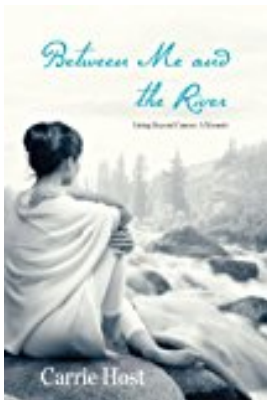


[PDF] Between Me And The River

Carrie Host - pdf download free book



Books Details:

Title: Between Me and the River
Author: Carrie Host
Released: 2009-08-01
Language:
Pages: 304
ISBN: 0373892144
ISBN13:
ASIN: B006Z350MU

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Description:

From Publishers Weekly On Halloween in 2003, Host was given terrifying news: she had carcinoid tumor, a rare and deadly form of cancer . The wife and mother of three children (then ages 10 months, 11 and 13), who is now in remission, was given a prognosis of 18 to 36 months. In this heartfelt narrative, Host attempts to simultaneously fight the disease and find peace with the possibility of death while remaining strong and hopeful. The author describes the moments of comfort and joy she receives from those around her, but she doesn't flinch from the realities of life-threatening illness. Regarding one particularly harrowing hospital stay, she recalls, I thought I had already earned my doctorate in pain, but it turns out I was wrong. She finds humor among the

indignities cancer patients must endure, writing, for example, I should have known that, as a mother of three, the only possible way to get 12 uninterrupted hours of sleep would be surgery. Host's honest depiction of her personal experiences also captures the universal aspects of cancer. In one of the book's entries, dated nearly two years after her initial diagnosis, Host recounts a conversation with a stranger, a fellow train passenger: We have that instant connection that you make with someone who has suffered the loss that cancer can bring. (*Aug.*)

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From Lover of language and keen observer of life, 40-year-old Host hears the oncologist reading from her file and thinks, “You have stepped onto the platform and are heading toward the train you are about to board. You hear the ticking of your watch, even though it’s digital.” Instead of going on an eagerly anticipated family vacation, she has entered a nightmare. Her surgeon says hers is “the most extreme case of carcinoid tumor” he’s ever seen, and she dreads telling her teen children. Yet she finds that her widely metastasized cancer’s detection marks “the beginning of all kinds of angels showing up.” Two years after multiple tests, surgeries, and traditional and alternative treatments, she is declared “clear,” thanks to loving support, spirituality, and modern medicine, only to learn a year later that she has ovarian tumors. Determined that she’ll see her youngest’s fourth birthday, she does—and more, now perceiving her life as “a generous allowance from nature” in this comforting, informative, and seamlessly woven tale of hope. --Whitney Scott

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