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Cancer Vixen: A True Story (Pantheon Graphic Novels)



Synopsis

The groundbreaking graphic memoir that inspires breast cancer patients to fight back—and do so with style. What happens when a shoe-crazy, lipstick-obsessed, wine-swilling, pasta-slurping, fashion-fanatic, about-to-get-married big-city girl cartoonist with a fabulous life finds . . . a lump in her breast? That's the question that sets this powerful, funny, and poignant graphic memoir in motion. In vivid color and with a taboo-breaking sense of humor, Marisa Acocella Marchetto tells the story of her eleven-month, ultimately triumphant bout with breast cancer—from diagnosis to cure, and every challenging step in between. One of Time's top ten graphic novels of the year Slate.com's medical book of the year One of the Wall Street Journal's five best books on living with illness Finalist, Books for a Better Life Finalist, National Cartoonists Society Graphic Novel of the Year Powerful . . . A vibrant, neon chronicle with plenty of attitude . . . A triumph of imagination and spirit. Los Angeles Times Ebullient . . . Visually invigorating and unflinching. The New York Times Book Review Irresistibly authentic . . . These words and pictures convey humility and humanity with witty grace and heartfelt power. The Miami Herald Funny, eye-opening, moving. Time

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I read this from the perspective of an early stage breast cancer diagnosis currently undergoing chemo wanting to read other such stories that are more in a light-hearted vein. And this

story-told-through-cartoons was right up my alley. Acocella-Marchetto is kind of the like the main character of Sex-in-the-City living a glamorous, artsy New York lifestyle complete with hip, trendy, high-heeled shoes, editor-struggles, a procession of boyfriends, a difficult but artsy mother, and bossy, hip friends with rich/famous clients. Much of the story is written about those aspects of the author's life, going back all the way to her reaction to 9/11 and then jumping ahead years to her hearing her diagnosis of breast cancer on the eve of her marriage to a rich, famous, gorgeous restaurateur. Her diagnosis and then subsequent struggles with body-image in the fashion/body conscious world she lives in (especially in regards to the models who constant hit on her fiance) is the main focus of the story. While she does tell us bits about the chemo and the indignity of multiple mammograms, she glosses over alot of the side effects to main talk about her relationships and struggle to find less negativity (kaballah and psychotherapy). If you're looking for memoirs with information or curious about dealing with side effects of chemo or radiation, then this is not the cancer memoir for you. If like me, you're a middle class diagnosee wanting a bit more of "real" life with kids, than the parts about her glamorous life while entertaining were not something I could connect with at all.

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