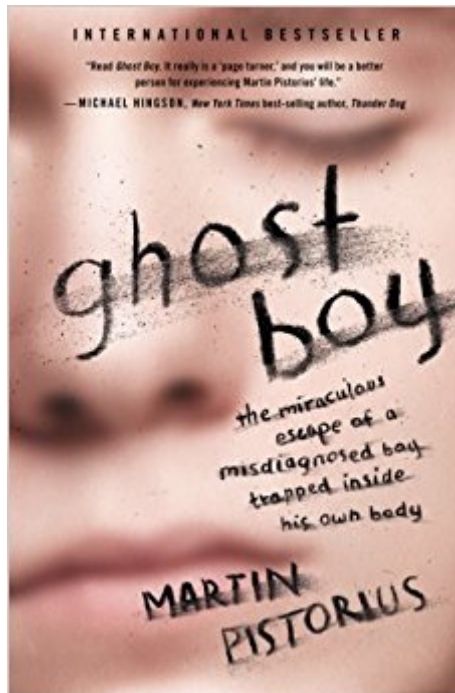


The book was found

Ghost Boy: The Miraculous Escape Of A Misdiagnosed Boy Trapped Inside His Own Body



Synopsis

They all thought he was gone. But he was alive and trapped inside his own body for ten years. In January 1988 Martin Pistorius, aged twelve, fell inexplicably sick. First he lost his voice and stopped eating. Then he slept constantly and shunned human contact. Doctors were mystified. Within eighteen months he was mute and wheelchair-bound. Martin's parents were told an unknown degenerative disease left him with the mind of a baby and less than two years to live. Martin was moved to care centers for severely disabled children. The stress and heartache shook his parents' marriage and their family to the core. Their boy was gone. Or so they thought. *Ghost Boy* is the heart-wrenching story of one boy's return to life through the power of love and faith. In these pages, readers see a parent's resilience, the consequences of misdiagnosis, abuse at the hands of cruel caretakers, and the unthinkable duration of Martin's mental alertness betrayed by his lifeless body. We also see a life reclaimed—a business created, a new love kindled—all from a wheelchair. Martin's emergence from his own darkness invites us to celebrate our own lives and fight for a better life for others.

Book Information

Paperback: 288 pages

Publisher: Thomas Nelson (November 19, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1400205832

ISBN-13: 978-1400205837

Product Dimensions: 5.6 x 0.8 x 8.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 15.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars — See all reviews (1,924 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #7,771 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #3 in Books > Biographies &

Memoirs > Specific Groups > Special Needs #30 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs >

Professionals & Academics > Medical #1797 in Books > Religion & Spirituality

Customer Reviews

When Martin Pistorius was 12 years old, he came home from school with a sore throat. Over the next two years, his mind and body shut down, until he was left a quadriplegic who could not speak. Then, around the time he was 16, his mind started coming back to life. He tells his story in the book, *Ghost Boy*. As Martin becomes more aware, he realizes that he has little to no control over his limbs and that he has no voice. All he can do is smile and move his eyes and head. He tries to use these

signals to let everyone around him know that he is conscious and aware, but, as he states in the book, "They'd been told long ago that I was severely brain damaged, so when the young man with stick-like limbs, empty eyes, and drool running down his chin occasionally lifted his head, that's what they saw." Martin spends the next decade in his unresponsive body, without a working voice. His days are spent at a day care facility while his parents work, but his father picks him up every evening to take him home to the family. His mind is active, and he spends much of his time developing elaborate fantasies to escape the horror of being trapped inside his own body; it's the only way he keeps from going mad. Then a new caretaker enters his life and has a hunch that Martin is aware. She convinces others around her, and they take him to be evaluated for an alternative communication device. He passes the evaluation, and a new life is opened for him. Martin speaks of his faith in God; that while he couldn't explain it, he knew that God was with him and he wasn't alone. His courage and strength is inspiring, as is the love of his father and mother and the woman he ends up marrying. I couldn't put the book down.

