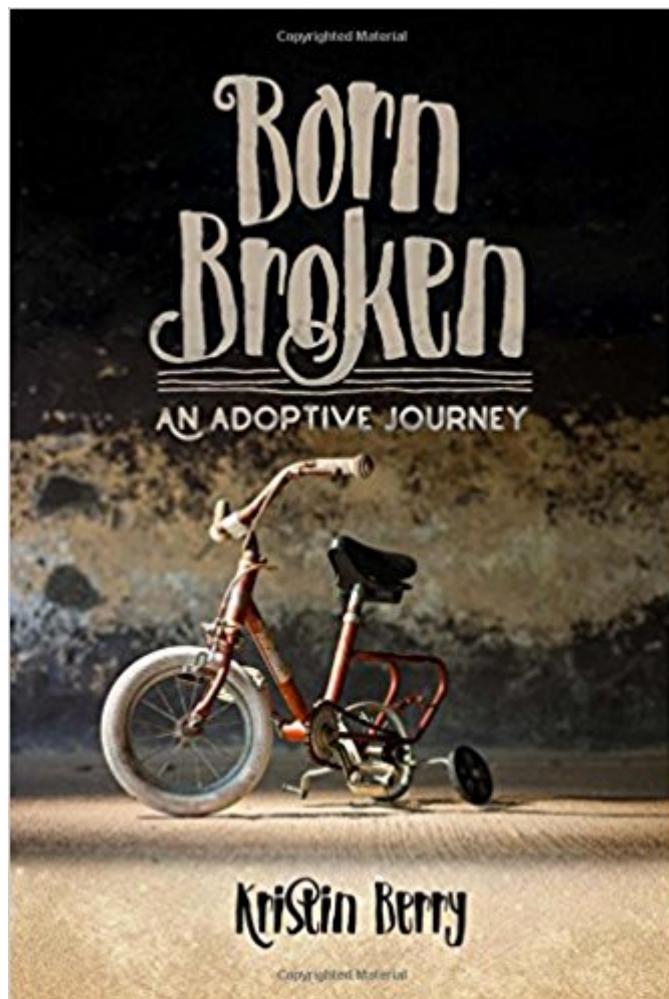


The book was found

Born Broken: An Adoptive Journey



Synopsis

A must read for prospective adoptive and foster parents as well as those already in the trenches of caring for a child affected by fetal substance abuse, early childhood trauma, abandonment, and attachment issues. Kristin Berry tells her family's story honestly, and does not shy away from the challenges she and her family has faced, including isolation and depression. Written with her son's blessings, in the hopes that others will learn about and understand what it is like to live with FASD... "Mom you need to write the truth. It is hard to live with FASD. I hate that I have hurt people. I hate that school is hard. I hate that I always make the wrong choice. I hate living like this. People need to know what this is like. People need to know that drinking while pregnant is never okay. People need to know!" The story began like a dream— A child is born with all the possibilities of a bright future. Nearby, a loving family waits for the son they have always dreamed of. When they become a family, little league, playdates, birthday parties and college scholarships all seem within the grasp of this all-American family. But when the fairy tale ended— The family realizes their precious child is struggling with the most basic developmental milestones, and they vow to love him more. However, the truth of their son's condition is something that even the strongest family could not undo. His brain has been damaged by alcohol before he was even born. Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder is the leading cause of birth defects and developmental disabilities in the United States— and there is no cure. One family's powerful story of faith began. The fight to advocate for their son in a world that did not understand left this family feeling exhausted and hopeless. The isolation of their reality almost destroyed their marriage and their family, until they found strength in a community they never knew existed. They found families that were struggling too. They stepped out of isolation and together they found faith and hope once again.

