



Love You Forever

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An extraordinarily different story by Robert Munsch is a gentle affirmation of the love a parent feels for their child--forever. Sheila McGraw's soft and colorful pastels perfectly complement the sentiment of the book--one that will be read repeatedly for years.

Love You Forever Details

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From Reader Review Love You Forever for online ebook

Rebecca Collins says

I love this book.....

My earliest memory of this book is my mom reading this aloud to my two year old self, and crying as she finished the last few pages. Now im the one who starts crying whenever i pull the book out and stare at the waterworn pages.

Anyone who's read this book knows the words that the mother is constantly saying to her son as he's sleeping-

I love you forever

I'll like you for always

As long as I'm living

My baby you'll be.

My mom made a tune for those words, and I cant imagine those words without the song. It was my little lullaby when i was younger.

Bill says

It reassures me to see so many people find this book as creepy and loathsome as I do. I know the lesson we're supposed to learn is that we never stop being the apples of our parents' eyes, but all I ever got out of it was that if you feel at all smothered by your parents, you better get used to it, because it will never end. Also, moms are inherently stalkery. And while I hope that wasn't the authorial intention here, I can't shake the feeling that maybe it really was.

Dacia says

This is the only children's book I've ever read that stuck me as more depressing than "The Giving Tree". My mother gave me a copy just before my son was born. I read it once and promptly lost to book. I don't think I could EVER read it to my son. It's so.... well.. sorta twisted. Yes it's about love, but it seems so unrealistic, and morbid. I know one day my son will grow up and leave, and I'll get old and die, but I'd rather not dwell on the subject.

As a child I found books on this subject very distressing. I didn't want to THINK about leaving my parents and my home. It upset me because then I wasn't ready. When the time to move out actually came (and I hit it young, at 15), I experienced a couple of weeks of intense home sickness, and the promptly go over it. The actual leaving wasn't nearly as bad as the horrible imaginings I'd had as a small child. To me, books like this make kids focus on the losses of the future, instead of the gains.

Yes, the mother is saying "she'll love him forever", but what child with reasonably attentive parents doesn't already know that? The fact that the book shows it as something of a anomaly makes the child (or at least ME as a child) think there is something REAL to fear in seperation. Anyway, I know this is a long diatribe about a very short, silly, cute, cuddly children's book, but...

That's how powerfully upset the book made me.

Councillor says

Obviously enough, I'm in the minority here, but this children's book is weird, creepy, disturbing and will probably give me more nightmares than any Stephen King novel ever did.

"Love You Forever" is, as the title indicates, about a mother who loves her sweet little baby boy forever, until her baby has grown into an adult and she into an old woman. I'm perfectly fine with the message that mothers (respectively parents in general) will always love their children and will (in most cases - sadly enough, there are always exceptions) do everything for them to be comfortable. But Robert Munsch simply overexaggerated while portraying this message, and finally made me see a totally different message in this book: That a mother's love justifies stalking her children and entering into their lives in one of the creepiest and most disturbing ways - by climbing a ladder to her son's bedroom, entering the house and *picking her son up to rock him back and forth while he's sleeping*.

I'm sorry, but this is so weird, I can't even find it funny anymore. Yes, the book is meant to be understood metaphorically, the book is supposed to be somehow funny and cute and oh-so-sweet (although I only furled my eyebrows in confusion rather than actually laughing). In the beginning, the book was still interesting; everyone can relate to the way children can bring chaos into everything. But then the mother began to enter her son's room at night. Is it okay to go into your two-year-old son's bedroom while he's sleeping with the intention of admiring him and admitting that you will love him forever? Yes, it is. I am totally fine with that. Doing so with a nine-year-old son begins to show signs of creepiness, but it's still acceptable. It *isn't* acceptable if your son is thirty and has moved on with his own life. You can't just break into his house to admire him, indifferent from how lonely you might feel. (And yes, I understand that this book is not supposed to be taken seriously, and it's not even realistically possible for an old woman to be able to pick up her full-grown son while he's sleeping, but this book pretends it is, so I will too.) There are thousands of better ways to incorporate a message about a mother's love into a book. I wouldn't even consider this one to be a children's book ... calling it a horror novel would perhaps be more appropriate.

If you want to read a fantastic children's book, then please skip this and read The Velveteen Rabbit instead, which is an absolutely wonderful story. Or if you want to read two more reviews of "Love You Forever" which I really enjoyed and can whole-heartedly recommend reading, then read this Anne's review or the other Anne's.

Anne says

I'm not feeling the love, but I definitely am feeling the creeps.

