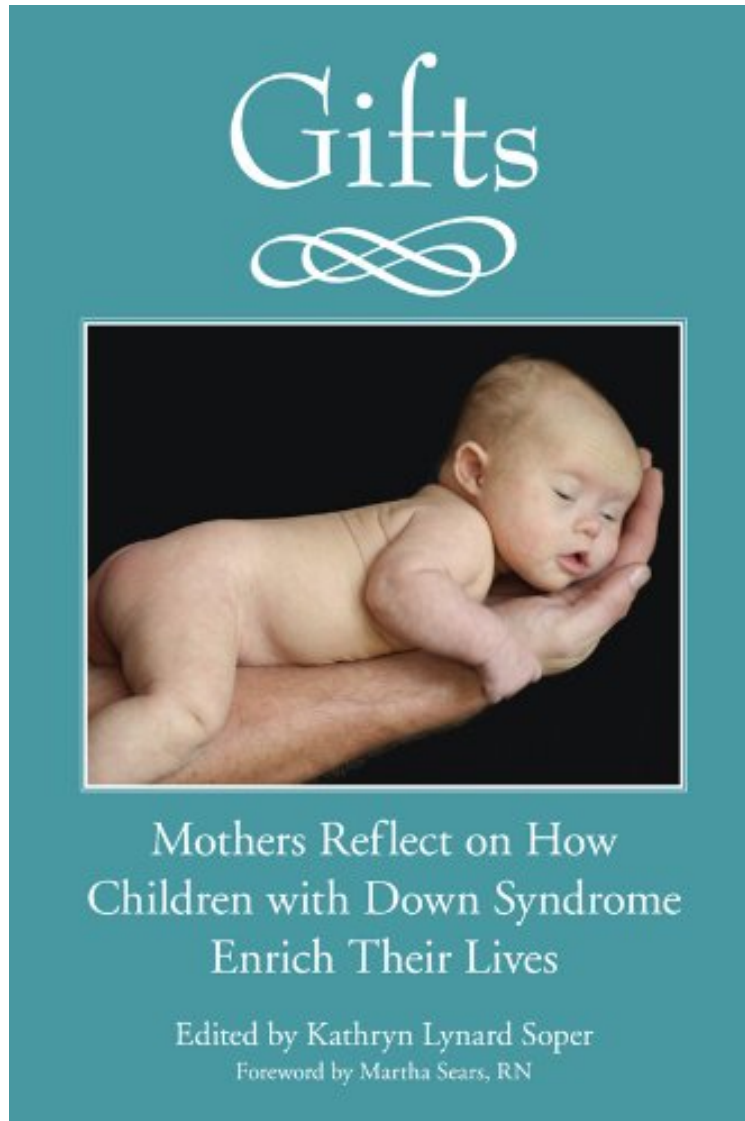


[Free download] Gifts: Mothers Reflect on How Children with Down Syndrome Enrich Their Lives

## Gifts: Mothers Reflect on How Children with Down Syndrome Enrich Their Lives

*Kathryn Lynard Soper*  
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**Kathryn Lynard Soper : Gifts: Mothers Reflect on How Children with Down Syndrome Enrich Their Lives** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Gifts: Mothers Reflect on How Children with Down Syndrome Enrich Their Lives:

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.

(2008 National Parenting Publications Awards (NAPPA): Gold Award; 2008 Mom's Choice Awards: Silver Recipient, Special Exceptional Needs; 2008 Nautilus Award: Silver Winner, Memoir/Personal Growth) 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 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 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. Also by Kathryn Lynard Soper: Gifts 2: How People with Down Syndrome Enrich the World

Gifts is a poignant and inspirational collection of stories written by mothers of children with Down syndrome. These mothers, each with a unique story, graciously and honestly offer us a glimpse of their journey. Some describe the raw anguish felt upon learning that their child had Down syndrome, their sense of loss and even despair. Many speak of the fierce protection they provide their child in terms of advocacy and education of others, and how they, as mothers, have grown strong and assertive in providing for their children's needs. All talk of unyielding love and admiration for their children and the joy the children have brought to their lives. Written to help others who are experiencing similar circumstances, Gifts explores relationships between a parent and child, with siblings and with the larger community. It tells of the 'light burning brightly' and 'the tiny hands of comfort' offered by the child with Down syndrome. It shares stories of families who are reveling in the journey that they had once feared. This book will accompany the reader long after it is placed on the bookshelf. The advice and resources provided will help many, and the theme of determination will inspire all to cheer for those with Down's, as well as their families. A companion volume is in the works offering more stories of love, acceptance and hope. I thoroughly enjoyed this paperback book. Not often can a book touch one's heart--I found, more than once, a tear in my eye and a smile on my lips. It is a testament to what can be accomplished with love, patience and determination and will be an invaluable resource for anyone associated with the care of individuals with Down syndrome. --ADVANCE for Occupational Therapy Practitioners, July 7, 2008 A beautiful book that provides insight into family life with Down syndrome; recommended for public libraries. --Library Journal Xpress, June 12, 2007 This fine book helps dispel the fear and misinformation about Down syndrome that many parents and prospective parents face. As these deft essays convey, the world would be a sweeter place with more Down syndrome citizens, not fewer. --George F. Will GIFTS is a recipient of the prestigious Mom's Choice Award. The Mom's Choice Awards honors excellence in family-friendly media, products, and services. An esteemed panel of judges includes education, media and other experts as well as parents, children, librarians, performing artists, producers, medical and business professionals, authors, scientists and others. A sampling of the panel members includes: Dr. Twila C. Liggett, Ten-time Emmy-winner, professor and founder of Reading Rainbow; Julie Aigner-Clark, Creator of Baby Einstein and The Safe Side Project; Jodee Blanco New York Times Best-Selling Author; LeAnn Thieman, Motivational speaker and coauthor of seven Chicken Soup For The Soul books; Tara Paterson, Certified Parent Coach, and founder of the

Mom's Choice Awards. Parents and educators look for the Mom's Choice Awards seal in selecting quality materials and products for children and families. This book/product has been honored by this distinguished award. --Mom's Choice AwardsGIFTS is a recipient of the prestigious Mom's Choice Award. The Mom's Choice Awards honors excellence in family-friendly media, products, and services. An esteemed panel of judges includes education, media and other experts as well as parents, children, librarians, performing artists, producers, medical and business professionals, authors, scientists and others. A sampling of the panel members includes: Dr. Twila C. Liggett, Ten-time Emmy-winner, professor and founder of Reading Rainbow; Julie Aigner-Clark, Creator of Baby Einstein and The Safe Side Project; Jodee Blanco New York Times Best-Selling Author; LeAnn Thieman, Motivational speaker and coauthor of seven Chicken Soup For The Soul books; Tara Paterson, Certified Parent Coach, and founder of the Mom's Choice Awards. Parents and educators look for the Mom's Choice Awards seal in selecting quality materials and products for children and families. This book/product has been honored by this distinguished award. --Mom's Choice Awards

About the Author Kathryn Lynard Soper is the mother of seven children. Her youngest, Thomas, born in 2005, was diagnosed with Down syndrome at birth. Kathryn received a BA in English from Brigham Young University in 1993. She is president of Segullah Group, Inc., a non-profit producer of personal writings, and is editor of Segullah, a literary journal by and for Latter-day Saint (Mormon) women. She is currently writing a memoir about her first year with Thomas. Kathryn lives with her husband, Reed, and their children in the mountain west.