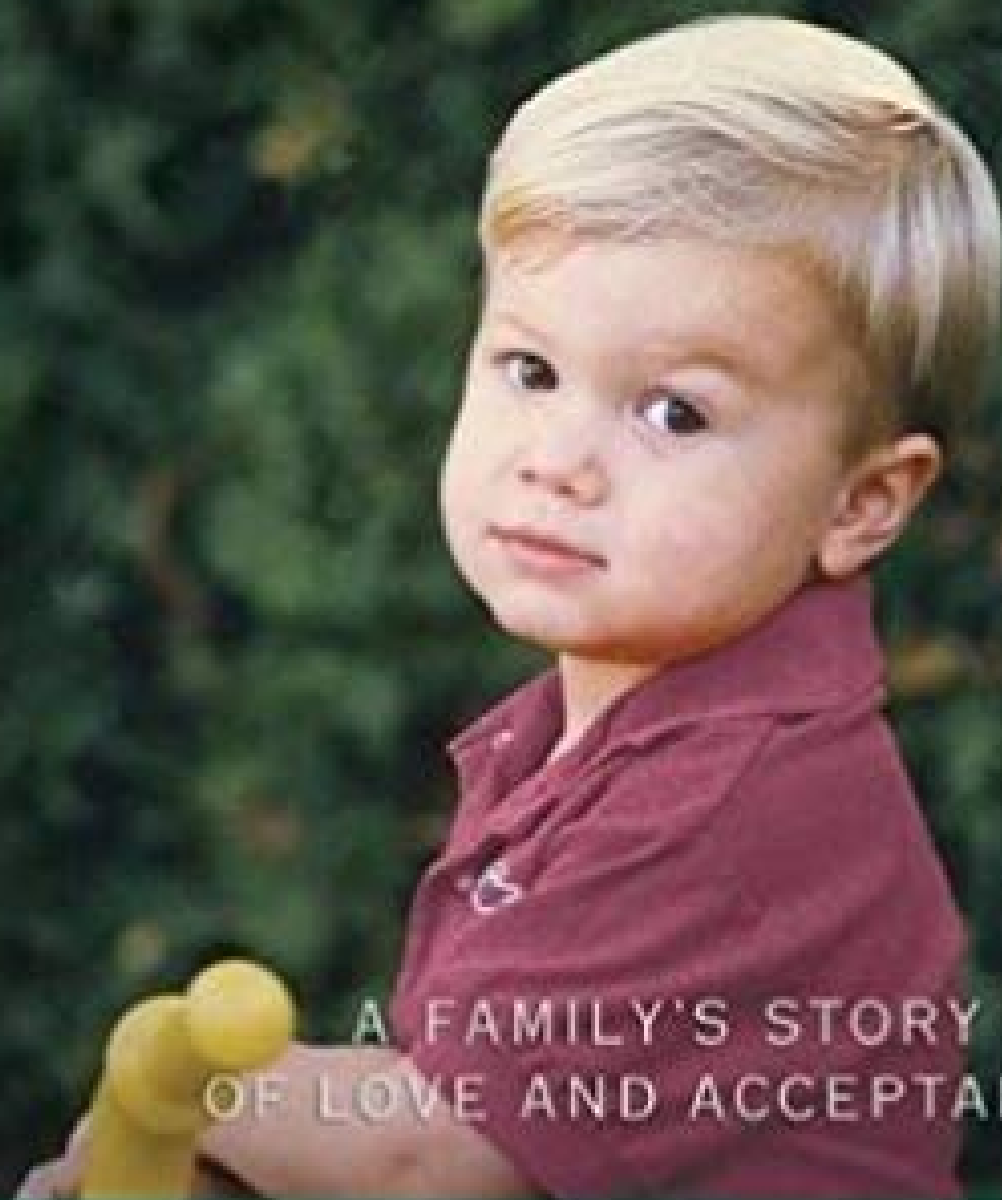


A REGULAR GUY

Growing Up With Autism



A FAMILY'S STORY
OF LOVE AND ACCEPTANCE

LAURA SHUMAKER

Laura Shumaker

A Regular Guy: Growing up with Autism



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A Regular Guy: Growing Up With Autism is a memoir about lifestyle with an autistic son, Matthew, written from his mom s perspective. In turn, A NORMAL Guy leads readers to love and accept Matthew, quirks and all, and inspires them to comprehend and tolerate the variations in others. A NORMAL Guy illustrates the many ways in which family, friends and strangers are touched by Matthew s desperate desire to be a regular man, and how his brutal honesty and social awkwardness bring out the best and worst in people in touching and humorous ways. It answers the countless questions that people have about autism through the tale of Matthew s lifestyle spanning from babyhood to youthful adulthood.



