

A CHILD CALLED IT

A CHILD CALLED IT IS A POWERFUL AND HARROWING MEMOIR THAT DETAILS THE SEVERE ABUSE ENDURED BY DAVE PELZER DURING HIS EARLY CHILDHOOD. THIS BOOK HAS BECOME A SIGNIFICANT WORK IN THE FIELD OF CHILD ABUSE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION, SHEDDING LIGHT ON THE HARSH REALITIES FACED BY MANY CHILDREN IN ABUSIVE HOUSEHOLDS. THE NARRATIVE PROVIDES A FIRSTHAND ACCOUNT OF PHYSICAL AND EMOTIONAL MALTREATMENT, ILLUSTRATING THE RESILIENCE OF THE HUMAN SPIRIT IN THE FACE OF UNIMAGINABLE ADVERSITY. THIS ARTICLE EXPLORES THE BACKGROUND OF "A CHILD CALLED IT," ITS IMPACT ON SOCIETY, THE THEMES IT PRESENTS, AND THE LESSONS IT IMPARTS. ADDITIONALLY, IT EXAMINES THE PSYCHOLOGICAL AND SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF CHILD ABUSE AS DESCRIBED IN PELZER'S STORY, MAKING IT A CRUCIAL REFERENCE FOR EDUCATORS, SOCIAL WORKERS, AND POLICYMAKERS.

- BACKGROUND AND OVERVIEW OF "A CHILD CALLED IT"
- THEMES AND MESSAGES IN THE MEMOIR
- THE IMPACT OF "A CHILD CALLED IT" ON SOCIETY
- PSYCHOLOGICAL EFFECTS OF CHILD ABUSE HIGHLIGHTED IN THE BOOK
- PREVENTION AND AWARENESS OF CHILD ABUSE

BACKGROUND AND OVERVIEW OF "A CHILD CALLED IT"

"A CHILD CALLED IT" IS THE FIRST BOOK IN A TRILOGY WRITTEN BY DAVE PELZER, PUBLISHED IN 1995. IT RECOUNTS HIS EXPERIENCES AS ONE OF THE MOST SEVERELY ABUSED CHILDREN IN CALIFORNIA HISTORY. THE MEMOIR DETAILS THE NEGLECT AND BRUTALITY INFLICTED UPON HIM BY HIS MOTHER DURING THE LATE 1970S, CHRONICLING EVENTS FROM HIS EARLY YEARS THROUGH HIS EVENTUAL RESCUE BY AUTHORITIES. THE BOOK PROVIDES A RAW AND UNFILTERED PERSPECTIVE ON CHILD ABUSE, PORTRAYING THE CHALLENGES PELZER FACED IN SURVIVING SUCH EXTREME CONDITIONS. ITS CANDID NARRATIVE HAS MADE IT A WIDELY READ AND DISCUSSED BOOK IN EDUCATIONAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL CIRCLES.

AUTHOR'S BACKGROUND

DAVE PELZER'S BACKGROUND SIGNIFICANTLY INFLUENCES THE AUTHENTICITY OF "A CHILD CALLED IT." BORN IN 1960, PELZER ENDURED YEARS OF ABUSE THAT LEFT DEEP EMOTIONAL AND PHYSICAL SCARS. HIS SURVIVAL STORY AND SUBSEQUENT ADVOCACY WORK HAVE PROVIDED VALUABLE INSIGHTS INTO THE LONG-TERM EFFECTS OF CHILDHOOD TRAUMA. PELZER'S MOTIVATION TO SHARE HIS STORY WAS TO RAISE AWARENESS AND INSPIRE CHANGE IN HOW SOCIETY ADDRESSES CHILD ABUSE CASES.

SUMMARY OF THE MEMOIR

THE MEMOIR BEGINS WITH PELZER'S SEEMINGLY NORMAL CHILDHOOD THAT QUICKLY TURNS INTO A NIGHTMARE AS HIS MOTHER'S BEHAVIOR DETERIORATES. THE ABUSE INCLUDES STARVATION, PHYSICAL PUNISHMENT, AND PSYCHOLOGICAL TORMENT. DESPITE THESE HARDSHIPS, PELZER DEMONSTRATES REMARKABLE RESILIENCE AND DETERMINATION TO OVERCOME HIS CIRCUMSTANCES. THE BOOK ENDS WITH HIS RESCUE AND PLACEMENT INTO FOSTER CARE, MARKING THE BEGINNING OF A NEW CHAPTER IN HIS LIFE.

