



## This Is Sadie

*Sara O'Leary, Julie Morstad (Illustrations)*

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## **This Is Sadie** Sara O'Leary , Julie Morstad (Illustrations)

Sadie is a little girl with a big imagination. She has been a girl who lived under the sea and a boy raised by wolves. She has had adventures in wonderland and visited the world of fairytales. She whispers to the dresses in her closet and talks to birds in the treetops. She has wings that take her anywhere she wants to go, but that always bring her home again. She likes to make things -- boats out of boxes and castles out of cushions. But more than anything Sadie likes stories, because you can make them from nothing at all. For Sadie, the world is so full of wonderful possibilities ... This is Sadie, and this is her story.

## **This Is Sadie Details**

Date : Published May 12th 2015 by Tundra Books

ISBN : 9781770495326

Author : Sara O'Leary , Julie Morstad (Illustrations)

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## From Reader Review This Is Sadie for online ebook

### Laura says

This Is Sadie by Sara O'Leary is a gorgeous looking book. The pages are rich with colors and details. The deep, natural greens and browns combined with delicate flowers and faces make this book a wonder to flip through.

Plus I liked Sadie. She was alive with imagination and energy. A reader and explorer of life!

**"Sadie's perfect day is spent with friends.**

**Some of them on her street,  
and some live in the pages of books."**

But there is one line—one word really—that I can't seem to let go. Sadie likes to build boats out of boxes—cutting, coloring and more. But she also loves stories because they can be made out of “nothing”. Nothing? I don't like that word here. I know what the author means—no supplies like wood or cardboard needed. BUT stories are most definitely made out of something! Imagination and voices and art all come together to create a world on the page or in the air around us. Hand gestures and words and sounds! Isn't it amazing how one word can color and change a whole story? I do hope you check out these beautiful pages though. So many foxes to find! :)

Recommended library read.

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### Kendra says

Perfect. Julie Morstad is one of my favourite new-to-me illustrators and this is the most dear story to go with her whimsical drawings. Sadie is me. Sadie is any child who loved books and stories and imagined herself in impossible and magical situations.

Also there was a mermaid picture.

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### Sh3lly ([grumpybookgrrrl.com](http://grumpybookgrrrl.com)) says

Oh, this was a great children's book. It's about a little girl named Sadie and all the things she plays by using her imagination. There's mermaids, fairies, she becomes an archer on a horse, goes to Wonderland, she's got wings, and makes things out of cardboard boxes and cushions (who doesn't). It's about celebrating the imagination and a love for reading. So cute. The illustrations were awesome. It's even got 2 of my daughter's favorite animals in it, wolves and foxes. Highly recommended for young children! A magical book; I even think some adults would like it. (I did!)

*I received a digital copy of this from Netgalley to read and review.*

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### **Sandra says**

Sadie has been a mermaid who lived under the sea, and she also has been a boy raised by wolves. She has visited Wonderland, and sailed a big box through the wide sea. She has been a hero in a fairy tale, and talked to the birds in the top of a tall tree. Sadie is a happy and imaginative girl whose days are never long enough for all the adventures waiting for her. This is the kind of book that makes you want to be a kid again...

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### **Beth says**

Oh my heart.

This book is everything. This book is about as perfect as a book could possibly be. This book isn't just about Sadie. This book is about us all. We are all Sadie. Some of us just have to look harder to find her within ourselves than others. But she is there.

Gift this book to your daughters to show them they can do anything or be anyone they want to be. Gift this to your sons to show them it's OK to be "like a girl." Sadie is a role model to kids and adults alike. Let's not forget there's a Sadie in all of us.

[Read my entire review on my blog.](#)

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### **Krystal says**

A Crews' original.

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### **Nafiza says**

This is Sadie is a celebration of childhood, imagination, and storytelling. It is one of those books that will make an adult sigh and become nostalgic for those brief years where dragons slumbered nearby and imagination was fuller of stories than you know, what happens if bills aren't paid.

So.

Sadie is a girl who finds the lives life to the fullest and this life is full of the most amazing things. Boxes become boats or snail shells. Friends live down the street but also snug in the pages of a favourite book. Sadie is both a hero and a mermaid.

I loved this book. Kind of a lot. I've read it seven times already and I think I may read it a lot more times

before I put it a way.

The lovely thing about this book is the fluidity of identities it offers children. A child is not fixed into one identity or even gender (Sadie is both a mermaid and a wild boy). Childhood is a time for exploration of the different selves contained within one body and I love that the book is cognizant of this. I love that Sadie is not limited by anything and her imagination builds her the worlds she wants to inhabit.

The art by the superlative Julie Morstad perfectly matches the whimsical (but in a firm sort of way) tone of Leary's text. The language is warm and playful and sounds wonderful when read out loud. The reader senses that though Sadie has had adventures in wonderland and been a hero in a fairy tale, her story is not yet over.

The book can be used in classrooms to discuss the power of imagination and storytelling. It can also be used as a springboard for discussions on gender and identity as well. This is Sadie will become yours (and your child's/niece's/nephew's/however the child you are related to's) favourite book, one you will be able to return once and again because there is so much verve, so much life both to the text and the art of the book.

Adults will also turn to this book and find the Sadie in themselves and live gladly; they'll live fiercely. Just like Sadie does. Do yourselves a favour. Get this book for yourself, for your children, or for anyone you love. Yes, it's that good.

