

# The Bright Hour A Memoir Of Living And Dying

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Glitter and Glue - Kelly Corrigan 2015-02-17

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • A memoir from the author of *The Middle Place* about mothers and daughters—a bond that can be nourishing, exasperating, and occasionally divine. When Kelly Corrigan was in high school, her mother neatly summarized the family dynamic as “Your father’s the glitter but I’m the glue.” This meant nothing to Kelly, who left childhood sure that her mom—with her inviolable commandments and proud stoicism—would be nothing more than background chatter for the rest of Kelly’s life, which she was carefully orienting toward adventure. After college, armed with a backpack, her personal mission statement, and a wad of traveler’s checks, she took off for Australia to see things and do things and Become Interesting. But it didn’t turn out the way she pictured it. In a matter of months, her savings shot, she had a choice: get a job or go home. That’s how Kelly met John Tanner, a newly widowed father of two looking for a live-in nanny. They chatted for an hour, discussed timing and pay, and a week later, Kelly moved in. And there, in that house in a suburb north of Sydney, 10,000 miles from the house where she was raised, her mother’s voice was suddenly everywhere, nudging and advising, cautioning and directing, escorting her through a terrain as foreign as any she had ever trekked. Every day she spent with the Tanner kids was a day spent reconsidering her relationship with her mother, turning it over in her

hands like a shell, straining to hear whatever messages might be trapped in its spiral. This is a book about the difference between travel and life experience, stepping out and stepping up, fathers and mothers. But mostly it’s about who you admire and why, and how that changes over time. Praise for *Glitter and Glue* “I loved this book, I was moved by this book, and now I will share this book with my own mother—along with my renewed appreciation for certain debts of love that can never be repaid.”—Elizabeth Gilbert, New York Times bestselling author of *Eat, Pray, Love* “Kelly Corrigan’s thoughtful and beautifully rendered meditation invites readers to reflect on their own launchings and homecomings. I accepted the invitation and learned things about myself. You will, too. Isn’t that why we read?”—Wally Lamb, New York Times bestselling author of *We Are Water* “Kelly Corrigan is no stranger to mining the depths of her heart. . . . Through her own experience of caring for children, she begins, for the first time, to appreciate the complex woman who raised her.”—O: The Oprah Magazine

**Inside Out & Back Again** - Thanhha Lai 2013-03

Through a series of poems, a young girl chronicles the life-changing year of 1975, when she, her mother, and her brothers leave Vietnam and resettle in Alabama.

*Daddy's Briefcase* - Ashley Murphy 2010-12

*Please Enjoy Your Happiness* - Paul Brinkley-Rogers 2016-08-02

A war correspondent recounts his love affair with a mysterious older Japanese woman in 1959, when he served as a sailor aboard the USS Shangri-La.

**Half a Life** - Darin Strauss 2011-05-31

In this powerful, unforgettable memoir, acclaimed novelist Darin Strauss examines the far-reaching consequences of the tragic moment that has shadowed his whole life. In his last month of high school, he was behind the wheel of his dad's Oldsmobile, driving with friends, heading off to play mini-golf. Then: a classmate swerved in front of his car. The collision resulted in her death. With piercing insight and stark prose, Darin Strauss leads us on a deeply personal, immediate, and emotional journey—graduating high school, going away to college, starting his writing career, falling in love with his future wife, becoming a father. Along the way, he takes a hard look at loss and guilt, maturity and accountability, hope and, at last, acceptance. The result is a staggering, uplifting tour de force. Look for special features inside, including an interview with Colum McCann.

**Power of a Woman** - Robert Fripp 2007-03-15

Description: The feminine spirit soars in *Power of a Woman* as Eleanor of Aquitaine, toughest of medieval women, relates her memoirs: of caring and loyalties, triumphs and trials; of her marriages to two warring kings, Louis VII of France, then Henry II of England. She speaks intimately, emotionally of her too many quarreling sons, including Richard the Lionheart and John, of Magna Carta fame. A patron of troubadours, Eleanor commissions poetry as propaganda. She regales her readers with intrigues, crusades and tales of ruthless diplomacy against barons, kings, popes and Thomas Becket, while confessing her loves, her hopes for her many children, and their fates. In midlife her sense of community leads her to set up her Court of Ladies to balance male-dominated worlds of Church and state. Her mission: to empower women with the Grace she enjoyed as the femme fatale of her day. Eleanor's power of a woman lets her pluck triumph from her defeats as well as her victories. Reviews: Those of you who know me know that for me to give a work of historical

fiction a high rating, it has to offer something extraordinary. This Robert Fripp has done in *Power of a Woman*. In this highly unusual fictional autobiography, Mr. Fripp tells Eleanor of Aquitaine's story in her own words, as if she is dictating to a young lady in her household. *Power of a Woman*: review by Melissa Snell, Your Guide to Medieval History at About.com, which posts her full review at: [http://historymedren.about.com/od/ewho/fr/fripp\\_eleanor.htm](http://historymedren.about.com/od/ewho/fr/fripp_eleanor.htm) -Melissa Snell, Your Guide to Medieval History at About.com Finally! *Power of a Woman* brings us an autobiography of Eleanor of Aquitaine that is accessible and entertaining. Telling her story in Eleanor's voice, Robert Fripp brings us medieval Europe through her eyes. At eighty-one, she hasn't much time. We feel her urgency, the chill in her bones. Impeccable research and storytelling combine to make this a must for all who want to know more about this fascinating woman. Her definition of love survives to this day! What a great read. This is so gripping. I got so totally caught up in this story one night that I woke up with images of Eleanor in my mind, and Kate Hepburn's voice in my ear. I love this tale. -Veronica Prior, Round Rock, TX *Power of a Woman* is gripping in its wealth of detail. It makes me feel like I am in the midst of the action. Of all books I have read, this is the only one that makes me experience what it must have felt like to have lived through those troublesome, exciting times. Such a wonderful, exciting book! -Lady Shirley Cassidy, Dublin, Ireland Author Bio: British-born Robert Fripp gained a medieval outlook from five years on a choral scholarship in the choir of Salisbury Cathedral, the model for Lord of the Flies. He went on to study earth sciences before producing current affairs television for CBC in Toronto. He also: created IBM Visions magazine about high-performance computing; worked for Japan's public broadcaster; and wrote a book with great reviews, *Let There Be Life*, about cosmic and organic origins. *Power of a Woman* tells the memoirs of Eleanor of Aquitaine. Robert Fripp is hard to typecast; RobertFripp.ca may help.

