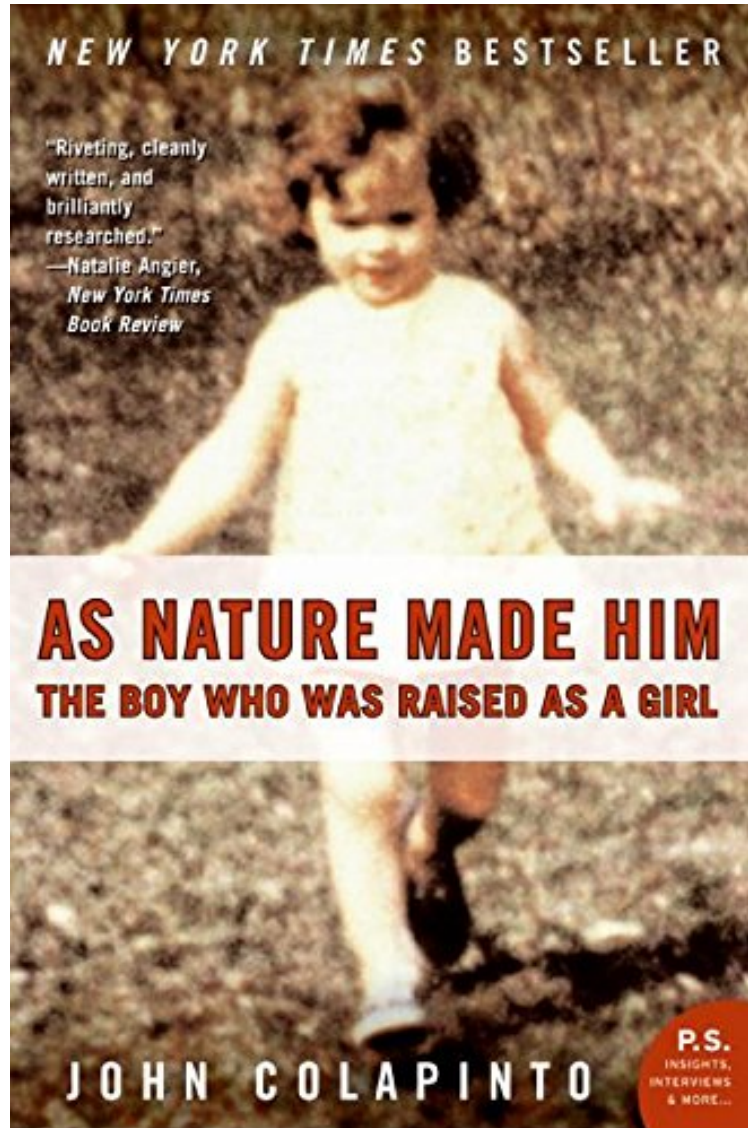


(Download) As Nature Made Him: The Boy Who Was Raised as a Girl

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John Colapinto

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#80195 in Books John Colapinto 2006-08-08 2006-08-08 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.00 x .76 x 5.311, .65 #File Name: 0061120561336 pages As Nature Made Him The Boy Who Was Raised as a Girl | File size: 44.Mb

John Colapinto : As Nature Made Him: The Boy Who Was Raised as a Girl before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised As Nature Made Him: The Boy Who Was Raised as a Girl:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A must for anyone interested in gender identity. By Customer This was required reading for a Human Sexuality course that I took in college and it surprisingly became one of my favorite books. This story was very heartbreaking and an eye opening examination on gender identity. After finishing this book, I looked up David Reimer and was very saddened to find out that he had committed suicide awhile after this book was

published. Also, his twin brother Brian had killed himself 2 years prior to his death. I think John Colapinto wrote a very honest account of what the Reimer twins endured throughout their lives. David's story will hopefully provide genuine incite to many people discovering their own gender identity or who have had similar experiences.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Must read for psychology studentsBy Bio nerdThis book was one recommended to me by a Doctor of Psychology. It is a story that galvanized the nature nurture debate in the 70-90's. It also shows the hidden side of research where influence from an esteemed college ,even that of John Hopkins, can be led astray by unethical research practices! But more than this , this story of early age sex reassignment can cause tremendous trauma to a child!1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. FascinatingBy Vicki MichelsI'm in process of reading this right now -- it is quite fascinating how the arrogant doctor refused to acknowledge that there might have been an error. I was in school during this time -- majoring in social psychology -- and I do remember the strong emphasis on "nurture" as controlling development. I also was involved in the women's movement, with the firm approach that women and men were the same.I am also the mother of five children. And I know, from personal experience, that genetic factors control virtually everything. I just located a daughter I'd put up for adoption 30 years ago. And when we were first getting acquainted at breakfast, I was astonished to see a mannerism that I've noticed in only one other person -- my husband's niece!This book is fascinating.

