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In This Together: My Story



Synopsis

The inspiring New York Times bestseller When Mitt and Ann Romney met in their late teens, a great American love story began. And their life together would be blessed: five healthy sons, financial security, and a home filled with joy. Despite the typical ups and downs, they had a storybook life. Then, in 1998, Ann was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis. She couldn't believe it was real; there were no therapies or treatments to help her. Mitt told her that day that they would tackle the diagnosis as a team: They were in it together. "As long as it isn't fatal, we're fine. If you have to be in a wheelchair, I'll be right there to push it," he told her. And Ann thought, "But I'll be the one in the wheelchair." A caregiver and helper her whole life, she'd crossed a terrible invisible line. She wouldn't be able to care for her family anymore. She was the patient. Ann and Mitt would face the most frightening and humbling experience of their lives. From reflections on her early life, her marriage, and her diagnosis and recovery, the sources of her faith, and the stories of others who overcame adversity and inspired her to keep going, *In This Together* is a brave and deeply honest portrait of a family facing an unexpected blow, often in the most public of circumstances. "A lot of people talk about a transformation that happens when life throws you a curve ball, and the big one in my life was my MS diagnosis. With all the blessings I've had, MS has been my greatest teacher: It has taught me about faith, compassion, and serving others. I've met many people along the way who've shared advice and demonstrated enormous resilience in the face of challenges; their stories gave me strength. In sharing my story, I want to give others hope as I've been given hope on this journey."

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Customer Reviews

"Romney bares her soul about her struggles with multiple sclerosis." -Newsweek.com

Ann Romney, the former First Lady of Massachusetts and global ambassador of the Ann Romney Center for Neurologic Diseases at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, is the bestselling author of *The Romney Family Table*. She is the mother of five sons and five daughters-in-law and the grandmother of twenty-three.

Ann's touching and inspiring memoir of her life on and off the campaign trail, living with MS, shows that we are all "in this together," whatever particular struggles life throws at you. Ann was diagnosed in 1998 and became very sick, very fast-- and was told there was nothing that could be done for her-- to "come back when it gets really bad." She was devastated, suffering from the extreme fatigue that accompanies MS, and falling into a deep depression. Through both western and alternative therapies, Ann is strong again, and wants to tell her story to support all the folks with neurologic diseases who were there for her along the way. A beautiful, heartfelt memoir.

Honest, compelling, inspirational. Ann Romney is the "real deal". I was moved by her story and the story of the many people that are a part of her life either as family, friends or dedicated professionals. I would recommend this book to anyone who knows someone affected by "the beast" of neurological disease. This book brings hope, not just by bringing awareness, but by demonstrating how to get things done.

This was even more interesting than I originally thought. Her story of her MS diagnosis and her journey til now. My mother has had MS for about 50 years. Ann's story and explanation of the disease and the alternate treatments that have helped her were very interesting. It is a hard one to live with. Her struggles are real, but overall, her attitude and her faith are also stars in the book. This is not a book about politics.

I had purchased this book a few months ago and placed it in my iCloud to read at a later time. Interestingly enough, I now find myself looking for more info on MS and just yesterday happened across "In This Together" again. Couldn't have been rediscovered at a better time. So grateful, Ann,

that you took the time and energy to share your story, your fight and determination, and all that you've learned about MS. Truly a godsend. Thank you.

I had three reasons for purchasing this book. I have MS, I voted for Mitt, and I'm a Mormon. Ann did not disappoint. It was so good to know that someone like her had felt the same way I had with MS. Although it was great to know that equine therapy helped her, that is not reasonable for most of us, especially those of us who had to retire before we wanted to, however she did acknowledge that she was blessed to be affluent enough to seek out all modes of treatment. I did appreciate that she spoke of the bone tiredness and the fear and depression that takes hold when you first get that diagnosis. I appreciated her descriptions of her relationship with her husband and it was nice to get a little view inside their lives. I was especially touched by her description of them linking pinkies to signal their connection. I am grateful for all the work that Ann does for those of us with neurological illnesses. She would have made a fine First Lady.

I loved this book. It's from the heart of a woman who's been blessed with a wonderful man and great family, and has had to overcome a lot despite their wealth. I like that she's transparent and funny too. This book encouraged me to hope for more...and be appreciative always. I have a feeling that maybe one of her sons could be the president someday... it always happens with the 3rd generation, where the first and second didn't make it. That aside, thank you Ann Romney for sharing your life with me. I appreciate and don't regret buying this book.

It made me wish even more that they had been first family years ago. But most of all, it really helped me understand my sister-in-law more, who has MS and is a dressage horsewoman. She bought the book too and loved it.

Thanks for sharing. Love the photos. I think you are as beautiful on the inside as out. Everyone has "stuff" in their lives. Finding the courage to move from that point can seem impossible in the moment. From living for 68 years I have always found without fail that the things I worried most about never happened and when some did I trusted in God for strength and help. I am stronger now at this time than ever before. Wishing you much success. Thanks, Janet

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