*The Bright Hour* - Nina Riggs 2017-06-06

\* INSTANT NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER \*

"Stunning...heartrending...this year's *When Breath Becomes Air*." —Nora

Krug, The Washington Post “Beautiful and haunting.” —Matt McCarthy, MD, USA TODAY “Deeply affecting...simultaneously heartbreaking and funny.” —People (Book of the Week) “Vivid, immediate.” —Laura Collins-Hughes, The Boston Globe Starred reviews from \* Kirkus Reviews \* Publishers Weekly \* Library Journal \* Best Books of 2017 Selection by \* The Washington Post \* Most Anticipated Summer Reading Selection by \* The Washington Post \* Entertainment Weekly \* Glamour \* The Seattle Times \* Vulture \* InStyle \* Bookpage \* Bookriot \* Real Simple \* The Atlanta Journal-Constitution \* The New York Times bestseller by poet Nina Riggs, mother of two young sons and the direct descendant of Ralph Waldo Emerson, is “a stunning...heart-rending meditation on life...It is this year’s When Breath Becomes Air” (The Washington Post). We are breathless but we love the days. They are promises. They are the only way to walk from one night to the other. Poet and essayist Nina Riggs was just thirty-seven years old when initially diagnosed with breast cancer—one small spot. Within a year, she received the devastating news that her cancer was terminal. How does a dying person learn to live each day “unattached to outcome”? How does one approach the moments, big and small, with both love and honesty? How does a young mother and wife prepare her two young children and adored husband for a loss that will shape the rest of their lives? How do we want to be remembered? Exploring motherhood, marriage, friendship, and memory, Nina asks: What makes a meaningful life when one has limited time? “Profound and poignant” (O, The Oprah Magazine), *The Bright Hour* is about how to make the most of all the days, even the painful ones. It’s about the way literature, especially Nina’s direct ancestor, Ralph Waldo Emerson, and her other muse, Montaigne, can be a balm and a form of prayer. Brilliantly written and exceptionally moving, it’s a “deeply affecting memoir, a simultaneously heartbreaking and funny account of living with loss and the specter of death. As Riggs lyrically, unflinchingly details her reality, she finds beauty and truth that comfort even amid the crushing sadness” (People, Book of the Week). Tender and heartwarming, *The Bright Hour* “is a gentle reminder to cherish each day” (Entertainment Weekly, Best New Books) and offers us this important perspective: “You

can read a multitude books about how to die, but Riggs, a dying woman, will show you how to live” (The New York Times Book Review, Editor’s Choice).

**Losing Your Job and Finding Yourself** - Nancy Brout 2016-11-29  
Whether losing a job by layoff or by choice, this memoir and guide offers solace, insights, and actions to navigate a transition that can be traumatic, turbulent, and triumphant. Reading Nancy's story is like having a conversation with a trusted confidant and coach.  
24/6 - Tiffany Shlain 2019-09-24  
Winner of the Marshall McLuhan Outstanding Book Award  
Entrepreneur’s 12 Productivity and Time-Management Books to Read  
“I’m won over to a day with people, not screens...I tried Shlain’s idea. I highly recommend it.” —The New York Times “Tiffany Shlain is a modern-day prophet, brilliant and incredibly funny in equal measure...24/6 is timeless and timely wisdom.” —Angela Duckworth, #1 New York Times bestselling author  
This “wise, wonderful work” (Publishers Weekly starred review) demonstrates how turning off screens one day a week can work wonders on your brain, body, and soul. Do you wish you had more time to do what you love, think deeply, and focus on the people and things that matter most? By giving up screens one day a week for over a decade, Internet pioneer and renowned filmmaker Tiffany Shlain and her family have gained more time, productivity, connection, and presence. Shlain takes us on a thought-provoking and entertaining journey through time and technology, introducing a strategy for flourishing in our 24/7 world. Drawn from the ancient ritual of Shabbat, living 24/6 can work for anyone from any background. With humor and wisdom, Shlain shares her story, offering the accessible lessons she has learned and providing a blueprint for how to do it yourself. “Bolstered with fascinating and germane facts about neuroscience, philosophy, psychology, and the history of the concept of a day of rest” (Publishers Weekly), 24/6 makes the case for incorporating this weekly reset into our 24/7 lives, issuing a call to rebalance ourselves and our society.

*Half Sick of Shadows* - Laura Sebastian 2021-07-06

"Laura Sebastian is the next Madeline Miller. . . . a fierce, fresh, lyrical tale that will enthrall until the last page."--Kate Quinn, New York Times bestselling author of *The Huntress* A Popsugar Best Summer Read of 2021 A Bibliolifestyle Most Anticipated Summer 2021 Sci-fi and Fantasy Book "Magical, haunting, unique--I haven't been so excited about an Arthur book since I read *The Once and Future King* ."--Tamora Pierce, #1 New York Times bestselling author *The Lady of Shalott* reclaims her story in this bold feminist reimagining of the Arthurian myth from the New York Times bestselling author of *Ash Princess*. Everyone knows the legend. Of Arthur, destined to be a king. Of the beautiful Guinevere, who will betray him with his most loyal knight, Lancelot. Of the bitter sorceress, Morgana, who will turn against them all. But Elaine alone carries the burden of knowing what is to come--for Elaine of Shalott is cursed to see the future. On the mystical isle of Avalon, Elaine runs free and learns of the ancient prophecies surrounding her and her friends--countless possibilities, almost all of them tragic. When their future comes to claim them, Elaine, Guinevere, Lancelot, and Morgana accompany Arthur to take his throne in stifling Camelot, where magic is outlawed, the rules of society chain them, and enemies are everywhere. Yet the most dangerous threats may come from within their own circle. As visions are fulfilled and an inevitable fate closes in, Elaine must decide how far she will go to change destiny--and what she is willing to sacrifice along the way.

Such a Life - Lee Martin 2012-03-01

Lee Martin tells us in his memoir, "I was never meant to come along. My parents married late. My father was thirty-eight, my mother forty-one. When he found out she was pregnant, he asked the doctor, 'Can you get rid of it?'" From such an inauspicious beginning, Martin began collecting impressions that, through the tincture of time and the magic of his narrative gift, have become the finely wrought pieces of *Such a Life*. Whether recounting the observations of a solemn child, understood only much later, or exploring the intricacies of neighborhood politics at middle age, Martin offers us a richly detailed, highly personal view that effortlessly expands to illuminate our world. At a tender age Martin

moved to a new level of complexity, of negotiating silences and sadness, when his father lost both of his hands in a farming accident. His stories of youth (from a first kiss to a first hangover) and his reflections on age (as a vegan recalling the farm food of his childhood or as a writer contemplating the manual labor of his father and grandfather) bear witness to the observant child he was and the insightful and irresistible storyteller he's become. His meditations on family form a highly evocative portrait of the relationships at the heart of our lives.

