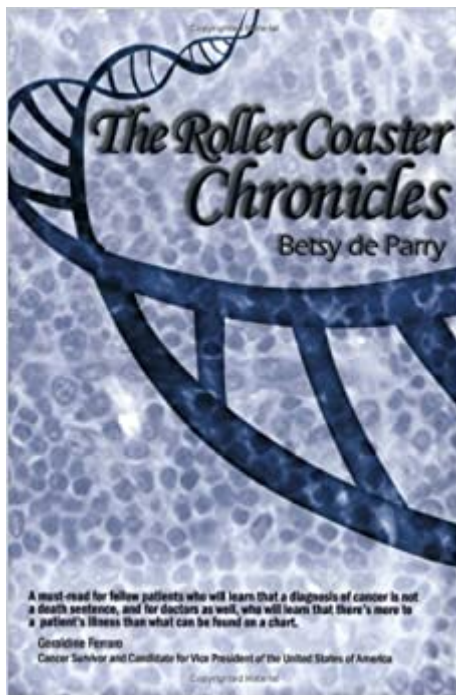


The book was found

The Roller Coaster Chronicles



Synopsis

Based on the journal the author kept during her illness, this beautifully written book is a goldmine of insight into the experience of illness and the process of recovery. Both humorously and compassionately, Betsy reveals the impact that cancer had on her husband, her family, her friends and her own self-identity. With unflinching honesty, she shares intimate glimpses into her struggle with mortality and the steps she took to emerge whole from the struggle. Patients will find comfort, inspiration and hope as well as valuable suggestions about how to cope with the myriad of emotions that follow a cancer diagnosis, how to recover emotionally when treatment has ended, and how to enhance their relationships with their medical teams. Betsy's husband also shares his own feelings of helplessness and loneliness, and caregivers will learn how he managed to support her in ways that ultimately strengthened their marriage. For all who are touched by life-threatening illness, this enthralling narrative will hold your attention from beginning to end.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

A must-read for fellow patients. --Geraldine Ferraro, Candidate for Vice-President of the United States of America
The book is rich with humor and razor sharp text and will be a great inspiration for patients and families. --Joseph Himle, Ph.D., University of Michigan Department of Psychiatry
Betsy consistently bares her soul with an extraordinary blend of humor, keen insight, brutal honesty and compassion for all involved. --Thomas Fluent, M.D., University of Michigan Department of Psychiatry

Diagnosed with lymphoma in 2002, the author underwent two types of chemo which deprived her of her hair and sent her to the hospital with numerous complications but failed to stop the disease. She was ultimately rescued by a new, targeted treatment and remains in complete remission. She lives and works with her husband Alex in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

I chose this book because of an excerpt I'd read in Jamie Reno's "Hope Begins in the Dark," in particular because Betsy deParry used her cancer journal as a framework for her book. As a three-time lymphoma survivor myself, I am currently developing the journals I kept into a book about my own experiences with lymphoma. As I read deParry's book, I often found myself transported back to my own experiences, medical as well as emotional, and I strongly recommend it for current cancer patients and those who care for them. The story covers a full year in her life, but the relatively short chapters make allow the reader to take in the sometimes overwhelming details at a comfortable pace. In addition, deParry's wry sense of humor lends some comic relief to her life-threatening and life-changing experience.

The Roller Coaster Chronicles is a well written book regarding the ups and downs of being afflicted with Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma. Betsy's writing style is easy to read and if you have NHL, you won't want to put this book down.

I couldn't put this book down until I was finished. I found myself laughing and crying and identifying with so many of the same feelings the author had. This book is sure to be a great source of encouragement and inspiration to patients as well as to their family and friends. It was also interesting to read about treatment at a major research facility (Michigan) and to "meet" some of the people who develop new treatments.

If this were fiction, it would be an excellent story. The fact that it's true makes it all the more compelling. If your life has ever been touched by cancer in any way, you will laugh and cry through this book and find a great deal of support and encouragement. This is one of the best memoirs I have read.

A heartfelt memoir. Thank you to the Author. The book provides an honest and hopeful journey through the highs and lows of being diagnosed with cancer.

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