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Close to my heart My oldest son, James, is currently an Asperger's Syndrome adult. He's 18 and equivalent to Matthew, Laura Shumaker's son. This is a wonderful publication full of tales of how Laura and her family cope with and so are living a full lifestyle with Matthew. They provide him all sorts of encounters which is something we trying to accomplish for James. People with Asperger's are normal, people. Will be reading this again shortly..they just start to see the world from 'inside the looking cup', much like in "Alice in Wonderland: Through the Looking Glass" when she measures through the mirror and begins to have misadventure after misadventure. Very well-written.! for somebody with Asperger's or autism, it's not a 'story' but their normal life. They struggle everyday to perform the easiest activity. I laughed and cried.. This publication is created from the personal view of a loving mother or father, which is easy to follow.looking a person face to face, speaking with them without turning aside or closing their eye. I laughed, I cried then I laughed once again...stuttering or gulping pertaining to atmosphere, perspiring, flapping of hands, walking away quickly or simply rocking back and forth on a chair after the "social conversation".. He's in a normal high school program with an Individual Educational Program (IEP) create for several educational and cultural goals he is directed at a accomplish. James will graduate senior high school next month, May 2011. Although the institution system has said he's fulfilled and accomplished all of the IEP goals over the past 4 years, he feels differently but is truly prepared to move on and out of high school. A few of his peers still continue their 'non-acceptance' and ridiculing of him; he's carried this fat from kindergarten up to the 12th quality. Laura vividly describes what it's like to be the mother of an autistic child but she doesn't fall victim to playing the victim. My grandson provides PDD which really is a high function autistic but this reserve covered a lot of the behaviors and traits that he also has.. I'm just so pleased that lots of pediatricians are more alert to autism.Laura Shumaker's book, "A Regular Guy: Growing up with Autism", is an abundance of personal assurances, experiences and wonderful ideas filled with information. A person living with Asaperger's see life from the inside searching; we, who consider ourselves as "normal", see life from the exterior looking in.. James can be seeing a psychologist who works with Asperger Adults, providing us some essential professional support.a mirror picture and worlds apart. This book is a nonclinical book, not filled up with a lot of medical jargin or medical references. It really is designed to give a link with both worlds.. I prefer stories like Temple Grandin's which provide me hope not really heartbreak. For "Alice" it was only a number of stories told to her by a close family members friend;! It is well worth having on your own shelf! Sad Story I purchased this book thinking perhaps the child would be successful. Instead it is about a child that eventually ends up being shipped off ultimately. I sensed like crying while I find out about how this child

became too much to handle so needed to be placed in a camp/house for disabled kids. This psychologist is also providing James with a discussion board to talk through his struggles and focusing on socializing as 'an adult with Asperger's' in a very 'a skewed' adult globe. My son's autism was found out by his pediatrician when he was 20 months old. We started services not long after, and the change was tremendous and immediate.. I recommend this reserve! I imagine my son may have finished up like this child without the early intervention.. I could not put it down. This book really hit home! People with Asperger's or high working autism are not being RUDE if they consult with their eyes closed, there exists a true interpersonal disconnect and they actually struggle too much to offering the appearance to be "normal", which in turn causes mild to full blown panic attacks. Her story telling skills are superb, genuine, easy to follow and relatable. I recommend this book!! Story hit home As a mom to a child on the spectrum I possibly could really identify with this tale. We are encouraging James to consider classes at the local community college, telling him that is a place where everyone is concerned about focusing on accomplishing their assignments, not really leaving them much time for immature methods, as in the elementary and secondary college levels. It helped my "obtain inside the brain" of one such as he's and opened my eyes to certain behaviors etc and what we are able to expect in the future. I thought this was a courageous, honest, tender-hearted story that could be a good help to anyone needing to understand the realities of childhood autism. We are keeping out hopes that he'll be able to hold down employment and at least live in the home or a group home if absolutely necessary. All of those other story I found this book very good for anyone involved in any way with autistic children or adults. The first few chapters I experienced like I was reading my very own tale. Laura Shumaker did a fabulous work of conveying her ongoing frustration, occasional embarrassment, empathy on her behalf other sons and, ultimately, her infinite love for Matthew and her determination for him to have the best life possible. I've visited a number of Camphill sites in California and Pennsylvania. I'd definitely recommend this reserve to my relatives and buddies. Great story on a tough subject I just finished reading this book and loved just of it. Gave insight to how much the family went through and the hard decisions they needed to make. One of the most important reviewers was "heartbroken" that Mathew now lives not with his family members but at a Camphill site. Wonderful story about Matthew and his family Wonderful story on the subject of Matthew and his family! Not only did I love learning Matthew, John, Andy, Peter, Laura's parents, and every one of the other people in the reserve, but I also greatly enjoyed the story aswell. I honestly didn't put the reserve down and finished it in two nights (a rarity for me these days). Over all the book is quite well written as if I am viewing their lives through a window. It really is heartfelt and honest without being maudlin. It's

still sickens me and makes me unfortunate knowing this happens. Bravo Laura! FANTASTIC BOOK I have a grandson with Autism and found out about this reserve on Facebook.! It was an amazing peak in to the life of this family and I completely appreciated her honesty and offering people the opportunity of posting their trials and successes in their life.I cannot recommend this publication enough!. I see this nearly every day in my house with James after he gets home from school. Tender-hearted story that could be a good help anyone needing to understand the realities of . Hopefully, Wyatt, my grandson won't require a service like Matthew has already established the privilege of living in. Go Matthew This account of Matthew Shumaker compiled by his mother, Laura is quite approachable-even for a person who knows hardly any about autism. Easy to read and inspiring! Living in the Easy Bay it was nice to learn a publication in a familiar setting. They are delightful communities full of gentle people who have different strengths and struggles. Many of the people who reside in Camphill communities are "regular" people that choose to reside in community rather than living a far more isolated, compartmentalized existence. Some of these folks live with their nuclear households within a Camphill Community. A few of their fellow villagers, like Matthew, are autistic. Some have other diagnosis like Downs. These "normal" adults understand that we all have been "on the spectrum" and a medical diagnosis that labels you as "different" will not determine who you are or everything you have to offer. Go go to a Camphill ! I possibly could NOT place this publication down.! You may leave with a complete heart and new eyesight for life's opportunities, or possibly you will just find the city different or interesting. I can promise you that you'll not really leave with a broken heart. Great book for parents Since my son was identified as having autism I've read many books compiled by parents, professionals or autistic people themselves. That is one of my favorite. The book can be an honest story compiled by a mother about dealing with all the charms and complications of raising an autistic kid.. Could not end reading... She struggles with finding new ways to accomplish getting back through the mirror to her family members and "regular" life. Fantastic! I felt every emotion you can from one little book..



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