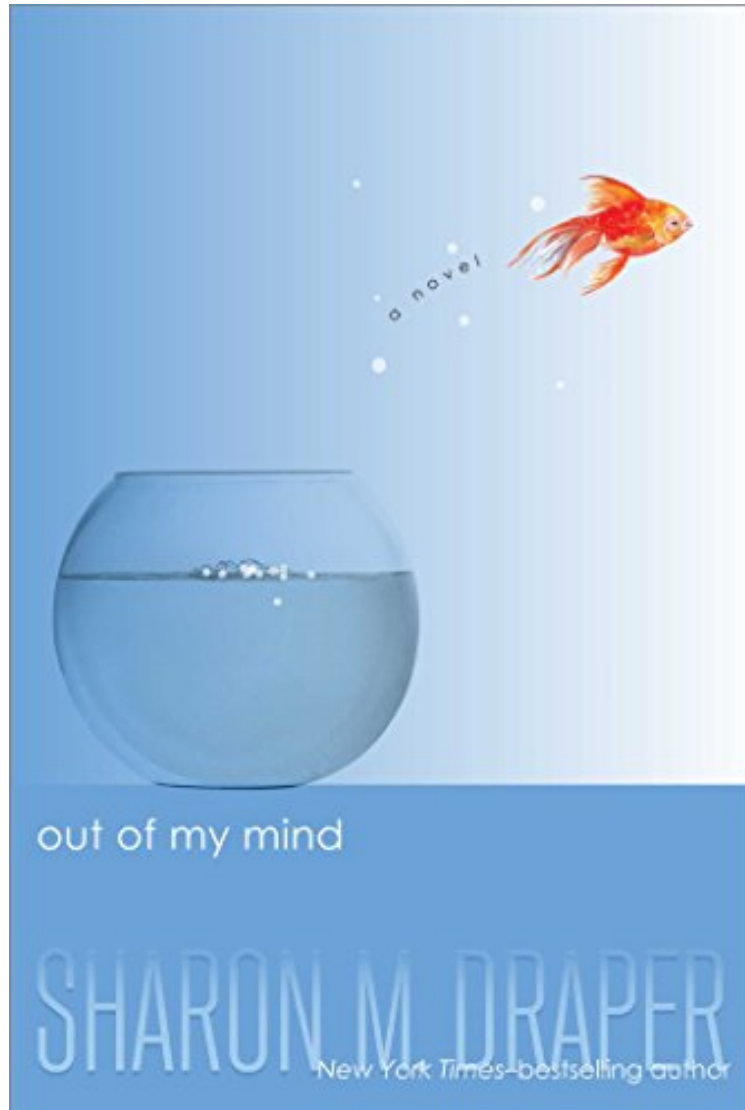


(Ebook free) Out of My Mind (English Edition)

## Out of My Mind (English Edition)

Von Sharon M. Draper

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**Von Sharon M. Draper : Out of My Mind (English Edition)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Out of My Mind (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. I Want to Tell YouVon BeatleBangs1964"I want to tell you, my head is filled with things to say." -- George Harrison, 1966"I want to fly like an eagle, till I'm free. Fly like an eagle, let my spirit carry me." -- Steve Miller Band, 1976"Yet those who wait for the Lord will gain new strength;They will mount up with wings like eagles;They will run and not get tired,They will walk and not become weary." -- Isaiah, 40:31Sharon Draper is a genius. It's as simple as that. I have

enjoyed all of her books, but this one is my personal favorite. Diamond sharp and multi-faceted, it will reflect every possible emotion and reinforce to readers the value in reaching for the stars. Melody, 10 is literally a prisoner in her body and the pink wheelchair used to transport her. She introduces herself by saying that she is nearly 11 years old and has never spoken a single word. Her use of metaphors and persistent images is quite effective - words are like snowflakes to Melody. Each is distinct, with its own sound and meanings. They pile up high around her like snowdrifts. They can be tracked and followed. They can leave impressions. "Words are flying out like like endless rain into a paper cup. They slither while they pass, they slip away across the universe." -- Beatles from "Across the Universe, 1970

