“This is the best, most thorough narrative of trans experience I’ve read: mind, body, and soul.”

—KATE BORNSTEIN

At the Broken Places
A Mother and Trans Son Pick Up the Pieces

Mary Collins and Donald Collins
In this collaborative memoir a mother and trans son reflect on the emotionally complex journey they shared as Donald transitioned from female to male.

“[An] affecting joint memoir...The book is an altogether invaluable and accessible addition to the growing body of transgender literature.”
—Booklist

“When one person in the family transitions, everyone transitions. At the Broken Places is a profoundly vulnerable and brave account of a son struggling to be seen by his mother, and a mother learning to see her child as he sees himself. A necessary and beautiful book.”
—Jill Soloway, Creator, Transparent

“An insightful resource for families, educators, and mentors, At the Broken Places illuminates the daily stress of figuring out where one fits, and how to get the world to see you as you see yourself.”
—Robin McHaelen, Executive Director, True Colors

Mary Collins is an award-winning author who worked for twenty years as a freelance writer and editor for the National Geographic Society and Smithsonian Institution. She is currently a professor of narrative nonfiction at Central Connecticut State University.

Donald Collins is a trans advocate, writer, and recent cum laude graduate of Emerson College. His culture and commentary writing has appeared in PopMatters, Salon, and Next Magazine, among others.