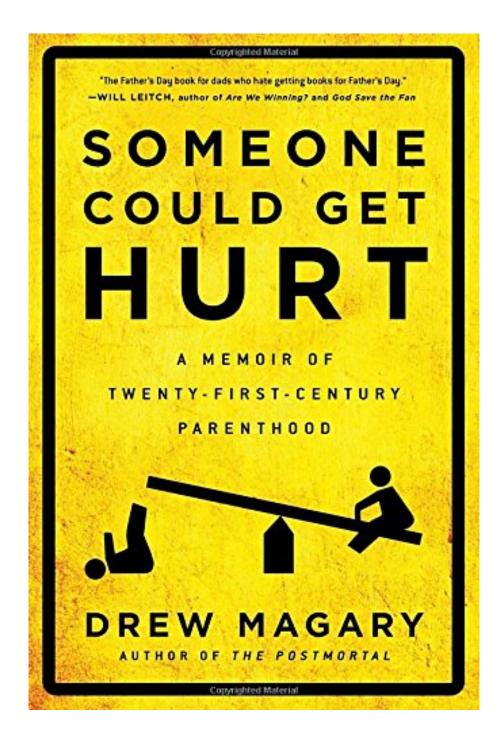


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A sharp, funny, and heartfelt memoir from the author of The Hike and The Postmortal about fatherhood and the ups and downs of raising a family in modern America

No one writes about family quite like Drew Magary. In Someone Could Get Hurt, he reflects on his own parenting experiences to explore the anxiety, rationalizations, compromises, and overpowering love that come with raising children.

In brutally honest and funny stories, Magary reveals how American mothers and fathers cope with being in over their heads—from getting drunk while trick-or-treating and telling dirty jokes to make bath time go smoothly to committing petty vandalism to bond with a five-year-old.

Someone Could Get Hurt offers a hilarious and heartfelt look at child rearing with a glimpse into the genuine love and compassion that accompany the missteps and flawed logic. It's the story of head lice, almost-dirty words, flat head syndrome, and a man trying to commit the ultimate act of selflessness in a selfish world.

- Sales Rank: #131875 in Books
- Published on: 2014-05-06
- Released on: 2014-05-06
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.02" h x .66" w x 5.26" l, .50 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 256 pages

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Most helpful customer reviews

26 of 26 people found the following review helpful.

Laugh out Loud Hilarious

By Lukester

People saying "LOL" is often misleading: are they really laughing out loud? But I can honestly say that I couldn't help laughing and had to try and stifle my laughs on my train commute as I read this book. A series of short stories of Magary's adventures in being a father of three children, this book will be instantly familiar to any parent. He doesn't shy away from the honest truth about parenthood: it's wonderful, but those kids can drive you crazy too. Magary manages to give a voice to all of those little thoughts every parent has but do their best to shove back down into the subconscious. He also discusses his relationship with his wife, which like any modern parenting relationship consists of both teamwork and combat: who can fake sleeping long enough so the other has to get up and feed the crying baby?

The stories are the perfect balance between the hilarity of parenting and the touching moments that any parent will recognize. Magary is able to discuss his feelings without venturing into the trite or overly corny cliches that other parenting books often fall into to. If you are a parent that misses the days of childless freedom but still cherish your children, you'll love this book. He perfectly captures the range of emotions, some that you didn't even know existed, that any parent moves through.

One note of warning, however: if you are looking for innocent portrayals of parenthood, this isn't the book for you: Magary often invokes profanity and "off-color" topics to tell his tales. Of course, in my opinion, this is true to actual parenthood. He doesn't go overboard, but he doesn't restrain himself either.

The hilarity is bookended by an incredibly moving portrayal of Magary dealing with his youngest son being in the NICU after he is born prematurely. Magary is a skillful writer than can handle both the hilarity, the love, and the tragedy involved in parenting. As he sums it up near the beginning of the book, "When you start a family, you're signing up for drama. You're signing up for worry. You're signing up for life-and-death. You're signing up for a life that means something more, even if it isn't as fun a life as when toy were single and drinking shots of Fire Water in the Giants Stadium parking lot."

My one quibble is that the book seemed a bit overpriced for being so short. The book reads almost like a series of blog posts. Although I enjoyed every one, I felt like the publisher was asking for a bit more than this book was worth.

I would highly recommend this as a Father's Day present for any younger dad. Also, although it's written from a dad's perspective, I think mom's would also enjoy it, if for no other reason than to see inside the mind of a dad!

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful.I Swore I'd Never Say That!By Pope Mel"Children are like very small terrorists: You can't negotiate with them."

Parenthood.

If you've been there and done that, this one is for you. And if you haven't, this book will better prepare you for the reality of spending 24 hours a day with a baby/toddler/child than any of the What to Expect books EVER will.

I cannot express enough how truly HORRIFYING it is to have this...this...THING around ALL THE TIME! This thing that needs you for its very survival. This thing that as soon as it is mobile, will attempt to kill itself daily. Its head gravitates toward all things sharp and pointy. Blink your eyes for a second and it will hurl itself down the nearest staircase. Don't ever let it near the cat's litter box.

And yet...

Believe it or not, there are rewards, little pleasures both warm and sappy, moments that will bring tears to your eyes. Not to mention the great stories that will someday embarrass the crap out of our children; anecdotes that we will tell again and again in the presence of said children, for the rest of our lives.

Parenthood.

The good, the bad, the ugly and the projectile vomiting. All the awful, infuriating, hilarious and touching moments. This book nails it!

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful.

If you can get through the first chapter which is a bit sad you will find yourself laughing for the next 18 ... By Beth Sanborn-Cowling

Hysterical!!! If you can get through the first chapter which is a bit sad you will find yourself laughing for the next 18 chapters and you end with some tears in your eyes again. You come full circle with this book. I would recommend it for someone on their 2nd child or someone whose child is at least a year old. You have to have some humor here folks. If you're soft this might not be the book for you. Then again maybe it's exactly what you need. Either way it's fantastic and it's a go to gift for me.

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