

"A heartbreaking, disturbing,
and truly courageous story of one
mother's fight to save her son."

—ALICE HOFFMAN,
author of The Story Sisters

The Boy Who Loved Tornadoes

A MOTHER'S STORY

Randi Davenport



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The Boy Who Loved Tornadoes



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Randi Davenport's tale is a testament to human fortitude, to hope, also to a mother's uncompromising love on her behalf children. In *The Boy Who Loved Tornadoes*, she gives voice to the experiences of countless households whose struggles with mental illness are likewise invisible to the larger globe. But eventually, Randi's spouse slipped into his personal world and permanently out of her family members's. And at fifteen, her son Chase entered an unremitting psychosis—pursued by terrifying images, unable to recognize his personal mother, unwilling to consume or even talk—becoming ever more tortured and unreachable. Beautifully written and profoundly moving, this is the heartbreaking however triumphant story of how Randi Davenport navigated the byzantine and broken healthcare system and managed not just to save lots of her son from the brink of suicide yet to bring him back to her again, and make her family whole. She had usually worked hard to provide her family members with a sense of stability and power, despite the challenges of experiencing a son with autism and a hubby whose erratic behavior sometimes puzzled and baffled her.



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Important Message This is simply not a "Look what I am through and feel sorry for me personally" book. It's a factual and personal recounting of the consequences of mental illness on a family who struggles to find help in a world where the program puts up street blocks at every turn. I've go through fewer still about households coping with mental illness. Randi Davenport helps us recognize that even though small is known about these afflictions and that we now have no sure treatments, our system for coping with them requires an overhaul. What this girl has gone through on her behalf children is usually amazing and inspiring -- but I must say, the health and human services organizations in this country ought to be ashamed of themselves for the state they're in. Beautifully informed. Flawlessly executed. Someone not as familiar with Autism may not have enjoyed it as much. Loved this book Anyone who would like to understand more about mental disease and its effect on households AND our responsibility to respond with compassion and resources, should read this tale. Many thanks, Randi, for sharing your deeply impacting story. Brilliant. I loved this book, start to finish. The story was captivating, the emotions very real; Having said that, Davenport's book stands tall not only as an historical record of her family's nearly unimaginable struggles, but as a creative function written with an ability to construct an almost literary structure, framing the events within an emotional and chronological span that encompasses multiple lives, decades, and locations. Randi Davenport's reserve about her son Chase's behavioral disabilities and eventual mental illness as a teen is one of the most affecting, riveting memoirs I've read, ever... Riveting Seeing that a mental health provider and a mother I could feel the frustration and despair everyone felt in finding care for Chase..... Through love and perseverance, hope prevailed. At times, the book reads like an especially intense one-work play between two players; I have become an enthusiast of Randi Davenport due to that book I have just finished "THE FINISH of Always" I am hoping to find more.. An extremely inspiring book. Must-read for any parent I read lots of memoirs -- although I love well-written fiction, there is something on the subject of people's lives, expressed through their own phrases and reflections -- that I find completely fascinating. Recently, memoirs about parenting have taken hold of my interest specifically (being the parent of a toddler, I assume I am looking for stories from others who have navigated their method through the difficulties and joys of this experience already). I have become a lover of Randi Davenport due to . Definately not maudlin, the reserve is compiled by an author with a gift for (and love of) language that dissects fleeting, intangible feelings and delivers them to the reader in a very comprehensible way. I must say i felt on her behalf. I had to continue reading, though, hoping that now there *was* at least a shred of wish on the other hand on her behalf and Chase. I simply had to know what occurred to Chase in the end (needless to say, Chase and his family's tale still continues beyond the webpages of this memoir, and I desire them well). Reading the ending remaining me in a full catharsis of tears. Your heart will ache for The Boy Who Loved Tornadoes and for his mom who would not quit until she got the help she needed for her son. I am deeply relocated. More than just a recollection of difficult times I can't truthfully mention that I've go through all that lots of memoirs in my own life; This important story should be a wake-up call for all of us who believe we'll never have to be concerned about things such as autism or bipolar disorder or depression. you should read this one. Because of Davenport's skill as a writer, "The Boy Who Loved Tornadoes" encompasses not only the primary story accessible, but Davenport's own encounters growing up seeing that an aspiring poet (like the common tendency among poets to glorify mental disease as a divine state), her perceptions of mental illness, and the struggle to make sense of the chemical and psychological tethers that bind her boy, Chase, and baffle caregivers at all levels of the medical community. Her cross-nation travels

as a professor, the dissolution of a failed marriage, and her efforts to simulate a standard life (even when none seemed feasible) with her daughter, Haley, as well as her struggles against a healthcare system that continuously seeks loopholes to be able to push probably the most difficult patients (who are, automatically, those also in probably the most need of care) out right into a close by alley imbues the true-life story with wealthy, complex emotions and circumstances.. at other times, soft remembrances or sly asides evoke not just the low occasions, but also the flickering moments of relief and clarity. It was so sad, her frustration, helplessness and dread so palpable: it was painful to read sometimes. If you're a mother or father who has traveled down this same difficult route, you will without doubt look for solace in aspects of this book. However, readers without comparable experiences would still be suggested to immerse themselves in this extreme, harrowing, and ultimately transformative memoir. Captivating, thoughtful, enlightening I was taken by this loving portrait of a devoted parent trying to navigate the machine of care and analysis for the mental disease of her child. I am astonished that this book under no circumstances rocketed to the very best of best vendor lists and was never optioned for a film. Fast Read I thought it was a great book but we taught Autistic Children for a long time. A story that would have to be told. Loved it.



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