



Side by Side: On Having a Gay or Lesbian Sibling (Hayworth Gay and Lesbian Studies)

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How would you react if your brother or sister came out to you?

"I'm proud to have been the first to know."

"My conservative upbringing contributed to the notion that John's behavior was sinful. The first thought I had about it was that my brother had somehow been misdirected, involving himself in the wrong crowd. How could he be gay? I was convinced we all had to help him overcome this problem. I equated being gay with having a mental disorder and thought maybe we should send him to a therapist."

"I love Beth very much. I am proud of her, thankful for her, and can't imagine life without her."

In this first-of-its-kind book, Andrew Gottlieb, the author of *Out of the Twilight: Fathers of Gay Men Speak and Sons Talk About Their Gay Fathers: Life Curves*, continues his landmark exploration at the intersection of sexuality and family studies. Here he turns his thoughtful gaze to the powerful bonds of brotherhood and sisterhood to address questions such as:

- How are we affected by the knowledge that a sibling feels same-sex attraction, and how does that knowledge impact on our relationships with our brother or sister?
- How do brothers and sisters of gay/lesbian people cope with stigma and homophobia?
- What if there's already a non-heterosexual sibling in the family—how does he or she react when another sibling comes out? Do each of their roles change?

"Besides the fact that Lee didn't conform to my notion of what a lesbian was (I, of course, always looked and acted the part), I wondered how this would affect my role as 'the lesbian of the family.' . . . Would this rock the boat? Would two lesbians in the family be one lesbian too many?"

In their own words, 18 men and women share their thoughts and feelings about their gay brothers and sisters. What they have to say is revealing—about themselves, about the nature of sibling relationships, and about their role as peacemakers. Gay men and lesbian women often disclose their sexuality to their siblings before anyone else in their families. *Side by Side* examines the impact of a brother or sister coming out and of the way that a gay person's siblings are sometimes placed in the position of being a social/moral bridge between the generations.

"Clearly Tina has been a major force in my life, and it doesn't just end with me. My three children and husband have all learned by Tina's example; we all do what we can to bring fairness and equality to everyone. With a smile on my face, I occasionally say to Tina, 'Look what you've done to me!' Without her, I would never be where I am or who I am."

The contributors to *Side by Side* come from varying religious and economic backgrounds. In plain language that is easily accessible to most adolescents and adults, they candidly relate the experience of what it was like to find out about their sibling's homosexuality and how that knowledge affected them over time. Some of their perspectives may surprise you. Many will move you. You'll also find a list of suggested readings and a list of organizations offering support and information for siblings of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender

people.

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From reader reviews:

Lori Leavitt:

A lot of people always spent their very own free time to vacation as well as go to the outside with them family members or their friend. Did you know? Many a lot of people spent many people free time just watching TV, or playing video games all day long. If you want to try to find a new activity that is look different you can read a new book. It is really fun for you. If you enjoy the book you read you can spent all day long to reading a book. The book Side by Side: On Having a Gay or Lesbian Sibling (Hayworth Gay and Lesbian Studies) it is extremely good to read. There are a lot of those who recommended this book. These folks were enjoying reading this book. When you did not have enough space to deliver this book you can buy the actual e-book. You can m0ore easily to read this book from a smart phone. The price is not very costly but this book has high quality.

Danny Johnson:

Playing with family within a park, coming to see the water world or hanging out with pals is thing that usually you might have done when you have spare time, and then why you don't try issue that really opposite from that. One activity that make you not feeling tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you are ride on and with addition of knowledge. Even you love Side by Side: On Having a Gay or Lesbian Sibling (Hayworth Gay and Lesbian Studies), you may enjoy both. It is great combination right, you still desire to miss it? What kind of hang type is it? Oh come on its mind hangout people. What? Still don't buy it, oh come on its identified as reading friends.

Jonathan Peterson:

In this era globalization it is important to someone to obtain information. The information will make professionals understand the condition of the world. The fitness of the world makes the information simpler to share. You can find a lot of sources to get information example: internet, newspaper, book, and soon. You can see that now, a lot of publisher which print many kinds of book. The actual book that recommended for you is Side by Side: On Having a Gay or Lesbian Sibling (Hayworth Gay and Lesbian Studies) this book consist a lot of the information from the condition of this world now. This particular book was represented how does the world has grown up. The language styles that writer use for explain it is easy to understand. Often the writer made some analysis when he makes this book. That is why this book ideal all of you.

Marline Deluca:

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