In 1967, after a twin baby boy suffered a botched circumcision, his family agreed to a radical treatment that would alter his gender. The case would become one of the most famous in modern medicineand a total failure. As Nature Made Him tells the extraordinary story of David Reimer, who, when finally informed of his medical history, made the decision to live as a male. A macabre tale of medical arrogance, it is first and foremost a human drama of one man'sand one family'samazing survival in the face of terrible odds.

.com Once you begin reading As Nature Made Him, a mesmerizing story of a medical tragedy and its traumatic results, you absolutely won't want to put it down. Following a botched circumcision, a family is convinced to raise their infant son, Bruce, as a girl. They rename the child Brenda and spend the next 14 years trying to transform him into a her. Brenda's childhood reads as one filled with anxiety and loneliness, and her fear and confusion are present on nearly every page concerning her early childhood. Much of her pain is caused by Dr. Money, who is presented as a villainous medical man attempting to coerce an unwilling child to submit to numerous unpleasant treatments. Reading over interviews and reports of decisions made by this doctor, it's difficult to contain anger at the widespread results of his insistence that natural-born gender can be altered with little more than willpower and hormone treatments. The attempts of his parents, twin brother, and extended family to assist Brenda to be happily female are touching--the sense is overwhelmingly of a family wanting to do "right" while being terribly mislead as to what "right" is for her. As Brenda makes the decision to live life as a male (at age 14), she takes the name David and begins the process of reversing the effects of estrogen treatments. David's ultimately successful life--a solid marriage, honest and close family relationships, and his bravery in making his childhood public--bring an uplifting end to his story. Equally fascinating is the latest segment of the longtime nature/nurture controversy, and the interviews of various psychological researchers and practitioners form a larger framework around David's struggle to live as the gender he was meant to be. --Jill LightnerFrom Publishers WeeklyForget sugar, spice, snails and puppy dog tails: discussions of how little boys and little girls are made have become quite complicated over the past three decades, as scientists, feminists and social theorists debate the relative impact of "nature" and "nurture" on gender and sexual identity. Focusing on the real-life story behind sexologist Dr. John Money's famous sexual reassignment case of 1965, Colapinto, an award-winning journalist, has penned a gripping medical melodrama. After Bruce Thiessen, one of two identical male twins, lost his penis during a botched circumcision, he underwent surgery that made him anatomically female, later received estrogen injections and was raised as a girl under Money's supervision at the Psychohormonal Research Unit at Johns Hopkins. All of Money's reports of the case--which quickly appeared in textbooks as a prime example of environment trumping biology--portrayed Bruce (now Brenda) as a well-adjusted girl, although the reality was quite different. Angry, sullen and having always insisted that "she" was a boy, Brenda finally decided at age 15--after "she" finally learned of the surgery--to revert to her original sex and take the name David. Drawing on extensive interviews with the Thiessen family, "Brenda"'s therapists and friends, Colapinto has written a wrenching personal narrative and a scathing indictment of Money's methods and theories, including instances of what Colapinto and David Thiessen see as extraordinarily invasive behavior and sexual abuse in his examinations of "Brenda" and her twin brother. Although Colapinto runs into trouble when he tries to generalize about nature vs. nurture from this single case, his book is illuminating, frightening and moving. (Feb.) Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc.From School Library JournalYA-A sorrowful account of a healthy male baby who, after suffering from a botched circumcision, was surgically altered and raised as a girl. Beyond that, it is the story of a psychologist from Johns Hopkins who would not see that the transsexual "remedy" was a grievous error since that admission meant the loss of the fame, power, and acceptance gained from his theories on gender identity. The book is in actuality a reporting of the facts of the case: the medical diagnosis; the surgery; the results; and the terrible effects the gender switch had on Bruce

Reimer (soon to be Brenda), her twin, and their parents. By adolescence, despite hormone treatments, Brenda's misery was so complete that a switch back to the gender of birth was inescapable. Thus was David born. The tragedy of this family was compounded by the details of the famous Dr. Money's refusal to accept the failure of this treatment. One is forced to wonder how many other children who are afflicted with genital anomalies, whether from physician error or from a congenital defect, have suffered due to the ongoing nature versus nurture debate of scientists. This is a compelling story that will educate teens about some serious physical, psychological, and scientific issues. Because of interviews on television recently, David Reimer's story may already be familiar to many of them. Carol DeAngelo, Kings Park Library, Burke, VA Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc.