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Temple Grandin: How The Girl Who Loved Cows Embraced Autism And Changed The World



Synopsis

When Temple Grandin was born, her parents knew that she was different. It wasn't until years later that she was diagnosed with autism, a brain disorder that makes communication difficult. Today, Dr. Temple Grandin is a brilliant scientist and professor of animal science at Colorado State University. Her world-changing career has revolutionized the livestock industry - each year, half the cattle in the United States are handled in cruelty-free facilities she has designed. She is also a passionate advocate for autism, using her experience to prove that people with this disorder can have "normal" lives. To achieve this unprecedented success, Temple used a unique ability: she thinks visually, the same way animals do. Because she thinks in pictures, she can see the world as a cow, or a dog, or a pig might see it. And so she knows that animals raised for food deserve good lives and should be treated with respect. Now she gives them their voices.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I was excited to read and review this book, along with my ten-year-old son. Haydn has Asperger's, and he watched a small part of the HBO movie about Temple's life. He related to Temple in that movie, so I thought this book would be good for him. I was right. Temple's love and empathy for/with animals is something my son can understand. When we adopted two kittens, Hocus & Pocus, we called them the "Therapy Cats." My son would cuddle them and show affection that he was unable to express with our human family members. We spent a lot of time teaching him how to treat animals. It pleased him to read about Temple lying down among the cattle and also about her efforts to make

things better for those same creatures. From my side, it was neat to read about Temple's thoughts on the animals and how they helped her as a child. I am daily struggling to help Haydn be who he is and also learn to live in this society. I hope, hearing some of my same advice from Temple helped it make sense to him. My son was teased relentlessly in school and still gets hurt by neighbor kids. He liked hearing how Temple survived the bullying and grew up to follow her dreams in her own way, not the way society would set for her. My son spends his free time either building Lego creations (a working pistol, a soda machine, etc.) or folding intricate origami animals and paper planes that really fly. By showing him Temple's life as an engineer and designer, I pray I gave him some hope for his own future and confidence that his skills are worthwhile. I thank Sy Montgomery for writing this kid-size biography of Temple Grandin. Our whole family has enjoyed the fruits of her labor.

Temple Grandin's story is fascinating. Her proven ability to overcome the odds and change circumstances for the better is remarkable. The story is very well written, engaging and has great real life applications, even if autism is not a part of your personal world. I found the greatest message to be acceptance and appreciation for the uniqueness of all people. Her work with animals is extraordinary and is inspirational.

This is a short but extremely interesting book on Temple Grandin, the poster woman for successfully handling Asperger's Syndrome, a form of higher functioning autism. In a few, succinct chapters, it describes the world as Temple sees it - she thinks in pictures, not in words - and how she overcame the obstacles of functioning differently in a world in which social and business relationships are based on words. Temple has risen from a nonverbal child whose father insisted that she belonged in an institution to the world's foremost authority on humane slaughter of animals. Temple is also a college professor who lectures in the classroom and on the road and has written many authoritative articles on her specialty. A chapter toward the end of the book is addressed specifically to persons with Asperger's and suggests a number of ways they can adapt successfully in this society of words. I found this book to be very insightful and it helped me to understand better the thought processes of my own adult child with autism.

Temple Grandin faced many obstacles but she always found a way through them. I greatly admire her, and have read a couple of books that she wrote. This one was different because it was written ABOUT her and it goes back to the very beginning--to her life as a baby and talks about what she was like and about her experiences as a young child, and all the way through her school

experiences. BUt it is written as if in her voice. Also included are many terrific drawings and other visuals throughout the book. I highl recomend this book.

This is about an extremely successful woman that was so strong willed and determined to make it through the uncomfortable torment that often comes with being on the Autism Spectrum. Having to deal with rude, unknowing people yet found her strengths and uses them to the best of her abilities. I have 3 sons and a husband on the spectrum, and although it's extremely difficult at times, Temple has given me hope for my children's futures. Something no doctor (not even the best of them) has been able to do. I've spent a lot of money on so many expensive books that may as well have been written in Chinese. Temple's books will help you to understand what someone on the spectrum goes through everyday. Something a doctor will never be able to do. I also strongly recommend "Emergence". One of her best books and so easy to understand.

For younger readers, this book serves as a wonderful introduction into more than a simple biography of Temple Grandin's life, but also works to introduce children to autism, animal welfare and offers advice that would be helpful to higher functioning children on the autism spectrum, as well as to other children. A solid overview of Grandin's life is given here, with details about her schooling as well as her professional successes. Her extraordinary life, and the way she far surpassed all the expectations for her career and life will be inspirational to children and parents alike. And though much of the information here has been included in her books for adults (likeÂ Animals in TranslationÂ andÂ Animals Make Us Human), younger readers may be inspired to tackle these more difficult books after finishing this one (with the help of an adult, if necessary). This is a book sure to spark necessary discussions - either in the home or the classroom. Very well done!

Her mom never gave up on her. Temple's mother knew her baby was different. Her father wanted her institutionalized at age three! Temple's mother, however, believed in her and steadfastly dedicated all of her resources toward her daughter's eventual happiness and success. Although Temple has always been significantly impacted by her autism, she has achieved a doctorate in animal science studies and has innovated long-overdue industry-changing practices in various aspects of animal care. I have read other books by Temple; this is a book about her, written by a man who took the time to study Temple's entire life. It includes great photos and is well-written. Pick up this book and be ready to be amazed!

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