



Becoming Nicole: The Transformation of an American Family

By Amy Ellis Nutt

Download now

Read Online →

Becoming Nicole: The Transformation of an American Family By Amy Ellis Nutt

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • A NEW YORK TIMES NOTABLE BOOK • NAMED ONE OF THE TEN BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY PEOPLE AND ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY MEN'S JOURNAL • A STONEWALL HONOR BOOK IN NONFICTION • FINALIST FOR THE LAMBDA LITERARY AWARD FOR TRANSGENDER NONFICTION

The inspiring true story of a transgender girl, her identical twin brother, and an ordinary American family's extraordinary journey to understand, nurture, and celebrate the uniqueness in us all, from the Pulitzer Prize-winning science reporter for *The Washington Post*

When Wayne and Kelly Maines adopted identical twin boys, they thought their lives were complete. But it wasn't long before they noticed a marked difference between Jonas and his brother, Wyatt. Jonas preferred sports and trucks and many of the things little boys were "supposed" to like; but Wyatt liked princess dolls and dress-up and playing Little Mermaid. By the time the twins were toddlers, confusion over Wyatt's insistence that he was female began to tear the family apart. In the years that followed, the Maineses came to question their long-held views on gender and identity, to accept and embrace Wyatt's transition to Nicole, and to undergo an emotionally wrenching transformation of their own that would change all their lives forever.

Becoming Nicole chronicles a journey that could have destroyed a family but instead brought it closer together. It's the story of a mother whose instincts told her that her child needed love and acceptance, not ostracism and disapproval; of a Republican, Air Force veteran father who overcame his deepest fears to become a vocal advocate for trans rights; of a loving brother who bravely stuck up for his twin sister; and of a town forced to confront its prejudices, a school compelled to rewrite its rules, and a courageous community of transgender activists determined to make their voices heard. Ultimately, *Becoming Nicole* is the story of an extraordinary girl who fought for the right to be herself.

Granted wide-ranging access to personal diaries, home videos, clinical journals, legal documents, medical records, and the Maineses themselves, Amy Ellis Nutt spent almost four years reporting this immersive account of an American family confronting an issue that is at the center of today's cultural debate. *Becoming Nicole* will resonate with anyone who's ever raised a child, felt at odds with society's conventions and norms, or had to embrace life when it plays out unexpectedly. It's a story of standing up for your beliefs and yourself—and it will inspire all of us to do the same.

Praise for *Becoming Nicole*

“A profoundly moving true story about one remarkable family’s evolution.”—*People*

“Fascinating and enlightening.”—**Cheryl Strayed**

“Exceptional . . . ‘Stories move the walls that need to be moved,’ Nicole told her father last year. In telling Nicole’s story and those of her brother and parents luminously, and with great compassion and intelligence, that is exactly what Amy Ellis Nutt has done.”—*The Washington Post*

“If you aren’t moved by *Becoming Nicole*, I’d suggest there’s a lump of dark matter where your heart should be.”—**Jennifer Senior, *The New York Times***

“Extraordinary . . . a wonderful and inspiring story.”—**Minneapolis Star Tribune**

“A downright necessary book—and a remarkable act of generosity by the Maines family.”—*BuzzFeed*

 [Download *Becoming Nicole: The Transformation of an American ...pdf*](#)

 [Read Online *Becoming Nicole: The Transformation of an Americ ...pdf*](#)

Becoming Nicole: The Transformation of an American Family

By Amy Ellis Nutt

Becoming Nicole: The Transformation of an American Family By Amy Ellis Nutt

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • A NEW YORK TIMES NOTABLE BOOK • NAMED ONE OF THE TEN BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY *PEOPLE* AND ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY *MEN'S JOURNAL* • A STONEWALL HONOR BOOK IN NONFICTION • FINALIST FOR THE LAMBDA LITERARY AWARD FOR TRANSGENDER NONFICTION

The inspiring true story of a transgender girl, her identical twin brother, and an ordinary American family's extraordinary journey to understand, nurture, and celebrate the uniqueness in us all, from the Pulitzer Prize-winning science reporter for *The Washington Post*

When Wayne and Kelly Maines adopted identical twin boys, they thought their lives were complete. But it wasn't long before they noticed a marked difference between Jonas and his brother, Wyatt. Jonas preferred sports and trucks and many of the things little boys were "supposed" to like; but Wyatt liked princess dolls and dress-up and playing Little Mermaid. By the time the twins were toddlers, confusion over Wyatt's insistence that he was female began to tear the family apart. In the years that followed, the Maineses came to question their long-held views on gender and identity, to accept and embrace Wyatt's transition to Nicole, and to undergo an emotionally wrenching transformation of their own that would change all their lives forever.

Becoming Nicole chronicles a journey that could have destroyed a family but instead brought it closer together. It's the story of a mother whose instincts told her that her child needed love and acceptance, not ostracism and disapproval; of a Republican, Air Force veteran father who overcame his deepest fears to become a vocal advocate for trans rights; of a loving brother who bravely stuck up for his twin sister; and of a town forced to confront its prejudices, a school compelled to rewrite its rules, and a courageous community of transgender activists determined to make their voices heard. Ultimately, *Becoming Nicole* is the story of an extraordinary girl who fought for the right to be herself.