I get the point - unconditional and everlasting love, hence the three stars. But that's just not how you do it man. I like what the book is saying, I just don't like *how* it's saying it. Maybe, just maybe, I would've appreciated this story more as a kid, when I saw the world through innocent and unspotted eyes, but now I know such words like STALKER, PEEPING TOM, OBSESSIVE CREEP, LOONEY. Noooooooo. I just can't overlook how disturbing this is. I really couldn't enjoy this book. How do I fall asleep now? I just wanted something sweet ****sniffs**** This is definitely better than Edward Cullen's night watch sessions.

Or maybe not. Maybe a lover watching his love sleep is better? But still, mothers creeping across floors and

through windows at night, rocking and singing love songs to **teenage boys** and **grown men. In their sleep.** Someone needs a lesson on privacy. There's nothing I hate more than an unwelcome and unpermitted invasion of privacy and simply put, STALKING. And the grown man takes this habit up and suddenly I can foresee it becoming something of a legacy. I love my father, I really do (and besides, even my father would agree with me completely. I don't know about anyone else, but I love when I'm awake and my father says "I love you" because AWAKE, like I can hear it, feel it and appreciate it and say it back). But this...just **NO. Like bloody hell!**

You want to rock and sing to me? Wait till I am conscious.

Anne says

[Would have loved to get the 15 year old's opinion, but he was busy sleeping off the previous night's video game marathon. (hide spoiler)]

babyhippoface says

Okay, I realize I'm in the minority here, and I will admit that the first time I read it I went, "Aww... she loves her baby." But then I actually thought about it, and was completely freaked out by this book. This woman **USES A LADDER TO CLIMB INTO HER GROWN SON'S WINDOW, PICKS HIM UP OUT OF BED AND HOLDS HIM WHILE HE SLEEPS.** Do I need to repeat the "grown man" part? We've got breaking-and-entering here, along with the fact that we never once see this woman tell her son she loves him while he is, oh, I don't know, **AWAKE.** There's something she might try.

I realize I'm probably reading far too much into a little Robert Munsch rhyming ditty, but it has become so revered by the masses that I feel the need to speak my piece. I'm done now.

Christina says

I cannot read this book to my kids without doing the 'ugly cry,' which, naturally, creeps them out... every single time.

Calista says

I chose to read this book with what it was trying to get across and not literally. It is a weird book to take literally, which could be weird for a child reading it that takes things literally. It might scare the crap out of them. If you take the story as how irritating children are and you love them anyway, no matter what, then it is a great book.

It is weird to see the mother sneak into the kids room at age 9 and rock him, and I think it is supposed to be about the love you have for them.

I didn't think the art was all that great either. I did read this to the kids and it didn't seem to bother them too much. It didn't scare them and it didn't really affect them either. I think it's actually more a book for parents.

Scott says

I didn't hate this book because it was too sappy. I like sappy sometimes. Here's what I didn't like about the book.

Where do I even begin? How about the cover? The cover makes it look like it's some sort of book about potty training or something. Awful choice.

Secondly the illustrations are hideous. Simply hideous.

Now lets talk about the writing. Repetitive and long-winded. "I'll like you for always" is just a terrible phrase.

The overall general creepiness is another reason I didn't like this book. I realize that the mother sneaking into her grown son's house via a ladder is supposed to be kind of funny (at least I hope it is), but it is still creepy and weird!

Finally the overall message of the book. The intended message I'm sure is about unconditional love, the reversal of roles, etc. etc. But here's the message I got. **I love you because you're my son, but I really don't like you very much.** She sees her son as a deviant. If he's not flushing her watch down the toilet at age two, he's swearing in front of his grandma at age 9. She says he drives her crazy and wants to put him in a zoo. It's when he's asleep, and only when he's asleep, that she can express her affection. Why does he have to be asleep for her to do this? Because it's the only time he's peaceful and quiet and not "*driving [her] CRAZY!*"

Patrick says

Hey parents, do you want to read a children's book that will make you cry uncontrollably from the third page all the way to the end of the book?

Well look no further, this is the book for you.

Honestly? It's a very sweet book. But get ready to do all the crying while your little kid looks up at you, with an expression that says, "Seriously dad, what the fuck? Do you need a tissue or something?"

