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## Biography for Mark Loewen



Mark is a psychotherapist, author, and dad.

Born in Asunción, Paraguay, Mark moved to the United States to pursue his counseling career. He met the love of his life in Richmond, VA. A few years later, they became dads through open adoption.

Mark is the founder of LaunchPad Counseling, a private practice in Richmond, VA, where he coaches parents in the biggest job they will ever have: raising their kids.

Raising a girl opened Mark's eyes even more to the unique challenges girls and women experience in today's world. Out of his desire to support his daughter in the best way he could, Mark took to researching and learning more about raising girls, specifically. He started [www.bravelikeagirl.com](http://www.bravelikeagirl.com), a

website that focuses on raising empowered girls.

His first children's book "*What Does a Princess Really Look Like?*" was released in 2018. The book tells the story of a girl's journey to expand her concept of a princess. Her dads help her understand that though a girl can be anything she wants, she doesn't need to be everything either, and she for certain doesn't need to be perfect.

"What Does a Princess Really Look Like?" was well received. LGBT parenting sites such as [Gayswithkids.com](http://Gayswithkids.com) and [Mombian.com](http://Mombian.com) praised the inclusion of a *two-dad family* in an everyday storyline. The librarian ran website [thebendybookworm.com](http://thebendybookworm.com) described the message of the book as "The beginning of a new beauty manifesto of beauty for young girls."

In 2019, Mark followed his picture book debut with the release of a companion coloring book. "The True Colors of a Princess" continues breaking stereotypes through powerful coloring and activity pages. Readers will be able to help the princess (because it's OK to ask for help), add specific characteristics to their princess (because princesses look all kinds of ways), and draw their own family (because princesses come from all family structures).

For more information, or to request a review copy, email [be@bravelikeagirl.com](mailto:be@bravelikeagirl.com) or visit [markloewenauthor.com](http://markloewenauthor.com).