



## Children's Book and Media Review

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**Cog**

Amanda Morgan

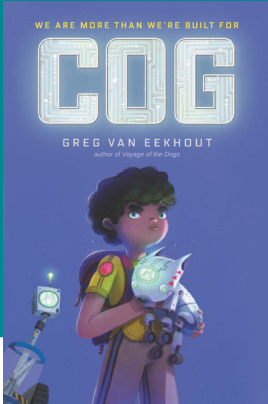
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## Book Review

# Cog

### Author

Greg Van Eekhout

### Illustrator

Beatrice Blue

### Reviewer

Amanda Morgan

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### Rating

Outstanding

### Level

Primary, Intermediate

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### Pages

196

### Year

2019

### ISBN

9780062686077

### Publisher

HarperCollins Children's  
Books

Cog, short for cognitive development, is a smart robot. He knows how to follow a shopping list and make hot chocolate. He also feels a lot of things, like pain when he gets hit by a truck and sadness when he's taken away from Gina. Gina was the person who cared for him, but now he has to live with other people who say that Gina was bad. Determined to be reunited with her, Cog plans an escape. He meets four other robots, Proto, Car, Trashbot, and ADA. Together they search for Gina and fight for their freewill. Cog experiences a lot along the way, both good and bad. These experiences teach him that while feelings can be confusing and hurtful, they are necessary to a happy life.

Van Eekhout explains the importance of feelings and freewill through an enthralling and emotional storyline in this masterpiece. Cog's story will excite children with fun twists and gripping cliff hangers. A lot of light humor makes it an even more enjoyable read. Cog and his friends have distinct and lovable personalities. While Cog speaks and acts in a robotic way, his voice could easily be that of any human twelve-year-old. Cog learns that mistakes are all part of the learning process and that sometimes feelings hurt. His journey to understanding what he feels could help all children, but may be particularly helpful to neuro-diverse children who relate to his analytical view and overwhelmed moments. Cog's touching moments of self-realization may also help children better understand human emotion and social expectations. For education as well as entertainment, this book will not disappoint.

\*Contains mild violence.