

MICHAEL O'MARA BOOKS

A Real Boy

How Autism Shattered Our Lives –
And Made A Family From The Pieces
Christopher Stevens with Nicola Stevens

"This wonderfully honest book tells us a great deal, not only about autism, but also about the extraordinary tolerance and unselfishness that is born out of unequivocal love. At the same time, it reveals some uncomfortable truths about the struggle it takes to access the rights of those with disabilities in our so-called civilized society."

- Jane Asher, President of the National Autistic Society

A Real Boy is the incredibly moving story of one couple's experiences bringing up their severely autistic son, David.

- There are 535,000 autistic people in Britain (about 1% of the population)
- The condition is a thousand times more common than in the 1950s
- A further 2 million people either live with an autistic person or help to care for one

David is a happy, healthy and affectionate eleven-year-old boy. But he's also autistic: unable to speak more than a few words; barely capable of expressing his most basic needs; oblivious to danger; blind to other people's emotions.

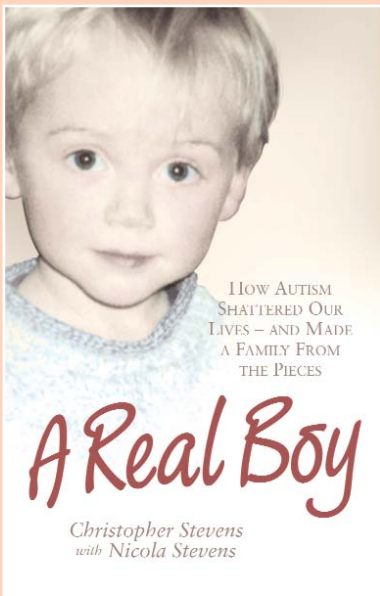
A Real Boy is David's story, and that of his parents who are raising him with humbling courage, love and humour. As they say, loving an autistic child is easy, but living with one is harder than could ever be imagined. It is a book that will make you laugh and cry, and a testament to ordinary people coping with extraordinary circumstances.



Media Opportunities

- Serial and extract rights available
- Christopher and Nicola available for interview
- Photographs and footage of David available
- Reader discount offers available

For more photos of David visit
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/arealboy/>



PB • £6.99

Publication date: 28 February 08

Author details:

Christopher Stevens is a writer and journalist. He has been a senior sub-editor at *The Observer* for the past ten years. Nicola Stevens is a qualified careers adviser, specialising in working with teenagers. Together they have two sons, and live in Bristol. They are available for interview.



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