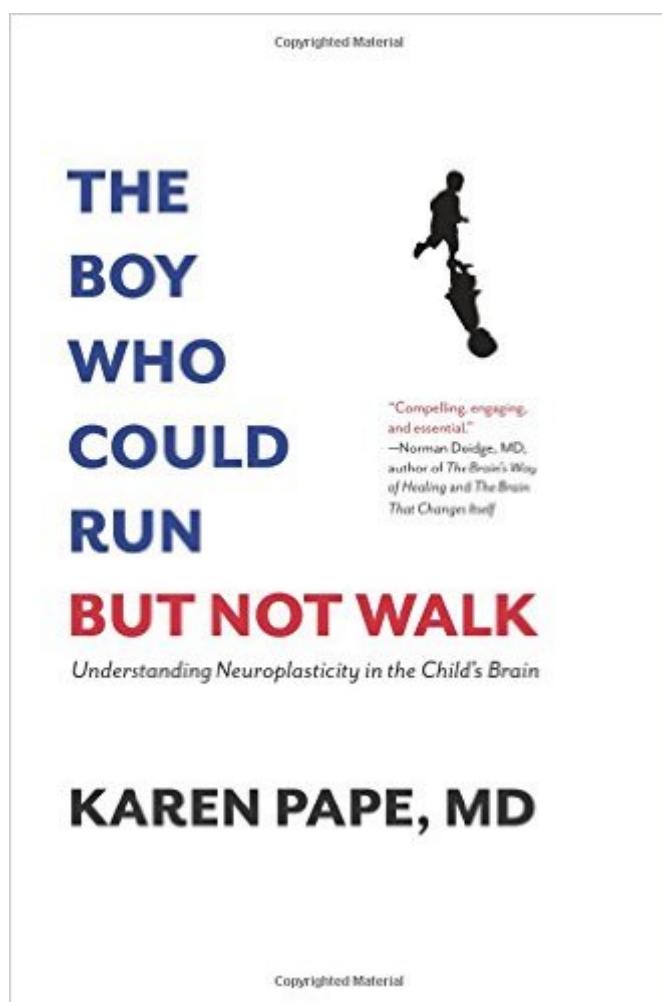


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# The Boy Who Could Run But Not Walk: Understanding Neuroplasticity In The Child's Brain



## Synopsis

In this groundbreaking book, Dr. Karen Pape tells the story of how some children with early brain damage astounded everyone around them. The brain injury they suffered at or near birth had led to motor problems such as the awkward gait we associate with cerebral palsy. Yet they were able to run, kick a soccer ball, tap dance, and play tennis. This was not supposed to happen. It ran counter to the prevailing belief that the brain is hardwired and fixed. When Dr. Pape first shared her remarkable findings, she ran into fierce opposition from mainstream medicine. Yet this courageous neonatologist didn't back down. In her clinical practice, Pape helped many young brain-damaged children to significantly improve their movement. It led her to ask why some of them could run but not walk with the same ease. Her answer was astounding: By the time they learned to run, their brains had healed. The awkward walking gait was actually a bad habit acquired while the brain was still damaged. This is the power and the beauty of neuroplasticity, the brain's amazing ability to change and heal. It has revolutionized the treatment of adults who suffer stroke. Now, for the first time, this remarkable book shows that children with a brain injury at or near birth can get better, too. These stories of children's recovery and improvements are a revelation—surprising, inspiring, and illuminating. They offer real hope for some of the world's most vulnerable children and a better understanding of how the baby brain grows and recovers. (Karen Pape M.D.)

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

In this ground-breaking book, Dr. Karen Pape provides a compelling mix of the latest discoveries in

brain science with a professional memoir of her decades-long personal struggle to help children whom the medical profession had largely written off as beyond help. As a neonatologist, Dr. Pape became interested in why some babies with brain damage recover fully while others develop cerebral palsy. Her exploration of recent advances in brain plasticity led her to successfully apply those principles in treating patients and to strongly advocate for the medical profession to pay attention to treatment advances typically denied to most families. . A compelling personal and scientific journey makes for a good read, filled with outrage, hope and promise.

A must read! I could not put this book down. Dr. Pape takes a refreshing yet very informative approach to explaining neuroplasticity, and how the brain CAN recover from traumatic brain injury. She shares many powerful stories from her real world experience as a leading neonatologist and neuroscientist, and gives tremendous insight as to what can be done to assist the brain with healing. Dr. Pape also has a positively unique take on hope; something that is not frequently seen or offered in the arena. I highly recommend all special needs parents, physical therapists, occupational therapists, neonatologists, neurologists, teachers, EA's, and pediatricians to read this book. Thank you Dr. Pape for this incredible page turner!

As an adult with cerebral palsy, I kept yelling, "YES! YES!" as I read "The Boy Who Could Run But Not Walk." Finally, a book written by a doctor who "gets it" when it comes to cerebral palsy treatment. John W. Quinn Author of Someone Like Me - An Unlikely Story of Challenge and Triumph Over Cerebral Palsy

Thank you Dr. Pape for this incredible book. As a parent of a child with CP, this book has provided me with insight and optimism. As an individual who has a general interest in the brain and behavior, this book is intriguing and difficult to put down. I would recommend it to everyone.

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