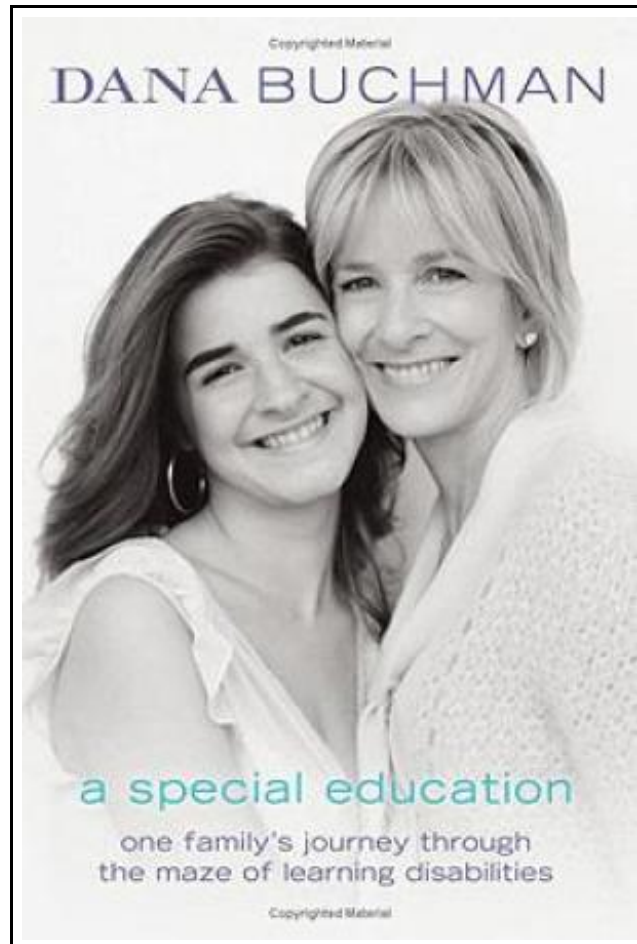


A Special Education: One Family's Journey Through the Maze of Learning Disabilities



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Reviews

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(Hunter Witting)

A SPECIAL EDUCATION: ONE FAMILY'S JOURNEY THROUGH THE MAZE OF LEARNING DISABILITIES

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Perseus Distribution, 2006. Hardcover. Book Condition: New. Dana Buchman knew almost nothing about "learning differences" when her oldest daughter, Charlotte, was diagnosed with neurological, spatial, and motor skill disabilities as a toddler. Furthermore, from the Ivy League to the launch of her own fashion label, Buchman had encountered few obstacles that couldn't be overcome through hard work and determination. Unfortunately, Buchman's well-developed ability to "fix" things would not serve her in her efforts to deal with Charlotte's disabilities; she would have to develop a new skill set to be able to see Charlotte as a person with unique abilities. A riveting and intensely personal memoir, *A Special Education* reveals the long and arduous process of Charlotte's development as well as Buchman's own path to self-discovery. Confessing frequent anxiety, guilt, frustration, and anger, Buchman describes the difficult search to find the right school and care for Charlotte, the strain the process put on her marriage and family dynamics. In addition, Buchman tells of her own struggles with excessive drinking and workaholism -- and of finally letting go of her drive to be "perfect." A moving mother-daughter story, *A Special Education* is an inspiring account of one mother's journey to acceptance and understanding as well as a family's triumph over daunting circumstances. "The famous clothing designer recounts with tremendous candor her difficult and transformative acceptance of her daughter's lifetime of learning difficulties. At 35, newly married, pregnant and offered the chance to start her own knitwear label, Buchman was a hard-driven, perfectionist New Yorker determined to "have it all." But Charlotte, her first born, soon exhibited slow growth in movement and language, and at age four underwent a battery of tests that revealed she suffered from dyslexia, attention deficit disorder and a host of other developmental difficulties. Buchman and her husband were...



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