*We Know How This Ends* - Bruce H. Kramer 2015-04-01

2010 had been a very good year for Bruce H. Kramer. But what began as a floppy foot and leg weakness led to a shattering diagnosis: he had amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. ALS is a cruel, unrelenting neurodegenerative disease where the body's muscles slowly weaken, including those used to move, swallow, talk, and ultimately breathe. There is no cure; ALS is a death sentence. When death is a constant companion, sitting too closely beside you at the dinner table, coloring your thoughts and feelings and words, your outlook on life is utterly transformed. The perspective and insights offered in *We Know How This Ends* reveal this daily reality and inspire a way forward for anyone who has suffered major loss and for anyone who surely will. Rather than wallowing in sadness and bitterness, anger and denial, Kramer accepted the crushing diagnosis. The educator and musician recognized that if he wanted a meaningful life, embracing his imminent death was his only viable option. His decision was the foundation for profound, personal reflection and growth, even as his body weakened, and inspired Kramer to share and teach the lessons he was learning from ALS about how to live as fully as possible, even in the midst of devastating grief. At the same time Kramer was diagnosed, broadcast journalist Cathy Wurzer was struggling with her own losses, especially the slow descent of her father into the bewildering world of dementia. Mutual friends put this unlikely pair—journalist and educator—together, and the serendipitous result has been a series of remarkable broadcast conversations, a deep friendship, and now this book. Written with wisdom, genuine humor, and down-to-earth observations, *We Know How This Ends* is far more than a

memoir. It is a dignified, courageous, and unflinching look at how acceptance of loss and inevitable death can lead us all to a more meaningful and fulfilling life.

**How to Write a Book in 24 Hours** - James Green 2015-03-09

Best-selling author James Green shares his own ground-breaking 6-step formula for producing top quality, highly successful non-fiction books in just 24 hours. 24 Hour Bestseller: How to Write a Book in 24 Hours will provide you with a 6-step writing blueprint that you can set on full 'rinse and repeat mode' providing you with a step-by-step recipe for writing success. After becoming disillusioned with his own writing struggles, the author decided to completely re-engineer the entire process, providing a plan for: generating and validating new book ideas; creating comprehensive book outlines; writing in a quick, easy and enjoyable way; publishing the completed books effortlessly. Inside 24 Hour Bestseller, you will learn: How to stir your creative juices to constantly think up new book ideas; How to validate and evaluate your ideas for maximum profit; How to create a solid book outline that will make the writing process a breeze; How to turn your writing into a fun game; How to stay motivated; When to outsource (and when not to); How to craft your book title and description for maximum impact; How to publish your book to KDP easily; Book pricing strategies; And much more... If you've become overwhelmed and disillusioned with the whole writing process, this book will be your guide and your tonic, re-energizing your authoring efforts. You'll be more productive than ever, and most importantly, you will find writing enjoyable once again! Whether you're a complete novice and have never even written a book before, are struggling to come up with new book ideas, or are a seasoned author who simply needs some tips on how to write more effectively, then this book is for you. 24 Hour Bestseller will guide you step-by-step through the entire formula and get you authoring for success once more!"

Living My Life - Emma Goldman 2006-04-04

Anarchist, journalist, drama critic, advocate of birth control and free love, Emma Goldman was the most famous—and notorious—woman in the early twentieth century. This abridged version of her two-volume

autobiography takes her from her birthplace in czarist Russia to the socialist enclaves of Manhattan's Lower East Side. Against a dramatic backdrop of political argument, show trials, imprisonment, and tempestuous romances, Goldman chronicles the epoch that she helped shape: the reform movements of the Progressive Era, the early years of and later disillusionment with Lenin's Bolshevik experiment, and more. Sounding a call still heard today, *Living My Life* is a riveting account of political ferment and ideological turbulence. First time in Penguin Classics Condensed to half the length of Goldman's original work, this edition is accessible to those interested in the activist and her extraordinary era

Lucky, Lucky - Nina Ellen Riggs 2009

The Iceberg - Marion Coutts 2016-02-02

Winner of the Wellcome Prize A finalist for the Samuel Johnson Prize and the Costa Award "A memoir quite unlike any other. It has the strength of an arrow: taut, spiked, quavering, working to its fatal conclusion...an extraordinary story told in an extraordinary way."—The Sunday Times "The most heartbreaking memoir of the year."—Independent on Sunday Winner of the Wellcome Book Prize, and finalist for every major nonfiction award in the UK, including the Samuel Johnson Prize and the Costa Award, *The Iceberg* is artist and writer Marion Coutts' astonishing memoir; an "adventure of being and dying "and a compelling, poetic meditation on family, love, and language. In 2008, Tom Lubbock, the chief art critic for The Independent was diagnosed with a brain tumor. *The Iceberg* is his wife, Marion Coutts', fierce, exquisite account of the two years leading up to his death. In spare, breathtaking prose, Coutts conveys the intolerable and, alongside their two year old son Ev—whose language is developing as Tom's is disappearing—Marion and Tom lovingly weather the storm together. In short bursts of exquisitely textured prose, *The Iceberg* becomes a singular work of art and an uplifting and universal story of endurance in the face of loss.

The Art of Death - Edwidge Danticat 2017-07-11

A moving reflection on a subject that touches us all, by the bestselling

author of *Claire of the Sea* Light Edwidge Danticat's *The Art of Death: Writing the Final Story* is at once a personal account of her mother dying from cancer and a deeply considered reckoning with the ways that other writers have approached death in their own work. "Writing has been the primary way I have tried to make sense of my losses," Danticat notes in her introduction. "I have been writing about death for as long as I have been writing." The book moves outward from the shock of her mother's diagnosis and sifts through Danticat's writing life and personal history, all the while shifting fluidly from examples that range from Gabriel García Márquez's *One Hundred Years of Solitude* to Toni Morrison's *Sula*. The narrative, which continually circles the many incarnations of death from individual to large-scale catastrophes, culminates in a beautiful, heartrending prayer in the voice of Danticat's mother. A moving tribute and a work of astute criticism, *The Art of Death* is a book that will profoundly alter all who encounter it.

