

[PDF] Tales From The Bed: On Living, Dying, And Having It All

Katie Couric, Jenifer Estess, Valerie Estess - pdf download free book

Books Details:

Title: Tales from the Bed: On Living
Author: Katie Couric, Jenifer Estess
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Description:

From Publishers Weekly By the time 40-year-old Jenifer Estess died of ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease) last December, she and her sisters had founded an organization-Project A.L.S.-to find a cure for this fatal neuromuscular disease. This fast-paced, witty book, written with one of her sisters, is both a memoir of Jenifer's six-year struggle with the disease and a chronicle of Project A.L.S.'s birth and work. Unfortunately, the beauty of the writing and the story is compromised by a too-casual structure; even simple chapter titles could have remedied the book's scattered feeling. This haze appears elsewhere, too: for instance, after deciding to found Project A.L.S, the sisters recruited theater colleagues, including Ben Stiller, to help, but they don't explain how Jenifer had made those

contacts in the first place (the necessary details of her profession as a theater producer aren't revealed until the book's second half). Flashbacks to Jenifer's romantic history and to her mother's love life are well written and funny, but sometimes feel inappropriate to the story. The book does engage, however, when it details Jenifer's relationship with her supportive friend Reed, who liberates-and loves-the wheelchair-bound Jenifer. But later, as Jenifer describes her inability to speak or write, readers may wonder how she managed to create this part of the book. The final chapter, though, is beautiful: in a clever, poignant twist, Jenifer continues to narrate her death and its aftermath, bringing the sisters' love and closeness full circle as readers wonder where Jenifer ends and Valerie begins.

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Review "Filled with Jenifer's singular grace and exquisite wit, [Tales] had me laughing and crying, often at the same time." -- *Peter Hedges, screenwriter and director of Pieces of April*

"Jenifer's unique wit and self-effacing charm pull you right into this touching and inspiring memoir of her remarkable life." -- *Sarah Jessica Parker*

"Once you meet Jenifer Estess you'll never forget her..." -- *Michael J. Fox, author of Lucky Man*

"To read this story is not only to be inspired, it literally makes you see the world around you differently." -- *Ben Stiller*

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