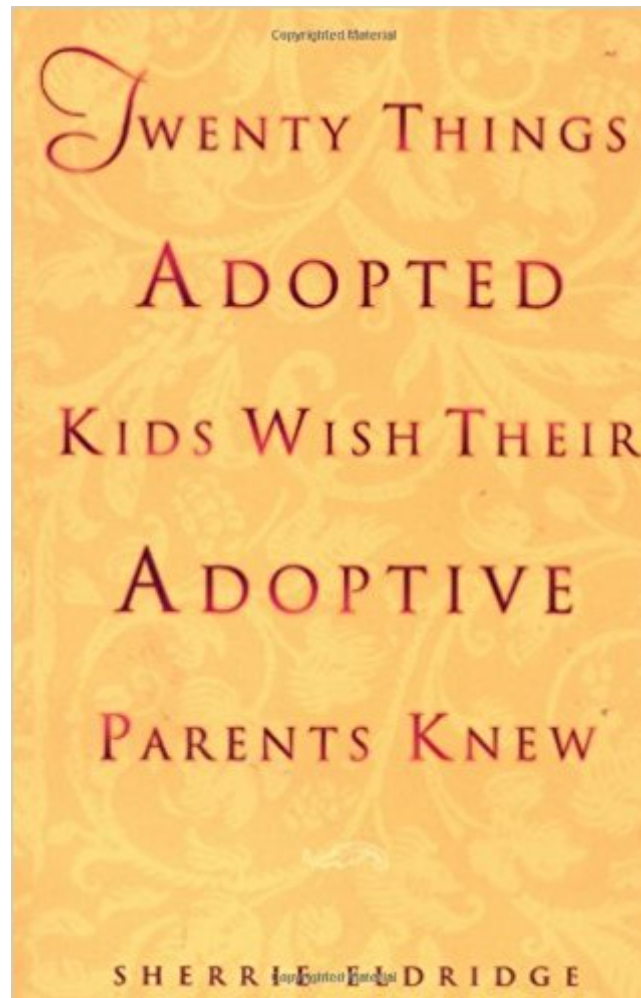




The book was found

Twenty Things Adopted Kids Wish Their Adoptive Parents Knew



Synopsis

"Birthdays may be difficult for me." "I want you to take the initiative in opening conversations about my birth family." "When I act out my fears in obnoxious ways, please hang in there with me." "I am afraid you will abandon me." The voices of adopted children are poignant, questioning. And they tell a familiar story of loss, fear, and hope. This extraordinary book, written by a woman who was adopted herself, gives voice to children's unspoken concerns, and shows adoptive parents how to free their kids from feelings of fear, abandonment, and shame. With warmth and candor, Sherrie Eldridge reveals the twenty complex emotional issues you must understand to nurture the child you love--that he must grieve his loss now if he is to receive love fully in the future--that she needs honest information about her birth family no matter how painful the details may be--and that although he may choose to search for his birth family, he will always rely on you to be his parents. Filled with powerful insights from children, parents, and experts in the field, plus practical strategies and case histories that will ring true for every adoptive family, *Twenty Things Adopted Kids Wish Their Adoptive Parents Knew* is an invaluable guide to the complex emotions that take up residence within the heart of the adopted child--and within the adoptive home.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

As both an adoptee and president of Jewel Among Jewels Adoption Network, Eldridge brings an original approach to the topic of adoption. In an attempt to inform adoptive parents of the unique issues adoptees face, she discusses adoptee anger, mourning, and shame and adoption acknowledgment while using case studies to illustrate how parents can better relate to their adopted

child. This book is solidly written but not without its flaws; most importantly, it lacks information concerning child development, e.g., whether parents should use the same approach to questions with a three-year-old as with a 14-year-old. Still, this book will go well in any collection dealing with adoption, complementing David M. Brodzinsky's *Being Adopted: The Lifelong Search for Self* (Anchor, 1993) and Joyce Maguire Pavao's *The Family of Adoption* (Beacon, 1998). AMee-Len Hom, Hunter Coll. Lib., New York Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.