**I'm Glad My Mom Died** - Jennette McCurdy 2022-08-09

#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER #1 INTERNATIONAL

BESTSELLER A heartbreaking and hilarious memoir by iCarly and Sam & Cat star Jennette McCurdy about her struggles as a former child actor—including eating disorders, addiction, and a complicated relationship with her overbearing mother—and how she retook control of her life. Jennette McCurdy was six years old when she had her first acting audition. Her mother's dream was for her only daughter to become a star, and Jennette would do anything to make her mother happy. So she went along with what Mom called "calorie restriction," eating little and weighing herself five times a day. She endured extensive at-home makeovers while Mom chided, "Your eyelashes are invisible, okay? You think Dakota Fanning doesn't tint hers?" She was even showered by Mom until age sixteen while sharing her diaries, email, and all her income. In *I'm Glad My Mom Died*, Jennette recounts all this in unflinching detail—just as she chronicles what happens when the dream finally comes true. Cast in a new Nickelodeon series called *iCarly*, she is thrust into fame. Though Mom is ecstatic, emailing fan club moderators and getting on a first-name basis with the paparazzi ("Hi Gale!"),

Jennette is riddled with anxiety, shame, and self-loathing, which manifest into eating disorders, addiction, and a series of unhealthy relationships. These issues only get worse when, soon after taking the lead in the *iCarly* spinoff *Sam & Cat* alongside Ariana Grande, her mother dies of cancer. Finally, after discovering therapy and quitting acting, Jennette embarks on recovery and decides for the first time in her life what she really wants. Told with refreshing candor and dark humor, *I'm Glad My Mom Died* is an inspiring story of resilience, independence, and the joy of shampooing your own hair.

**The Long Goodbye** - Meghan O'Rourke 2011-04-14

"Anguished, beautifully written... The Long Goodbye is an elegiac depiction of drama as old as life." -- The New York Times Book Review From one of America's foremost young literary voices, a transcendent portrait of the unbearable anguish of grief and the enduring power of familial love. What does it mean to mourn today, in a culture that has largely set aside rituals that acknowledge grief? After her mother died of cancer at the age of fifty-five, Meghan O'Rourke found that nothing had prepared her for the intensity of her sorrow. In the first anguished days, she began to create a record of her interior life as a mourner, trying to capture the paradox of grief—its monumental agony and microscopic intimacies—an endeavor that ultimately bloomed into a profound look at how caring for her mother during her illness changed and strengthened their bond. O'Rourke's story is one of a life gone off the rails, of how watching her mother's illness—and separating from her husband—left her fundamentally altered. But it is also one of resilience, as she observes her family persevere even in the face of immeasurable loss. With lyricism and unswerving candor, *The Long Goodbye* conveys the fleeting moments of joy that make up a life, and the way memory can lead us out of the jagged darkness of loss. Effortlessly blending research and reflection, the personal and the universal, it is not only an exceptional memoir, but a necessary one.

*Living with a Wild God* - Barbara Ehrenreich 2014-04-08

From the New York Times bestselling author of *Nickel and Dimed* comes a brave, frank, and exquisitely written memoir that will change the way

you see the world. Barbara Ehrenreich is one of the most important thinkers of our time. Educated as a scientist, she is an author, journalist, activist, and advocate for social justice. In *LIVING WITH A WILD GOD*, she recounts her quest-beginning in childhood-to find "the Truth" about the universe and everything else: What's really going on? Why are we here? In middle age, she rediscovered the journal she had kept during her tumultuous adolescence, which records an event so strange, so cataclysmic, that she had never, in all the intervening years, written or spoken about it to anyone. It was the kind of event that people call a "mystical experience"-and, to a steadfast atheist and rationalist, nothing less than shattering. In *LIVING WITH A WILD GOD*, Ehrenreich reconstructs her childhood mission, bringing an older woman's wry and erudite perspective to a young girl's impassioned obsession with the questions that, at one point or another, torment us all. The result is both deeply personal and cosmically sweeping-a searing memoir and a profound reflection on science, religion, and the human condition. With her signature combination of intellectual rigor and uninhibited imagination, Ehrenreich offers a true literary achievement-a work that has the power not only to entertain but amaze.

**Memoirs of a Security Contractor** - Paul Yurkin 2015-09-09

Paul "Chuck Norris" Yurkin has never been one to give up. A product of the inner city projects, he pulled himself up by the bootstraps and enlisted in the Marine Corps-serving proudly in Desert Storm before beginning a fifteen-year career with the Myrtle Beach police force. But when he saw the efforts of his policing failing to create any positive change, it wasn't long before Yurkin became jaded by the system as a whole. Seeking a new life for himself and his daughters, he met up with a private contracting firm and began training for a trip to sunny Afghanistan, where he would work on training the fledgling Afghan National Police. In the midst of two weeks of training in Virginia, he earned the nickname that would stick with him for years to come-and met three best friends that remained by his side through dangerous missions, misadventures, and the frustrations of being stationed abroad. In *Memoirs of a Security Contractor*, Yurkin tells the true story of his

time as a security contractor in Afghanistan in candid detail-in an eye-opening tale of determination, friendship, and never giving up.

**When Breath Becomes Air** - Paul Kalanithi 2016-01-12

#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • PULITZER PRIZE FINALIST •

This inspiring, exquisitely observed memoir finds hope and beauty in the face of insurmountable odds as an idealistic young neurosurgeon attempts to answer the question What makes a life worth living? NAMED ONE OF PASTE'S BEST MEMOIRS OF THE DECADE • NAMED ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY The New York Times Book Review • People • NPR • The Washington Post • Slate • Harper's Bazaar • Time Out New York • Publishers Weekly • BookPage Finalist for the PEN Center USA Literary Award in Creative Nonfiction and the Books for a Better Life Award in Inspirational Memoir At the age of thirty-six, on the verge of completing a decade's worth of training as a neurosurgeon, Paul Kalanithi was diagnosed with stage IV lung cancer. One day he was a doctor treating the dying, and the next he was a patient struggling to live. And just like that, the future he and his wife had imagined evaporated. *When Breath Becomes Air* chronicles Kalanithi's transformation from a naïve medical student "possessed," as he wrote, "by the question of what, given that all organisms die, makes a virtuous and meaningful life" into a neurosurgeon at Stanford working in the brain, the most critical place for human identity, and finally into a patient and new father confronting his own mortality. What makes life worth living in the face of death? What do you do when the future, no longer a ladder toward your goals in life, flattens out into a perpetual present? What does it mean to have a child, to nurture a new life as another fades away? These are some of the questions Kalanithi wrestles with in this profoundly moving, exquisitely observed memoir. Paul Kalanithi died in March 2015, while working on this book, yet his words live on as a guide and a gift to us all. "I began to realize that coming face to face with my own mortality, in a sense, had changed nothing and everything," he wrote. "Seven words from Samuel Beckett began to repeat in my head: 'I can't go on. I'll go on.'" *When Breath Becomes Air* is an unforgettable, life-affirming reflection on the challenge of facing death and on the

relationship between doctor and patient, from a brilliant writer who became both.

