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# The Reluctant Father



## Synopsis

Phillip Toledano became a father at the age of forty. He fell in love with his daughter about a year and a half later, when he realized she was the most bewitching human being he'd ever seen. Initially, though, things were different. *The Reluctant Father* follows Phillip's journey at the beginning of fatherhood. The first eighteen months were a time of torment, dismay, and confusion. The blinding light of unalloyed love came later. It's a surprisingly frank, funny, and moving account, and he hopes his daughter won't hold it against him when she's grown up. In many ways, *The Reluctant Father* is a sequel to the best-selling *Days With My Father*, which documented the three years Phillip spent taking care of his father, who suffered from dementia. Phillip Toledano is an Englishman living in New York. With an established international reputation, he has been a photographer and artist for the last twelve years. In that time, he has published four books, ranging in subject from plastic surgery, phone sex, and failing businesses through to the last years he spent with his father. His work combines great poignancy with a rich vein of humor.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (12 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #275,409 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #26 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Photography & Video > Children](#) #231 in [Books > Parenting & Relationships > Family Relationships > Fatherhood](#) #364 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Photography & Video > Photojournalism & Essays > Photo Essays](#)

## Customer Reviews

This book was a gift to my son who loves his new son, but struggles with the major adjustment of moving from young adult to father. The book was honest and laid out the framework for a new father to build his esteem and abilities.

Don't get me wrong. I'm a ridiculously devoted parent... I am present emotionally, financially and

superficially (their favorite version). But kids are aliens. Phillip is right. People who devote their lives to their children (you know humblebragging through every situation -- even the most grown-up kinds), are insufferable. This is an honest description of dealing with the alien and eventually realizing they belong. His pictures are gorgeous. How words are honest. And his relationship with his wife is handled with the most beautiful longing. Nice work Phillip.

I ordered this book because the little girl looks like & reminded me of my cousin (now a mom herself) when she was little. I was initially intrigued by the People write-up it received. It's a cute book, lighthearted and funny and sweet. Love the photos, the craziness of the dad's "humor" in printing screaming baby photo plates, and the Mom's chill response to it all (isn't that how it always is?)

I bought this book for my husband after we had our first baby. I wanted to add some light humor to all the crying! It is a quick read - 10 minutes and it's over - but it's nice to leave on the coffee table as a reminder.

I got this for my husband. He struggled with being a parent - the demands, the crying the sleeplessness. All beautifully expressed here in this simple photo book. Simple yet documents the process in details. A thoughtful gift for new parents and to also let them know. It's ok. Not everyone takes to it immediately.

Congratulations to Phillip on writing a book that created much discussion. Hopefully this will cement parenting with loving children forever..

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