THEMES AND MESSAGES IN THE MEMOIR

"A CHILD CALLED IT" EXPLORES SEVERAL CRITICAL THEMES THAT RESONATE WITH READERS AND PROFESSIONALS WORKING

WITH ABUSED CHILDREN. THESE THEMES PROVIDE A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF THE COMPLEXITIES SURROUNDING CHILD MALTREATMENT AND RECOVERY.

RESILIENCE AND SURVIVAL

ONE OF THE PRIMARY THEMES IS RESILIENCE. PELZER'S STORY EMPHASIZES THE HUMAN CAPACITY TO ENDURE AND SURVIVE DESPITE SEVERE ADVERSITY. HIS ABILITY TO MAINTAIN HOPE AND FIGHT FOR SURVIVAL SERVES AS AN INSPIRATIONAL MESSAGE TO OTHERS FACING SIMILAR CHALLENGES.

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

THE MEMOIR OFFERS AN UNVARNISHED LOOK AT CHILD ABUSE, INCLUDING PHYSICAL, EMOTIONAL, AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HARM. IT HIGHLIGHTS THE VARIOUS FORMS ABUSE CAN TAKE AND THE LASTING DAMAGE IT CAUSES TO VICTIMS. THE BOOK SERVES AS AN EDUCATIONAL TOOL TO HELP IDENTIFY SIGNS OF ABUSE AND UNDERSTAND ITS PROFOUND IMPACT.

FAMILY DYSFUNCTION

PELZER'S EXPERIENCES UNDERScore THE CONSEQUENCES OF FAMILY DYSFUNCTION AND THE BREAKDOWN OF PROTECTIVE PARENTING. THE NARRATIVE ILLUSTRATES HOW ABUSE OFTEN OCCURS WITHIN THE FAMILY SETTING, COMPLICATING DETECTION AND INTERVENTION EFFORTS.

THE IMPACT OF "A CHILD CALLED IT" ON SOCIETY

SINCE ITS PUBLICATION, "A CHILD CALLED IT" HAS HAD A SUBSTANTIAL IMPACT ON PUBLIC AWARENESS ABOUT CHILD ABUSE AND THE IMPORTANCE OF CHILD WELFARE SYSTEMS. IT HAS BEEN USED EXTENSIVELY IN SCHOOLS, SOCIAL WORK TRAINING, AND ADVOCACY PROGRAMS TO EDUCATE ABOUT THE REALITIES OF ABUSE.

RAISING AWARENESS

THE BOOK HAS BROUGHT INCREASED ATTENTION TO THE PREVALENCE OF CHILD ABUSE, ENCOURAGING COMMUNITIES TO BE VIGILANT AND PROACTIVE IN PROTECTING CHILDREN. IT HAS INSPIRED MANY SURVIVORS TO SHARE THEIR OWN STORIES AND SEEK HELP.

INFLUENCE ON CHILD PROTECTION POLICIES

WHILE THE MEMOIR ITSELF IS A PERSONAL NARRATIVE, ITS WIDESPREAD READERSHIP HAS INFLUENCED CHILD PROTECTION POLICIES BY EMPHASIZING THE NEED FOR EARLY INTERVENTION AND COMPREHENSIVE SUPPORT SERVICES FOR ABUSED CHILDREN.

PSYCHOLOGICAL EFFECTS OF CHILD ABUSE HIGHLIGHTED IN THE BOOK

"A CHILD CALLED IT" PROVIDES INSIGHT INTO THE PSYCHOLOGICAL TRAUMA EXPERIENCED BY ABUSE VICTIMS, MAKING IT AN IMPORTANT RESOURCE FOR UNDERSTANDING THE MENTAL HEALTH CHALLENGES THAT CAN RESULT FROM MALTREATMENT.

POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER (PTSD)

PELZER'S RECOUNTING OF HIS EXPERIENCES ALIGNS WITH SYMPTOMS COMMONLY ASSOCIATED WITH PTSD, INCLUDING

FLASHBACKS, ANXIETY, AND EMOTIONAL NUMBNESS. THE MEMOIR HELPS ILLUSTRATE HOW CHILDHOOD TRAUMA CAN LEAD TO LONG-LASTING PSYCHOLOGICAL EFFECTS.

ATTACHMENT AND TRUST ISSUES

THE BOOK ALSO SHEDS LIGHT ON THE DIFFICULTY ABUSED CHILDREN FACE IN FORMING HEALTHY ATTACHMENTS AND TRUSTING OTHERS. PELZER'S STORY HIGHLIGHTS THE IMPORTANCE OF THERAPEUTIC SUPPORT TO ADDRESS THESE CHALLENGES DURING RECOVERY.