**The Bright Hour** - Nina Riggs 2017-06-06

"Built on her ... Modern Love column, 'When a Couch is More Than a Couch' (9/23/2016), a ... memoir of living meaningfully with 'death in the room' by the 38-year-old great-great-great granddaughter of Ralph Waldo Emerson--mother to two young boys, wife of 16 years--after her terminal cancer diagnosis"--

Seven Year Summer - Anna Byrne 2019-07-06

Finalist for the Whistler Independent Book Awards. Part memoir, medical guide and spiritual text, *Seven Year Summer* is the story of two women destined for death. While in her early 30s, Anna was diagnosed with a rare and aggressive form of lymphoma and spent over 2000 hours in Canadian hospitals. Seven years later, she met Eleanor, a woman in her 70s dying of renal failure. The two formed an unlikely friendship. Written largely while sitting bedside during the four weeks of Eleanor's dying, *Seven Year Summer* seeks to uncover how a person can remain emotionally, psychologically and spiritually intact when bodily survival seems improbable. Explored through the nuances of individual illness, the narrative arcs towards the pattern of life, loss and renewal that is the structure and sequence of the natural world and human life.

<https://annabyrne2.wixsite.com/mysite>

What You Don't Know About Charlie Outlaw - Leah Stewart 2019-06-18

The celebrated author of *The Myth of You and Me* explores an untraditional love story through the lens of a character actor who must finally become the hero of her own story. After a series of missteps in the face of his newfound fame, actor Charlie Outlaw flees to a remote island in search of anonymity and a chance to reevaluate his recent breakup with his girlfriend, actress Josie Lamar. But soon after his arrival on the peaceful island, his solitary hike into the jungle takes him into danger he never anticipated. As Charlie struggles with gaining fame, Josie struggles with its loss. The star of a cult TV show in her early twenties, Josie has spent the twenty years since searching for a role to equal that one, and feeling less and less like her character, the heroic Bronwyn Kyle. As she

gets ready for a reunion of the cast at a huge fan convention, she thinks all she needs to do is find a part and replace Charlie. But she can't forget him, and to get him back she'll need to be a hero in real life.

*My Overdue Book* - Peter Bright 2015-04-30

*My Overdue Book: Too many stories not to tell:* spells out the varied episodes in the life of a man who spent decades working in Hollywood. He began as a little boy in Cincinnati impressed early on by the broadcasting magic of radio and then TV in the middle of twentieth century America. His drive to get into broadcasting culminates in an early success that gets interrupted by an unexpected sidebar in The US Army and a subsequent tour as an Infantryman in Vietnam in the late 1960's. His yearlong excursion in "Fun City East," with its repeated life and death experiences, had lifelong effects on this soldier-of-media. Following his wanderings through the jungles of Vietnam, Bright's interactions with many of America's top public figures throughout his decades in radio and television come to life with intriguing stories that are personal, professional, positive and negative. It's life without a filter! Readers across generations will share and co-experience numerous real life feelings and emotions with writer Bright as his winding trail of life opens in front of them. book endorsement for peter bright; i always thought that peter bright and i had many things in common; we both grew up in ohio, we both had careers in the live event and variety side of television, and the few times we had times to talk i thought we shared a mutual philosophy toward the ups and downs of life. but it wasn't until i read his "overdue" book that i realized just what a rich and storied life peter has had and how much more deeply he had experienced the highs and lows, particularly during his years in the military, than i ever could have imagined. it really amazes me just how little we know about people we think we know, and just how much more we appreciate who they are when we are fortunate enough to have that background filled in by someone as articulate and able to express both facts and feelings as peter has in this book. when i started to read it, i thought all of those common events that we shared would be an interesting parallel track to my life and as such i would have a great frame of reference, but as i read

on, i realized just what an amazing story peter has to tell and just how well he tells it. ken ehrlich, executive producer, the grammy awards

**The Unwinding of the Miracle** - Julie Yip-Williams 2019

"Born blind in Vietnam, Julie Yip-Williams narrowly escaped euthanasia by her grandmother, only to then flee the political upheaval of the late 1970s with her family. Loaded into a rickety boat with three hundred other refugees, Julie made it to Hong Kong and, ultimately, America, where a surgeon at UCLA gave her partial sight. Against all odds, she became a Harvard-educated lawyer, with a husband, a family, a life. Then, at age thirty-seven, with two little girls at home, Julie was diagnosed with terminal metastatic colon cancer, and a different journey began. The Unwinding of the Miracle is the story of a vigorous life refracted through the prism of imminent death. Motherhood, marriage, ambition, love, wanderlust, tennis, grief, jealousy, anger, comfort, pain, disease--there is simply nothing this book is not about. Growing out of a blog Julie has kept through the past four years of her life (undertaken because she couldn't find the guidance she needed through her disease), this is the story of a life lived so well, and cut too short. It is inspiring and instructive, delightful and shattering. It is a book of indelible moments, seared deep. With glorious humor, beautiful and bracing honesty, and the cleansing power of well-deployed anger, Julie Yip-Williams has set the stage for her lasting legacy and one final miracle: the story of her life"--

Once More We Saw Stars - Jayson Greene 2019-05-14

"A gripping and beautiful book about the power of love in the face of unimaginable loss." --Cheryl Strayed For readers of *The Bright Hour* and *When Breath Becomes Air*, a moving, transcendent memoir of loss and a stunning exploration of marriage in the wake of unimaginable grief. As the book opens: two-year-old Greta Greene is sitting with her grandmother on a park bench on the Upper West Side of Manhattan. A brick crumbles from a windowsill overhead, striking her unconscious, and she is immediately rushed to the hospital. But although it begins with this event and with the anguish Jayson and his wife, Stacy, confront in the wake of their daughter's trauma and the hours leading up to her

death, *Once More We Saw Stars* quickly becomes a narrative that is as much about hope and healing as it is about grief and loss. Jayson recognizes, even in the midst of his ordeal, that there will be a life for him beyond it--that if only he can continue moving forward, from one moment to the next, he will survive what seems unsurvivable. With raw honesty, deep emotion, and exquisite tenderness, he captures both the fragility of life and absoluteness of death, and most important of all, the unconquerable power of love. This is an unforgettable memoir of courage and transformation--and a book that will change the way you look at the world.

**The Widower's Notebook** - Jonathan Santlofer 2018-07-10

Written with unexpected humor and great warmth, *The Widower's Notebook* is a portrait of a marriage, an account of the complexities of finding oneself single again after losing your spouse, and a story of the enduring power of familial love. "This is deeply moving ... beautifully written and modulated, with a dollop of droll, black humor. It is such an achievement, like running uphill against a strong wind."--Joyce Carol Oates On a summer day in New York Jonathan Santlofer discovers his wife, Joy, gasping for breath on their living room couch. After a frenzied 911 call, an ambulance race across Manhattan, and hours pacing in a hospital waiting room, a doctor finally delivers the fateful news. Consumed by grief, Jonathan desperately tries to pursue life as he always had--writing, social engagements, and working on his art--but finds it nearly impossible to admit his deep feelings of loss to anyone, not even his to beloved daughter, Doria, or to himself. As Jonathan grieves and heals, he tries to unravel what happened to Joy, a journey that will take him nearly two years.

