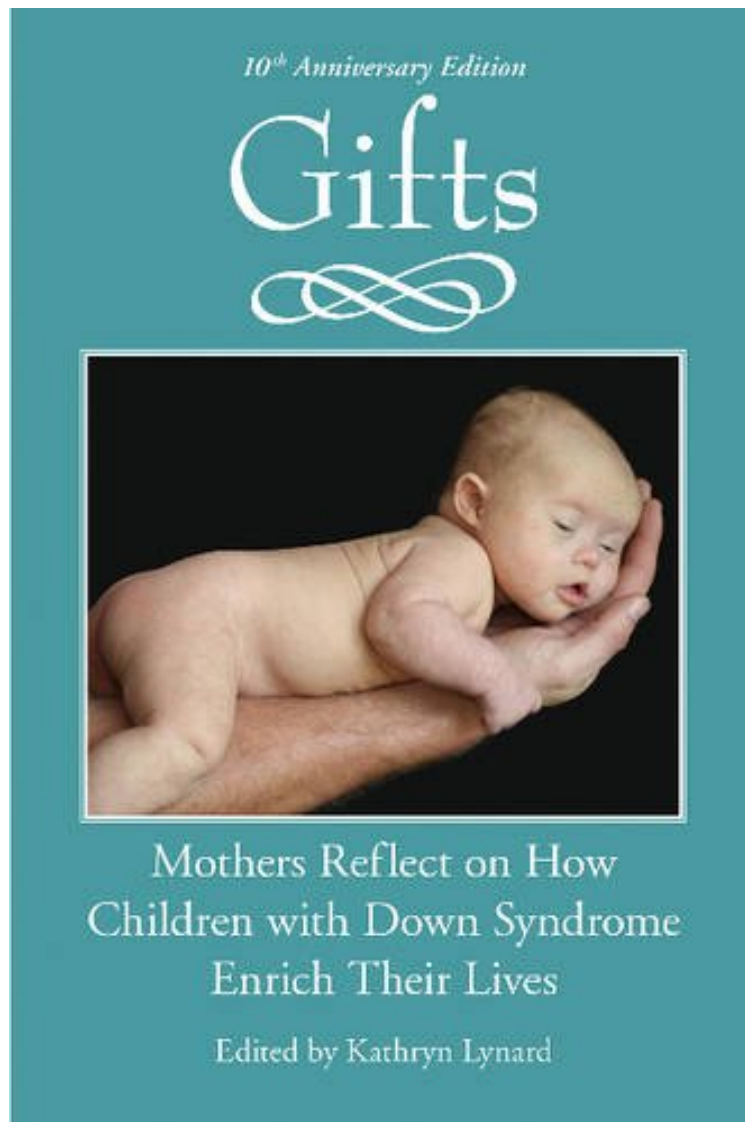


[Download free pdf] Gifts: Mothers Reflect on How Children with Down Syndrome Enrich Their Lives (10th Anniversary Edition)

Gifts: Mothers Reflect on How Children with Down Syndrome Enrich Their Lives (10th Anniversary Edition)

Kathryn Lynard

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Kathryn Lynard : Gifts: Mothers Reflect on How Children with Down Syndrome Enrich Their Lives (10th Anniversary Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Gifts: Mothers Reflect on How Children with Down Syndrome Enrich Their Lives (10th Anniversary Edition):

8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Moving and Inspirational
By Customer
Absolutely phenomenal and beautifully written, inspirational book of essays from mothers with children who happened to be born with Down Syndrome... Many stories included the parents' "shock" after learning of the diagnosis but every story demonstrates the consistent acceptance and love of their beautiful children regardless of the diagnosis. I have identical twins with DS and this book was a bastion of hope amidst many amazingly dismal books about the down-side and "typical" delays my boys would face instead of and the very happy and high-quality life that is possible. Every parent of a child born with Down Syndrome should receive a copy of this book upon the birth of their special child.
4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. You definitely NEED to read this book!
By Reader Bird
This is an incredibly wonderful collection of personal stories, from families, about their feelings when they were given the diagnosis of Down syndrome. It talks about their vulnerability, tears, fears, grief, and loving acceptance. The stories are remarkably similar in spirit (and similar to my own experiences), yet vastly different in true-life execution. How we react, grieve, and deal with the curve ball of Down syndrome is explored and the reader will laugh, cry, and everything in between; but the outcome is always fantastic. It is a thoroughly enjoyable and compelling read.
4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. A must read for all parents of a child with Down Syndrome
By mom in VAI
couldn't put this book down! I wish someone would have given this book to me when my son was born. This book needs to be given out in hospitals to the families of new babies born with Down Syndrome. It was so touching. I cried and laughed. Most importantly I felt connected to the writer of each story in some way. This book also echoed over and over the fact that we need medical professionals and hospital staff that have been properly educated on how to give less than desirable news to new parents in an intelligent and compassionate manner.

This commemorative 10th anniversary edition of *Gifts* includes 10 new personal stories, along with where are they now updates on many of the children and families featured in the first edition. *Gifts* is the much-loved collection of over sixty essays written by mothers who share their truths about raising children with Down syndrome. Powerful then and powerful now, it affirms over and over that a life with an extra chromosome is one worth living. The contributors to this collection have diverse personalities and perspectives, and draw from a wide spectrum of ethnicity, world views, and religious beliefs. Some are 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 early months after giving birth; some reflect on years of experience with their child. The writers' diverse experiences point to a common truth: the life of a child with Down syndrome is something to celebrate. These women have a message to share--not just with other mothers but with genetic counselors, obstetricians, and the rest of us. In particular, *Gifts*, 10th Anniversary Edition, provides new parents with a source of up-to-date, positive, and realistic insight that is too often missing when they are facing a pre- or postnatal diagnosis of Down syndrome.

Gifts is a treasure in our community, one which we share with our families. It has touched the lives of new and expectant parents, medical professionals, and beyond. The multiple voices of this book offer a range of emotions, perspectives, and experiences with such pure honesty and courage. The reader will feel the warmth and connectivity of this community, and the gift of knowing that they are not alone. --Sarah Cullen, Family Support Director, Massachusetts Down Syndrome Congress, Burlington, MA
In our current era where increasingly more couples learn about the diagnosis of Down syndrome prenatally, this incredibly moving 10th anniversary edition of *Gifts* sends a timeless message: people with Down syndrome are celebrated contributors to their families and communities. --Dr. Brian Skotko, Co-Director, Massachusetts General Hospital Down Syndrome Program
About the Author
Kathryn Lynard is a writer, advocate, consultant, and mother of seven living in Salt Lake City, Utah. She is also the editor of *Gifts 2: How People with Down Syndrome Enrich the World*, as well as two anthologies about motherhood, and the author of *The Year My Son and I Were Born: A Story of Down Syndrome, Motherhood, and Self-Discovery* (Globe Pequot Press, 2007).