PREVENTION AND AWARENESS OF CHILD ABUSE

THE LESSONS DRAWN FROM "A CHILD CALLED IT" CONTRIBUTE TO ONGOING EFFORTS TO PREVENT CHILD ABUSE AND SUPPORT VICTIMS. THIS SECTION OUTLINES KEY STRATEGIES INFORMED BY THE BOOK'S REVELATIONS.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

EDUCATING PARENTS, TEACHERS, AND CAREGIVERS ABOUT THE SIGNS OF ABUSE AND PROPER CHILD CARE PRACTICES IS ESSENTIAL. TRAINING PROGRAMS OFTEN USE PELZER'S STORY TO ILLUSTRATE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NEGLECT AND ABUSE.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

COMMUNITIES PLAY A CRITICAL ROLE IN CHILD PROTECTION. AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS ENCOURAGE NEIGHBORS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO REPORT SUSPECTED ABUSE AND SUPPORT AFFECTED FAMILIES.

SUPPORT SERVICES

ACCESS TO COUNSELING, FOSTER CARE, AND REHABILITATION SERVICES IS VITAL FOR ABUSED CHILDREN'S RECOVERY. THE MEMOIR'S DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF TRAUMA UNDERSCORES THE NEED FOR COMPREHENSIVE CARE SYSTEMS.

- RECOGNIZE SIGNS OF PHYSICAL AND EMOTIONAL ABUSE
- ENCOURAGE OPEN COMMUNICATION WITH CHILDREN
- PROMOTE SAFE AND SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENTS
- ADVOCATE FOR STRONGER CHILD PROTECTION LAWS
- PROVIDE RESOURCES FOR PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION PROGRAMS

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT IS THE MAIN THEME OF 'A CHILD CALLED IT'?

THE MAIN THEME OF 'A CHILD CALLED IT' IS CHILD ABUSE AND SURVIVAL, FOCUSING ON THE AUTHOR'S TRAUMATIC CHILDHOOD AND HIS RESILIENCE.

WHO IS THE AUTHOR OF 'A CHILD CALLED IT'?

THE AUTHOR OF 'A CHILD CALLED IT' IS DAVE PELZER.

IS 'A CHILD CALLED IT' BASED ON A TRUE STORY?

YES, 'A CHILD CALLED IT' IS A MEMOIR BASED ON DAVE PELZER'S REAL-LIFE EXPERIENCES OF SEVERE CHILD ABUSE.

WHAT AGE RANGE IS 'A CHILD CALLED IT' APPROPRIATE FOR?

DUE TO ITS GRAPHIC CONTENT, 'A CHILD CALLED IT' IS GENERALLY RECOMMENDED FOR MATURE YOUNG ADULTS AND ADULTS, TYPICALLY AGES 14 AND UP.

HOW DID DAVE PELZER SURVIVE HIS ABUSIVE CHILDHOOD AS DESCRIBED IN 'A CHILD CALLED IT'?

DAVE PELZER SURVIVED BY RELYING ON HIS INNER STRENGTH, HOPE, AND DETERMINATION TO ESCAPE HIS ABUSIVE ENVIRONMENT.

WHAT IMPACT HAS 'A CHILD CALLED IT' HAD ON AWARENESS ABOUT CHILD ABUSE?

THE BOOK HAS RAISED SIGNIFICANT AWARENESS ABOUT CHILD ABUSE, ENCOURAGING DISCUSSIONS, PREVENTION EFFORTS, AND SUPPORT FOR SURVIVORS.

ARE THERE SEQUELS OR FOLLOW-UP BOOKS TO 'A CHILD CALLED IT'?

YES, DAVE PELZER WROTE SEQUELS INCLUDING 'THE LOST BOY' AND 'A MAN NAMED DAVE' WHICH CONTINUE HIS LIFE STORY AFTER THE EVENTS OF 'A CHILD CALLED IT.'

HAS 'A CHILD CALLED IT' BEEN ADAPTED INTO OTHER MEDIA?

