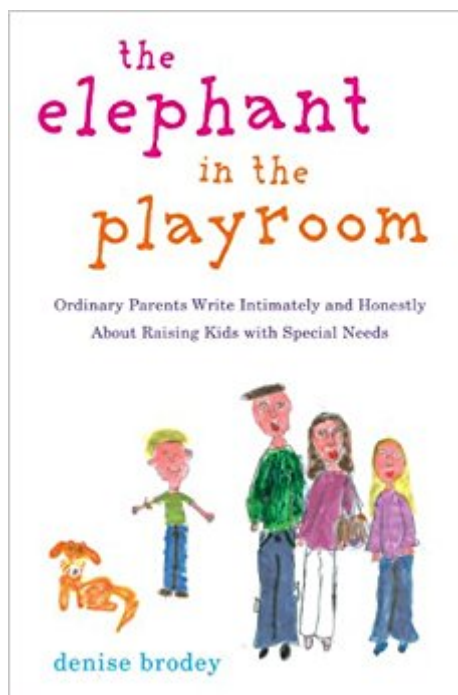




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# The Elephant In The Playroom: Ordinary Parents Write Intimately And Honestly About Raising Kids With Special N Eeds



## Synopsis

A view from within the whirlwind of parenting a child with special needs  
Four years ago, Denise Brodey's young son was diagnosed with a combination of special needs. As she struggled to make sense of her new, chaotic world, what she found comforted her most was talking with other parents of kids with special needs, learning how they coped with the emotional, medical, and social challenges they faced.  
In *The Elephant in the Playroom*, Brodey introduces us to a community of intrepid moms and dads who eloquently share the extraordinary highs and heartbreaking lows of parenting a child with ADD/ADHD, sensory disorders, childhood depression, autism, and physical and learning disabilities, as well as kids who fall between diagnoses. Hailing from Florida to Alaska, with kids ages three to thirty-three, the parents in this collection address everything from deciding to medicate a child to how they've learned to take care of themselves, offering readers comfort, kinship, and much-needed perspective.

## Book Information

Paperback: 256 pages

Publisher: Plume; Reprint edition (February 26, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0452289084

ISBN-13: 978-0452289086

Product Dimensions: 5.4 x 0.6 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 24 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #85,891 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #111 in Books > Parenting & Relationships > Special Needs > Disabilities #1508 in Books > Parenting & Relationships > Parenting

## Customer Reviews

Have you ever screamed at your special kid in frustration then thought you were the worst parent in the world? Have you ever gone a week without a shower because you were simply too exhausted? You are not alone, this book is full of real special needs parents telling their real stories, stories like yours. This book made me cry because I saw myself in so many stories and saw that I was not alone. When you try to tell your stories to parents of "normal" kids they look at you like you have 9 heads, but this book is full of special needs parents who went through what you are. This book was a God send.

Very, very encouraging reading others stories. It shows that we are not alone in the world and others are able to relate. I have cried while reading this book due to feeling empathy for these parents. I would recommend this to friends and family.

This was bought as a book for one of my classes. I love that the teacher included it. So much insight into the lives of those who deal with great difficulty but yet overcome. I've cried and felt compassion as well as empathy while reading heartfelt stories. My view of a child with a disability and their family has changed a little bit. My understanding of their situations and how frustrating life can be for them has given me a less judge mental outlook on them! Thank you for writing these, something I needed to read.

I love this book. Whenever I am having a hard day I pull it out and read it again. My favorite story in it starts out with 'today I did everything wrong'. I feel like that quite often and I love having stories that I can relate to. Whether you have children with special needs, work with children or just want to understand what it's like, I highly highly recommend this book.

Wonderful book

Was great to know I'm not the only one with an elephant in the room. There is strength in knowing others share your struggles. A lighter side book about coping with the hand your dealt.

I have a daughter with disabilities. This was a life saver for me when she was a baby. It gave me a glimpse into the struggles of other parents going through chaos similar to mine.

Great parent stories that I can relate too

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