



The Opposite of Spoiled: Raising Kids Who Are Grounded, Generous, and Smart About Money

By Ron Lieber

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In the spirit of Wendy Mogel's *The Blessing of a Skinned Knee* and Po Bronson and Ashley Merryman's *Nurture Shock*, *New York Times* "Your Money" columnist Ron Lieber delivers a taboo-shattering manifesto that explains how talking openly to children about money can help parents raise modest, patient, grounded young adults who are financially wise beyond their years.

For Ron Lieber, a personal finance columnist and father, good parenting means talking about money with our kids. Children are hyper-aware of money, and they have scores of questions about its nuances. But when parents shy away from the topic, they lose a tremendous opportunity—not just to model the basic financial behaviors that are increasingly important for young adults but also to imprint lessons about what the family truly values.

Written in a warm, accessible voice, grounded in real-world experience and stories from families with a range of incomes, *The Opposite of Spoiled* is both a practical guidebook and a values-based philosophy. The foundation of the book is a detailed blueprint for the best ways to handle the basics: the tooth fairy, allowance, chores, charity, saving, birthdays, holidays, cell phones, checking accounts, clothing, cars, part-time jobs, and college tuition. It identifies a set of traits and virtues that embody the opposite of spoiled, and shares how to embrace the topic of money to help parents raise kids who are more generous and less materialistic.

But *The Opposite of Spoiled* is also a promise to our kids that we will make them better with money than we are. It is for all of the parents who know that honest conversations about money with their curious children can help them become more patient and prudent, but who don't know how and when to start.



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Editorial Review

Review

“I started reading this book and cannot put it down. . . . I don’t know anyone who doesn’t want to raise their kids to have curiosity, patience, thrift, modesty, generosity, perseverance, and perspective. A godsend of a book.” (Jessica Seinfeld)

“In the course of profiling dozens of savvy families, Lieber gives tips on how to talk about money with kids in a calm way. . . . He makes a convincing case that the tendency to avoid the topic is a missed opportunity.” (*The Wall Street Journal*)

“*The Opposite of Spoiled* is flush with practical ways to incorporate money lessons into family life. . . . Lieber’s style is conversational and frank, with a sense of humor. . . . It’s rare to find a book about finance with so much heart.” (*Associated Press*)

“Finally, an honest, modern, comprehensive and nuanced book about kids and money. Parents report that conversations about money fill them with so much dread and confusion that they change the subject rather than dive in. *The Opposite of Spoiled* comes to the rescue.” (Wendy Mogel, author of *The Blessing of a Skinned Knee*)

“Lieber’s book is intensely pragmatic, relentlessly anecdotal -- and that’s why I loved it. . . . A book that will start important conversations in lots of households.” (Claire Dederer, *The New York Times Book Review*)

“Ron Lieber’s tips are practical, accessible and, best of all, rooted in the desire to foster an honest dialogue with our children.” (Heather Stevens, “Balancing Act” column in *The Chicago Tribune*)

“*The Opposite of Spoiled* is a thoughtful, and often inspiring, book that also delivers dozens of smart, practical tips for turning conversations about money into lessons about living. If you’ve got kids, want kids -- or heck, have been a kid -- read this book.” (Daniel H. Pink, author of *Drive* and *To Sell is Human*)

“All of us worry about how to give our kids a proper dose of perspective and gratitude. Ron Lieber’s explanation of how money conversations imprint these good values (and so much more) is just the thing parents need to read right now.” (Madeline Levine, author of *The Price of Privilege*)

“We all want to raise children with good values, yet we often neglect to talk to our children about money. This engaging and important book breaks new ground by suggesting that the next generation deserves to be better at money than we are. A must-read for parents.” (Gretchen Rubin, author of *The Happiness Project*)

“An astute book filled with interesting anecdotes and wise lessons.” (*Forbes*)

“*New York Times* columnist Lieber makes a strong argument that money is something that children notice and talk about. . . . Lieber’s easygoing style will encourage parents to raise a new generation that’s both confident and compassionate.” (*Publishers Weekly*)

“Lieber guides parents in conveying the value and significance of money and how to use it wisely, how to spend and save, how to give and invest. Parents will appreciate the sound advice and broad perspective

Lieber offers on this important subject.” (*Booklist*)

From the Back Cover

We may not realize it, but children are hyperaware of money. They have scores of questions about its nuances that parents often don't answer, or know how to answer well. But for Ron Lieber, a personal finance columnist and father, good parenting means talking about money with our kids much more often. When parents avoid these conversations, they lose a tremendous opportunity—not just to model important financial behaviors, but also to imprint lessons about what their family cares about most.