AS OF NOW, 'A CHILD CALLED IT' HAS NOT BEEN OFFICIALLY ADAPTED INTO FILMS OR TV SERIES, BUT IT REMAINS A POWERFUL AND INFLUENTIAL MEMOIR WIDELY READ IN BOOK FORM.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

1. *A CHILD CALLED IT*

THIS AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL BOOK BY DAVE PELZER RECOUNTS HIS HARROWING CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES OF ABUSE AND NEGLECT. IT DETAILS THE SEVERE MISTREATMENT HE ENDURED AT THE HANDS OF HIS MOTHER AND HIS STRUGGLE FOR SURVIVAL. THE BOOK IS A POWERFUL TESTAMENT TO RESILIENCE AND THE STRENGTH OF THE HUMAN SPIRIT.

2. *THE LOST BOY: A FOSTER CHILD'S SEARCH FOR THE LOVE OF A FAMILY*

ALSO BY DAVE PELZER, THIS SEQUEL FOLLOWS HIS JOURNEY THROUGH THE FOSTER CARE SYSTEM AFTER BEING REMOVED FROM HIS ABUSIVE HOME. IT EXPLORES THEMES OF HOPE, HEALING, AND THE QUEST FOR BELONGING AS HE NAVIGATES NEW CHALLENGES.

3. *THE BEST BOY EVER*

THE THIRD BOOK IN PELZER'S SERIES, THIS MEMOIR DESCRIBES HIS TEENAGE YEARS AND EFFORTS TO REBUILD HIS LIFE. IT HIGHLIGHTS THE IMPORTANCE OF PERSEVERANCE AND THE IMPACT OF POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS IN OVERCOMING TRAUMA.

4. *HOPE'S BOY*

WRITTEN BY CHRISTIAN JENNINGS, THIS NOVEL IS INSPIRED BY TRUE EVENTS AND TELLS THE STORY OF A YOUNG BOY OVERCOMING ABUSE AND HARDSHIP. IT EMPHASIZES HOPE, COURAGE, AND THE POWER OF FAITH IN DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES.

5. *CHILDHOOD LOST: THE TRUE STORY OF A CHILD ABUSED AND NEGLECTED*

THIS NON-FICTION ACCOUNT OFFERS AN IN-DEPTH LOOK AT CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT, DRAWING PARALLELS TO THE

EXPERIENCES DEPICTED IN *A CHILD CALLED IT*. IT AIMS TO RAISE AWARENESS AND PROMOTE CHILD PROTECTION.

6. *BREAKING THE SILENCE: A SURVIVOR'S STORY OF CHILD ABUSE*

A MEMOIR THAT SHARES THE AUTHOR'S PERSONAL EXPERIENCE WITH ABUSE AND THE JOURNEY TOWARD HEALING. IT ENCOURAGES SURVIVORS TO SPEAK OUT AND SEEK HELP.

7. *INVISIBLE SCARS: HEALING FROM CHILDHOOD TRAUMA*

THIS BOOK FOCUSES ON THE EMOTIONAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL AFTERMATH OF CHILDHOOD ABUSE. IT PROVIDES GUIDANCE AND STRATEGIES FOR SURVIVORS TO RECLAIM THEIR LIVES AND FIND PEACE.

8. *BEHIND CLOSED DOORS: THE HIDDEN WORLD OF CHILD ABUSE*

AN INVESTIGATIVE WORK THAT UNCOVERS THE OFTEN UNSEEN REALITIES OF CHILD ABUSE IN SOCIETY. IT HIGHLIGHTS THE IMPORTANCE OF INTERVENTION AND SUPPORT SYSTEMS FOR VULNERABLE CHILDREN.

9. *FROM DARKNESS TO LIGHT: ONE CHILD'S JOURNEY TO RECOVERY*

A POWERFUL MEMOIR OF A CHILD OVERCOMING SEVERE ABUSE TO BUILD A NEW LIFE FILLED WITH HOPE AND OPPORTUNITY. IT INSPIRES READERS WITH ITS MESSAGE OF RESILIENCE AND TRANSFORMATION.

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a child called it: A Child Called It Dave Pelzer, 2010-06-24 A harrowing and inspiring true story of a young boy's abusive childhood, from international bestseller Dave Pelzer. 'A story where love, kindness, patience and endurance triumph' Daily Mail ***** Brutally beaten and starved by his emotionally unstable and alcoholic mother, Dave became a slave; he was no longer a boy, but an 'it'. His bed was an old army cot in the basement, his clothes torn and unwashed, and when he was allowed the luxury of food it was scraps from the dog's bowl. The outside world knew nothing of the nightmare played out behind closed doors. But throughout it all, Dave kept alive dreams of finding a family to love him. *A Child Called 'It'* shares the emotional story of the early years of his life, detailing the horrors of child abuse and the steadfast determination of one child to survive. It is the first book in the My Story trilogy. 'Heartfelt... cannot fail to move you' Heat

