

Book Description

Candid, Vulnerable, Informative, Inspirational

From Laurie L. Hellmann—an autism warrior mom and rising star in the world of special-needs advocacy—comes a book that gives voice to the voiceless. When her son, Skyler, was three years old, he was diagnosed with severe, non-verbal autism. Welcome to My Life: A Personal Parenting

Journey Through Autism is a courageous memoir written with the intent that others might finally understand what families face when raising a child who relies on parental assistance for every need.

From page one, Welcome to My Life delivers on its promise to place you squarely in Skyler's life, surrounded by mom and dad, Laurie and Josh, and superstar sister, Kendall. Detailed sensory descriptions take you to doctors' appointments and trick-or-treating, to Qdoba and the kitchen table, to the bathroom for another "pull-ups" change, to family gatherings, to the Autism Center, and to conversations and internal dialogue so authentic that you'll feel like you're part of the family too.

For people who have wondered how "other families live" and for those who have traveled a similar autism journey and need to know they are not alone, this brutally honest and heartwarming account welcomes you to the family and offers insights and perspectives that will change you for the better.