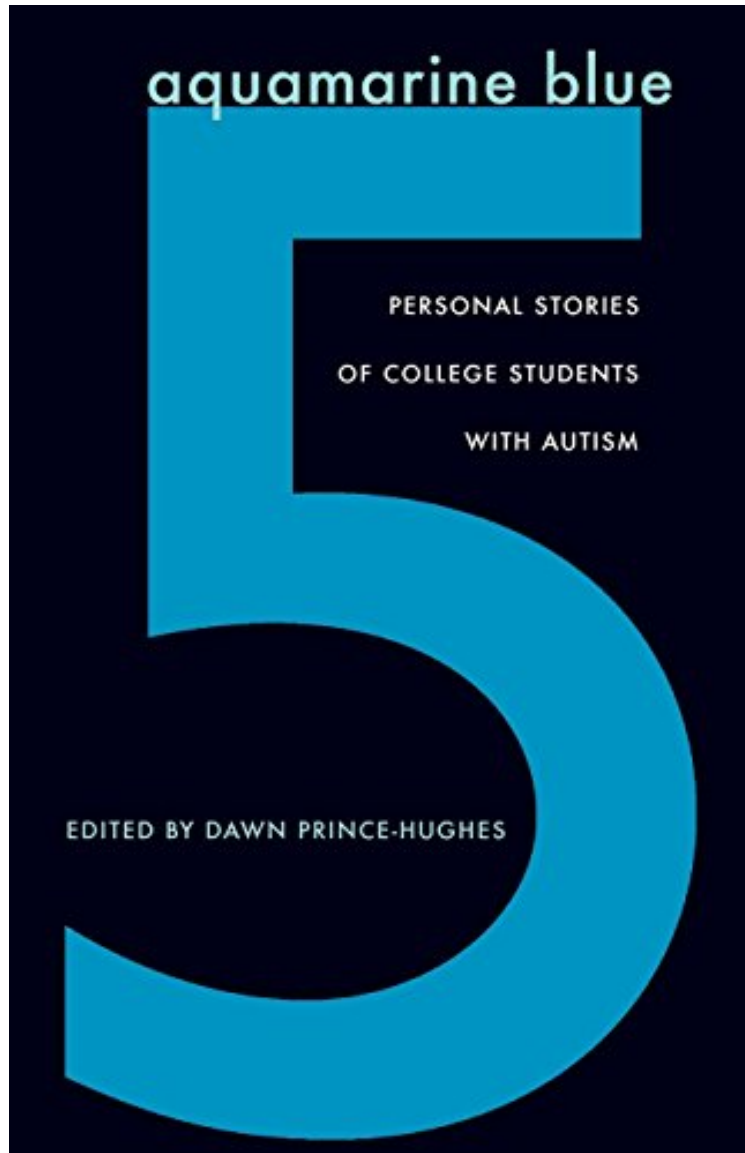


[Download] Aquamarine Blue 5: Personal Stories of College Students with Autism

Aquamarine Blue 5: Personal Stories of College Students with Autism

Dawn Prince-Hughes

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Dawn Prince-Hughes : Aquamarine Blue 5: Personal Stories of College Students with Autism before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Aquamarine Blue 5: Personal Stories of College Students with Autism:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Phenomenally insightfulBy Hardly working at working hardAs a

