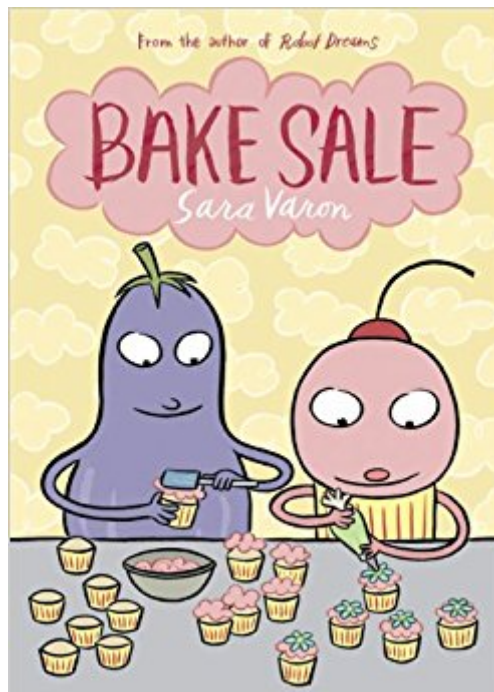


The book was found

# Bake Sale



## Synopsis

Cupcake's life is pretty good. He's got his bakery, and his band, and his best friend, Eggplant. His days are full of cooking, socializing, and playing music. But lately, Cupcake has been struggling in the kitchen. He's sure the solution to all his problems is out there somewhere. But maybe that solution is hiding closer to home. Sara Varon returns with an ageless tale as dreamy and evocative as her break-out hit graphic novel *Robot Dreams*. At once deeply metaphorical and hilariously literal, *Bake Sale* is a story for anyone who's ever looked for an easy answer to life's intractable difficulties. It's also a cookbook: Varon includes seven delicious recipes, from classic cupcakes to sugared flower petals to marzipan.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 590 (What's this?)

Paperback: 160 pages

Publisher: First Second; 8.3.2011 edition (August 30, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1596434198

ISBN-13: 978-1596434196

Product Dimensions: 6.2 x 0.3 x 0.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 38 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #224,766 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #64 in Books > Children's Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Humorous

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## Customer Reviews

"[*Bake Sale*] may be the most adorable graphic novel of the year." •USA Today  
"Another beautiful homage to friendship." •Booklist  
"An offbeat story about the sacrifices made for friends, about the very everydayness of such acts and the pitfalls and pleasures in their wake." •Kirkus Reviews  
"This book has a will-o'-the-wisp charm and a distinctive, quirky voice." •SLJ

Originally from outside Chicago, Sara Varon now resides in Brooklyn, where she likes to bake, and especially eat, baked goods. Fortunately, she is a runner and recreational boxer, so she gets lots of exercise too. Her other books include *Robot Dreams*, *Chicken and Cat*, *Chicken and Cat Clean Up*,

and Sweaterweather.

AWESOME! We purchased Bake Sale after picking it up at the library. My daughter fell in love with the story and was sad when we had to return it. Since then she has read and loved other Sara Varon books including Robot Dreams, Chicken & Cat, and Odd Duck. Why does she love these books you ask? She giggles seeing a carrot serving lunch to a cupcake and eggplant; the emotional responses the characters have to their dilemmas are very much relatable; and the simple yet detailed drawings let her re-read the stories at her leisure.

A friend asked me if food eating food was considered cannibalism. I thought this book was very cute, a fast and easy read, and I can't wait to try the recipes it comes with. I also really like how there are a lot of labels for items drawn in the book, utensils, spices, etc. Great for vocabulary with kids.

Exactly as described. Thank you!!!

Pictures are very interesting and fun. My nine year-old niece was happy to sit and read it.

Granddaughter loves it

My boys loved this book.

This book is intended for kids but has appeal to adults as well. **\*\*SPOILER ALERT\*\*** The story is about the life of a cupcake who runs a small bakery. His friend, an eggplant, has connections with a famous baker named Turkish Delight who cupcake wants to meet. The cupcake then raises money by working hard to get a plane ticket to visit Turkish Delight to learn some of the recipes. However, circumstances change and cupcake ends up giving eggplant the money for the trip to visit his aunt and cupcake has to stay home. It's a bit melancholy when cupcake loses interest in baking and realizes that he has lost his drummer position in their band cause he was working so hard. In the end, the cupcake and eggplant work together toward winning a plane trip for two anywhere in the world in a baking contest. A hopeful ending for a well illustrated and thoughtful book. My 1st grader and preschooler like the pictures but some of the finer points are lost on them. I'm sure older kids 3rd grade and up will enjoy this book. I'm not sure if kids would really re-read this book much though.

Is there anything more magical to children than a bake sale? It's up there with coloring eggs and the tooth fairy. This original and quirky book **BAKE SALE** should enchant children. Who can resist a main character named Cupcake, who owns a bakery called Sweet Tooth, and has a best friend called Eggplant? All of the characters are food in this book which makes for amusing illustrations--check out Carrot the waiter. Cupcake has a plan: he wants to learn some new recipes for his bakery. He decides to travel to Turkey with Eggplant to meet celebrity chef Turkish Delight who is a business partner in Eggplants Aunt's Restaurant. Cupcake and Eggplant brainstorm that Cupcake will have a lot of bake sales around New York City events (Westminster Dog Show and Union Square's Farmers' Market etc.) to raise funds for Cupcake's ticket. Children will enjoy the funky New York City setting and activities. What I loved about the book is that the characters model unselfish friendship without being preachy. There are many examples of authentic friendship displayed in this book which is a great conversation starter on how to be a good friend to others. There's a setback to the travel plans and Cupcake makes a huge sacrifice for his friend. The book illustrates how we can face disappointment, recover and find new joys and opportunities. Another opportunity soon appears on the horizon for Cupcake and Eggplant to attain their dream. The ending of the book is open in a positive way allowing children to imagine and talk about what they think will happen next. The ending is like real life--a bit ambiguous, in which serendipity can occur any moment, and an array of good things can happen if we dream and take action. Cupcake is an original. He's plucky and models good character traits such as initiative, creativity, industry, grace under disappointment, resiliency, and loyalty. As a parent, K-8 teacher and principal, I adored this book for children. It's best read one-on-one as it's a graphic novel and children can provide some of the narration for the pictures. Be prepared: it will make your child want to bake something (recipes included!) after reading the book, and you may even dream about opening your own bakery. This book is a sweet confection to read and enjoy together.

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