

"Amazing . . . compulsive reading."

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# THE SPARK

A Mother's Story of  
Nurturing, Genius, and Autism

KRISTINE BARNETT

Kristine Barnett

## The Spark: A Mother's Story of Nurturing, Genius, and Autism



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Kristine Barnett's Compelling and who doesn't? However the story of Kristine's . At age group two, when Jake was diagnosed, Kristine was told he might never be able to tie his very own shoes. " Surrounded by "experts" Counting on the insights she created at the daycare center she runs out from the garage area in her home, Kristine resolved to follow Jacob's "moving shadows on the wall, stars, plaid patterns on sofa fabric—Jake made no progress, withdrew more and more into his own globe, and eventually stopped speaking completely. Kristine knew in her heart that she got to produce a change. Against the information of her husband, Michael, and the developmental specialists, Kristine followed her instincts, pulled Jake out of unique ed, and began preparing him for mainstream kindergarten on her behalf own.s tale contains wisdom for every parent. at home and in particular ed who tried to spotlight Jake's "spark" — Why concentrate on what he couldn't do? Why not concentrate on what he could? This basic philosophy, along with her belief in the power of ordinary childhood experiences (softball, picnics, s'The Spark is approximately the transformative power of unconditional love.— The Barnetts were not wealthy people, and likewise to monetaray hardship, Kristine herself confronted serious health issues. But through effort and determination on behalf of Jake and his two youthful brothers, along with an undying faith in their community, friends, and family, Kristine and Michael prevailed. The outcomes were beyond anything anyone could possess imagined. Dramatic, inspiring, and transformative, The Spark is approximately the energy of like and courage in the face of mind-boggling obstacles, and the dazzling possibilities that can happen when we figure out how to tap the true potential that lies within every kid, and in all folks." "[An] amazing memoir . .s trip with Jake is all the more remarkable because his extraordinary brain was almost lost to autism. compulsive reading. At nine he started working on a genuine theory in astrophysics that professionals believe may someday place him in series for a Nobel Prize, and at age group twelve he became a paid researcher in quantum physics.—The Spark describes in glowing conditions the profound strength with which a mother can love her kid.s most basic abilities and curtail his distracting interests—mores around the campfire) and the importance of play, helped Kristine overcome huge chances. "s 'different'—s, a photographic memory space, and he taught himself calculus in two weeks.spark. .you won't have the ability to put it straight down.—Newsday Sylvia Nasar, author of A Beautiful Mind "Love, disease, faith, tragedy and triumph—it all's all here. . . .Andrew Solomon, author of The Noonday Demon and Definately not the Tree " — The Spark is an extraordinary memoir of mother and son.This eloquent memoir about an extraordinary boy and a resilient and remarkable mother will be of interest to every parent and/or educator hoping to nurture a child' .t? "Temple Grandin, writer of Thinking in Photos and co-writer of The Autistic BrainFrom the Hardcover edition.Publishers Weekly For those who have a child who's child Jacob comes with an IQ greater than Einstein's authentic '— Jake can be unusual, but so is definitely his superhuman mom."—Booklist "The Washington Post Compliment for The Spark his passionate interests. Jake Barnett' "Every parent and instructor should read this fabulous book!" —



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Caution: Inspiring Story but Not Applicable to Everyone Personally i think a bit like a grinch for just giving this 3 stars - it is an amazing story of one family's triumph over autism. It's nonfiction of course, so one can't analyze a plot range or character development - but my problems with this reserve had been many. he can't discover who he is in a vacuum. Guilt, because some may feel that only if they devoted almost all their time for it to their autistic kid, they as well could create a higher functioning math genius. It was only a unfortunate disappointment, but I'm still a fan of Jacob. a family group struggling to meet up the requirements of their amazing, but autistic child was well written This unusual tale of a family group struggling to meet up the needs of their brilliant, but autistic son was well written, but I still left with the feeling that the events were too good to be true..!but wish there were even more recognition of their extraordinary circumstances and caution that others, regardless of how hard they work may still have a child who will always need to have some extra help." (70) 4) Watch and really listen to your child. But to me, the mom is certainly one in a billion. just an interesting story We was hoping this book would help me with my autistic kid, since the writer is a mother of an autistic child just like me and not a psychologist or counselor. I acquired this book due to my own ideas about autism and teaching. "Indulging the senses isn't a luxury, but essential. But it doesn't obtain everyone such a happy ending. "Through resilience and effort, we'd done it ourselves, and we'd done it collectively. They keys seem to be rather than focusing on what you need the child to learn, concentrate on what they can deal with and want to learn. On e of the better books I've read in a few time that was easy to read and yet filled with revelations." (101) 2) Focus on your child's presents and do whatever you can to nurture his / her enthusiasm. Everything falls into place when you resolve their needs. An uplifting tale of an incredible mom and the fight of her life for her son. But that is, in my opinion, an excellent Psychology reserve and how to teach reserve. The boy ended up being a genius. Usually do not hesitate to get this reserve and read it. There is absolutely no way you will regret it and in case you have an autistic child, that is essential for your son or daughter and you. A wonderful surprise! It's not what I wanted. He is a genius and she is a super mom with a super husband it was hard tobelieve at times all his support.! ... I applaud and admire this family and the incredible result. "Every parent needs to be a fighter on behalf of his or her kid, not merely the parents of kids with autism or developmental disorders. While you are following the tale of how Kristine Barnett was able to connect to her son and launch his gifts, you will be thinking of how you can strengthen the romantic relationship with your personal children, and ways to help them develop their own unique talents. I was remaining wondering about reality. However, having worked with autistic children mainstreamed in my own classroom, I think that the results achieved by the family members and supporters do confirm that if the requirements of the child are found and recognized, not only pigeonholed, that child includes a better chance of achieving his/her potential. The author expresses in the clearly, well crafted memoir. Every kid deserves this much support! Even with the support of her spouse and friends, life was pretty difficult.. Do it together. Then get out of their way. The author's advice can be summed up into the following: 1) You aren't alone. Create a community. Make your house smell like a home. That we have to repair our weaknesses and transformation who we are, in order to succeed. Don't wait for the system to come and save your kids. She had an insight into her son and it finished up as an insight into all autistic children and does apply to regular kids, as well. Her 2nd insight was that play was essential and essential and that if indeed they got play, these were in a position to end up carrying out the regular learning that everyone desired. "Any kid will outperform your goals if you can discover a way to feed his or

