

"Are You My Mother?: A Comic Drama" reviewed by KG on June 10, 2013

Your Name:

Kari Gillesse

Updated June 17, 2013

Phone:

812-320-6032

Book Title:

Are You My Mother?: A Comic Drama

Author:

Alison Bechdel

Why did you read it? Why did you finish it? Who would you recommend it to?:

After I read cartoonist Alison Bechdel's memoir *_Fun Home_*, I was delighted to learn she had written a follow-up sequel to it. In *_Are You My Mother?: A Comic Drama_*, Bechdel explores the nuances of her uneasy relationship with her mother in light of the loss they both experience in the wake of her father's suicide. Like *_Fun Home_*, *_Are You My Mother_* is also a graphic novel-type of memoir, and here, the author's carefully crafted frames so richly reveal the same self-awareness and self-censorship she articulates in the dialogue. The charm of Bechdel's drawings and engaging narrative was so spellbinding that I stayed up late into the wee hours to finish the book. By turns darkly depressing, psychologically insightful, and absolutely hilarious, *_Are You My Mother?_* is sure to resonate with adult readers interested in family relationships and questions of self-identity.

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yes

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