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The Boy Who Played with Fusion: Extreme Science, Extreme Parenting, and How to Make a Star

Tom Clynes

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2016 PEN/E. O. Wilson Literary Science Writing Award Finalist

“The amazing story of an unbelievable boy . . . The world that opens up to us through his story is both fascinating and slightly terrifying . . . but in a good way. You won’t be able to walk away from this tale.” — Elizabeth Gilbert, author of *Eat, Pray, Love*

“Imagine if cartoon whiz kid Jimmy Neutron were real and had a brainchild with MacGyver and his adolescence got told as a rollicking bildungsroman about American prodigies and DIY nuclear reactors—well, that’s this book.” —Jack Hitt, author of *Bunch of Amateurs*

By the age of nine, Taylor Wilson had mastered the science of rocket propulsion. At eleven, his grandmother’s cancer diagnosis inspired him to investigate new ways to produce medical isotopes. And by fourteen, Wilson had built a 500-million-degree reactor and become the youngest person in history to achieve nuclear fusion. How could someone so young achieve so much, and what can Wilson’s story teach parents and teachers about how to support high-achieving kids?

In *The Boy Who Played with Fusion*, science journalist Tom Clynes narrates Taylor’s extraordinary journey—from his Arkansas home, to a unique public high school just for academic superstars, to the present, when Wilson is designing devices to prevent terrorists from shipping radioactive material and inspiring a new generation to take on the challenges of science.

“Clynes guides us on an engrossing journey to the outer realms of science and parenting. *The Boy Who Played with Fusion* is a fascinating exploration of ‘giftedness’ and all its consequences.” —Paul Greenberg, author of *Four Fish* and *American Catch*

“An essential contribution to our understanding of the most important underlying questions about the development of giftedness, talent, creativity, and intelligence.” —*Psychology Today*

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From reader reviews:

Mary Lee:

People live in this new time of lifestyle always aim to and must have the spare time or they will get lot of stress from both way of life and work. So , when we ask do people have free time, we will say absolutely without a doubt. People is human not really a robot. Then we ask again, what kind of activity do you possess when the spare time coming to a person of course your answer will certainly unlimited right. Then ever try this one, reading publications. It can be your alternative throughout spending your spare time, the actual book you have read is actually The Boy Who Played with Fusion: Extreme Science, Extreme Parenting, and How to Make a Star.

Gregory Howard:

Playing with family in a park, coming to see the ocean world or hanging out with close friends is thing that usually you have done when you have spare time, subsequently why you don't try issue that really opposite from that. Just one activity that make you not experiencing tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you have been ride on and with addition associated with. Even you love The Boy Who Played with Fusion: Extreme Science, Extreme Parenting, and How to Make a Star, you could enjoy both. It is good combination right, you still want to miss it? What kind of hang type is it? Oh can occur its mind hangout men. What? Still don't understand it, oh come on its known as reading friends.

Frank Johnson:

The Boy Who Played with Fusion: Extreme Science, Extreme Parenting, and How to Make a Star can be one of your starter books that are good idea. All of us recommend that straight away because this guide has good vocabulary which could increase your knowledge in vocabulary, easy to understand, bit entertaining but delivering the information. The article writer giving his/her effort to put every word into satisfaction arrangement in writing The Boy Who Played with Fusion: Extreme Science, Extreme Parenting, and How to Make a Star however doesn't forget the main stage, giving the reader the hottest and based confirm resource details that maybe you can be among it. This great information can certainly drawn you into brand-new stage of crucial considering.

Joey Mendoza:

Is it anyone who having spare time after that spend it whole day through watching television programs or just lying on the bed? Do you need something totally new? This The Boy Who Played with Fusion: Extreme Science, Extreme Parenting, and How to Make a Star can be the answer, oh how comes? A fresh book you know. You are so out of date, spending your extra time by reading in this brand-new era is common not a geek activity. So what these ebooks have than the others?

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