

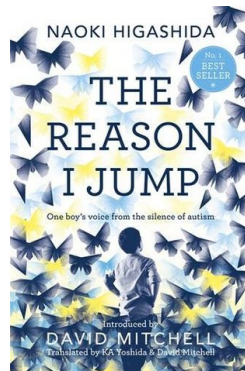
# Book Review: The Reason I Jump: One Boy's Voice from the Silence of Autism by Naoki Higashida

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*Table 1. The book*



Below is a review of the book “*The Reason I Jump: One Boy's Voice from the Silence of Autism*”, written by Naoki Higashida. The author writes about autism.

First of all, the author is an autistic man. He was born 1992 in Kimitsu, Japan and he received his original autism diagnosis in 1998. He has classic autism (Leo Kanner’s autism) and can’t talk effectively with speech. He developed an alternative communication system with an alphabet with his teacher. He wrote this book, because he wanted to show how he functions as an autistic person.

Autism is the most known human condition and many scholars have studied this condition. This remarkable book promotes the real image of autism and autistic individuals. He gives us an exceptional chance to enter the mind of another and see the world from a strange and fascinating perspective.

In this book there are 58 questions and answers from the author. He answers the most common questions, such as: Why do autistic individuals demonstrate stereotypical behaviors? Why do these people delay giving an answer to a question? Why can’t these people have eye contact? He gives answers in various fields, such as sensory issues and behavioral conditions.

Naoki Higashida gives a better understanding of autism and he wants to know if we want to understand autism from the part of autistics, we can teach effectively these students. He solves with his answers many misconceptions about this topic. The answers help us to open our eyes to the truth about autism. He also provides a better understanding of the difference between autistic and

neurotypical individuals. Furthermore, he wants to point out that autistic people are not disabled and they think, perceive and operate differently from others.

In this book you can find many examples, such as the issue concerning the time length that autistic individuals need to reply to a question. One aspect is that they tend to forget what they want to say. This of course doesn't suggest that they did not understand the question, but rather that the answer they wish to give needs to be first properly formulated and then contained in memory before being spoken.

Naoki Higashida describes that autistic people look like travelers from a distant past. The autistics are here to help the people to remember what really matters on Earth.

Finally, this book constitutes a guide for parents, general education teachers, special education teachers, speech therapists, occupational therapists, psychologists and music therapists. It is a light into the dark side of autism which many professionals see this from a negative perspective. If you want to learn more about this topic, you must read this book and believe me that the world of autism is very beautiful!