Thank you Thomas Nelson via Booksneeze for providing me with a copy of this book! Martin was a normal, active boy until age 12 when he became ill. His parents took him to see many doctors and they had many test run, but no answers were to be found for his increasingly worse condition. Eventually he was without use of his body or mind. By the time he was 14, it seemed his death was inevitable. Yet Martin's mind came back - he was finally aware again. His body remained still though and thus begins Martin's journey as the self-dubbed, "Ghost Boy". He could see, hear and comprehend all that was happening around him, but he was completely unable to communicate it. This book is the story of those years as Martin's mind awakened, but his body did not. In his own words, haunting, yet uplifting, he shows readers what it was like living in a body that refused to help him. He speaks of days in care centers where unimaginable things happened, of days with his parents when he longed to comfort them, but couldn't, of nights when his demons revisited him and left him sleepless. Martin also shares his triumph. Of finally meeting someone who really saw him and knew he was more than just a shell of a body - knew he could understand what was happening all around him. Through that care worker his hopes were lifted and he worked long and hard to overcome the undiagnosed illness that had left him without speech, without movement, without a life - at first. Martin is a faithful Christian and he does speak of God and how He is the only one who heard him for so long. However, the story and Martin's miraculous life is mostly left to speak on its own. His strong, calm, and resolute faith are clear, but not overly stated or gratuitously gushed. I found it struck a nice balance.

Ghost Boy is the story of Martin Pistorius. Martin was a healthy happy child, but one day in January of 1988, when he was just 12, he came home complaining of a sore throat, and nothing was ever the same. Doctors didn't know exactly what was wrong with him, but he was diagnosed with a degenerative disease that left him a mute quadriplegic. He was an empty shell of a person, who just sat in his wheel chair all day staring blankly, while others had to push, prod, bathe, and feed him. Little did anybody know, but Martin was still in there, and for 10 unimaginable years, he was stuck in a body that he couldn't move or speak with. Sadly, when you are unable to move or speak, you cannot tell people that you are cold, hot, uncomfortable, you can't tell them what you want to eat, drink, or what you want to do. Worst of all, he was abused mentally, physically, and even sexually by caregivers. Without a voice, he couldn't tell anyone about it, so the abuse continued, and he would never know when it would happen again or for how long. It wasn't until one of his kind caretakers looked into his eyes, and believed that Martin could really understand the world around him, he just couldn't communicate it. She urged his family to get him tested, and Martin finally had a sliver of hope for a normal life. After a series of tests, they found out what Martin already knew for years, he had a fully functioning brain. His parents got him a keyboard and eventually a computer that allowed him to communicate. Against all odds, Martin's life started becoming better and better. He got a job, he "spoke" at lectures, and he attended a class at university.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Ghost Boy: The Miraculous Escape of a Misdiagnosed Boy Trapped Inside His Own Body
The Hidden Link Between Vision and Learning: Why Millions of Learning-Disabled Children Are Misdiagnosed
Rich Dad Advisor's Series: Own Your Own Corporation: Why the Rich Own Their Own Companies and Everyone Else Works for Them (Rich Dad's Advisors)
The horse and his boy
BOOK 3 (BOOK 3 Chronicles of Narnia), BOOK 3. (The Horse and His Boy, Book 3)
33 Men: Inside the Miraculous Survival and Dramatic Rescue of the Chilean Miners
I Saw God: The True Story of a Young Boy's Miraculous Return from Death
How I Became A Ghost - A Choctaw Trail of Tears Story (Book 1 in the How I Became A Ghost Series)
True Ghost Stories and Hauntings: 10 Spine Chilling Accounts of True Ghost Stories and Hauntings, True Paranormal Reports and Haunted Houses
Ghost Racers (Secret Wars: Battleworld: Ghost Racers)
True Ghost Stories & Tales of Hauntings. Stories of Ghosts & Demons.: True Ghost Stories
Human Body: Human Anatomy for Kids - an Inside Look at Body Organs Trapped: How the World Rescued 33 Miners from 2,000 Feet Below the Chilean Desert Trapped! A Whale's Rescue Trapped In Ice!: An Amazing True Whaling Adventure
We Band of Angels: The Untold Story of American Nurses Trapped on Bataan by the

Japanese Spiral: Trapped in the Forever War We Band of Angels: The Untold Story of the American Women Trapped on Bataan Trapped: The Iron Druid Chronicles, Book 5 Trapped Under the Sea: One Engineering Marvel, Five Men, and a Disaster Ten Miles Into the Darkness Minecraft Diary: Wimpy Steve Book 1: Trapped in Minecraft! (Unofficial Minecraft Diary) (Minecraft diary books, Minecraft books for kids age 6 7 8 9-12, ... adventures) (Minecraft Diary- Wimpy Steve)

[Dmca](#)