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Terms And Conditions



Synopsis

Master satirist tackles the contract everyone agrees to but no one reads—“Mischievous, pastiche-heavy artist Robert Sikoryak—upped the difficulty level for his long-term conceptual project: Instead of abridging a book, he lifted the complete text of Apple’s mind-numbing corporate boilerplate, which users must agree to before accessing iTunes, and mashed it up with art invoking more than a century of comics. —New York Times

For his newest project, R. Sikoryak tackles the monstrously and infamously dense legal document, iTunes Terms and Conditions, the contract everyone agrees to but no one reads. In a word for word 94-page adaptation, Sikoryak hilariously turns the agreement on its head—each page features an avatar of Apple cofounder and legendary visionary Steve Jobs juxtaposed with a different classic strip such as Mort Walker’s Beetle Bailey, or a contemporary graphic novel such as Craig Thompson’s Blankets or Marjane Satrapi’s Persepolis. Adapting the legalese of the iTunes Terms and Conditions into another medium seems like an unfathomable undertaking, yet Sikoryak creates a surprisingly readable document, far different from its original, purely textual incarnation and thus proving the accessibility and flexibility of comics. When Sikoryak parodies Kate Beaton’s Hark A Vagrant peasant comics with Steve Jobs discussing objectionable material or Homer Simpson as Steve Jobs warning of the penalties of copyright infringement, Terms and Conditions serves as a surreal record of our modern digital age where technology competes with enduringly ironclad mediums.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"The juxtaposition is hilarious, and we see a Steve Jobs-like character as a stand-in for the heroes of each original work, with the scenes peppered with Apple devices and references alike." [Macworld](#) "Adapting the legalese of the iTunes Terms and Conditions into another medium seems like an unfathomable undertaking, yet Sikoryak creates a surprisingly readable document, far different from its original, purely textual incarnation and thus proving the accessibility and flexibility of comics." [Adweek](#) "It's a prodigious feat of pastiche that gives rise to multiple interpretations... Sikoryak (Masterpiece Comics) is an undeniably talented artist with a keen ability to capture different styles, as well as a sly conceptual satirist and prankster. Few will ever actually read these terms and conditions, but that's basically the point." [Publishers Weekly Starred Review](#) "An interesting experiment... An example of how to use art to change how readers approach narrative content." [Library Journal](#) "Terms and Conditions serves as both a digestible guide to the doc and a visual history of comics." [Vice: The Creators Project](#) "Terms and Conditions serves as a surreal record of our modern digital age in which the rules for our tools have become Bible-length, and just as sacred." [Print Magazine](#) "Each page is a loving tribute to a comic book that Sikoryak loves or respects." [Sikoryak hasn't just thrown the text at random pictures; he appears to have actually read this thing through and selected from the vast historic tapestry of comic book imagery a highly appropriate sequence that seems to suit the relevant quoted words perfectly.](#) [The Independent](#) "Cartoonist R. Sikoryak is trying to inject some fun into the process of reading through thousands of words of mouseprint to find out whether or not you're signing away your first born to Apple." [Consumerist](#) "... a graphic adaptation of something a lot of people have seen, but almost no one has actually read." [Comics Alliance](#) "... a remarkable experiment in how we read comics and what we get from them." [The Creative Review](#) "Robert Sikoryak is a virtuoso cartoonist who draws so well he can not only draw whatever he wants, he can draw it to look like any other cartoonist he wants to pay tribute to, as well." [The Observer](#) "With [Terms and Conditions] artist R. Sikoryak aims to achieve the impossible: to make us read a document that virtually all of us have willfully ignored." [Slate](#)

R. Sikoryak is an animator, illustrator, and cartoonist living in New York with his wife. He is the author of Masterpiece Comics (Drawn & Quarterly), and his comics and illustrations have appeared in The New Yorker, The Onion, GQ, MAD, SpongeBob Comics, and Nickelodeon Magazine, as well as on The Daily Show with Jon Stewart. He is in the speakers program of the New York Council of

the Humanities and teaches in the illustration department at Parsons School of Design.

While this may be considered a 'high-concept' project, don't let that fool you into thinking it isn't hilarious, too. For a comics fan R. Sikoryak's dizzyingly deep dive into the depths of comic book, comic strip and cartoon styles is an encyclopedia of 'spot the reference.' His ability to capture the distinctive styles of over 100 different artists reminds me of the talents of MAD artist Will Elder, whose parodies also expertly mimed the style of the creators he was referencing. For those less-versed in comic art history there's an index which lists all the original artists referenced, down to the specific issues and panels in many cases. 2017 is turning out to be a banner year so far for graphic novels. Though it's hard to imagine that anything to come will be as great and revelatory as R. Sikoryak's "Terms and Conditions" and Emil Ferris' "My Favorite Thing Is Monsters." These are instant classics that I believe will stand the test of time. Even if you're not a comics nerd the mere fact that millions of us have [clicked through on Apple's End User Licensing Agreement](#) should make you want to read this. This graphic novel is essential for fans of comic art, for those who appreciate wickedly clever humor, for anyone who listens to contemporary music, for Apple cultists, and for anyone who has ever accepted software licensing in any form. If you're not included in that list, I don't want to know you.

I love the variety of styles. I notice something new everytime I pick it up. I get a lot of comments about this comic from guests. Fun concept!! also have new insight in how one-sided the iTunes TAC 'agreement' is!

Quirky. Great coffee table conversation piece. Also a nice tribute to the history of cartooning, with many different styles through the book.

Hilarious and insightful. And if you are familiar with classic comic characters, you'll have fun finding them all.

Arrived on time and as advertised.

Better than reading the raw text.

Just Brilliant. What more needs to be said.

Hilarious.

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