her passion. Truly an amazing story. the contact to all or any parents, to trust their gut to learn their children, to fight for them, also to at least try what the mother or father thinks will be best, is an excellent one. The Spark displays us a different method to improve our children and maybe even a different way of searching at ourselves. "Displaying a child that you consider his / her passion seriously and want to talk about in it's the most powerful catalyst in the world." (76) 5) Gifted kids are afforded much more time in their time to focus on the things they value. Give your child that time. (95) 6) Get into your child's world, rather than expecting him to come out to you. 7) Follow your intuition and trust yourself. How do the writer manage her extremely needy older children, recover from a stroke and look after an infant all while owning a preschool." (102) 8) In all things, there needs to be a balance. Autism mother: Not the help you are considering. "I believe it's a parents job to close up the chess table and send a child outside to play. This story moved me from the beginning and I have shared this book with friends who've autistic children to give them expect their incredible children. First and foremost, I dread that it will produce guilt in parents who aren't blessed with the amazing network of friends, family members and community that seemed to be working here, often without overt reputation by the author. (134) 9) Once you feel depleted, connect to your senses. Have confidence in your kids, and in each other's kids.. Nourish yourself as well as your family with a home-cooked food. Both mom and boy, along with dad, are the heros in this publication that is clearly a satisfaction to read aswell we educating." (160) 10) It's hard to trust your son or daughter to find their own path, especially when we are informed every day that kids must match rigid boxes. But take the leap. Celebrate your son or daughter's passions. Find out what you love to do and do it. A terrific read! "If you gas a child's innate spark, it will always point the way to far better heights then you might ever possess imagined. If not for her believing, seeing, and knowing there is more to Jake compared to the label autistic. From beginning to end an amazing read of a family group triumphing over common misperception and opinions. Loved this book and the doors and possibilities it opens to others. There other things, too. The child will need friends his own age; 10 Things You'll STUDY FROM This Wonderful, Wonderful Book The Spark is well worth reading. Must.Read. For all mothers, for all homeschoolers, for all parents generally. This reserve is amazing. Its someone to placed on the "To Re-Read" shelf. Don't forget the importance of childhood and of simply having fun. This is an inspiring story and Jacob is amazing! However, I thought she'd share what worked for her and Jacob when it comes to therapy, diet plan, stimulus, and other advices to steer us mothers or caregivers. She takes forever to tell about one fact or how she fulfilled and fell in love with her husband, her financial difficulties, etc.But zero, she has very good points like to find out what is you child's interest and to constantly advocate for himBasically her autistic child isn't like most.. Most don't have this extravagance, and the truth about genetics is usually that most children, autistic or totally "normal" will not attain what this fellow did." (73) 3) Give your child a place to be himself or herself – a skill studio, a food preparation place, a construction region – but "give it freely and without the expectations. I completely enjoyed listening to this audio publication on my daily commute." (x) Loved it! Make your self physically warm and comfy. Too often in existence we are informed that we aren't enough..no informing where his life's direction may have gone too. So BRAVO to the mom's that may know their own children. Please take the few hours to read this. I wished to learn about the "spark", what did she believe helped to obtain him presently there, what didn't work, etc..it will provide you with a smile, make your heart sing, and give you a new way of looking at children with autism. Recommended Hearing for All Parents Extremely enlightening. The author's message at the

end says it all for all kid types. I wish everyone could read this remarkable story of a young mother and her unwavering support of her oldest child. Meh this is actually the story of one genius and a mom's journey which while interesting offered little insight or support for all those in the spectrum." (250) In the author's words: "Don't ever be afraid to become who you are. Just a fascinating show of power and perseverance; not being willing to quit and just depend on what "professionals" had to offer. I cannot imagine how difficult stuff must have been at several points along the way, both for the parents and the child. And what an end result!. As a publication is quite interesting but a little unrealistic and like I said if what you want foris a book about support from a mother or father experiencing what we actually go thru with having an autistic child you won't think it is here. Well-written with plenty of details along the way, this book offers alot of points to consider for families and also educators. CONGRATULATION to Jake and the complete Barnett family!



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