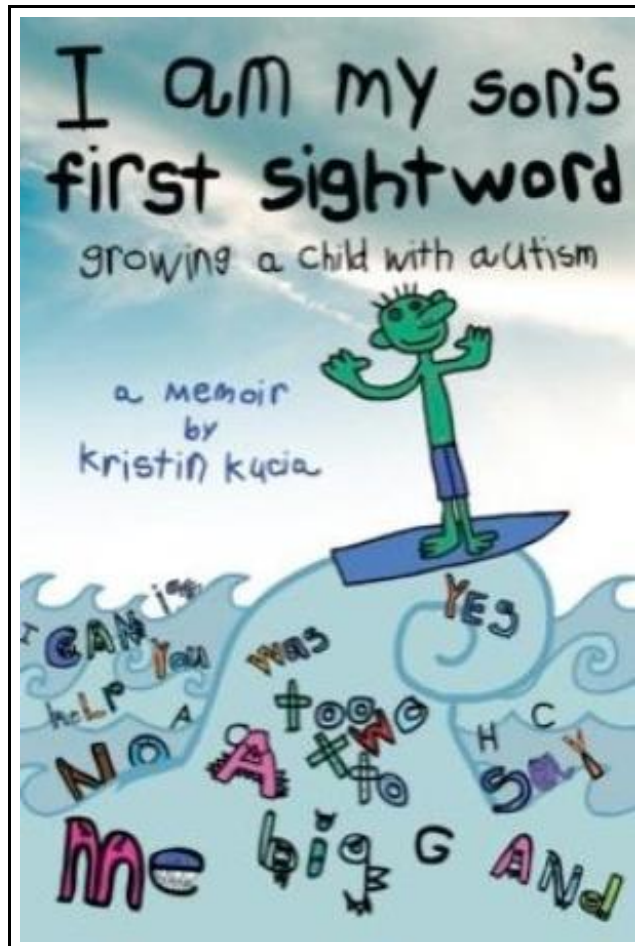


I Am My Son's First Sightword: Growing a Child with Autism



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Reviews

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I AM MY SON'S FIRST SIGHTWORD: GROWING A CHILD WITH AUTISM



Kristin Kucia, 2014. Softcover. Book Condition: New. I Am My Son's First Sightword details a mother's unique path through the first thirteen years of her autistic son's life by describing the struggle and heartache, direction and misdirection, endless choices and legal kerfuffles, hard challenges and emotional smackdowns, and the blissful bittersweet triumphs of her boy. Kucia writes about her typically-developing son's scary abrupt descent into autism after a batch of vaccines and a spiderbite change their family trajectory. She realizes that she must re-teach and slow down every aspect of life in order to help him, advocate for his educational rights, recognize food as medicine, and discover a new definition of what it means to be normal. She educates herself about this varied, confusing, whole-body spectrum disorder, focusing on the particular details of her child's illness, while driving literally and figuratively to the ends of the earth to help her child recover. She celebrates the alternative, the weird, and the different ways her son teaches her as much as she teaches him, and the significance of her own emotional healing as the mother of a disabled child. Working through extensive amounts of intensive intervention, Kucia tells of her son's positive experiences in traditionally-recognized autism therapies such as speech therapy, occupational therapy, and ABA. She finds sweet successes utilizing non-traditional methods such as surfing, farming, digital animation, slowfood cooking, gluten-free diet, and gut remediation. The autism that landed on her family provides a series of lessons in life expectations, tests the fluidity of self and soul toward emergency situations, and requires innovative ways to respond to tragedy with hope, dignity, and grace. Kucia uses sass-infused prose and musings of fierce mama love to detail the happenings of an autism life and underscores the importance of never giving up. She explores the...



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