a child called it: A Child Called It Dave Pelzer, 1995-09-01 This book chronicles the unforgettable account of one of the most severe child abuse cases in California history. It is the story of Dave Pelzer, who was brutally beaten and starved by his emotionally unstable, alcoholic mother: a mother who played tortuous, unpredictable games--games that left him nearly dead. He had to learn how to play his mother's games in order to survive because she no longer considered him a son, but a slave; and no longer a boy, but an it. Dave's bed was an old army cot in the basement, and his clothes were torn and raunchy. When his mother allowed him the luxury of food, it was nothing more than spoiled scraps that even the dogs refused to eat. The outside world knew nothing of his living nightmare. He had nothing or no one to turn to, but his dreams kept him alive--dreams of someone taking care of him, loving him and calling him their son.

a child called it: A Child Called It Dave Pelzer, 2007-05-09 *A Child Called It*

a child called it: A Child Called "It" Dave Pelzer, 2008-01 Dave Pelzer was beaten and starved by his emotionally unstable, alcoholic mother. This book covers the early years of his life and is an affecting look at the horrors of child abuse and the determination of one child to survive against the odds.

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a child called it: *A Child Called It* Dave Pelzer, 2010-01-01 This book chronicles the unforgettable account of one of the most severe child abuse cases in California history. It is the story of Dave Pelzer, who was brutally beaten and starved by his emotionally unstable, alcoholic mother: a mother who played tortuous, unpredictable games--games that left him nearly dead. He had to learn how to play his mother's games in order to survive because she no longer considered him a son, but a slave; and no longer a boy, but an it. Dave's bed was an old army cot in the basement, and his clothes were torn and raunchy. When his mother allowed him the luxury of food, it was nothing more than spoiled scraps that even the dogs refused to eat. The outside world knew nothing of his living nightmare. He had nothing or no one to turn to, but his dreams kept him alive--dreams of someone taking care of him, loving him and calling him their son.

a child called it: *A Child Called "It" and the Lost Boy* Dave Pelzer, 1995

a child called it: *A Man Named Dave* Dave Pelzer, 1999-10-01 *A Man Named Dave*, which has sold over 1 million copies, is the gripping conclusion to Dave Pelzer's inspirational and New York Times bestselling trilogy of memoirs that began with *A Child Called It* and *The Lost Boy*. All those years you tried your best to break me, and I'm still here. One day you'll see, I'm going to make something of myself. These words were Dave Pelzer's declaration of independence to his mother, and they represented the ultimate act of self-reliance. Dave's father never intervened as his mother abused him with shocking brutality, denying him food and clothing, torturing him in any way she could imagine. This was the woman who told her son she could kill him any time she wanted to—and nearly did. The more than two million readers of Pelzer's New York Times and international bestselling memoirs *A Child Called It* and *The Lost Boy* know that he lived to tell his courageous story. With stunning generosity of spirit, Dave Pelzer invites readers on his journey to discover how he turned shame into pride and rejection into acceptance.

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a child called it: *Bonded to the Abuser* Amy J.L. Baker, PhD, Mel Schneiderman, 2015-05-07 Tens of thousands of children are removed from home each year due to some form of child maltreatment, usually physical neglect, physical abuse, or sexual abuse, although sometimes for emotional abuse as well. An additional significant number of children are victims of child maltreatment but remain in their home. Extensive research reveals the far reaching and long lasting negative impact of maltreatment on child victims, including on their physical, social, emotional, and behavioral functioning. One particularly troubling and complicated aspect is how the child victim forms (and maintains) a "traumatic bond" with his abuser, even becoming protective and defensive of that person despite the pain and suffering they have caused. This book will provide the reader with the essential experience of understanding how children make meaning of being maltreated by a parent, and how these traumatic bonds form and last. Through an examination of published memoirs of abuse, the authors analyze and reveal the commonalities in the stories to uncover the ways in which adult victims of childhood abuse understand and digest the traumatic experiences of their childhoods. This understanding can inform interventions and treatments designed for this vulnerable population and can help family and friends of victims understand more fully the maltreatment experience "from the inside out."

a child called it: *Thinking Themselves Free* Cynthia Miller Coffel, 2011 *Thinking Themselves*