Written in a warm, accessible voice, grounded in real-world stories from families with a range of incomes, *The Opposite of Spoiled* is a practical guidebook for parents that is rooted in timeless values. Lieber covers all the basics: the best ways to handle the tooth fairy, allowance, chores, charity, savings, birthdays, holidays, cell phones, splurging, clothing, cars, part-time jobs, and college tuition. But he also identifies a set of traits and virtues—like modesty, patience, generosity, and perspective—that parents hope their young adults will carry with them out into the world.

In *The Opposite of Spoiled*, Ron Lieber delivers a taboo-shattering manifesto that will help every parent embrace the connection between money and values to help them raise young adults who are grounded, unmaterialistic, and financially wise beyond their years.

About the Author

Ron Lieber is the "Your Money" columnist for *The New York Times*. Before joining *The Times* in 2008, he wrote The Wall Street Journal's "Green Thumb" personal finance column, was part of the start-up team at the paper's "Personal Journal" section, and worked at *Fortune* and *Fast Company* magazines. He is the author or coauthor of three books, including *The New York Times* bestseller *Taking Time Off*. He lives in Brooklyn with his wife, fellow *New York Times* reporter Jodi Kantor, and their daughter.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

George Nygaard:

This *The Opposite of Spoiled: Raising Kids Who Are Grounded, Generous, and Smart About Money* tend to be reliable for you who want to be described as a successful person, why. The reason why of this *The Opposite of Spoiled: Raising Kids Who Are Grounded, Generous, and Smart About Money* can be one of several great books you must have is giving you more than just simple looking at food but feed a person with information that might be will shock your previous knowledge. This book is handy, you can bring it everywhere you go and whenever your conditions in e-book and printed types. Beside that this *The Opposite of Spoiled: Raising Kids Who Are Grounded, Generous, and Smart About Money* forcing you to have an enormous of experience for instance rich vocabulary, giving you demo of critical thinking that we realize it useful in your day pastime. So , let's have it and revel in reading.

Micheal Summers:

Reading can called mind hangout, why? Because when you find yourself reading a book particularly book

entitled The Opposite of Spoiled: Raising Kids Who Are Grounded, Generous, and Smart About Money the mind will drift away through every dimension, wandering in each and every aspect that maybe not known for but surely might be your mind friends. Imaging every word written in a e-book then become one application form conclusion and explanation that will maybe you never get previous to. The The Opposite of Spoiled: Raising Kids Who Are Grounded, Generous, and Smart About Money giving you a different experience more than blown away your mind but also giving you useful data for your better life on this era. So now let us explain to you the relaxing pattern at this point is your body and mind are going to be pleased when you are finished reading through it, like winning a. Do you want to try this extraordinary shelling out spare time activity?

James Dungan:

This The Opposite of Spoiled: Raising Kids Who Are Grounded, Generous, and Smart About Money is great publication for you because the content that is full of information for you who also always deal with world and also have to make decision every minute. This specific book reveal it facts accurately using great coordinate word or we can state no rambling sentences inside. So if you are read the idea hurriedly you can have whole facts in it. Doesn't mean it only will give you straight forward sentences but tough core information with wonderful delivering sentences. Having The Opposite of Spoiled: Raising Kids Who Are Grounded, Generous, and Smart About Money in your hand like finding the world in your arm, data in it is not ridiculous a single. We can say that no book that offer you world inside ten or fifteen second right but this reserve already do that. So , this really is good reading book. Hey there Mr. and Mrs. active do you still doubt which?

Jose Brummitt:

In this era globalization it is important to someone to receive information. The information will make a professional understand the condition of the world. The healthiness of the world makes the information quicker to share. You can find a lot of references to get information example: internet, magazine, book, and soon. You can see that now, a lot of publisher which print many kinds of book. Often the book that recommended to your account is The Opposite of Spoiled: Raising Kids Who Are Grounded, Generous, and Smart About Money this guide consist a lot of the information of the condition of this world now. This particular book was represented so why is the world has grown up. The vocabulary styles that writer require to explain it is easy to understand. The actual writer made some research when he makes this book. That is why this book appropriate all of you.

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