulici. Ova knjiga, kao i ona prije nje, omogućili su im da do kraja promijene svoj život nabolje. A utjecaj koji te knjige imaju na čitatelje i javnost općenito omogućiti će (zapravo već omogućuju) još pozitivnih promjena u svijetu, vezanih uz brigu i skrb za napuštene životinje, beskušnike, bivše ovisnike i općenito ljudi (i životinje) u nevolji.

Ako još niste pročitali 'Fantastična mačka Boba', obavezno to napravite. Obje ove knjige čine jednu fantastičnu toplu ljudsku (i životinsku :)) priču, koju jednostavno ne smijete zaobići. Bob je (a i James), svojim osobitim šarmom, uspio osvojiti srca ljudi širom svijeta - dopustite mu da osvoji i vaše.

Sarah says

This follow-up to the bestselling 'A Street Cat Named Bob' is slower to get going, but is highly enjoyable nonetheless.

Whereas the original Bob book was captivating from the off - not least because it showed how Bob was a most unusual cat (getting on the bus with James and so on) - here the observations are more mundane, detailing Bob behaving in ways that many cats do. The recognition is pleasing, but little more, and for the first third of the book I feared this was going to prove a disappointing follow-up, especially because, as before, I found the writing style clunky and the editing poor. I don't hold James responsible for this - the book is ghost written (James tells us as much himself, in the appendix) - but surely, after all the success of the first book, his publishers could have invested in a professional copy editor to cut the repetitions in this second tome?

However, as I read on, again I found myself compelled to put my niggles about style to one side, as I became increasingly drawn into the story of James and his feline friend, and at the end I closed the book with a sense of satisfaction and pleasure. As well as showing how easy it is for people to slip through the net and end up on the streets in the first place, what struck me particularly was the sense this second book gave of James as a character - in spite of a tough childhood, he doesn't descend into blame and recrimination, but takes responsibility for his shortcomings, including his past heroine addiction. Thus what might on the surface seem a simple story about one man and his cat is actually rather more than that, providing an uplifting example of how it's possible to turn one's life around if one has the right mindset. James' emotional maturity is inspiring - and is, I'd venture to suggest, one of the reasons the books have touched so many people around the world - it's not just Bob we're fans of, but James too.

Li'l Owl says

Fantastic! No matter who you are, everyone can enjoy the story about James and Bob!

As I sit here reading this book about Bob the cat, one of my cats, Duncan, sits on the bottom of my recliner happily purring while I scratch his back with my toes. Even other cats love James and Bob! And why not!

After becoming a parent to Bob in the previous book, *A Street Cat Named Bob: How One Man and His Cat Found Hope on the Streets*, James now realizes that, '*Parenthood is all about anxiety whether it is fretting over his health, watching out for him when we are on the streets, and simply making sure he is warm and well-fed. Parenthood also brings with it a lot of laughter.*' There are many, many moments of *never* a dull moment!

Hilarious and touching, it also has some serious hair raising moments, too! I'm saving the next in this series, *A Gift from Bob: How a Street Cat Helped One Man Learn the Meaning of Christmas*, to read this Christmas season!

I absolutely love James and Bob!

Sharon Huether says

The World According to Bob..by James Bowen.. I won this book through Goodreads. It was an amazing story. The trust Bob had for Jim and Jim doing the very best he could to care for Bob especially when he had little funds. Jim was a recovering drug addict. Jim sold newspapers and played his guitar to earn a little money. He was encouraged to write his first book about Bob and with the help of some professional writers; he did it. Bob is everyone's favorite, he did a few tricks and rode on Jim's neck and shoulders as Jim traveled the street of London on his bicycle. At Jims flat Bob took care of Jim when he wasn't feeling good. Bob would put his paw on Jim's forehead and lay on Jim's chest, purring softly and also putting his ear to Jim's chest to hear his heart beat. Bob is such an extraordinary cat. With Jim's success he didn't have to earn money on the streets any more. I loved this book.

Gavin Felgate says

This is the sequel to last year's popular book, *A Street Cat Named Bob*, in which James Bowen talked about how the stray cat he found helped him turn his life around and quit his drug addiction. I first found out about this book in a magazine that, somewhat unfairly, slammed the book before it had even been published.

This book picks up where the original left off and tells of James and Bobs' lives up until March 2012, when *A Street Cat Named Bob* was first sold in the shops. It felt a bit more like a series of anecdotes than the last one, as each chapter takes a separate subject, mostly talking about what James likes about Bob and bizarre things that have happened to them; for example, in one entertaining chapter, Bob is at a friend's flat and James finds him out on the roof; his attempts to get him back almost see him getting stuck himself. The book does not forget about James' past though, and the fifth chapter contains a harrowing account of an addict dying from a heroin overdose.

Most of this book was enjoyable, although it did start with a recap of what happened in the previous book, for the benefit of anyone who didn't read it; I found this a bit annoying as I was keen to read a new story about James and Bob. I enjoyed most of the stories, though there were a few episodes about scrapes with authorities and particularly James getting into trouble about breaking rules while selling the Big Issue felt like the book was retreading old ground.

