

The Acorn People

By Ron Jones

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The Acorn People By Ron Jones

This true story of a boy who must overcome prejudice and weakness to treat a group of special needs children with the respect—and love—they deserve "will give your innards a bear hug. . . . You will read this book with a lump in your throat." (*Lincoln Journal*)

From Ron Jones, a teacher who started the classroom program that inspired the movie *The Wave*, comes a memoir about a life-changing summer.

Ron expected that his time as a counselor at Camp Wiggin would be filled with sunny days spent hiking, swimming, and boating. But when he arrives on day one, his illusions are quickly shattered. He knew that the kids would be "handicapped," but he didn't anticipate having to care for children who can barely walk or see or retain the use of their limbs. At first, the severity of the campers' disabilities seems too much to bear. But everything changes once Ron gets to know his group—kids who call themselves "the Acorn People" because of the acorn necklaces they wear around their necks. The campers teach him that, inside, they are the same as any average kid, and with encouragement, determination, and friendship, nothing is impossible.

"**A fantastic and beautiful story.**"—*Seattle Times*

"Uncomfortably moving, yet told in surprisingly unsentimental terms. . . . Succinct and tender, it **will haunt the reader long after** the brief passages have been read."—*Houston Chronicle*

"Ron Jones' true story of a group of handicapped children at summer camp is one of the most **poignant, beautiful and eloquent** tales to come this way in a long time."—*Flint Journal*

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Editorial Review

Review
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From the Inside Flap
Even though he knows the camp is for disabled children, Ron Jones anticipates sunny days of hiking, swimming, and boating as a counselor at Camp Wiggin. But he arrives and realizes how severely disabled the children are, it seems too much to bear. Until he meets his campers--The Acorn People. A group of kids who teach him that, inside, they are are the same as any average kid, and with encouragement, determination, and friendship, nothing is impossible.
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About the Author
Ron Jones is an author and has written several novels including *The Acorn People, The Wave, and B-Ball,* which have each been made into award-nominated television specials. Jones is a native San Franciscan, who still lives in California with his family. He is a graduate of Stanford University masters degree program in education and he taught theater and sports to the physically and mentally disabled for 30 years, but has since retired. Jones now enjoys writing and performing as a spoken word artist.

Users Review

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