



Son Rise: The Miracle Continues

By Barry Neil Kaufman



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In 1979, the classic bestseller Son Rise was made into an award-winning NBC television special, which has been viewed by 300 million people worldwide. Now, Son Rise: The Miracle Continues presents not only the expanded and updated journal of Barry and Samahria Kaufman's successful effort to reach their "unreachable" child but goes beyond to include a sensitive portrayal of how that singular event has become a worldwide phenomenon.

When their son Raun was a year old, he began to withdraw from human contact. Diagnosed as autistic, Raun tested with an I.Q. of under 30. Experts offered no hope and advised institutionalizing him. Barry and Samahria refused to accept this prognosis. For several years they worked with Raun in a program of their own design, based on unconditional love and acceptance. By age three and a half, Raun was functioning above his age level — a bright and curious little person. The story of the Kaufmans' experience to this point makes up Part I of Son Rise: The Miracle Continues.

Part II continues Raun's story and describes the intervening years as the Kaufmans offered hope and healing to thousands of families with special-needs children. At age twenty, Raun attended a top university, and displayed a neargenius I.Q. Today, he shows no trace of his former condition.

Part III of the book highlights the moving stories of five families who, guided by the Kaufmans and the Son-Rise Program, have created "rebirths" for their own special children.



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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

The original Son-Rise (1976) described the family trauma of the author, his wife Samahria and their son Raun, who had been diagnosed as autistic, mentally retarded and untreatable. Rather than relegating Raun to permanent institutionalization, the Kaufmans designed a program of their own, which provided intensive therapy on a rigorous schedule that changed all of their lives. Did Raun continue to progress? In this book, that question is answered not only by the parents and extended family but also by Raun himself, now a college student and a participant in the family's educational foundation, The Option Institute and Fellowship, based in Sheffield, Mass. Testimonials from similarly afflicted families who practice the Kaufmans' techniques for treating the communications disorders of so-called "unreachable" children round out a heartwarming, inspiring chronicle that should offer hope to many. 50,000 first printing; \$50,000 ad/promo. Copyright 1993 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From Booklist

Kaufman, head of the Options Institute in Massachusetts, traces the difficulties he and his wife, Samahria, experienced with their autistic son, Raun. Readers first encountered Raun in 1976, with Kaufman's *Son-Rise*, and raising him--fighting a glum medical establishment and dubious child-care professionals--would have proved a daunting, even a hopeless, task for most. But the Kaufmans refused to be "realistic," insisting that Raun was truly special in their eyes and in God's, and with patience and cleverness, they broke through into Raun's deeply personal world. They steered him so much into the mainstream that he is in college now, an extrovert who contributed the introduction to his father's book. In fact, he writes better than his father, unaffectedly expressing his gratitude to his parents and his optimism for the future. The elder Kaufman has a terrific tale to tell, and his accounts of others who have benefited from his methods will make the reader grateful he and his wife are on the planet, but his incessant use of stock self-help and recovery phrases, such as, "I built barricades around my feelings" or "I had the opportunity to share personally," has a cloying effect. The message of this miracle-in-everyday-life book is nothing more than: Be optimistic. How you get to such a simple and joyous outlook is the problem; Raun's story, and that of his patient, loving parents, perhaps will instruct you. *John Mort*

Review

"Inspiring, groundbreaking, and visionary."— Deepak Chopra, M.D., author of Ageless Body, Timeless Mind

Users Review

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Ethel Ellis:

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Rebecca Esquivel:

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Noah Gardner:

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