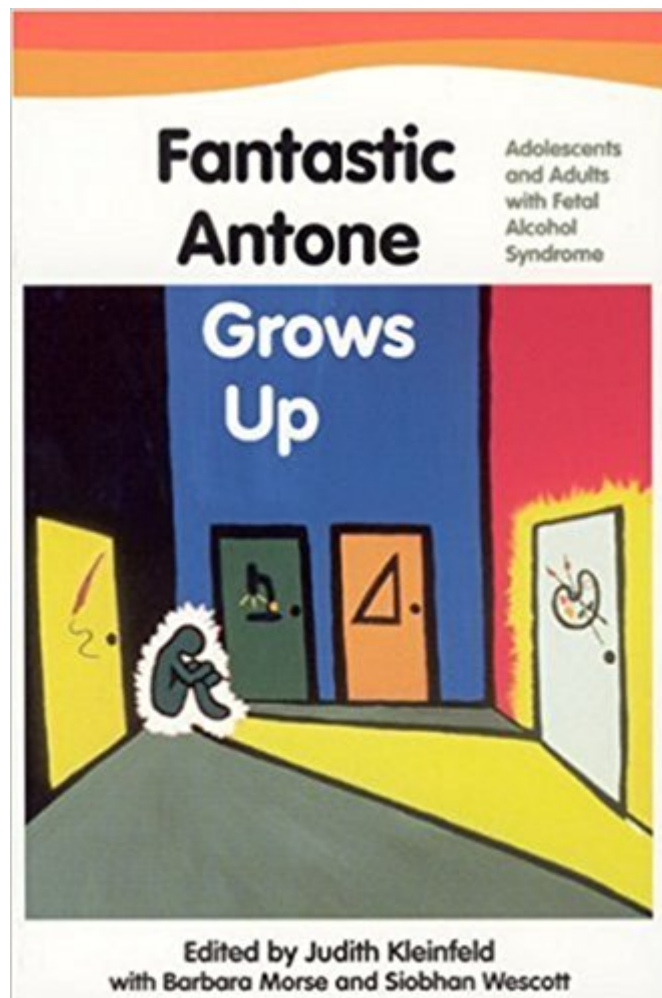




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Fantastic Antone Grows Up: Adolescents And Adults With Fetal Alcohol Syndrome



Synopsis

Fantastic Antone Grows Up is a field guide to life with an adolescent or young adult with fetal alcohol syndrome/effects. Under the best of circumstances, adolescence is a trying time for young people and their families. The budding adult seeks independence and autonomy while the resistant child within longs for protection and structure; questions about sexuality and work, social commitments, and solitary accomplishments loom large and can create a family battlefield. For the challenged and challenging young people with FAS/E, the circumstances as they begin maturing are never the best. In this sequel to *Fantastic Antone Succeeds*, young people with FAS/E and their caregivers report on their experiences coping with the problems of adolescence and young adulthood. Again the editors and authors have concentrated on the wisdom of practice, as they candidly convey which techniques worked and which did not during the difficult passages of the teenage years and beyond. The twenty-one chapters are grouped according to theme. Section one discusses the meaning of success for adolescents and adults with FAS/E -- the need to define success in new ways. Cindy Gere found her path to success, for example, through creative expression. She graduated from college with a degree in fine arts and successfully completed a program in art. Many of her paintings, including the one illustrating the cover of this book, provide a poignant and candid expression of what FAS/E means to her. Section two discusses strategies that work in areas such as counseling, education, sexuality, trouble with the law, and independent living. Section three covers what families need from the community, including innovative programs that help individuals with FAS/E, and how to get a diagnosis at adolescence. The book also contains important resources, organizations to contact, and internet addresses. More has been learned about how alcohol poisoning in the womb alters brain function and physical development since the release of *Fantastic Antone Succeeds*, but science is far from providing the answers that affected young people and their caregivers need. Until such answers are forthcoming, nothing can replace the voices of experience with their practical messages of coping, caring, loving, weeping, laughing, and -- more often than might be expected -- succeeding.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The sequel to *Fantastic Antone Succeeds!: Experiences in Educating Children with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome*, also edited by psychologist Kleinfeld, this work provides a glimpse into what it means to struggle through adolescence and adulthood with fetal alcohol syndrome (FAS). Told through the accounts of FAS sufferers, their parents, educators, and the professionals who work with them, this book shares practical lessons learned through experience and demonstrates why the methods used on young FAS children don't necessarily work when they're older. Kleinfeld also employs her own experiences to illustrate how she learned that techniques used successfully with other special-needs children often fail with FAS children. While the individual accounts point out the struggles and the failures, most highlight and celebrate the successes. The extensive bibliography and resource lists are extremely helpful. A welcome addition to consumer health, psychology, and education collections. DKellyJo Houtz Griffin, Eatonville, WA Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Judith Kleinfeld is founder and director of the Northern Studies program at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. She has published numerous books and articles, including *Gender Tales: Tensions in the Schools* (St. Martin's Press, 1995) and two books on fetal alcohol syndrome/effects, *Fantastic Antone Succeeds* and *Fantastic Antone Grows Up* (University of Alaska Press 1994, 2000).