*Crazy* - H. R. Stokes, III 2012-07-26

*CRAZY A MEMOIR* is a humorous, adventuresome romp about weed smuggling in the seventies and eighties. The author chronicles his early life in San Antonio and the influence of the growing drug culture during his teen years. He then comically depicts his required military service as a "tie-dyed hippie in army greens" and his determined attempts to stay out of Viet Nam. Lost and unsure about life following the drug related

deaths of most of his friends, he later hitchhikes around Mexico and ends up attending college in Cholula where he begins his career in weed smuggling. His entrepreneurial efforts in this area are humorously described in great detail. The book captures a slice of time, tying in political and cultural events with the author's concomitant psychological development during the hippie movement as well as his evolving career as a drug smuggler for the Cause.

**The Bright Hour** - Nina Riggs 2017-06-19

A New York Times Bestseller: 'You can read a multitude of books about how to die, but Riggs, a dying woman, will show you how to live.' Most Anticipated Summer Reading Selection by \* The Washington Post \* Glamour \* The Seattle Times \* Real Simple \* The Atlanta Journal-Constitution In 2015 poet and writer Nina Riggs was diagnosed with breast cancer, and it metastasised later that year. She was thirty-eight years old, married to the love of her life and the mother of two small boys; her mother had died only a few months earlier from multiple myeloma. *The Bright Hour: A Memoir of Living and Dying* is Nina's intimate, unflinching account of 'living with death in the room'. She tells her story in a series of absurd, poignant and often hilarious vignettes drawn from a life that has 'no real future or arc left to it, yet still goes on as if it does'. This unforgettable memoir leads the reader into the innermost chambers of the writer's life: into the mind and heart, the work and home and family, of a young woman alternately seeking to make peace with and raging against the reality of her approaching death. Nina Riggs received her MFA in poetry in 2004 and published a book of poems, *Lucky, Lucky*, in 2009. She wrote about life with metastatic breast cancer on her blog, *Suspicious Country*; her recent work appeared in the *Washington Post* and the *New York Times*. She lived with her husband and sons and dogs in Greensboro, North Carolina. Starred reviews from \* Kirkus Reviews \* Publishers Weekly \* Library Journal \*  
REVIEWS FOR THE BRIGHT HOUR BY NINA RIGGS 'Profound and poignant...I put down *The Bright Hour* a slightly different, and better, person - unbearably sad and also feeling, as Riggs did, "the hug of the world."' O Magazine 'Stunning...heartrending...this year's *When Breath*

*Becomes Air*.' The *Washington Post* 'Often funny and absurd, *The Bright Hour* is about sitting with your own mortality, and the idea of your life coming to an end always being in the room with you...Nina reminds us not to waste time under the covers and instead get out there and make the most of it.' Frankie 'Gorgeous and brave, Nina Riggs's memoir explodes with life and insight even amid ruin—with lines so poetic they knocked the wind out of me. It's heartbreaking, funny, clear-eyed, and entirely devoid of cliché. This book is her hard-won treasure, and ours.' Dr Lucy Kalanithi, author of *When Breath Becomes Air* "Beautiful and haunting." Matt McCarthy, USA Today "Deeply affecting...simultaneously heartbreaking and funny." People, (Book of the Week) "Vivid, immediate." Laura Collins-Hughes, The Boston Globe 'How a woman can have this much emotional clarity and narrative power while fighting for her life should astonish every last one of us. Magical. Unforgettable.' Kelly Corrigan 'A luminous, heartbreaking symphony of wit, wisdom, pain, parenting and perseverance against insurmountable odds.' Starred Review, Kirkus Reviews 'A moving reminder of the precious gift of life.' Mindfood 'The *Bright Hour* is, as the subtitle indicates, an account of life and death, but it's the living that shines, in this gloriously irreverent, sometimes objective account of the author's terminal cancer.' Good Reading '[A] deeply moving (and often funny) memoir.' Marie Claire 'Incredibly insightful...A meditation on life and how to live and, in the end, how to die.' Australian '[Riggs] doesn't gloss over what lies ahead, and the results are at times hilarious. Heartbreaking, honest and uplifting.' Woman's Day 'In this tender memoir Riggs displays a keen awareness of and reverence for all the moments of life—both the light, and the dark, "the cruel, and the beautiful"' Publishers Weekly "This gorgeous chronicle of the last year of her life - brimming with seemingly mundane details about parenting, buying a couch, getting a puppy - is a gentle reminder to cherish each day.' Best New Books, Entertainment Weekly "Touching and wickedly funny.' Glamour 'The antithesis of grim: an irreverent and poignant Baedeker through the country of illness.' Wall Street Journal 'Her observations about cancer are frank and unsentimental [but] they are also tart and hilarious...Like the bestselling

When *Breath Becomes Air*, the work she left behind is a beautiful testament to the quiet magic of everyday life and making the most of the time we are given, whether it's spent taking last-minute trips to Paris, wallpapering the mudroom, or reveling in a newly purchased couch.' New York Post 'As a poet she composed *The Bright Hour* with delicacy, love of language, full awareness, and a realism that almost hurts to read and absorb...A family history, a personal memoir, and a roadmap for others to follow, *The Bright Hour* is a story to embrace, learn from and recommend to good friends.' Book Reporter 'This is one of those confusing books that will have you teary while also snorting with laughter. Basically, you will need tissues...*The Bright Hour* is filled with wonderful wit and irreverence in the face of death, making it truly memorable.' Whimn 'While the looming presence of impending death is ubiquitous throughout the book, it's also a work teeming with limitless love, humour and perseverance...It's a truly inspiring and—in the end—uplifting memoir; the kind of work that makes you want to take a step back and get a better look at your life to remind yourself what really matters.' Best New Books to Read This Summer, Reader's Digest [UK] 'There is an inevitable rolling sadness throughout the memoir - but it is never depressing because, although [Riggs's] body is succumbing to the condition, her mind is sharp and alert: a creative, imaginative intelligence.' Sydney Morning Herald 'Deeply affecting...A simultaneously heartbreaking and funny account of living with loss and the spectre of death. As she lyrically, unflinchingly details her reality, she finds beauty and truth that comfort even amid the crushing sadness.' Who Weekly 'The *Bright Hour* is Nina Riggs' magnum opus and it's a great legacy. This memoir is an absolute gem which will offer great relief and comfort for people finding themselves facing similar circumstances either in their own illness or through their loved ones. For the other readers this work is a poignant and stirring reminder of how to live life to the full and to appreciate the things you love, and to accept the things that you cannot change. It's so incredibly heart-breaking and gorgeous. Thank you Nina.' AU Review 'Warm, elegant and, above all, encouraging.' Good Weekend 'Riggs brings a poet's eye for detail to her

