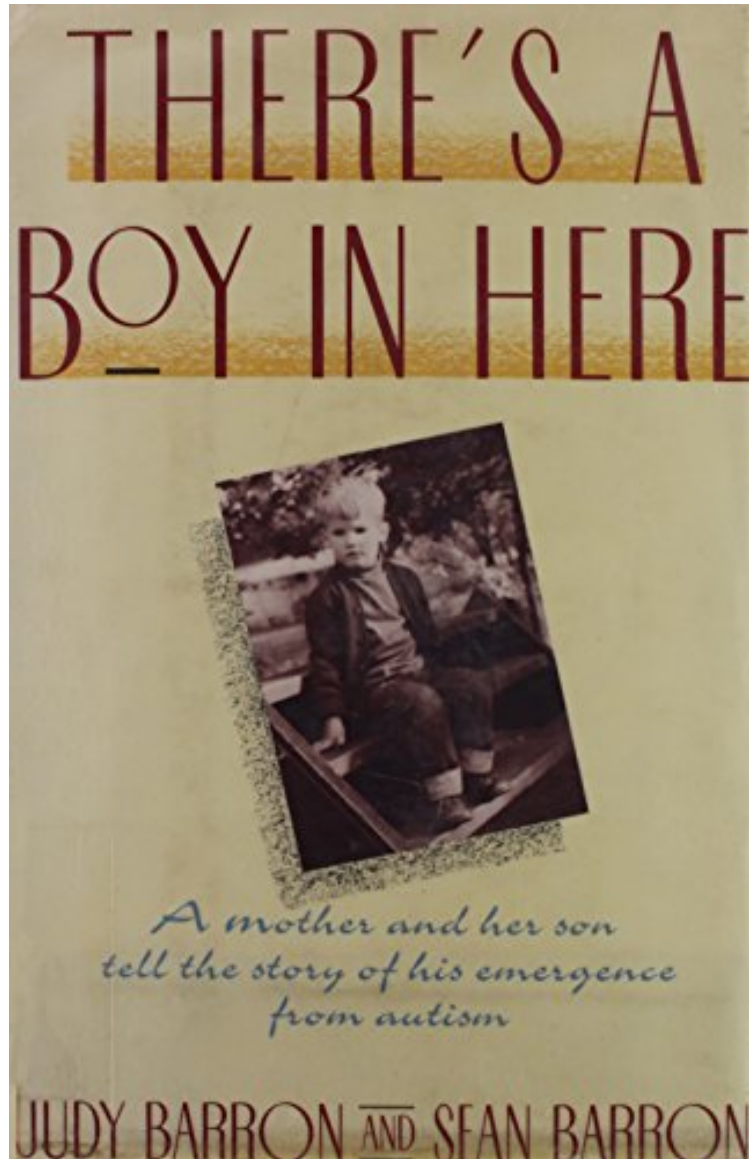


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There's a Boy in Here

Judy Barron, Sean Barron

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Judy Barron, Sean Barron : There's a Boy in Here before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised There's a Boy in Here:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. One of the most helpful books that I have ever readBy Taylor VBI am the parent of 3 young children who have varying degrees of being on the autistic spectrum. This book has given me hope and filled me with a totally new perspective on how my children might be feeling and thinking. The book is quite

