



For Immediate Release

Contact: Ron Miles

Phone: (407) 973-7240

Email: ron@jamesaxler.com

The last person to ride Snow White's Scary Adventures at Walt Disney World was a young man with autism. But the fact that it was his 3,500th ride is only a tiny part of the story.

Sitting firmly at the intersection of autism awareness, the magic of Walt Disney World, and heartwarming family storytelling, the new book "3500: An Autistic Boy's Ten-Year Romance with Snow White" recounts the true story of how a theme park attraction became a life-changing motivator for one autistic child.

WINTER GARDEN, Florida – Benjamin was diagnosed as being autistic at the age of 14 months. Throughout his early childhood the only thing that captured his attention was Disney movies and characters.

He grew up in Seattle, and when he was nine years old his parents took him on a trip to Walt Disney World. They didn't know what to expect, but they were absolutely amazed when he seemed to come alive right before their eyes. He became focused and present in a way they had never seen before, and remained that way for the duration of their vacation.

After a second trip a year later showed the same response, in 2003 they decided to move cross-country from Seattle to Orlando in order to use Walt Disney World as a giant therapy session to help bring Benjamin out of his shell.

Although he spent time all over the Disney theme parks, it was the ride *Snow White's Scary Adventures* that really captured his attention – riding it thousands of times over the course of ten years.

The ride closed permanently on May 31st, 2012, and Benjamin spent the final night of operation paying his last respects to the ride. With the assistance of some very special Disney cast members, Benjamin had a memorable night that included a visit from Snow White herself, who joined him on the ride for one trip.

As the word of Benjamin's devotion to the ride spread through the crowd, and on the internet via Twitter and personal blogs, Benjamin became the very last person to ever go on the ride.

Even more remarkably, Disney held the ride open for an additional thirty minutes when they learned that Benjamin was only seven rides away from finishing with the milestone number of 3,500. With Fantasyland cleared of all other park guests, the last half-dozen rides were completed with only a small group of family and friends (and enthusiastic cast members) to cheer Benjamin on. For the final ride, Benjamin rode by himself for the very first time in his life.

His father wrote a series of six blog posts describing the final night in detail, and that series of entries generated more than 100,000 unique visitors to the website in the month of June, 2012. With so much interest in the story, the father decided to write a book about his family's entire Snow White experience.

The result is the new book "3500: An Autistic Boy's Ten-Year Romance with Snow White" (ISBN: 1-482-09330-8) by Ron Miles, which tells not only Benjamin's story but also provides insight into the day-to-day life of a family raising a child with autism.

New York Times best-selling author Cory Doctorow (author of "Homeland", "Little Brother", and many others) had this to say about the book: "Brimming with heart and tragedy overcome, this is a book that captures the tribulations of parenthood, the magic of Disney World, and the wonderful online communities that allow us to lend aid and comfort to strangers around the world."

"3500: An Autistic Boy's Ten-Year Romance with Snow White" is available on Amazon.com and other online retailers in print, and as a Kindle download. Autographed copies of the book are available through the author's website.

For more information on "3500" visit the website at <http://shmoolok.com/Book>.

###

About the Author

Ron Miles is the proud father of an autistic son, a software architect, and a musician. Born and raised in the Pacific Northwest, Ron moved (along with his ex-wife, son, and then-fiancée) to Central Florida in the summer of 2003 in order to use Walt Disney World as a giant therapy session for his son.

He blogs about his son and other autism-related issues at www.shmoolok.com. He also runs a website dedicated to post-apocalyptic fiction at www.JamesAxler.com, as well at least a dozen other websites.

In his day job he works from a home office and writes the software that drives the Conferences & Events department of a luxury travel company.

He dreams of the day when he will finally be able to have a real conversation with his son, if only to find out what his son has really been thinking about all these years.

Book Facts

3500: An Autistic Boy's Ten-Year Romance with Snow White

Print: ISBN 1-482-09330-8, \$12.95, 246 pages, 6" x 9" trade paperback

Kindle: ASIN B00BFTDHSV \$2.99

Publ. Date: February, 2013

Media kit: <http://shmoolok.com/Media>