

"This gem of a first book burns deep with feeling, humor and the grace of salty tears. *We* is a work of shining honesty."
jodie foster

WE

an adoption and a memoir
ben barnz

FOREWORD COMING FROM JESS CAGLE

We is more than an adoption story, it is story about growing up in the 1980's when AIDS was first diagnosed and being gay was considered a death sentence. It is about overcoming denial, banishing shame and seeking an authentic life.

the author

BEN BARNZ and his husband own *We're Not Brothers Productions*, which has produced *CAKE* starring Jennifer Aniston, Sam Worthington, and Anna Kendrick; and *PHOEBE IN WONDERLAND* starring Elle Fanning, Patricia Clarkson, and Bill Pullman; and they are currently in development with HBO and Brad Pitt's Plan B company, with others in the works.

AUTHOR SPEAKING POINTS

- same-sex adoption
- adoption litigation
- an examination of "family"
- parenting teens
- fatherhood
- sexual denial and acceptance
- advice for gay teens
- "Live at the Roxy" — Gay in the 90s

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"Part memoir, part love letter, part haunting tale, *We* speaks in simple truths. What it means to be a father, a son, a partner, an adopted family. What it means to hold your baby girl knowing you may have to give her up. This gem of a first book burns deep with feeling, humor and the grace of salty tears. *We* is a work of shining honesty."

JODIE FOSTER

"There is so much raw emotion in these pages—it is captivating, enthralling, and ultimately full of love and hope. Ben writes truth after truth about bringing a new child into this world—a complicated task always, regardless of personal situation. Once you read the first page you'll need to know how this particularly unique story ends—and Ben will beautifully tell you."

SAMANTHA BEE

"I read this book once. Put it down on my bedside table and carried it around in my heart until I picked it up again and read for a second time...then a third. It's that good. It's that compelling. Mr. Barnz's heartrending honesty is about becoming yourself so your children can take their place in the world."

FELICITY HUFFMAN

"Ben Barnz's beautiful book is a moving reminder of the capacity of love. His account of how this one family was created is a roller coaster ride of emotions & a tidal wave of hope."

JESSE TYLER FERGUSON

"At once heart-warming and gut-wrenching, *We* had me on the edge of my seat. Ben brings his story to life with such honesty, vulnerability and humor, that I could not put it down. A must-read for anyone who has ever been a parent or had a parent. I did the same ugly crying while reading as when I saw *Kramer v. Kramer* and *Terms of Endearment* for the first time. It will make you want to hug your people."

MARK FEUERSTEIN

"Ben Barnz recounts his journey to fatherhood through the ups and downs of the complex adoption process. With precise emotional memory, Barnz unfolds this lump-in-your-throat, pit-in-your-stomach account of going from a 'me' to a 'we.' The boundless love, reverence and uncommon honesty he shows as he details his suspenseful and emotional path to parenthood will make you wonder if this page-turner of a story is, in fact, your story. Because it is. One way or another, it's all of our stories. I love this book."

DAN BUCATINSKY