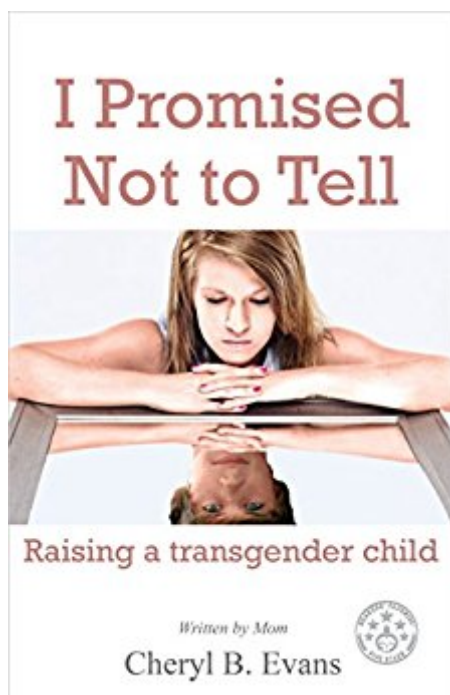


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# I Promised Not To Tell: Raising A Transgender Child



## Synopsis

When you have a baby girl you envision many things for her life but becoming a boy is not one of them. This book will benefit anyone who would like to learn more about gender dysphoria and is an absolute must read for a parent, relative or friend of a gender questioning or transgender person. Written by Mom, this deeply personal parenting memoir is about discovering the son she never knew she had. "I Promised Not to Tell" was a Bronze Medal Award Winner in the 2017 Readers' Favorite Book Award Contest - Non-Fiction Parenting genre! Honest, moving and well written, you will not be disappointed!" "I Promised Not to Tell is quite possibly one of the most important books to date on a very controversial and little understood social issue: transgenderism. If you are facing such a situation with your child, I urge you to read this book. Both you and your child need what Cheryl has so kindly shared with readers and parents. And when you do, I'm sure you will come away impressed not just by the courage shown by Jordan in this book, but by the love Cheryl and her husband have for their children and their compassion for all people. I loved I Promised Not to Tell. Couldn't put it down. Highly recommended reading." ~ Viga Boland, Readers Favorite

What is unique about this story is that it follows one transgender child from birth through age eighteen. You get a real sense of what this family went through. Their son's desperate effort to conform to societal gender norms, a suicide attempt, a family members struggle between God and transgenderism, a heart breaking death and much more. Every step of their son's transition from female to male (FTM) is discussed in detail, including hormone replacement therapy and sex reassignment surgeries. This book shares it all in the hopes of making a difference in what seems like a harsh and cruel world for transgender people. In the beginning, transgender was not even on this mother's radar. Cheryl went from knowing nothing at all about the subject to becoming significantly more knowledgeable. She partook in a journey of learning that evolved into one of self discovery for her as much as for her transgender child. There were valuable lessons and gifted blessings along the way. There were also times of great heartache and pain. Mom was strengthened, she was tested, she wept and she prayed and in the end, she survived as did her transgender child. The journey this family took is spelled out in the pages of this book in the hope that it offers encouragement, support and wisdom to others who may have found themselves on a similar path. Mom shares many of the resources she used along her own family's journey and extends to you a friendship that goes far beyond the pages of this book. This is a uniquely written and thought provoking true story which transitions beautifully between the family's personal journey and some of the larger societal issues that face the transgender community today. Even if you don't know a transgender person, this book will

make you feel as if you do. Maybe you have been curious about this topic and looking for a book that can share honest and intimate details on the subject. If so, this book will certainly do that for you. Coming out as a transgender person can be challenging. This book could be an excellent way to introduce the topic to parents and loved ones. Perhaps helping to pave the way to acceptance and understanding. Thank you for taking the time to consider the book "I Promised Not to Tell: Raising a transgender child". If you buy, read and enjoy this book please kindly share your review it would mean so much to the author.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