You can find books articles and statistics very easily to tell you how the alcohol affected child will fail. As someone parenting a child affected I needed the hope this book brings by showing that some do succeed. The discussions of what helped them along the way give invaluable insight to a parent of things they can be doing NOW to try and give their child a better chance at a positive future. Thank you!!

I have really enjoyed this book! As a parent of an alcohol affected child, it has been fabulous to read the stories in this book about others who are also affected, and most importantly, to read of the success they are experiencing as they grow up in a world that does not always understand their need. I have gained a lot of empowerment from this book, and I believe that together my son and I can achieve the best for him now, unlike when we first found out about his diagnoses and were told of the very bleak future that lay ahead of us. Thank you also to for their swift and efficient service!

Parents must read.....

[..]Here is what I needed: a compendium of articles by young adults living with FAS/E and their parents, therapists, doctors, and caregivers. The book has three stated intentions: to provide examples of people living "successful" lives with FAS/E (and explanations of what that success means); to describe "strategies that work"; and to look at FAS/E from a community or holistic point of view. As a result, it errs a bit in the direction of optimism. It does not set out to cover the horror stories and nightmares, though enough sneak in by way of truth-telling that there is no gilding the lily. This form of brain damage is very, very difficult for everyone it touches, and many people with the disorder do end up in prison, on the streets, or dead before they're 25. But some young adults DO become relatively independent (if they have public services such as sheltered workshops, therapists, group homes, and income supplementation); some get married, and if they marry mature and capable people who are able to carry more than half the weight, some succeed in parenting, and/or finding jobs that satisfy them and use their special skills. That's quite a string of IFs, and yet the book opens a window on at least a distant possibility of life beyond the time when mom takes on the labor of supporting two households. I needed the view through that window. This is a really wonderful book. There's a little sappiness in it, because when you get parents talking about kids with disabilities, a certain amount of sentiment is naturally going to flow over the top; but for the most part, it's good science, good sense, and good human feeling.

Educators, caregivers and families will appreciate *Fantastic Antone Grows Up*, written by affected young people and their families, which provides a focus on adolescents and adults with fetal alcohol syndrome. The sequel to *Fantastic Antone Succeeds* reports on experiences coping with the problems of coming of age and the special challenges the syndrome presents.

I work with families with FASD's and this book is a great reference to pass along! The personal stories are very lovingly written and a heartwarming testimony to the agonies and joys of raising an alcohol-affected teen.

As legal guardian for for the past 7 years to a 15 year old FASD girl, this book is a valuable resource and enormously encouraging. I'm only on the 2nd chapter and already I can see a difference in attitude and action on my part and hers. A must-have for any parent, teacher or adult working with teens who are living with FASD. Gives insight from both the adult and child. Wish I'd read it 2 years ago to help prepare for these teen years. Life would have been a bit more peaceful.

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