story.' Otago Daily Times 'Warm, honest and insightful.' Good Housekeeping [UK] 'There's plenty of life lessons and beautiful lines you'll want to circle and then send to your mates.' Cosmopolitan [UK] 'A thoughtful and heartbreaking exploration of what makes life meaningful in a person's remaining days...Buried within this agonizing tale are moments of levity—I laughed out loud many, many times—and flashes of poetry...A book every doctor and patient should read.' USA Today 'With *The Bright Hour*, Riggs leaves behind a literary legacy that captures both her incredible talent and her unwavering love for her family...Her lyrical, honest prose immerses the reader in her world; you feel the fear, the despair, the joy...But though one might expect a tome of sadness and despair from a writer with only months left to live, Riggs fills her memoir with vivid, messy, beautiful life.' News Observer 'Deeply moving...It will likely make you tear up, for the children and husband she left behind, and the way in which she graciously shares the last moments of her life. It will also remind you to live in the present moment, taking in everything - big or small - and encourage you to fill your days with what, and who, you love.' M2 Woman 'Equally heartbreaking and hilarious...*The Bright Hour* is difficult to read, but more difficult to put down. It made me laugh and cry simultaneously, and I can't recall the last book that did that to me...Easily one of the best I have read this year.' Hot Chicks with Big Brains 'The *Bright Hour* is clearly a project that helped Riggs accept her fate, and we as readers are given a glimpse into that very earnest, beautiful, and sad conclusion. This is not a happy book. But it's an important one that will make you take a step back and reflect on your own life in a way you normally don't have time to do.' Yahoo NZ 'This haunting memoir leads the reader into the innermost chambers of the writer's life: into the mind and heart, the work and home and family of a young woman alternately seeking to make peace with, and raging against, the reality of her approaching death. While sadness is inevitable, this is not a discouraging chronicle. As the body succumbs to the ailment, the mind is sharp and vigilant: an inspired, creative intelligence...Her criterions are many, from Montaigne to Stevie Wonder, but at the core of her meditations is the thirst for life, its meaning and an

unbelievable blend of light and joy.' PS News

**24/6** - Tiffany Shlain 2020-10-20

Winner of the Marshall McLuhan Outstanding Book Award

Entrepreneur's 12 Productivity and Time-Management Books to Read

"I'm won over to a day with people, not screens....I tried Shlain's idea. I highly recommend it." —The New York Times "Tiffany Shlain is a

modern-day prophet, brilliant and incredibly funny in equal

measure...24/6 is timeless and timely wisdom." —Angela Duckworth, #1

New York Times bestselling author This "wise, wonderful work"

(Publishers Weekly starred review) demonstrates how turning off screens

one day a week can work wonders on your brain, body, and soul. Do you

wish you had more time to do what you love, think deeply, and focus on

the people and things that matter most? By giving up screens one day a

week for over a decade, Internet pioneer and renowned filmmaker

Tiffany Shlain and her family have gained more time, productivity,

connection, and presence. Shlain takes us on a thought-provoking and

entertaining journey through time and technology, introducing a strategy

for flourishing in our 24/7 world. Drawn from the ancient ritual of

Shabbat, living 24/6 can work for anyone from any background. With

humor and wisdom, Shlain shares her story, offering the accessible

lessons she has learned and providing a blueprint for how to do it

yourself. "Bolstered with fascinating and germane facts about

neuroscience, philosophy, psychology, and the history of the concept of a

day of rest" (Publishers Weekly), 24/6 makes the case for incorporating

this weekly reset into our 24/7 lives, issuing a call to rebalance ourselves

and our society.

*Eyes to the Wind* - Ady Barkan 2022-01-18

In this inspirational and moving memoir, activist Barkan explores his life

with ALS and how his diagnosis gave him a profound new understanding

of his commitment to social justice for all.

**The Light Within** - Lois M. Ramondetta 2008-07-01

The luminous true story of a friendship that shed the boundaries of the

doctor-patient relationship and became less a confrontation with death

than a celebration of the joys of life When young gynecologic oncology

fellow Lois Ramondetta was first summoned to the room of a new patient, neither she nor the forty-nine-year-old professor of religion she encountered named Deborah Sills thought they had much in common.

They certainly had no idea that they were about to embark on a transcendent odyssey that would become a soul-deep friendship. Now their heartfelt story, *The Light Within*, follows these two women through a decade of friendship and "big lives"—husbands, children, friends, and careers—ultimately crossing the country and traveling to foreign lands, where they spoke and wrote together about the intersection of doctors, patients, and spirituality. Both women searched together and openly for answers with honesty and intimacy until Deborah passed away in the spring of 2006.

**The Middle Place** - Kelly Corrigan 2008-01-08

For Kelly Corrigan, family is everything. At thirty-six, she had a marriage that worked, two funny, active kids, and a weekly newspaper column. But even as a thriving adult, Kelly still saw herself as the daughter of garrulous Irish-American charmer George Corrigan. She was living deep within what she calls the Middle Place—"that sliver of time when parenthood and childhood overlap"—comfortably wedged between her adult duties and her parents' care. But Kelly is abruptly shoved into coming-of-age when she finds a lump in her breast—and gets the diagnosis no one wants to hear. When George, too, learns that he has late-stage cancer, it is Kelly's turn to take care of the man who had always taken care of her—and to show us a woman who finally takes the leap and grows up. Kelly Corrigan is a natural-born storyteller, a gift you quickly recognize as her father's legacy, and her stories are rich with everyday details. She captures the beat of an ordinary life and the tender, sometimes fractious moments that bind families together. Rueful and honest, Kelly is the prized friend who will tell you her darkest, lowest, screwiest thoughts, and then later dance on the coffee table at your party. Funny yet heart-wrenching, *The Middle Place* is about being a parent and a child at the same time. It is about the special double-vision you get when you are standing with one foot in each place. It is about the family you make and the family you came from—and locating,

navigating, and finally celebrating the place where they meet. It is about reaching for life with both hands--and finding it.