This is an engaging read written through the eyes of a loving mother with a transgender child. The prose reads like you are having a personal conversation with the author who being a greenhorn when it comes to writing did well with composing this book. The sole purpose of this book is to educate all people about what it is to be transgender. Therefore, is not exclusively intended for families with a transgender child, but for all people due to the importance of knowing what it means

to be transgender in today's society. The correct term is Gender Dysphoria where people identify with a gender different from the one they were assigned at birth due to genetics and the biological makeup of their brain. Transgender is not about being gay or straight. It is not a mental illness. They are not pedophiles just because they want to use the bathroom that matches their gender identity. The book does explain all aspects of what it is like to have Gender Dysphoria from how it affects them mentally, the physical alterations that have to take place, also the enormous effects on the family and how detrimental it is for the family to be supportive and understanding. "The most basic thing about transgender people is they truly believe they are the gender they identify with! Transgender women do not think of themselves as men wearing women's clothing, they ARE women. Naturally, they should be in a woman's washroom. This is not the first book that I have read in regard to someone's journey transitioning from one sex to another, but it is the one I have learned the most from. I believe this is due to the fact that it is written from the viewpoint of a person who is standing back and watching it all occur whereas also involved. Therefore, everything the mother saw or went through with her child so does the reader. You are there when Jordan first goes to school as a boy, you are educated by the doctors at the same time the family is, learning about the importance of hormones, go through surgeries, and learn what a packer is along with his outstanding mother. In addition to, the obstacles that you do not think of like having to change the gender on passports, birth certificates, and driver's license. It is hard, but Cheryl gets it done. The word of God says love thy neighbor, it doesn't say love thy neighbor except for the ones you do not like...It also says in the bible that God looks at one's heart, not at one's outward appearance. This is not just a book it is a learning experience. An important one for people of all ages. There is so much more I would like to mention about what I read, I could brag about this book for pages, though I think it is more important that you pick up a copy and read it for yourself.

This is the go-to book for any family working through the issues of helping a child transition. As a therapist who helps those who would desire to transition, I like to recommend books to him or her and concerned families. This is the one. Written by a mom of a thirteen year old child, she writes candidly and with heart about helping her son become the male he knows he is in on the inside, although being born as a female. This is not only a wonderful account of a supportive and loving family wading through a brand new world, but a tool kit to help others understand the process, what is involved, and how to get help. It is also the book that brings to light all those unsaid fears -

unsupportive family members, confusing bathroom issues, legal questions, binding and packing - you name it, it will be addressed here as if you were talking to a friend who "got it." While the editing is a bit sporadic - a lot of possessives are incorrect and there are fragments and little things that may drive a grammar person a bit crazy (yep, me), it is so relatable and real that those little mishaps are more like a reminder that this is from a real person, not some textbook. Which in this case, is pretty awesome.

This is a very well-written memoir by a woman whose daughter transitions to become her son. Her descriptions are candid and touching. The honesty with which she describes mourning her daughter at his transition was quite poignant. My only complaint is one shared by her transgender son, whose feedback after reading part of this memoir was to complain, "Why did you care so much about what God thought anyway? I understand why she felt compelled to research biblical perspectives, given the truly sad situation of having her other daughter's Christian friends feeding her their intolerance. But I don't understand why she put so much effort into providing biblical and religious justifications in this book? It's not like the transphobic fundies would ever read past the first few pages, where the author makes it clear that she accepted and supported her trans son. Ironically, her kids hadn't finished reading the memoir at press time. Her comment about this was the only typo I noticed "neither of my children finished reading it THOUGH to the end." I'm a retired editor so typos both annoy and jump out at me. It was refreshing to find a book almost entirely free of them.

I got this book on a Saturday afternoon and started reading it right away. I had to put it down to go to Mass, then picked it up again, read the book in about 13 1/2 hrs. It was written so well. It was such a mixture of love, tension, happiness, disappointment, caring, understandings, courage, just too many adjectives to name. I cried, I prayed, and loved it all the way through. All of the love shined through Cheryl and Jim!! It was just great. I just pray a lot of people buy and read it. It is just good, and very informative. In today's world people need the "real life" experience knowledge. I just can't say enough about it. It was a thoroughly enjoyable book.

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