Alicia Krauchuk Fenton says

I just love this book. It is a bit on the "unusual" side, but that is just Munsch for ya. I first read this my

Freshman year of college. I cried then and I cry when I read it to my girls. It's the intergenerational, unconditional love of mother/son and then father/daughter that I feel a strong connection with. The mother's corniness just adds to the tenderness of the book. I am touched by the mother's love for her son, the son's love for his mom, and then the son's love to his daughter...a breathless tradition passed from one generation to the next. So simple, so beautiful, so profound!!! I was so inspired I made up a tune for the words to "the song" for my girls. My dad used to sing me a Spanish lullaby when I was a little girl that I sing to my girls and I hope that they will sing to their family. Alright...where is my kleenex...Goodness! :-)

Emily May says

Creepy.

Kiki says

First of all: this book will always have a special place in my heart. It means something to me and my own mother, and to be honest, it always makes me a little bleary-eyed and sentimental. So be warned, before you read this review, that it is coming from someone who loves this book for exactly what it is; a beloved childhood relic.

Gee. My, oh, my. What has happened to childhood innocence? I weep for it.

Who finds this books disturbing? Really? What's the matter with you people? Why ruin a precious childhood memory beloved of generations for a cheap laugh?

This book is for children. It has humor and a deep set of strong values about parental love. It's about a mother always being there for her son and loving him from cradle to grave, because that's what mothers do. I bought this book for my own mother as a Mother's Day gift and we both adore it. I'm not ashamed to admit that when I read this book it makes me cry.

What I find is that people complain that the mother hugs the child (apparently hugging your baby is molestation now, according to a few choice reviewers. How sad for future generations of children whose parents will be too afraid to hug them due to this view) when he is sleeping (what teenager wants to spend the waking day being constantly hugged by his mom in front of his friends? Don't even lie.) and that the mother 'sneaks' into the grown son's house to hug him when he's older. Who is reading a perverted connotation into this part of the book, which is supposed to be funny and cute, except for people who have too much time on their hands? This part of the book is there to show that no matter how old you are your mother is always there for you and you should never feel too old to take comfort in her singing you to sleep. I you think this is 'creepy' but have given *Twilight* or some such creeper-glorifying garbage a glowing review, rethink what you are doing here.

I love this book. It saddens me that people have taken something that is for children and pushed it into the adult mould until it ends up labelled with 'creepy'. Fine, adults, enjoy it. It's wonderful that a book like this can reach out to people of all ages. Just don't decimate it and pick fault for the sake of a cynical guffaw.

Perhaps come back and trash this book when you have almost lost your mother, and she has almost lost you. Then I will take your plight seriously.

Side note: Trolls welcome. Don't forget to leave a comment!

Kristine says

Love you forever, Stalk you for always . . .

Ok, in response to the haters: let me state that I do not mind one bit that many people have been touched and uplifted and LOVE this book. It just doesn't work for me. At all. And I'm allowed to have a different opinion than you.

. . . let me say first that I understand this is an allegory about unconditional love between parent/child . . . but does this book come off a little creepy to anyone else?

1) It starts out ok . . . but about the time the kid gets to be a teenager I just start to feel uncomfortable. Would I be ok with my mom slipping into my teenage brothers' rooms while they're sleeping to cuddle and sing a love song? No, probably not.

2) I think it's weird there's only female figures mentioned (mom and grandma). Where's the dad? (later when the mom is sick the only pictures on her wall are of the kid, no husband or parents -- again, kinda weird) And later on in the book when the kid is grown up where is the mom to his baby - single dads are awesome but the absence of characters is chilling here.

3) This mom I seriously think has issues with letting her children go. Once a man gets married the woman in their life isn't you--it's the wife! And when children grow up and become adults and you should have an adult-to-adult relationship with them. Quit trying to cuddle them!

4) When it gets to the part of the old woman tying a ladder to her roof and driving across town with the lights off, then sneaking in the son's window to cuddle and sing the love song --- I just want to scream, " AAAGH, she's coming!! Lock the windows!! RUN!!!" creee-py!

5) Okay, just think about if this dad goes on to have the same behavior with his own daughter. The dad sneaking in on the teenage daughter to hold her, or later on when she's married he's climbing through her window to her bed????

6) I really don't think it's good writing. With children's books I like them to have rhyme and rhythm and be easy to read. I felt like I was stumbling over words.

7) Despite all this Ellie still likes the book, and I see the point it's trying to make, although I don't agree with the method. And I know I'm being too literal, but seriously if you look at this book literally it will give you nightmares!!! Just for fun read it to someone purposefully trying to be creepy - just as an experiment. Trust me, you'll agree with me after that.

Darik doesn't necessarily like it when I call the book:

Love you forever,
Stalk you for always . . .

But I do anyways :-)