**So Much More** - Zulema Arroyo Farley 2019-09-10

The Last Lecture meets The Bright Hour in this poignant account of how the Latina Medium, Zulema Arroyo Farley, lives life to the fullest, refusing to let a rare form of cancer and chronic illnesses determine her destiny. On Zulema's fourth date with the man who is now her husband, they created a "Life List" of adventures they would share together; from skydiving, to luxurious trips around the world, and as wine collectors, traveling the wine regions to meet their favorite producers. Wildly successful and in love, Zulema was living a fairy tale. But, two years into their marriage, the Life List took on a shocking urgency when she was diagnosed with sarcoma, an exceedingly rare and incurable form of cancer, along with a host of other complex and mysterious medical conditions. Challenged, but undaunted, Zulema relied on herself and those around her to summon the courage to face her illnesses head on, while never forgetting to embrace the spirit of the Life List with every passing day. Despite excruciating physical and mental pain, setbacks, and personal struggles, Zulema is determined to not leave a second of life unexperienced. And in this new life chapter, she reveals a long-kept secret: She's a psychic medium. After years of seeing, hearing, and sensing presences that others couldn't see, she learns how to trust them through her hardest times and channels her gift to serve for the good of all concerned. Her spirit guides and life wisdom will help readers embrace her most important vision: There is always so much more to live, to love, to learn, and to create.

**Everything Is Fine** - Vince Granata 2022-02-15

Granata was a thousand miles from home when he received shocking news that his younger brother, Tim, propelled by unchecked schizophrenia, had killed their mother in their childhood home. Devastated by the grief of losing his mother, Granata was also consumed by the act itself, so incomprehensible that it overshadows every happy memory of life growing up in a seemingly idyllic middle-class family. He decides to examine the disease that irrecoverably changed his family's

destiny and piece together his brother's story. In the painstaking process of recovering the image of his remarkable mother and salvaging the love for his brother as Tim faces trial for their mother's murder, Granata provides a powerful and reaffirming portrait of loss and forgiveness. -- adapted from jacket

**The Swallowed Man** - Edward Carey 2022-01-25

A NEW YORK TIMES EDITORS' CHOICE "A strange and tender parable . . . All of Edward Carey's work is profound and delightful." —Max Porter, author of Lanny The ingenious storyteller Edward Carey returns to reimagine a time-honored fable: the story of an impatient father, a rebellious son, and a watery path to forgiveness for the young man known as Pinocchio In the small Tuscan town of Collodi, a lonely woodcarver longs for the companionship of a son. One day, "as if the wood commanded me," Giuseppe—better known as Geppetto—carves for himself a pinewood boy, a marionette he hopes to take on tour worldwide. But when his handsome new creation comes magically to life, Geppetto screams . . . and the boy, Pinocchio, leaps from his arms and escapes into the night. Though he returns the next day, the wily boy torments his father, challenging his authority and making up stories—whereupon his nose, the very nose his father carved, grows before his eyes like an antler. When the boy disappears after one last fight, the father follows a rumor to the coast and out into the sea, where he is swallowed by a great fish—and consumed by guilt. He hunkers in the creature's belly awaiting the day when he will reconcile with the son he drove away. With all the charm, atmosphere, and emotional depth for which Edward Carey is known—and featuring his trademark fantastical illustrations—The Swallowed Man is a parable of parenthood, loss, and letting go, from a creative mind on a par with Gregory Maguire, Neil Gaiman, and Tim Burton.

Between Two Kingdoms - Suleika Jaouad 2022-03-01

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • A searing, deeply moving memoir of illness and recovery that traces one young woman's journey from diagnosis to remission to re-entry into "normal" life—from the author of the Life, Interrupted column in The New York Times ONE OF THE BEST

BOOKS OF THE YEAR: The New York Times Book Review, The Washington Post, Bloomberg, The Rumpus, She Reads, Library Journal, Booklist • “I was immersed for the whole ride and would follow Jaouad anywhere. . . . Her writing restores the moon, lights the way as we learn to endure the unknown.”—Chanel Miller, The New York Times Book Review “Beautifully crafted . . . affecting . . . a transformative read . . . Jaouad’s insights about the self, connectedness, uncertainty and time speak to all of us.”—The Washington Post In the summer after graduating from college, Suleika Jaouad was preparing, as they say in commencement speeches, to enter “the real world.” She had fallen in love and moved to Paris to pursue her dream of becoming a war correspondent. The real world she found, however, would take her into a very different kind of conflict zone. It started with an itch—first on her feet, then up her legs, like a thousand invisible mosquito bites. Next came the exhaustion, and the six-hour naps that only deepened her fatigue. Then a trip to the doctor and, a few weeks shy of her twenty-third birthday, a diagnosis: leukemia, with a 35 percent chance of survival. Just like that, the life she had imagined for herself had gone up in flames. By the time Jaouad flew home to New York, she had lost her job, her apartment, and her independence. She would spend much of the next four years in a hospital bed, fighting for her life and chronicling the saga in a column for The New York Times. When Jaouad finally walked out of the cancer ward—after countless rounds of chemo, a clinical trial, and a bone marrow transplant—she was, according to the doctors, cured. But as she would soon learn, a cure is not where the work of healing ends; it’s where it begins. She had spent the past 1,500 days in desperate pursuit of one goal—to survive. And now that she’d done so, she realized that she had no idea how to live. How would she reenter the world and

live again? How could she reclaim what had been lost? Jaouad embarked—with her new best friend, Oscar, a scruffy terrier mutt—on a 100-day, 15,000-mile road trip across the country. She set out to meet some of the strangers who had written to her during her years in the hospital: a teenage girl in Florida also recovering from cancer; a teacher in California grieving the death of her son; a death-row inmate in Texas who’d spent his own years confined to a room. What she learned on this trip is that the divide between sick and well is porous, that the vast majority of us will travel back and forth between these realms throughout our lives. *Between Two Kingdoms* is a profound chronicle of survivorship and a fierce, tender, and inspiring exploration of what it means to begin again.

**Dying: A Memoir** - Cory Taylor 2017-08-01

"Bracing and beautiful . . . Every human should read it." —The New York Times A New York Times Book Review Editors' Choice At the age of sixty, Cory Taylor is dying of melanoma-related brain cancer. Her illness is no longer treatable: she now weighs less than her neighbor’s retriever. As her body weakens, she describes the experience—the vulnerability and strength, the courage and humility, the anger and acceptance—of knowing she will soon die. Written in the space of a few weeks, in a tremendous creative surge, this powerful and beautiful memoir is a clear-eyed account of what dying teaches: Taylor describes the tangle of her feelings, remembers the lives and deaths of her parents, and examines why she would like to be able to choose the circumstances of her death. Taylor’s last words offer a vocabulary for readers to speak about the most difficult thing any of us will face. And while *Dying: A Memoir* is a deeply affecting meditation on death, it is also a funny and wise tribute to life.