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"Gifts is honest and life affirming, a chorus of mothers proclaiming what every obstetrician and gynecologist should know - that life is a gift and an extra chromosome is not the end of the world." - Beverly Beckham Boston Globe

Gifts



Mothers Reflect on How
Children with Down Syndrome
Enrich Their Lives

Edited by Kathryn Lynard Soper
Foreword by Martha Sears, RN

Having a baby with Down syndrome is not something most parents would willingly choose. Yet many who travel this path discover rich, unexpected rewards along the way. In this candid and poignant collection of personal stories, sixty-three mothers describe the gifts of respect, strength, delight, perspective, and love, which their child with Down syndrome has brought into their lives.

The contributors to this collection have diverse personalities and perspectives and draw from a wide spectrum of ethnicity, world views, and religious beliefs. Some were parenting within a traditional family structure; some are not. Some never considered terminating their pregnancy; some struggled with the decision. Some were calm at the time of diagnosis, some were traumatized. Some write about their pregnancy and the months after giving birth; some reflect on years of experience with their child.

Their diverse experiences point to a common truth: The life of a child with Down syndrome is something to celebrate. These women have something to say - not just to other mothers but to all of us.

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Profits from the book sales will be used to fund the Gifts Outreach Program, which will supply free copies to hospitals and clinics across the United States and Canada.