"This is the book I've been waiting for! For those of us who have an adopted child, it is crucial that we understand what the adoption process means to the adoptee. Sherrie's book warmly compels us to do just that." MARILYN MEBERG, speaker for Women of Faith Conferences, author of *Choosing the Amusing*, and *I'd Rather Be Laughing*. "Sherrie Eldridge has opened my eyes widely to the unique needs of my daughter and how to meet them." STEVE ARTERBURN, Founder of New Life Clinics and Women of Faith, author of many best-selling books including *The Seven-Minute Marriage Solution*. "So many questions about adoption remain unspoken, leaving children and parents paralyzed with confusion. Sherrie Eldridge gives voice to these questions as well as answers, offering hope and help." ELISA MORGAN, President of MOPS International "Here at last is a book adoptive parents have been waiting for. Author Sherrie Eldridge has reached into her own experience as an adoptee and comes forth with twenty important issues that adoptive parents need to know in order to effectively parent their adopted children. A book all adoptive parents should read!" NANCY VERRIER, MSW, author of *The Primal Wound, Coming Home to Self* "I now know that adoption was the core issue and the start of all my problems. Keep up the great work, as your book is more insightful and valuable than any the professionals have written." MARK HENDERSON, Scottsdale, Arizona As a psychiatrist who has worked with dozens of adoptive families, and as an adoptive father myself, I can appreciate the sensitivity, understanding, common sense, and helpful suggestions given in this book. Sherrie has thrown the light of appreciation and understanding on the unique issues that often lie buried in the corners of adoptees' lives. -- Foster W. Cline, M.D., internationally acclaimed child and adult psychiatrist and co-author of *PARENTING WITH LOVE AND LOGIC* What a useful book! Sherrie Eldridge has illuminated many issues adoptees and adoptive families face. Many books have addressed problems in adoption, but Eldridge tackles the real villain: unresolved loss and grief issues and the trauma that precedes all adoptions. [This book] is a gift to everyone involved in adoption. Eldridge's personal disclosures add a level of warmth and genuineness and yet do not overshadow her message but rather focus and heighten it. I am adding this book to my list of highly recommended books. -- Gregory C. Keck, Ph.D., founder/director of the

Attachment and Bonding Center of Ohio and co-author of ADOPTING THE HURT CHILD

Sherry Eldredge has written an exceptional book in which she draws back the curtain of privacy to share the complex experience of being adopted. As an adoptive mom and an adoption coach, adoption is a central issue to my life and is a topic I care about deeply. Adoptive parents--if you only read a few books on the issue, make sure this is top on the list whether your child is an infant, an adult or somewhere in between. If your child is old enough, read it together; it will provide a great opportunity for opening discussions. You will receive insight, compassion and empathy for your child's struggles and will have understandings that will support you both. Adoption is a wonderful way to build a family and it is complicated with issues that, when addressed, assuage the grief and loss and assist the child in braiding together the strands of his/her dual heritage. Adoptees--if you struggle with feelings around being adopted, Sherry's book gives a voice and a shape to complex emotions and ideas and generates a community of like-minded individuals with a common experience.--Gayle H. Swift, author, "ABC, Adoption & Me: A Multicultural Picture Book, adoption coach, adoptive parent and co-founder of GIFT Family Services

This book is a MUST read for soooo many different reasons.....

Very very good book. Wish I would have read this when my children were younger so I knew what they were going through. I didn't read it until my daughter was 21 and had reconnected with birth mother and spent the summer with her. I felt like I had lost her...reading this was so enlightening to me and it helped me to be able to let go and let her experience what she needed in her life to fill those gaps. It was the best thing that ever happened. Our relationship is SO much better as a result. Would recommend for anyone who is adopting or who has adopted, even if their children are older.

Better books out there than this.

I LOVE this book!!! As a parent of an adopted child I always wanted him to embrace the fact that he was adopted. This book was very eye opening as to the feelings and insights of children who are adopted. The topics discussed in the book have long been discussed between my son and I. It is a wonderful conversation starter. I was not aware of all the issues an adopted child CAN experience. This book really brought some of the issues to the forefront and allowed my son and I to have a completely open conversation about what he is feeling!!!! It is a must read for anyone who has

adopted or is thinking about adopting a child!!! Adopting my son was the BEST think I EVER did!!!

We had heard some negative comments about this book before reading... but being part of an adoptive family and soon to be our own adoptive family... I can say nothing but good about this book. If you're not familiar with adoption, then let this book change how you may view adoption. Some chapters may be difficult to swallow since the "20 things" help disarm adoptive parents' expectations and misunderstandings. This is a quick read and will be a useful framework to start understanding an adoptive family.

If you are at all involved in adoption - care giver, adoptee, social worker, counselor, friend - then read this. This one book will equip you with the ability to unpack your own thoughts on the matter, as well as care for those who are involved with greater empathy.

Wow. Excellent. Extremely powerful, I would recommend this book for everyone considering adoption, adoptive parents and adoptees. This is wonderfully healing on so many levels. Thank you, Sherrie!

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