person who does not have Asperger's, I found this book to be incredibly illuminating on how a person who is on the autistic spectrum handles everyday life, from the things we as "normal" people wouldn't even blink twice at. Overwhelming to the brim of honesty and sincerity, I'd recommend this book to anyone who is interested from a neurotypical standpoint on how a person on the spectrum views and handles college life. 8 of 9 people found the following review helpful. The inside story of Autistic students in college By N. Wallach This book contains about a dozen essays written by high-functioning autistic people who have made it to the university level of education. These are their stories, and, as the editor makes clear, she spent little time in editing them -- confining herself basically to grammar issues. "Normal" People who deal with autistics are always wondering what's it like for them in our society and this book makes it clear how difficult it is. Only the highest-functioning autistic people will make it to a university and that population is the one that is addressed by this book. The editor is herself autistic but has received her Ph.D. and is a professor at a university. So, the message is that autistic people can "make it" in "normal" society but it is not easy. Her essay concludes the book and describes her own personal journey to get to where she is. When autism is mentioned, the image that frequently arises is of the person who is non-communicative, withdrawn into their own world and perhaps makes noises or weird motions. But there is another stereotype that can come into play. This being "the absent-minded professor." in this stereotype the person is frequently so engrossed in their affairs or research that they do not wear the latest fashions, may have unique eating and hygiene habits, and are frequently seen meandering around with a lost look on their faces. I have known such university professors as academia seems to both draw them in and nourish their mental needs. This stereotype also describes people who are on the autism spectrum. Today, many younger people are diagnosed with Asperger's syndrome who show such traits. So, there is a place for high-functioning autistic people in such places. Areas where they can contribute significantly to society even if "normal" society considers them strange. A place where they are not seen as abnormal but are tolerated in a very fond way. In this book, we hear the personal recollections of twelve students as to their roads to get to a university and even graduate from it with degrees. In every one of the stories, the elementary and high school experiences are described as absolutely rotten. Which points out how bad their experiences are with the "normal" members of society. It is not hard to envision and even feel the sadness of these teens as they are ostracized and picked upon due to their unique habits and needs. Not all the stories have a happy ending. Several of the essays in the book show that some of the autistic people retreat into their own worlds and shut down from the rest of the world. Even though that is a small portion of the essays given here, I believe those essays probably represent the majority of autistic people who attempt university. And, conversely, the majority of the essays represent the minority of the people. But, even given that, it was encouraging to read about the sometimes heroic struggles that these people went through and to realize how much they accomplished in a world and society that is not set up for them. This is a good book to read if you are involved with autistic children and wonder what will happen to them once they are past the stage where the state and family try to cater to their every need. It points out one desirable path that they can take in which they will end up accepted and even welcomed as productive components of society. For that reason, this is a recommended read. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Nice perspective By bvtngirl As an educator who works with students on the autism spectrum this gave me a different perspective when thinking about preparing them for college and the community.

Rated Outstanding by the American Association of School Libraries This is the first book to be written by autistic college students about the challenges they face. Aquamarine Blue 5 details the struggle of these highly sensitive students and shows that there are gifts specific to autistic students that enrich the university system, scholarship, and the world as a whole. Dawn Prince-Hughes presents an array of writings by students who have been diagnosed with Aspergers Syndrome or High-Functioning Autism, showing their unique ways of looking at and solving problems. In their own words, they portray how their divergent thinking skills could be put to great use if they were given an opportunity. Many such students never get the chance because the same sensitivity that gives them these insights makes the flicker of fluorescent lights and the sound of chalk on the board unbearable. For simple and easily remedied reasons, we lose these students, who are as gifted as they are challenged. Aquamarine Blue 5 is a showcase of the strength and resilient character of individuals with Aspergers Syndrome. It will be an invaluable resource for those touched by this syndrome, their friends and families, and school administrators.

From Booklist Prince-Hughes, an adjunct professor of anthropology and author of a book about gorillas, prefaces the essays in this collection with biographical information about each writer. Crediting the Internet with a rise of an "autistic culture," the editor goes on to differentiate between classic autism and Asperger's syndrome (AS), a condition with which she herself struggles. Each contributor tells his or her story, helping to illuminate problems with relationships, communication, obsessions, sensory channels, jobs, etc. Moreover, the special talents of these bright individuals and their coping mechanisms come to light. Here neurotypicals, autistics' label for "normals," can get hints about using counterquestions to promote better conversations, and those with AS can follow suggestions such as seeing a career counselor before choosing a college major. Sharing their trials and tribulations, these adults offer their communities a certain expertise, especially in libraries and universities, where people with such conditions are often

successful. Nancy McCray Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved This is the first book to be written by autistic college students who have been diagnosed with Aspergers Syndrome or with High Functioning Autism. It demonstrates their unique way of looking at and solving problems and the challenges they face. Aquamarine Blue 5 details the struggles of these highly sensitive students and shows that there are gifts specific to autistic students that enrich the university system, scholarship, and the world as a whole. "Her unusual approach to understanding human behavior leads to powerfully clear analysis of the problems faced by people with Autism.

ForeWord