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# It's Not A Perfect World, But I'll Take It: 50 Life Lessons For Teens Like Me Who Are Kind Of (You Know) Autistic



## Synopsis

Jennifer Rose is autistic. She's also a college student who loves reading, writes fan fiction, and wants to be on TV someday. She sees the world a little differently than most people around her. She's had trouble coping with school, has struggled with bullies and mean girls, but she has also achieved much in the face of adversity. And through it all, with the help of her parents, Jennifer's learned a few lessons: #5: Use your dreams to make a difference. #8: You won't be perfect at everything, not even the things you do best. #18: Learn to take jokes, even your dad's. #26: Down times will be bouncing up soon . . . #27: . . . meanwhile, enjoy what you have. #47: Talk about your feelings, even when it's hard. It's Not a Perfect World, but I'll Take It is an uplifting guide to life. It explains how you can be different and still connect with others, how to deal with tough realities, and how to celebrate happy times. Told with irresistible honesty and humor, Jennifer's fifty bite-sized stories will have teens and adults nodding in recognition and gaining new insights about themselves.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars 7 customer reviews

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in Books > Teens > Social Issues > Self-Esteem & Self-Reliance

Age Range: 12 - 17 years

Grade Level: 6 and up

## Customer Reviews

Gr 6 Up •Rose is like most teens •she has to contend with family, friends, school, and personal dreams. But unlike most teens, she is one of the two million Americans with autism spectrum disorder (ASD). Now a college student, Rose has written a guide for other teens with ASD. In 50 short essays, she shares her life experiences on a variety of topics, such as balancing

work, school, and friends; saying "no

"[It's Not a Perfect World] is inviting, upbeat, and very friendly&#133;Easy to digest and life-affirming, Rose's honest narrative will resonate with readers." &#151;School Library Journal&#147;Jennifer Rose is a promising writer with a great eye and a keen sense of humor&#133;her essays are heartbreakingly pure.Ã¢âÂ• &#151;Jacqueline Cutler, The Star-Ledger&#147;This self-help book, cast as memoir, offers tremendous hope and insight, especially to ASD teens and young adults. Addressing neurodiversity, biomedical interventions, and issues affecting low- and high-functioning ASD individuals, ItÃ¢âÂ•s Not a Perfect World opens a new window into the nature of the autistic, and human, experience.Ã¢âÂ• &#151;Mary Holland, autism mom and research scholar, NYU School of Law&#147;Jennifer RoseÃ¢âÂ•s book is like a ray of sunshine. She deals openly and honestly with the issues she has encountered with her diagnosis of autism but provides a refreshing, positive, and hopeful approach in her book, which is both insightful and accessible.Ã¢âÂ• &#151;Carmel Wakefield&#147;This is a warm and wise book. Jenny writes her heart about standing out, making her own way, and illuminating real burdens that are not well understood. She teaches us to celebrate courage without celebrating the disability. Brava.Ã¢âÂ• &#151;Louise Kuo Habakus, host and producer, Fearless Parent Radio&#147;This book is a must-read for not only those teens struggling to find their way in the spectrum, but also their neurotypical counterparts&#151;as it provides a bridge for better understanding those with high-functioning autism, and how we can all connect with each other on a deeper level.Ã¢âÂ• &#151;Mary Coyle, director, the Real Child Center"Insightful, honest, and witty! Jennifer's account of being a teen with autism is incredibly eye-opening and at many times, charming. Her struggles are real. Her perseverance is inspiring and as a parent to a teen with autism, I very much enjoyed each and all Jennifer's coming to age observations."&#151;Becky Estepp, Director of Communications, Health Choice.

This is a good book to read my daughter enjoyed it it was very helpful.

An autistic teen and her observations about life - good read.

Jennifer Rose is a college student who has high-functioning autism. She has written a delightful book, It's Not a Perfect World, but I'll Take It: 50 Life Lessons for Teens Like Me Who Are Kind of (You Know) Autistic. Rose, a bright, self-aware young lady, has much to offer for other teens who

are living with autism. I enjoyed her personal, practical insights. A solid, fun-loving family gave her a strong foundation on which to grow. She has confidence and self-assurance, and the ability to take life as it comes. Her mom was a great advocate for her. Rose's comment about her mother, after meeting "glamorous" autism advocate (and former model and Playboy playmate) reminded me of my wife: "All autism moms are glamorous in their own way because they work hard for their kids." Rose discusses the mixed messages about "overcoming" autism in *It's Not a Perfect World*. She seems to be aware of the movement celebrating the gift of autism, but adds a dose of reality. She writes, "While it's great to celebrate the talents of autistic kids, you also have to deal with the hard issue of autism itself and its less pretty features." We love the stories of autistic kids who have unique talents, "but we can't forget about the autistic kids who don't have special talents." In other words, autism may be wonderful for some kids, but we shouldn't forget that "autism is very difficult for most kids." Rose herself says she has "overcome" autism, to the extent that she now is enrolled in college. Her target audience is other high-functioning kids like herself, to whom she offers a ray of hope and a path to a fulfilling future. She writes with good humor and fun. (Speaking of humor, I thought it was funny that this Jewish girl has fond memories of watching Veggie Tales, a favorite of evangelical Christians.) The structure is a bit random, but isn't that how the minds of teenagers work? Teens with autism and their parents will enjoy this uniquely insightful book. Thanks to Edelweiss and the publisher for the complimentary electronic review copy!

I would not give it to a high-functioning teen or adult. The author's advice seems simplistic and less mature than I would expect from a person in college.

Jennifer Rose must be a cheerful, uplifting young woman because that's exactly what her book is. She also must be realistic, because that's also what her book is. No matter how tough it has been for her to deal with the many challenges of ASD, she triumphs. She is always able to see the good side of people, even when someone has shown their bad side to her. In these cases -- which are many! -- Jennifer is not only able to understand them, but more important, she is able to manage her own emotions in a constructive way. Jennifer Rose is a gifted young writer. I hope she continues to write and publish -- maybe in the not-to-distant future, we'll be able to read about her experiences as a college student!

Jennifer helps us to see into the dark and mysterious world of Autism! I often see kids with autism being treated as if they have no intelligence and I know this is not true. Jennifer shows the amazing

workings of the brain and how a kid who rocks, hums and seems to be oblivious to the world, is really so aware and funny! It was a great read -- couldn't put it down!

great!!!!

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