

Tree House



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Christopher is building a tree house for Mason, who has just mastered walking and is now cramming for language. Mason's tree house will be his sovereign domain, his sanctuary, and his command center. When he is there, Mason's writ will run from rail to rail and he will be free to pursue his imagination, his philosophy, and his projects in his own way. I will respectfully request permission to come aboard.

I have my office. I can climb up to its entrance and lock myself in. Flipping the *In Session* slider outside my door is like pushing down a ladder or raising a drawbridge. If I have a client in my office we are in private there and, if not, I am in private by myself. The rules of the tree house are understood by those who need to understand them, and they

are not the rules of the ordinary world. In the tree house there is the freedom of conspiracy and of the outlaw dialect, which permits what might be unacceptable if it were overheard anywhere else. In the tree house there is no overhearing by those who have not been invited. In the tree house we can tell it like it is.

Mason will refine his perspective on the world in his tree house. There he will reflect on his experiences and interpret them for himself in private discourse with his mates, who love him and who will tell him their truth without reservation. It is like this in my office. You should come talk to me there. The password is "hello" or any other word like that. I promise not to tell. Call me.

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