Melody has a severe form of congenital cerebral palsy (CP). She cannot move independently nor do basic self care skills. She also can't speak. She can, however recall just about every event and impression in her life. Her loving father, a Beatles fan reads to her and talks to her as he would a peer. He believes in his daughter's intelligence and ability to learn. He also shows her videos he has taken of her from the day she was born. Melody's mother, on the other hand treats Melody like an infant. Sad, but understandable given that Melody is trapped in a body that doesn't work and is not able to speak. In one memorable scene, Melody, then 4 had a meltdown in a megastore because she saw a display of blocks with toxic paint. Just that morning she had watched a news segment about how the blocks were recalled. Unable to speak out and warn people not to buy the blocks, she communicates as best she can, by trying to point at the blocks and shrieking. Naturally, Melody's mother thinks she wants the blocks and is embarrassed by her daughter's outburst. This unfortunate incident prompts Melody's mother to call the doctor, whose answer is to prescribe a sedative. Fortunately, Melody dodges the sedative bullet. Even so, Melody's loving mother and father remain her staunches allies and fight like tigers on her behalf. Ignorant and insensitive doctors and teachers, brutal peers and others who treat Melody as an oddity stand in stark contrast to those who really love Melody and are willing to see the real Melody behind the CP she has. A brilliant, truly gifted girl, Melody seeks a way to express herself to others. She attends a special needs class that offers some inclusion into non-special needs classes. She encounters the spectrum of peers and teachers ranging from truly kind to truly cruel. Things change when a wonderful device is brought into her classroom. This device allows Melody to speak! And speak she does! Her words soar like falcons; her impressions and observations brighten her immediate environment and naturally her life improves. She has an entry to the world! Sadly, not everybody is willing to accept Melody, the brilliant child as opposed to the helpless waif they had once believed her to be. Even so, Melody, a little raptor who had to beat her wings, takes off into full fledged flight. Melody is truly an inspirational and delightful character. Her natural expression is nothing short of brilliant. Her other sensory modes have some overlapping, so she appears to have some degree of synesthesia, e.g. seeing colors in songs and hearing as well as tasting colors around her. Her descriptions are like Michaelangelo's painting style - pure, natural and graced with exquisite detail. In addition to her extraordinary sensory perceptual skills, Melody is a virtuoso at reading other people. She has a wickedly funny wit, such as when she says that pink does not make her wheelchair cute. Her description of her father's flatulence issues and how funny his emissions are each time he takes a step is downright funny. She also describes her mounting frustration at not having a communication outlet as causing "tornadoes" to rise within her, resulting in major meltdowns. That is understandable, considering what she is grappling with. This book deserves a place of honor among all. I really think every educator, parent, child, medical professional and speech specialist should read this masterpiece. This book belongs up for discussion among students, educators, families and medical professionals. Sharon Draper is a truly gifted author. This book is like a mosaic - it is pieced together, making an incredible portrait. Readers travel down the emotional spectrum and feel everything from sadness, anger, joy, laughter and inspiration. Melody is part of that mosaic. Her classmates, some of whom are developmentally/cognitively delayed, have autism and physical and cognitive conditions are rightfully portrayed as PEOPLE and NOT their conditions. If nothing else, this book, which might make you cry will certainly help people to move beyond labels to seeing the real person. Stuck in Neutral is a good companion book to this one. Trueman's book, like Draper's remind readers never to assume that just because a person has severe CP which render them unable to talk or care for themselves, then they are incapable of comprehension. That is not true. Assuming people with severe physical challenges have the minds and are on the developmental plane of infants is a grave disservice to all. Melody's father was a wise man in that he talked to Melody in a normal tone and that he assumed she was learning. Everybody can learn and it is negligent cruelty to assume that they cannot. On a related note, many people with severe autism are just as trapped in a sensory prison which can result in absent to poor verbal skills. People with severe autism such as Tito Mukhopadhyay are, more often than not of normal to gifted intelligence. Tito, a gifted young man with severe autism was trapped in a limbo of silence until he received one-on-one facilitated communication. Tito's mother, Soma, was a strong advocate for her son, much like Melody's parents are in this book. Soma knew that there was a linguistic key that would open the door to the world for Tito. Tito has even said in *Strange Son* and *How Can I Talk If My Lips Don't Move: Inside My Autistic Mind* that he has trouble using more than one sensory mode at a time and that in turn had a negative impact on his ability to communicate. The words were always there, inside him waiting to come out. Like Paul McCartney's 1968 "Blackbird," he took his broken wings and learned to fly. Melody bears a similar resemblance to Tito, but their barriers to communication are far different. Even so, the result is the same, just as when they were liberated with a way to make communication accessible. George Harrison's 1966 gem "I Want to Tell You"

is the soundtrack of this book, together with the Beatles' classic "Across the Universe." This book is a masterpiece. Please read it and share it with somebody. You will be glad that you did. "Window Boy" by Andrea White is an excellent companion book to this one.