Free presents humane, tender portraits of a small group of teen mothers trying to finish high school, and describes the ways in which reading, writing, and schooling shaped these young women's lives. The book suggests ways in which deeply held ideas about class, appropriate gender roles, and the expression of emotion in school affect educators' relationships with students who are different from the middle-class norm. Teachers of teen mothers describe with poignancy the young women's struggles to balance motherhood, work, and school, and suggest how schools could change to become more open to the diversity of life choice these women express. Because this book addresses the problems of struggling readers, working class students, and the teachers who serve them, its greatest audience will be among pre-service and in-service teachers and teacher educators interested in literacy education, qualitative research, education reform, gender equity, social justice, and the teaching of young adult literature.

a child called it: Roe's Hope: A Child called RAGE Carol L. Caudle, 2019-10-28 For a baby born dependent to Opioids his beginning would be painful, fearful and an unfair life. Moments after delivery, someone wrapped and stuffed Sage into a box, placing him in a closet of a restricted apartment building. Wandering the floors was a woman that heard Sage's frantic cries. Shortly thereafter, Sage had been taken to County General for examination, medical treatment and placed in the NICU ward. He was suffering from withdrawal symptoms, respiratory complications as well as yearning for his mother. Miss Eva Perez, Sage's birth mother has vanished. Leaving behind no evidence, clues or leads to help in tracking her. Eva, once finding out she was pregnant, sought treatment in an outpatient facility for her Heroin use. Meanwhile, Prosecuting Attorneys, Roe Wilson and Alex Carter were asked to help search for Eva. With concerns about her connection to a certain individual, Roe and Alex had to tread on thin ice. Being cautious not to spook and put this individual on the run.

a child called it: Dave Pelzer Set 4 Books. a Man Named Dave, a Child Called It, the Lost Boy, the Privilege of Youth Dave Pelzer, 2004-12

a child called it: The Lost Boy Dave Pelzer, 2000

a child called it: *Contesting Childhood* Kate Douglas, 2010-01-21 The late 1990s and early 2000s witnessed a surge in the publication and popularity of autobiographical writings about childhood. Linking literary and cultural studies, *Contesting Childhood* draws on a varied selection of works from a diverse range of authors—from first-time to experienced writers. Kate Douglas explores Australian accounts of the Stolen Generation, contemporary American and British narratives of abuse, the bestselling memoirs of Andrea Ashworth, Augusten Burroughs, Robert Drewe, Mary Karr, Frank McCourt, Dave Pelzer, and Lorna Sage, among many others. Drawing on trauma and memory studies and theories of authorship and readership, *Contesting Childhood* offers commentary on the triumphs, trials, and tribulations that have shaped this genre. Douglas examines the content of the narratives and the limits of their representations, as well as some of the ways in which autobiographies of youth have become politically important and influential. This study enables readers to discover how stories configure childhood within cultural memory and the public sphere.

a child called it: *Kicked Out* Judy Peck Shepard, 2010 An anthology which tells the stories of current and former homeless lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer youth.

a child called it: *Teens Choosing to Read* Gay Ivey, Peter Johnston, 2023 In a sea of troubling reporting about education, teaching, reading, and the wellbeing of teens, Ivey and Johnston bring some good news that shows what happens when we stop underestimating young people. This accessible book offers an engaging account of a 4-year study of adolescents who went from reluctant to enthusiastic readers. These youth reported that reading not only helped them manage their stress, but also helped them negotiate happier, more meaningful lives. This amazing transformation occurred when their teachers simply allowed them to select their own books, invited them to read, with no strings attached, and provided time for them to do so. These students, nearly all of whom reported a previously negative relationship with reading, began to read voraciously inside and outside of school; performed better on state tests; and transformed their personal, relational, emotional, and moral lives in the process. This illuminating book leads readers on a tour of

adolescents' reading lives in their own words, offering a long-overdue analysis of students' deep engagement with literature. The text also includes research to inform arguments about what students should and should not read and the consequences of limiting students' access to the books that interest them through censorship. Book Features: Links young adults' reading engagement with socio-emotional and intellectual development. Provides nuanced descriptions of teaching practices that facilitate student agency in learning. Features student voices that have been absent in debates about what is appropriate for young people to read and under what circumstances. Connects student perspectives on reading, with positive outcomes of reading, to research from other disciplines. Illuminates the breadth and depth of the responsibilities of teaching English language arts.

a child called it: A 4th Course of Chicken Soup for the Soul Jack Canfield, Mark Victor Hansen, 2012-09-18 The fourth installment in the Chicken Soup for the Soul series promises to be even more popular than its predecessors. The perfect gift for friends, family and business associates is now available in A 4th Course.

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