

Our Better Angels: Stories of Disability in Life, Science, and Literature



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Our Better Angels: Stories of Disability in Life, Science, and Literature Do children and adults with disabilities enrich our lives? Far more than most people imagine.

Our Better Angels is a testament to the value of individuals with disabilities and the value that society could derive from being more welcoming to and inclusive of them. The reward is the powerful humanizing influence that they can have on others—even some of the most hardened people among us.

Colorful, real-life examples illustrate how a disability can be a valuable human attribute, a powerful source of compassion from which everyone can benefit.

What are the challenges that face us as we strive for a more inclusive society? What are the values that should guide us in our efforts? Smith approaches these questions by examining his own experience and other unique perspectives:

- Meet the children and adults with disabilities who have touched his own life
- Consider what science—and pseudoscience—has said about disability
- View disability through the lens of history and literature

The result is a compelling case for understanding and celebrating human diversity. Smith asks us to summon the "better angels" of our character and affirm our commitment to a society based on equality and democracy.

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