When I started reading segments that were about the planning of James' first book, I felt like the bottom of the barrel was being scraped; I was reading a book about the writing of another book; however, I found myself enjoying the account of a conversation with Sir Paul McCartney, and the day of James' first book signing, where he worried that nobody would come to buy his book (at one point he worries that he'll find most copies thrown in the bin). Incidentally, when I came to buy this one on the first day of sale there was a queue around the block, showing that his fears were unfounded.

Overall, this was a decent book and it is worth reading if you're a fan of the original; however, I don't think there's much scope for a third Bob book.

Aunty Janet says

I found this book utterly inspiring. I read it with a tear in my eye and a lump in my throat, on the day I got it. I simply had to finish it before I went to sleep.

The book follows on from 'A street cat named Bob', and continues the story about James' life with the cat who just refused to leave James' side. The book is harrowing at times and gives a real insight into life 'on the streets' and the survival of some of society's most vulnerable people.

There are smiles too and Bob is, of course, adorable. Nevertheless, James is an absolute inspiration. He makes no effort to hide the fact that this book is 'ghost' written, but his story again moved me to tears.

Eva Wildeman says

Wat een leuk boek, en bob blijft toch een plek in mijn hartje houden!

Kirsti says

Tell me, who can resist this ginger cat wearing a scarf? I know I can't! I actually bought this book a few months ago and forgot that I had, it somehow got mixed in with a pile of already read books in my book room. Yeah, yeah, I have a whole room in my house just for books, with shelves lining the walls and back to back in the middle of the room. Things get lost in there, even with most of it being in alphabetical order!

I'm glad this book didn't stay hidden for too long. I really don't get much reading time during this cycle of work, often I just drag myself home, sleep, then get up and get ready to do it all over again. Even if I was snatching just a chapter before my eyes closed, I was lucky. Still, I had this afternoon off, so I cleaned the house (can't read in a dirty house) and settled in.

What I found was the same love I discovered in the first book. I still can't understand how anyone can think

this guy doesn't care for his cat; he checks him over, plays with him, and most importantly, he loves him. As James says, no cat does what it doesn't want to do, it's against their nature. Bob seems like one loved and spoiled kitty to me ;)

I enjoyed the writing very much. This book isn't just about Bob, but James too and their relationship. There are some hard hitting issues here, especially when that man collapses in James' apartment building. This isn't a story of rainbows and butterflies, but of true struggle and human emotion.

My only wish was that the book had more pictures of Bob in scarves. Other than that, go out and snag yourself a copy of this book or the first, you won't be disappointed!

Ash says

Let's be real, this sequel was automatically getting five stars because I am an absolute sucker for pet stories where the pet in question is alive. I saw *The World According to Bob: the Further Adventures of One Man and his Streetwise Cat* in a bookstore and squealed in delight. Although, the subtitle suggests this is a sequel, it's really a prequel. Like a meta prequel. Think more Wes Craven's *New Nightmare* than *The Phantom Menace*.

The author, James Bowen, continues the story of where *A Street Cat Named Bob* left off. He's still selling copies of the *Big Issue* along with Bob and still tapering off his heroin addiction. Bowen shows growth. He's not nervous about ending his heroin addiction treatment and after a few close calls, Bowen wants to leave the "street life" for good. Also, he gets a book deal and wants to devote attention to that.

The way Bowen describes his relationship with is heartfelt. They are really 2 lost souls who found each other and make each other better. Bowen has gain maturity and learned responsibility just by caring for Bob. I did worry about Bowen's numerous medical maladies.

Once again, this book is great for animal lovers and for believers of second chances.

Maja says

Another great story about Bob!

This book made me smile. And at the end I had tears in my eyes because of the happy ending. It's an emotional and touching personal story. I've read three books about these incredible friendship between James and Bob, and I really liked it.

Robert says

O carte dr?gu??! Recomand!

Bernard Jan says

As someone who was saved by my cat Marcel, which I described in my novella A World Without Color, I can say there is not a single thing I did not like about The World According to Bob: The Further Adventures of One Man and His Street-wise Cat. Just as in its prequel A Street Cat Named Bob: The Amazing True Story of One Man and His Cat, Bob made me smile, laugh and cry. There were so many familiar things in his behavior I saw and recognized in Marcel. Marcel was my world and losing him was an emotional and intellectual apocalypse.

I am grateful to author James Bowen for sharing his touching and difficult life story and for evoking my fondest and saddest memories. I am grateful to him for portraying Bob as someone extraordinary, smart, intelligent and cunning, the most loyal, compassionate and best friend possible.

Animals are the purest souls on this planet and if we let them touch our hearts, we will feel and experience something no other human can give us. I am saying this not only as someone who has a soft spot for cats and is a one hundred percent cat person, but as someone who has been there and lived it.

Bob, you have my love and admiration. Stay awesome as you are.

BJ
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Bernard Jan