unique, seeing as how it has the vantage points of both Sean and his Mom. I especially appreciated the courage Sean's mom displayed in this book by being brutally honest about how she felt and how she responded to Sean. Her words are dead on. The frustration and isolation she felt are shared by many, including myself (although not many are brave enough to voice it) It was comforting to me to know I am not alone in my feelings...and also to know that even though I am not always perfect in my responses to my children's actions that it will not guarantee their demise. Their experiences with the "professionals" in the field went hand in hand with my own experiences. Sad but true. I found myself rooting for both Sean and his family to be successful in their endeavors. Sean's writing is eye opening and makes it easy for the reader to wrap their mind around how he was feeling. I HIGHLY recommend this book to anyone who wants to get an honest idea of what it is really like to either be autistic or live with an autistic child. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. What a story! By Gma Sara If only more of us could read this! I remember when autism was viewed as hopeless. Then came the relentless debate about its causes. And all the while, Judy Barron and Eustacia Cutler were just putting one foot in front of the other, loving their autistic children and patiently building the connections that would bring Sean and Temple to us when they decided to join up. There must have been other mothers trying to do the same, other families who just refused to treat their autistic children like house pets or aliens, but I have not been privileged to read their children's stories. I'm so glad Sean's has been published. His journey was so much different from Temple's, and yet so much the same, that it was a fascinating read as an autobiography and also as a case study. For a reader who doesn't care about social science, it's a good story that reads like well written fiction. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. It doesn't get any better than this!! By R. Boyd This book was a revelation for me. After reading it and another book, "The unwritten Rules of Social Conduct" by Temple Grandin, I realized that our now 43 year old son would have been diagnosed with Asperger's if it had been better known at that time. All of a sudden his challenges and the events of his childhood made sense. The best part is that it is possible, with intense effort, to help these people live rewarding lives and integrate with society. Judy and Sean Barron are to be congratulated for their effort and for sharing this deeply personal account. You won't read it with a dry eye but, if your life is touched by autism, you better read it!

A mother tells how she ignored doctors' predictions about her son's fate and fought against autism to miraculously "reach" her son, who, now a recovered adult, recounts his own perceptions of his childhood. 30,000 first printing. Tour.

From School Library Journal YA-- Autism is generally considered incurable, but Sean Barron and his mother have proven that it can be overcome. This fascinating story tells how the boy, who seemed normal at birth, became increasingly uncontrollable with bouts of repetitive activities and no method of communication. Despite recommendations that he be institutionalized, his parents insisted that he go to public school and, eventually, he was able to change his behavior himself. This story is told in the dual voices of both mother and son. The insights that the young man now has into his behavior and what he remembers from his experiences are riveting. A fast-paced and engrossing book.- Dorothy Addison, Woodlawn School, Fairfax County, VACopyright 1992 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Library Journal This is the compelling and unique story of the Barrons' long and often painful fight to "reach" their autistic son and help him live a normal life. Judy Barron narrates most of the story, giving an in-depth account of son Sean's early years, his behavioral problems, and the terrible inadequacies of the medical field in providing care for him. Sean provides an extremely interesting counterpoint to his mother's stories. His explanations for various behaviors (e.g., repeating the same action over and over, which he claims gave him a sense of security) is often different from how his parents interpreted them. This interesting book for the general reader provides insight into the world of the autistic child. Highly recommended. Previewed in Prepub Alert, LJ 11/15/91.- Jennifer Langlois, Missouri Western State Coll. Lib., St. Joseph Copyright 1992 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Kirkus s An unusual point/counterpoint journal by a mother and her son, chronicling the painful years the son suffered from autism and his remarkable recovery. Rob and Judy Barron's first child was born autistic. From infancy, Sean was totally unresponsive to direction and affection. He was also hyperactive, destructive, and full of rage. In her frustration and bewilderment, Judy responded by screaming, threatening, and spanking. When the Barrons finally sought help, the professionals argued what was then the party line about childhood autism: that it was caused by "refrigerator parents," especially an unfeeling mother. (Current thinking is that the cause is probably biochemical.) Medication, behavior modification, and institutionalization were recommended. The Barrons eventually tried all three but preferred having Sean at home. Both parents believed that behind the bizarre behavior was a terrified but normal child. Although age and academic success--he was able to attend public school--modulated Sean's behavior, it was not until he was 17 that the real Sean emerged. He graduated from high school, went on to college, and is now living on his own, with a responsible job. Sean's story is told in stereo, through interspersed paragraphs by mother and son. Judy is heroically honest about her own lack of control. Sean, whose memories go back to toddlerhood, makes clear how pleased he was by repetition--e.g., switching lights on and off; how angry he got when his arbitrary "rules" were violated; and how frightened he became when a comfortable pattern--for instance, the order of school buses lined up at the end of the

day- -was disturbed. What cured him? It's not clear: perhaps his mother's bulldog determination that he could be rescued, the shock of puberty, some reconnected neurons--or a combination of all three. This book offers hope but no plan for reclaiming other autistic lives. Notable for its window into the thoughts and feelings of an autistic child--and for its gratifyingly happy ending. -- Copyright 1992, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.