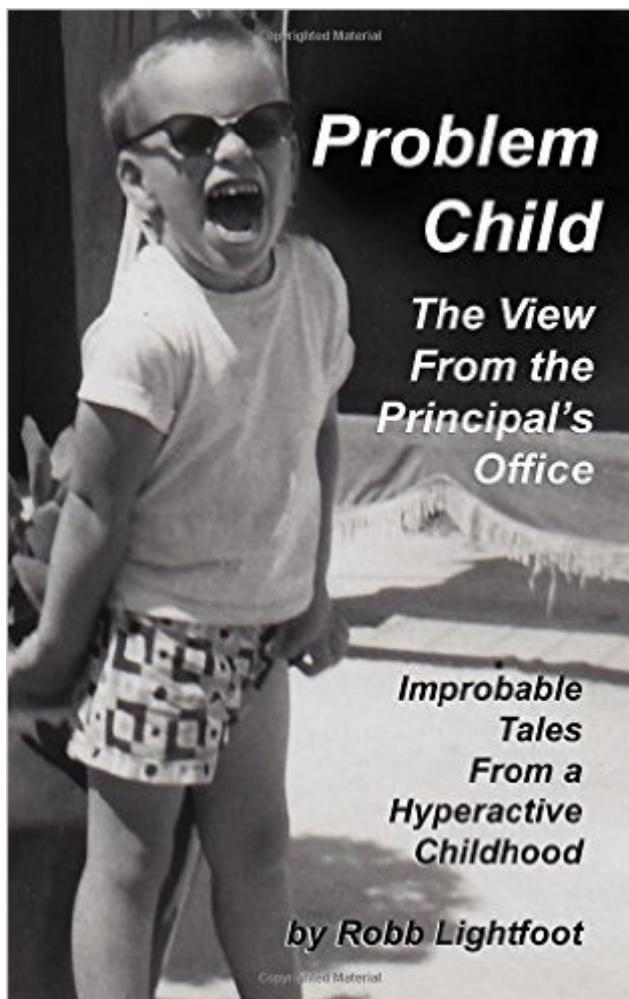


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Problem Child - The View From The Principal's Office: Improbable Tales From A Hyperactive Childhood (Volume 1)



Synopsis

This is not a memoir, it's a sorta-was, a collection of 25 humorous short stories that date back to the days of the "unsupervised sixties." Problem Child takes you inside the hyperactive and somewhat Machiavellian mind of Robb Lightfoot, the kid who had his own special reserved seat in the principal's office. He wasn't looking for trouble, it just found him. He was president and sole member of Highland Elementary's short-lived rock-throwing club, a chewing gum connoisseur, and woodshop survivor. Robb's recollections are part truth and part tall tales. Learn why school is unlike Jeopardy! and why too much knowledge may be hazardous to your health. Some of these tales happened almost exactly as written, others are a combination of pranks, misunderstandings, and mishaps that have been combined. Still others are epic stories that have grown with each telling, and form a part of the Lightfoot's family lore. A key point in these stories is that usually, Robb is trying to do the right thing and getting it all wrong. His allies are a patient principal, a tolerant mother, and neighbors who have their own quirks. The stories cover Robb's grade school years, and include a cast of his friends. Just like in the TV Show Dragnet, the names have been changed to protect the innocent. Problem Child is dedicated to the late Principal Tom Lewis, who eventually set up an extra desk in his outer office for Robb to take his time outs, reflect, and read. Author Robb Lightfoot went on to complete his studies and entered education as a profession. He now lives and writes in Northern California, and is a full-time, tenured college teacher. He owes a great deal of his success to the very patient faculty and staff at Highland Elementary in Oildale, California. So there is hope for hyperactive kids! They just need people to believe in them and, with kindness, hold them accountable.

Book Information

Series: Improbable Tales From A Hyperactive Childhood (Book 1)

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Customer Reviews

Robb Lightfoot shares stories from his own childhood as a hyperactive boy trying to make sense out of a world which has little patience for him. Young Robb's inability to decipher pretty much any of the social cues children are expected to understand combined with his boundless energy lead to some very funny experiences. His description of a boy trying to capture bees in a jar is dead on. The adults surrounding young Robb are of little help. His father is impatient, his mother's accepting, and his teachers are clueless. Occasionally the tales feel exaggerated for the sake of humor, which is too bad because reality is more touching. In addition, the author only shares humorous stories. A few poignant or sad memories would give a more rounded view of Robb's childhood troubles. This book should be required reading for elementary school teachers. It gives a clear look into young boy's thought processes. I want to thank the author for giving me the opportunity to read this book. Disclaimer: The author gave me an advanced copy in exchange for this review.

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