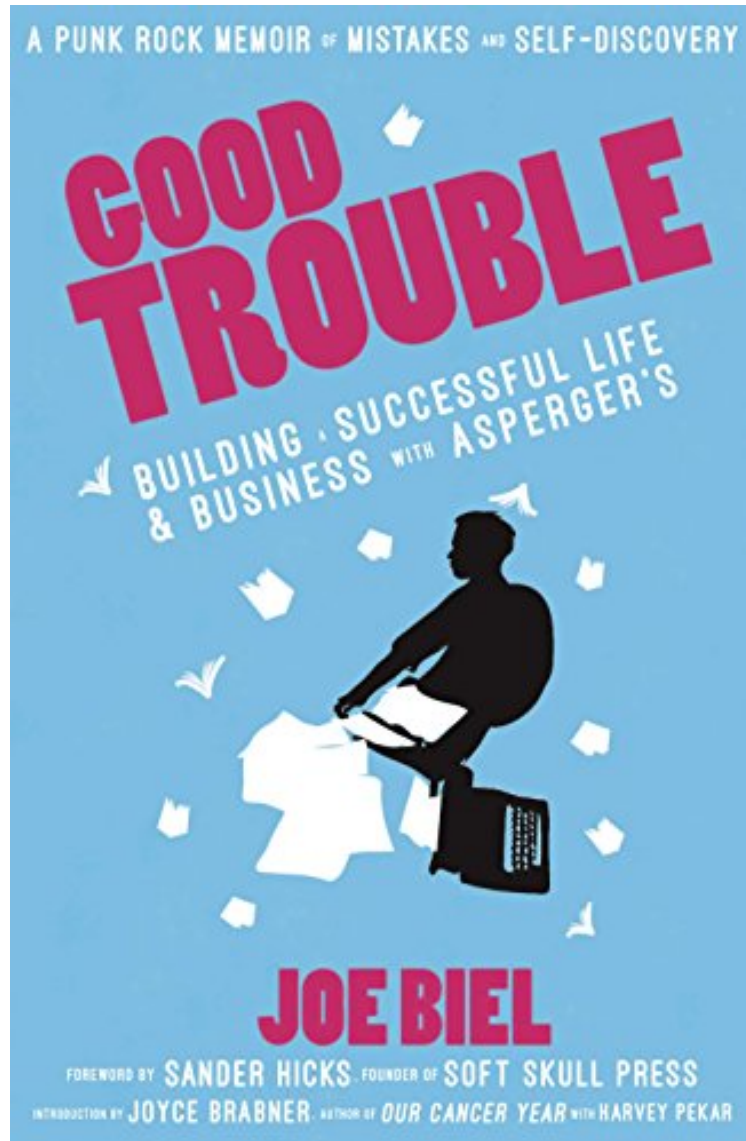


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## Good Trouble: Building a Successful Life and Business with Asperger's (Punx)

Joe Biel

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**Joe Biel : Good Trouble: Building a Successful Life and Business with Asperger's (Punx)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Good Trouble: Building a Successful Life and Business with Asperger's (Punx):

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Well worth the readBy Karenjane8Got this for my husband who is on the spectrum and he is really enjoying it. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Fascinating insight into the formation of an Indie PressBy PJ RoyallI really enjoyed this book. It offers fascinating insight into not only Joe

Biel's remarkable life but into the organic growth and impressive success of Microcosm Press. It is a story that would be of interest to anyone seeking to overcome adversity, and serves as an inspiration to small presses everywhere - thank you, Joe!

In 1996, everything about Joe Biel's life seemed like a mistake. He was 18, he lived in Cleveland, he got drunk every day, and he had mystery health problems and weird social tics. All his friends' lives were as bad or worse. To escape a nihilistic, apocalyptic worldview and to bring reading and documentation into a communal punk scene, he started assembling zines and bringing them in milk crates to underground punk shows. Eventually this became Microcosm Publishing. But Biel's head for math was stronger than his ability to relate to people, and it wasn't until he was diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome that it all began to fall into place. This is the story of how, over 20 years, one person turned a litany of continuing mistakes and seeming wrong turns into a happy, fulfilled life and a thriving publishing business that defies all odds.

Praise for *Good Trouble*"So much happens in *Good Trouble*. The book is punk autobiography, an indie small business manual, a reason to worry about what urban sprawl does to cut young people off from diversity and culture, and a painful look at what hides in some homes, hurting too many of those kids." from the foreword by Joyce Brabner, co-author of *Our Cancer Year*"Joe Biel is a part of a legacy lineage of independent publishers who scraped up just enough spare change to begin to put new voices into print...After I read *Good Trouble* my head was buzzing, my ears heard a silent ringing, I suddenly had new eyes to see my own life." Sander Hicks, founder of Soft Skull Press"I could not put this book down. Joe's struggle to run one of the staple businesses of the punk community while negotiating his personal and professional relationships as a man with Asperger's make this story both educational and compelling. It's part self-help book for anyone who has trouble understanding his or her own emotions (which I think is everyone) and part biography. It's a fascinating read." Brea Grant, actress, *Heroes*, *Friday Night Lights*, *Dexter*"*Good Trouble* is a wild and bumpy ride - heartbreaking and heartwarming, raw and intensely personal. Joe Biel's complex relationships with people, punk, and Asperger's make for both a relatable memoir and an appropriate frame for the twenty-year history of Microcosm Publishing, whose readers and writers have tried to create a better future from the heavily burdened trenches of the present." Dawson Barrett, *Teenage Rebels*"Shows an alternate American business model one where vision and dreams trump financial resources and experience, and where DIY becomes the basis for decisions as Biel and the Microcosm staff define their own route to success inside American capitalism. A true American counter-culture story of the 90's to the present, *Good Trouble* presents one path to ensuring the survival of print. Lisa Wilde, *Yo, Miss*"*Good Trouble* is good medicine for anyone who's ever daydreamed of running a small business (or running away on a punk rock tour). Ayun Halliday, author of *No Touch Monkey!*: And Other Travel Lessons Learned Too Late