



# Front of the Class: How Tourette Syndrome Made Me the Teacher I Never Had

By Brad Cohen, Lisa Wysocky

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As a child with Tourette syndrome, Brad Cohen was ridiculed, beaten, mocked, and shunned. Children, teachers, and even family members found it difficult to be around him. As a teen, he was viewed by many as purposefully misbehaving, even though he had little power over the twitches and noises he produced, especially under stress. Even today, Brad is sometimes ejected from movie theaters and restaurants.

But Brad Cohen's story is not one of self-pity. His unwavering determination and fiercely positive attitude conquered the difficulties he faced in school, in college, and while job hunting. Brad never stopped striving, and after twenty-four interviews, he landed his dream job: teaching grade school and nurturing all of his students as a positive, encouraging role model. *Front of the Class* tells his inspirational story.

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

“This is a story for every underdog, for everyone who has ever stumbled in life, for anyone who thinks life has dealt them a little more than they can handle.” ?*Jim Eisenreich, former Major League Baseball player with Tourette's*

“Thank you, Brad, for your determination, your spirit, your compassion, and your perseverance, and thank you for daring to share it with all of us.” ?*Susan Conners, Education Specialist, Tourette Syndrome Association, Inc.*

“Brad Cohen has turned Tourette syndrome into an asset, and his life into inspiration.” ?*Senator Johnny Isakson, Georgia*

“This book provides a genuine and heartfelt message of hope in the face of a potentially devastating disorder.” ?*Neal Adams, MD, MPH, Psychiatric Services, Journal of the American Psychiatric Association*

“Strongly recommended reading . . . *Front of the Class* is the remarkable story of a remarkable man who learned to deal with a marked and all too remarkable affliction.” ?*Midwest Book Review, Reviewer's Choice*

“This story of how a child with severe obstacles to learning triumphed as Georgia's First Class Teacher of the Year is a testimony to the indestructibility of the human spirit.” ?*ForeWord Magazine*

“Brad Cohen's story is a triumph of hope, determination, will, and relentless good humor. His approach to living with Tourette syndrome proves how much is possible when you expect the best of everyone, especially yourself.” ?*Peter J. Hollenbeck, Ph.D., Professor and Associate Head of Biological Sciences, Purdue University*

“*Front of the Class* is not just a book about Tourette syndrome. It is a courageous and touching account of one young man's difficulties and triumphs in life.” ?*Sheryl K. Pruitt, M.Ed., Clinical Director, Parkaire Consultants and coauthor of Teaching the Tiger and Understanding Tourette Syndrome: A Handbook for Educators*

#### About the Author

BRAD COHEN is a motivational speaker, teacher and author, and the recipient of Georgia's First Class Teacher of the Year award. He founded a camp for children with Tourette's, and has appeared on *Oprah*. In 2006, *Front of the Class* won the Independent Publisher's *Education Book of the Year Award*. Brad's life is the subject of a Hallmark Hall of Fame Movie.

Coauthor LISA WY SOCKKY is an author, motivational speaker, and owner of a public-relations firm.

### Users Review

#### From reader reviews:

**Kelly Watson:**

Front of the Class: How Tourette Syndrome Made Me the Teacher I Never Had can be one of your beginning books that are good idea. Many of us recommend that straight away because this publication has good vocabulary that may increase your knowledge in words, easy to understand, bit entertaining but delivering the information. The writer giving his/her effort to get every word into satisfaction arrangement in writing Front of the Class: How Tourette Syndrome Made Me the Teacher I Never Had nevertheless doesn't forget the main stage, giving the reader the hottest as well as based confirm resource data that maybe you can be among it. This great information can drawn you into fresh stage of crucial imagining.

**Todd McCrea:**

You could spend your free time to read this book this guide. This Front of the Class: How Tourette Syndrome Made Me the Teacher I Never Had is simple bringing you can read it in the playground, in the beach, train in addition to soon. If you did not include much space to bring the actual printed book, you can buy the actual e-book. It is make you better to read it. You can save typically the book in your smart phone. And so there are a lot of benefits that you will get when you buy this book.

**Martin Duval:**

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**Karen Morris:**

What is your hobby? Have you heard that question when you got learners? We believe that that question was given by teacher to their students. Many kinds of hobby, All people has different hobby. And you also know that little person including reading or as reading become their hobby. You need to know that reading is very important and also book as to be the issue. Book is important thing to increase you knowledge, except your teacher or lecturer. You discover good news or update with regards to something by book. Amount types of books that can you take to be your object. One of them are these claims Front of the Class: How Tourette Syndrome Made Me the Teacher I Never Had.

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