Book Information

Paperback: 160 pages

Publisher: New Leaf Press (March 28, 2017)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0892217545

ISBN-13: 978-0892217540

Product Dimensions: 5.4 x 0.4 x 8.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 40 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #58,750 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #10 in Books > Medical Books >

Medicine > Internal Medicine > Pediatrics > Perinatology & Neonatology #41 in Books > Parenting & Relationships > Adoption #191 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Christian Living > Family

Customer Reviews

Kristin weaves threads of hope and humor throughout an authentic representation of the challenges endured on her adoption journey. Kristin's writing is a perfect blend of authenticity and hope wrapped refreshingly in humor. --Michele Schneidler, Pastor of Orphan Care, Overlake Christian Church

Born Broken is an invaluable resource for anyone who is caring for a child who comes from a traumatic background. Kristin's real-life examples, heart-felt stories, and practical advice are the perfect recipe for hope on this journey. --Ira J. Chasnoff, MD, President, NTI Upstream

Once I started reading Born Broken, I couldn't put it down. I felt I was walking through Kristin's story, and in some small way, she was walking through mine. Kristin would understand my family like very few people can. Kristin weaves a beautiful tapestry of honesty, raw emotion, and hope into a single book. I highly recommend Born Broken to everyone parenting a child with a history of trauma and to anyone walking alongside them. --Lisa Qualls, Mom by birth, adoption, and foster care

Writer/Speaker/Encourager at onethankfulmom.com

Kristin Berry is the former foster mom to 22 children, mom of 8 fantastic children, (all of whom are adopted), mother-in-law to two fine young men, and grandmother to the cutest little grand-daughter on earth. She has been married to Mike since college, and together they write and speak for confessionsofanadoptiveparent.com a ministry they started after two of their sons were diagnosed with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD).

This book is so genuinely and thoughtfully written. It would be such a helpful read for any family coping with a child who has FASD or other trauma, or parenting a child living outside of your home. The author writes in such a raw and vulnerable way that makes it easy to connect to the story, especially as a mother. It was hard to put down and I finished it in just a couple of days. I'm a licensed clinical social worker and I found myself wanting to hand this out to colleagues and my mom friends too!

Kristin's tenderhearted memoir of raising her adoptive son Alexander drew me in, and I found myself bartering, "Only 3 more pages, then I HAVE to get the dishes done." And then of course I read the

whole next chapter, wholly ignoring the chores that needed my attention. As a foster and adoptive parent, I knew about FASD ... but I was naive about how it affects a whole family. As I expected, I will highly recommend this book to all foster and adoptive families. What I didn't expect is that I would recommend this book to all moms. Her vulnerability and candor about what it means to be an imperfect mom parenting a broken child had me sucking in my breath at times, thinking, "yeah, me too." Sure, our families look different. We have never had a FASD diagnosis. But I can definitely relate to loving with everything in me, still getting it wrong sometimes, and waiting for God's grace to come in where I have faltered. Overall, this is a beautiful testament to the power of family, of love, of vulnerability, and of hope in God's redemption.

With a daughter born with FASD and adopted by us a few years later, though she was placed at birth with us this is so where we are! I highly recommend this book to anyone out there raising or trying to understand a child with FASD! Prenatal alcohol exposure causes FASD and is the only 100% preventable birth defect! Zero alcohol x 9 months, period!

Kristin's intensely honest account took me through a range of emotions. I was in awe at the amount of difficulty she faced with each child-adopted, fostered, or blood, but especially Alexander and the pure love and understanding she treated every situation with. To go through so much for so many years and to keep striving for answers and solutions is truly amazing. The strength of their parenting is evident in the strength that all of the children exuded- even Alexander. God is truly at work in this family. Love. Faith. Patience. God Bless the rest of the family's journey.

Beautiful, heartbreak, endearing, heartwarming, and inspiring. Kristin whole heartedly and loving shares the true experience of an adoptive parent and a child with FAS. It is a beautiful read that I did not want to put down.

This is a great book. It was very easy to read. It is an honest, heartbreak true story of what drinking alcohol during pregnancy can do to an unborn child. I would highly recommend it to anyone struggling with a child with FASD.

As an adoptive parent to four daughters out of foster care, with four different biological families and four different traumas, I really felt Kristin sharing her story was inspiring and helpful. I will recommend this book to all on this journey, and all not on this journey, so there is more

understanding of how difficult it can be.

Wonderful book! As a foster/adoptive mom to five little ones I was drawn to Kristin's story. She tells her story with honesty and openness. I highly recommend this book!

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