Granted wide-ranging access to personal diaries, home videos, clinical journals, legal documents, medical records, and the Maineses themselves, Amy Ellis Nutt spent almost four years reporting this immersive account of an American family confronting an issue that is at the center of today's cultural debate. *Becoming Nicole* will resonate with anyone who's ever raised a child, felt at odds with society's conventions and norms, or had to embrace life when it plays out unexpectedly. It's a story of standing up for your beliefs and yourself—and it will inspire all of us to do the same.

Praise for *Becoming Nicole*

"A profoundly moving true story about one remarkable family's evolution."—*People*

"Fascinating and enlightening."—**Cheryl Strayed**

"Exceptional . . . 'Stories move the walls that need to be moved,' Nicole told her father last year. In telling Nicole's story and those of her brother and parents luminously, and with great compassion and intelligence, that is exactly what Amy Ellis Nutt has done."—*The Washington Post*

“If you aren’t moved by *Becoming Nicole*, I’d suggest there’s a lump of dark matter where your heart should be.”—**Jennifer Senior**, *The New York Times*

“Extraordinary . . . a wonderful and inspiring story.”—**Minneapolis Star Tribune**

“A downright necessary book—and a remarkable act of generosity by the Maines family.”—**BuzzFeed**

Becoming Nicole: The Transformation of an American Family By Amy Ellis Nutt Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #91112 in Books
- Published on: 2015-10-20
- Released on: 2015-10-20
- Format: Deckle Edge
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.50" h x 1.00" w x 6.50" l, 1.25 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 304 pages

 [Download Becoming Nicole: The Transformation of an American ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Becoming Nicole: The Transformation of an Americ ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online *Becoming Nicole: The Transformation of an American Family* By Amy Ellis Nutt

Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

An Amazon Best Book of October 2015: “Why IS it such a big deal to everyone what somebody has in their pants?” Excellent question, posed by an unusually astute transgender girl, the subject of Amy Ellis Nutt’s emotional and illuminating *Becoming Nicole*. It’s also a little ironic, since Nicole’s story makes a bit of a deal of it, but in a much different way than other stories we’ve been hearing lately, from celebrities like Caitlyn Jenner and television shows like *Transparent*. Nicole, her twin brother Jonas, mom Kelly, and dad Wayne, are your typical middle class American family. They live next door to you--are shuttling from work, to Cub Scouts, to softball practice.... They’re also coming to terms with the fact that one of their own has Gender Dysphoria, a medical condition whereby a person does not identify with the sex they were assigned at birth. And so Wayne and Kelly Maines discover that they don’t have two sons at all, but a son and a daughter. This is a particularly hard pill for Republican, Air Force veteran, Wayne, to swallow, and his journey from denial to accepting and championing his daughter, is one of the more powerful and moving side narratives in a book chock full of them. That is why I really struggled to write this review, because *Becoming Nicole* is an important book that imparts important lessons, and the ones that resonate most have nothing to do with what’s in anyone’s pants: Be true to yourself, live an authentic life, exercise compassion.
—Erin Kodicek

Review

“A profoundly moving true story about one remarkable family’s evolution.”—*People*

“Fascinating and enlightening.”—**Cheryl Strayed**

“[*Becoming Nicole*] generously traces the parameters of parental love . . . delving deep into the case of a single family with a transgender child and discovering in its particulars certain universal truths about the ways children arrive in one’s life already themselves.”—*The New York Times Book Review (Editors’ Choice)*

“[An] exceptional chronicle . . . ‘Stories move the walls that need to be moved,’ Nicole told her father last year. In telling Nicole’s story and those of her brother and parents luminously, and with great compassion and intelligence, that is exactly what Amy Ellis Nutt has done here.”—**Sue Halpern, *The Washington Post***

“Reading strictly for plot, *Becoming Nicole* is about a transgender girl who triumphed in a landmark discrimination case. . . . But the real movement in this book happens internally, in the back caverns of each family member’s heart and mind. Four ordinary and imperfect human beings had to reckon with an exceptional situation, and in so doing also became, in their own modest ways, exceptional. . . . If you aren’t moved by *Becoming Nicole*, I’d suggest there’s a lump of dark matter where your heart should be.”—**Jennifer Senior, *The New York Times***

“A transgender girl’s coming-of-age saga, an exploration of the budding science of gender identity, a civil rights time capsule, a tear-jerking legal drama and, perhaps most of all, an education about what can happen when a child doesn’t turn out as his or her parents expected—and they’re forced to either shut their eyes and hearts or see everything differently.”—*Time*

“Extraordinary . . . a wonderful and inspiring story.”—*Minneapolis Star Tribune*