1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Courtesy of Teens Read Too Von Teens Read Too Sharon M. Draper is one of my favorite authors. Her books usually focus on high school characters living through high school problems. OUT OF MY MIND heads in a different direction. The main character is faced with the daily struggle of living with severe cerebral palsy. Draper takes readers into a world most can't even come close to imagining. Melody is trapped not only in a wheelchair but also in her own body. She has very little control over her physical functions. She can't walk, can't feed herself, but the worst thing is she can't communicate beyond grunts, squeals, and unreliable facial expressions. People might think her biggest problems are her obvious physical disabilities, but if Melody could speak, she would reveal that she is actually a very smart young girl. She has a photographic memory, and from as early as she can remember, she has been learning words and storing them away. She learned her alphabet, how to count, and gained early reading skills just like every other youngster whose parents sat them in front of the TV to watch Sesame Street. Melody even has a fairly decent command of a second language, Spanish, thanks to the cultural diversity of preschool TV programming. The fact remains, no one knows because Melody can't tell them. Fortunately, Melody's parents sense that their child is intelligent and capable of learning just like every other child, maybe even more so. They speak for Melody and insist she attend public school. It hasn't always been successful, because school officials place Melody in a special education room where the teachers haven't always given her the attention she deserves. With the help of one devoted teacher, a college teacher's aide, and a loving neighbor, Melody is given a chance to learn - and also a chance to speak in her own unique way. Melody's world opens even more when she is mainstreamed into several regular classrooms. She gains confidence and the knowledge that she is as smart as or smarter than many kids her age. With the academic playing field on the level with her peers, she is able to show off her skills and make some friends. However, even though fitting in and being "normal" may be her greatest desire, it might prove to be an impossible dream. My heart went out to Melody as she struggled to communicate with those around her. Sharon M. Draper captures the frustration Melody faces every moment of every day. Even though Draper provides a supportive family for Melody, she also shows the frustration of raising a child like Melody. With a direct and frank approach, Draper reveals the ups and downs of dealing with cerebral palsy. Draper covers everything from the physical challenges to the crushing guilt associated with having and raising a child with the condition in her trademark style.

Reviewed by: Sally Kruger, aka "Readingjunkie" 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Berhrend, aber nicht so gut wie "Wonder" Von Customer Nachdem ich damals "Wonder" gelesen hatte, war ich einfach nur begeistert von diesem Buch gewesen. Aus diesem Grund wollte ich etwas hnliches in dieser Richtung lesen und "Out of my Mind" ist mir da ins Auge gesprungen. Auch die Leseprobe konnte mich total berzeugen, ich musste sogar weinen. Jedoch muss ich sagen, dass dieses Buch mich nicht vllig begeistern konnte. Ich mochte Melody als Protagonistin sehr gerne. Sie ist sehr intelligent und wnscht sich nichts sehnlicher, als einfach mit ihren Mitmenschen kommunizieren zu knnen. Ihren Vater fand ich auch sehr toll und seine Liebe zu seiner Tochter war immer deutlich sprbar. Das gleiche gilt auch fr die Mutter, aber ich fand sie aus irgendeinem Grund nicht wirklich sympathisch. Vielleicht wre es ganz gut gewesen, auch aus ihrer Sicht zu lesen, denn ich konnte sie einfach nicht leiden. Was mir hier auch gefehlt hat, war der Witz, der Charme. Natrlich ist die Situation fr keinen der Beteiligten einfach, trotzdem hat sich hier alles so schwer angefhlt. Auch die Story konnte mich nicht wirklich mitreißen, mir hat da einfach ein Spannungsbogen gefehlt. Leider nicht so gut wie erwartet, trotzdem ist dieses Buch eine gute Message fr jeden und zeigt einem auf, wozu der Mensch fhig ist, selbst wenn er beeinträchtigt ist.

**Kurzbeschreibung** Over 1.5 million people have read the #1 New York Times bestseller *Out of My Mind* and discovered the brilliant mind of Melody Brooks. *Out of My Mind* spent two years on the New York Times bestseller list! If there's one book teens and parents (and everyone else) should read this year, *Out of My Mind* should be it.

