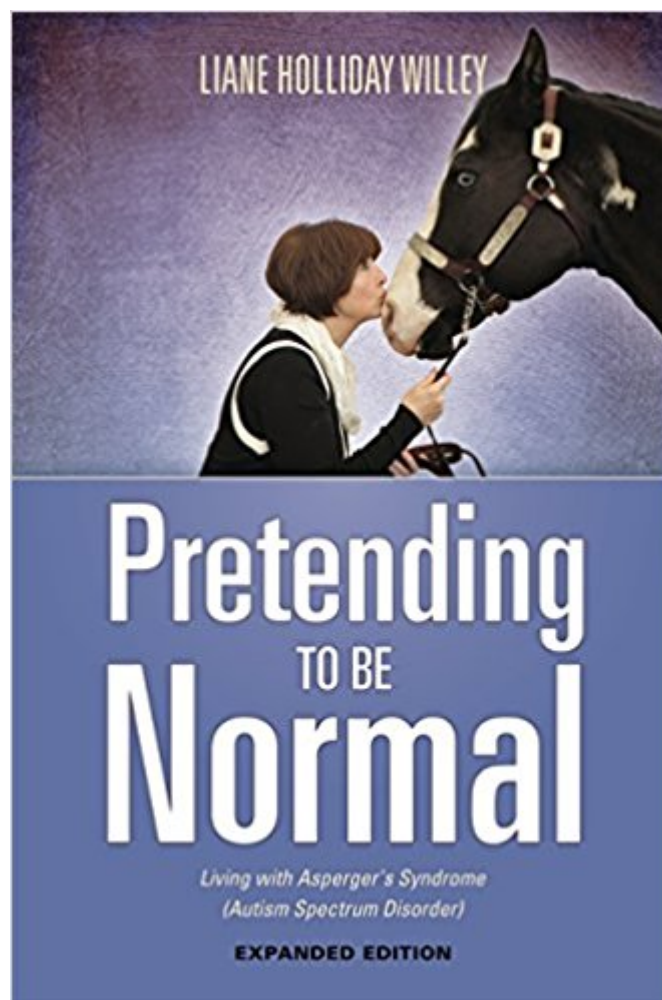




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# Pretending To Be Normal: Living With Asperger's Syndrome (Autism Spectrum Disorder) Expanded Edition



## Synopsis

Compelling and witty, Liane Holliday Willey's account of growing to adulthood as an undiagnosed 'Aspie' has been read by thousands of people on and off the autism spectrum since it was first published in 1999. Bringing her story up to date, including her diagnosis as an adult, and reflecting on the changes in attitude over 15 years, this expanded edition will continue to entertain (and inform) all those who would like to know a little more about how it feels to spend your life 'pretending to be normal'.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Liane's original book *Pretending to be Normal* gave such important insights into how women with Asperger's syndrome used coping strategies in an attempt to fit into the neurotypical world. This updated version not only gives further insights but more importantly rather than "pretending to be normal" Liane points out that it is better to recognise that having Asperger's syndrome is acceptable and society should celebrate differentness. Finding the balance with appropriate support enables people with Asperger's syndrome to function in both the Aspie and neurotypical worlds. The appendices are brilliant in that Liane gives practical tips in supporting and managing Asperger's syndrome in all aspects of life. This book will be highly recommended by me to all those who have or do not have a diagnosis of Asperger's syndrome. Dr Judith Gould, Consultant Clinical Psychologist and Director of the NAS Lorna Wing Centre for Autism With *Pretending to be Normal*, a collective sigh of relief was heaved, a burden was lifted and laid down. The puzzle that had perplexed us was given a name, Asperger's, and women on the spectrum found their voice, some

of us for the first time. Rudy Simone, author of *Aspergirls, 22 Things a Woman Must Know If She Loves a Man with Asperger's Syndrome* and *22 Things a Woman with Asperger's Syndrome Wants Her Partner to Know* Pretending to be Normal was one of the first books I read about women and Asperger syndrome. It was then and still is the book I always recommend to the female clients I see. Liane is a star, her determination, strength and courage are a shining light within the AS community. This second edition is full of new insights and information. A must read for anyone who wishes to understand more about the complex world of women and Asperger syndrome. Maxine Aston MSc, Consultant, Trainer and Author of several books on Asperger syndrome and relationships Some of the best insights that helped came from reading books written by people on the spectrum. Liane Holliday Willey's insights will be especially helpful for many women on the spectrum. Temple Grandin, Author of *The Autistic Brain* and *Thinking in Pictures* Willey's classic *Pretending to Be Normal* has been a most eloquent way to understand what it feels like to have Asperger's. As beautifully written as it is insightful, this expanded edition is even more powerful due to the addition of a multitude of helpful suggestions and resources. Martin L. Kutscher, MD, author of *Kids in the Syndrome Mix of ADHD, LD, Autism Spectrum, Anxiety, Tourette's and More: The One Stop Guide for Parents, Teachers and Other Professionals* and *ADHD: Living without Brakes*

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The author brings the viewpoint of a mother, wife, and female to the topic of living with Asperger's (ASD). There are passages of this book that have profound insight from firsthand knowledge. I read the book twice because I am a man and male and so the female perspective for me was sometimes difficult to get my head around. I'm glad I did that. This book is a valuable addition to the information available on Asperger's and living with and coping with it. More importantly, there are not many books of this type written from a female perspective and so this is even more valuable from that perspective. I recommend this book for anyone, but especially for women coping with ASD / Asperger's.

I have the e-book addition. This one I sent off to my Aspie friend. This book and others like it has went a long way to better understand her Asperger's. It has helped our relationship greatly by understanding how her condition effects her every day life. It has helped to smooth needless tensions between us. I've learned a lot of the things she dose isn't a personal affront to us being friends. In other words. It's not personal. Anybody who knows an Aspie or thinks there's something different someone they care about but you just can't put your finger on what's different. This is a must read!

I absolutely love this book. It's got some diction and grammar problems that interrupt the flow some and at times she rambles but I love her voice. I love the stories and the detail, the descriptions and

her comintary. It is a wonderful book. I really does make you feel like you are just having lunch with a friend, talking away.

It was an intimate, personal trek through the forest of Asperger's. Having a husband who was just diagnosed, it was good to read. But I guess I was looking for something more forward looking --- which the resources at the back of the book helped with , but it took me a while to get there. What a brave woman to chronicle her journey, and to an extent that of her daughter. Helpful and eased my mind on a lot of things.

Nicely written and provides a helpful perspective on what life is like for young people on the Spectrum.

A wonderfully written view into the life of a person with Asperger's and how she learned to make it work for her.

Excellent read. I actually met the author years before I knew my daughter had aspergers! Liane writes with honesty and clarity

The insights provided were informative, and the conversational tone of the writing made for good reading,

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