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### **Ami says**

3.5 stars

Nostalgic illustrations and a charming little girl fill the pages of this picture book. While I appreciate the message of the story, I thought the author was trying too hard to be all things to the reader. The book has a little bit of humor, a little bit of whimsy, a little bit of a message, and a little bit of fantasy. However, all those little bits don't create a strong identity for the book and I think young children will pick up on that.

Still, there is a line from the book that I absolutely love:

"Sadie's perfect day is spent with friends. Some of them live on her street, and some live in the pages of books."

(I received a free copy of this book from NetGalley. All opinions are honest and my own.)

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### **karen says**

okay, i am going to get all my picture book reviews out of the way before i tackle the rest of my pending reviews/make-up work, because they are too big for the to-be-reviewed mountain on my windowsill, and i do not want to risk any thanksgiving day avalanches.

in my opinion, this is a perfect book. and while it's true i tend to up-rate the picture books i read just because they're like a little pop of candy and who's not gonna five-star *candy*? this one hits every funny-bone in my heart. first of all, the artwork is just gorgeous

which is what draws me to picture books in the first place, duh, but here, the text is perfectly-suited to the art and it's this joyful celebration of the imagination that made me smile with every page.

it's about sadie; a little girl who is both bookish and crafty, who doesn't distinguish between friends who live down the street and friends who live in books, who has wings and a tail and tea parties, and who is very concerned about the feelings of inanimate objects like dresses.

to sadie, the journey is just even more important than the destination:

*She's looking for land.  
Only she's not looking too hard.*

and i love the nod to the stretched-time feel of childhood

*Sadie sails all the way round her room,  
and back again.  
And it still isn't even time for breakfast.*

it really made me recherche those temps perdu, boy...

especially when we see how handy with a hammer sadie is

and when iiiii was little, i made a whole richard scarry-like busy busy town for this little bb that was my friend (which is not at all pathetic so shushify!) and i had a hammer and TWO DIFFERENT saws and i would raid my dad's workbench for nails and screws and washers and wood scraps and it was glorious. sniff.

and i find i can still relate to sadie's experience of life:

although, in my case it's less about the overwhelming banquet of possibility and more about being stressed out and worried and overwhelmed.

solution??

BEDROOM TENT PARTY!!

i am on it!

\*\*\*\*\*

i discovered this book when it was a semi-finalist in the goodreads picture book of the year category - i fell in love with the cover, ran right out and bought it and then BAM - it was bounced out of the running. but i

don't even care because it's a fantastic book and it'll always be a winner in my eyes!

observe: the inside of the cover is also a poster.

full review to come as i work my way through the towering backlog - i just wanted to let this book know i am waving my tiny banner for it.

go, sadie!

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### **Laurence R. says**

(Thank you NetGalley for providing me with a digital copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.)

What a delightful little book! I am convinced that I would have adored it, had I read it years ago. Still, the seventeen year-old that I am loved this book for all its beautiful drawings and the love of reading that's shared through it. There's this quote that I found adorable, especially for a children's story, and that made me wish once more that I had read it at the right age: "Sadie likes to make boats of boxes and castles out of cushions. But more than anything she likes stories, because you can make them from nothing at all."

Perfect for your little book-lovers out there!

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### **Linda says**

Recent news about the value of play has been good to see. Here (<http://www.nytimes.com/2015/05/17/opinion/let-the-kids-learn-through-play.html>) is one article from the NY Times that you might want to read, "Let The Kids Learn Through Play". And when you finish that, you can read a briefer illustration of the importance of play by reading this book, This Is Sadie. Hm-m, is that Sadie on the cover, or a young fox? "The days are never long enough for Sadie. So many things to make and do and be." And, we discover that Sadie's perfect day "is spent with friends. Some of them live on her street, and some live in the pages of books." Just imagine what that page looks like! It's a lovely book, a good time to read and enjoy with some young "playful" child.

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### **Rachel Watkins says**

Sadie is a little girl who uses her large imagination to entertain herself. She especially loves stories. This beautiful book illustrates the power of creativity in an elegant and accessible manner. Highly recommend!

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### **Siskiyou-Suzy says**

Ugh, this book is so stupidly pretty and whimsical and sweet. It captures exactly what I think childhood

should be.

That being said, I don't know that this is really a book for children. Kids don't need ideas on how to be kids. I think *This is Sadie* is a little bit more for nostalgic adults who like cute-as-hell things and want to read cute-as-hell things to their kids than it is for kids.

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### **David Schaafsma says**

I and my family read all 20 of the Goodreads Picturebook nominees for 2015 and it looks like I forgot to review this one.

This is a sweet book about friendship in nature, books, people, beautifully illustrated in pastels. I think it is sort of vague in that it is sort of a celebration of childhood. Doesn't tell a story. It's a kind of portrait without a real center or theme except the typical imagination and joy and creativity that is a mainstay in picture books, and maybe especially picture books for girls. I thought it was perfectly lovely and not that memorable. Maybe, not being a girl. But then again, see the ratings below:

Dave 3.5 stars

Tara 4 stars

Harry (10) 4.5 stars

Henry (9) 3.5 stars

Lyra (8) 4.5 stars

I rounded up for Harry and Lyra.

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### **Nadine Jones says**

A cute picture book about imagination, and books. I especially like how Sadie doesn't confine herself to imagining herself in the roles of girls only... sometimes she is the princess, sometimes she is the Mad Hatter...

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