Denver Post A gutsy, candid, and compelling story. It speaks volumes. School Library Journal (starred review) Unflinching and realistic. Kirkus s (starred review) Uplifting This moving novel will make activists of us all. Booklist (starred review) From multiple award-winning author Sharon Draper comes a story that will forever change how we all look at anyone with a disability, perfect for fans of RJ Palacio's *Wonder*. Eleven-year-old Melody is not like most people. She can't walk. She can't talk. She can't write. All because she has cerebral palsy. But she also has a photographic memory; she can remember every detail of everything she has ever experienced. She's the smartest kid in her whole school, but NO ONE knows it. Most people her teachers, her doctors, her classmates dismiss her as mentally challenged because she can't tell them otherwise. But Melody refuses to be defined by her disability. And she's determined to let everyone know it somehow.

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difficulties of a young person with cerebral palsy. -Kirkus STARRED REVIEW This powerful story by a two-time Coretta Scott King winner offers a wrenching insight into so many vital lives that the able-bodied overlook. If there's only one book teens and parents (and everyone else) can read this year, "Out of My Mind" should be it. --The Denver Post

\*Born with cerebral palsy, Melody, 10, has never spoken a word. She is a brilliant fifth grader trapped in an uncontrollable body. Her world is enhanced by insight and intellect, but gypped by physical limitations and misunderstandings. She will never sing or dance, talk on the phone, or whisper secrets to her friends. She's not complaining, though; she's planning and fighting the odds. In her court are family, good neighbors, and an attentive student teacher. Pitted against her is the "normal" world: schools with limited resources, cliquish girls, superficial assumptions, and her own disability. Melody's life is tragically complicated. She is mainly placed in the special-ed classroom where education means being babysat in a room with replayed cartoons and nursery tunes. Her supportive family sets her up with a computer. She learns the strength of thumbs as she taps on a special keyboard that finally lets her "talk." When she is transitioned into the regular classroom, Melody's undeniable contribution enables her class to make it to the national quiz team finals. Then something happens that causes her to miss the finals, and she is devastated by her classmates' actions. Kids will benefit from being introduced to Melody and her gutsy, candid, and compelling story. It speaks volumes and reveals the quiet strength and fortitude it takes to overcome disabilities and the misconceptions that go with them." -School Library Journal

"STARRED REVIEW \*Fifth-grader Melody has cerebral palsy, a condition that affects her body but not her mind. Although she is unable to walk, talk, or feed or care for herself, she can read, think, and feel. A brilliant person is trapped inside her body, determined to make her mark in the world in spite of her physical limitations. Draper knows of what she writes; her daughter, Wendy, has cerebral palsy, too. And although Melody is not Wendy, the authenticity of the story is obvious. Told in Melody's voice, this highly readable, compelling novel quickly establishes her determination and intelligence and the almost insurmountable challenges she faces. It also reveals her parents' and caretakers' courage in insisting that Melody be treated as the smart, perceptive child she is, and their perceptiveness in understanding how to help her, encourage her, and discourage self-pity from others. Thoughtless teachers, cruel classmates, Melody's unattractive clothes ("Mom seemed to be choosing them by how easy they'd be to get on me"), and bathroom issues threaten her spirit, yet the brave Melody shines through. Uplifting and upsetting, this is a book that defies age categorization, an easy enough read for upper-elementary students yet also a story that will enlighten and resonate with teens and adults. Similar to yet the antithesis of Terry Trueman's *Stuck in Neutral* (2000), this moving novel will make activists of us all. -"Booklist

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Melody Brooks, in a wheelchair and unable to speak, narrates this story about finding her voice. The first half of the book catalogues Melody's struggles--from her frustration with learning the same preschool lessons year after year to her inability to express a craving for a Big Mac. Draper, whose daughter has cerebral palsy, writes with authority, and the rage behind Melody's narrative is perfectly illustrated in scenes demonstrating the startling ignorance of many professionals (a doctor diagnoses Melody as "profoundly retarded"), teachers, and classmates. The lack of tension in the plot is resolved halfway through when Melody, at age 10, receives a talking computer, allowing her to "speak." Only those with hearts of stone won't blubber when Melody tells her parents "I love you" for the first time. Melody's off-the-charts smarts are revealed when she tests onto her school's quiz bowl team, and the story shifts to something closer to *The View from Saturday* than *Stuck in Neutral*. A horrific event at the end nearly plunges the story into melodrama and steers the spotlight away from Melody's determination, which otherwise drives the story. Ages 10-up. (Mar.) -"Publishers Weekly"

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