“A downright necessary book—and a remarkable act of generosity by the Maines family—that will surely start hundreds of conversations in living rooms across the country about what ‘transgender’ means. But it’s also a deeply universal book, one that hits the heart of what it means for all of us, no matter how we struggle (or not) to identify, to be ourselves.”—*BuzzFeed*

“Gorgeous . . . a really wonderful story.”—*NBC New York*

“*Becoming Nicole* is a miracle. It’s the story of a family struggling with—and embracing—a transgender child. But more than that, it’s about accepting one another, and ourselves, in all our messy, contradictory glory. The Maines family is as American as they come. In the journey they take toward authenticity and justice, we see a model for the future of our country, a future in which all of us—mothers and fathers, brothers and sisters—somehow find the courage, and the love, to become our best selves.”—**Jennifer Finney Boylan, co-chair of GLAAD and author of *She’s Not There: A Life in Two Genders***

“Gripping . . . a timely, significant examination.”—*Kirkus Reviews*

“This poignant account of a transgender girl’s transition offers a heartfelt snapshot of a family whose only objective is to protect their daughter. Tackling the subject from a biological, social, and psychological viewpoint, Pulitzer-winning reporter Nutt . . . succeeds in placing Nicole’s individual story within the more general narrative of transgender rights in the United States and humanizes the issues currently at play.”—*Publishers Weekly*

“[Shows how one] family took precious steps in order to understand, support, and celebrate differences that make us all unique. If you want to get a look into a family that has made great strides to change the way some people think about the American nuclear family, and accept the beauty of the world around us, definitely buy this book.”—*Philadelphia*

About the Author

Amy Ellis Nutt won the Pulitzer Prize in 2011 for her feature series “The Wreck of the Lady Mary,” about the 2009 sinking of a fishing boat off the New Jersey coast. She is a health and science writer at *The Washington Post*, the author of *Shadows Bright as Glass*, and the co-author of the *New York Times* bestseller *The Teenage Brain*. She was a Nieman Fellow in Journalism at Harvard University, a Ferris Professor of Journalism at Princeton, and an instructor of journalism at the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism. She lives in Washington, D.C.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Joseph Barnett:

The book *Becoming Nicole: The Transformation of an American Family* can give more knowledge and also the precise product information about everything you want. So just why must we leave a very important thing like a book *Becoming Nicole: The Transformation of an American Family*? Some of you have a different opinion about publication. But one aim this book can give many details for us. It is absolutely correct. Right now, try to closer along with your book. Knowledge or details that you take for that, it is possible to give for each other; you can share all of these. Book *Becoming Nicole: The Transformation of an*

American Family has simple shape but you know: it has great and big function for you. You can look the enormous world by start and read a e-book. So it is very wonderful.

Dale Vaught:

What do you concerning book? It is not important together with you? Or just adding material when you want something to explain what you problem? How about your spare time? Or are you busy particular person? If you don't have spare time to accomplish others business, it is gives you the sense of being bored faster. And you have free time? What did you do? Everyone has many questions above. They have to answer that question simply because just their can do that. It said that about book. Book is familiar on every person. Yes, it is suitable. Because start from on jardín de infancia until university need this Becoming Nicole: The Transformation of an American Family to read.

Julie Slocum:

Spent a free a chance to be fun activity to perform! A lot of people spent their leisure time with their family, or their own friends. Usually they undertaking activity like watching television, gonna beach, or picnic within the park. They actually doing ditto every week. Do you feel it? Do you need to something different to fill your free time/ holiday? Can be reading a book may be option to fill your no cost time/ holiday. The first thing that you'll ask may be what kinds of guide that you should read. If you want to attempt look for book, may be the reserve untitled Becoming Nicole: The Transformation of an American Family can be very good book to read. May be it can be best activity to you.

Violet Jarrell:

Reading a book to be new life style in this 12 months; every people loves to read a book. When you read a book you can get a lot of benefit. When you read books, you can improve your knowledge, because book has a lot of information on it. The information that you will get depend on what kinds of book that you have read. In order to get information about your review, you can read education books, but if you want to entertain yourself you are able to a fiction books, such us novel, comics, and soon. The Becoming Nicole: The Transformation of an American Family will give you a new experience in looking at a book.

Download and Read Online Becoming Nicole: The Transformation of an American Family By Amy Ellis Nutt #Y9BD4PRZ07H

Read Becoming Nicole: The Transformation of an American Family By Amy Ellis Nutt for online ebook

Becoming Nicole: The Transformation of an American Family By Amy Ellis Nutt Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Becoming Nicole: The Transformation of an American Family By Amy Ellis Nutt books to read online.

Online Becoming Nicole: The Transformation of an American Family By Amy Ellis Nutt ebook PDF download

Becoming Nicole: The Transformation of an American Family By Amy Ellis Nutt Doc

Becoming Nicole: The Transformation of an American Family By Amy Ellis Nutt Mobipocket

Becoming Nicole: The Transformation of an American Family By Amy Ellis Nutt EPub

Y9BD4PRZ07H: Becoming Nicole: The Transformation of an American Family By Amy Ellis Nutt