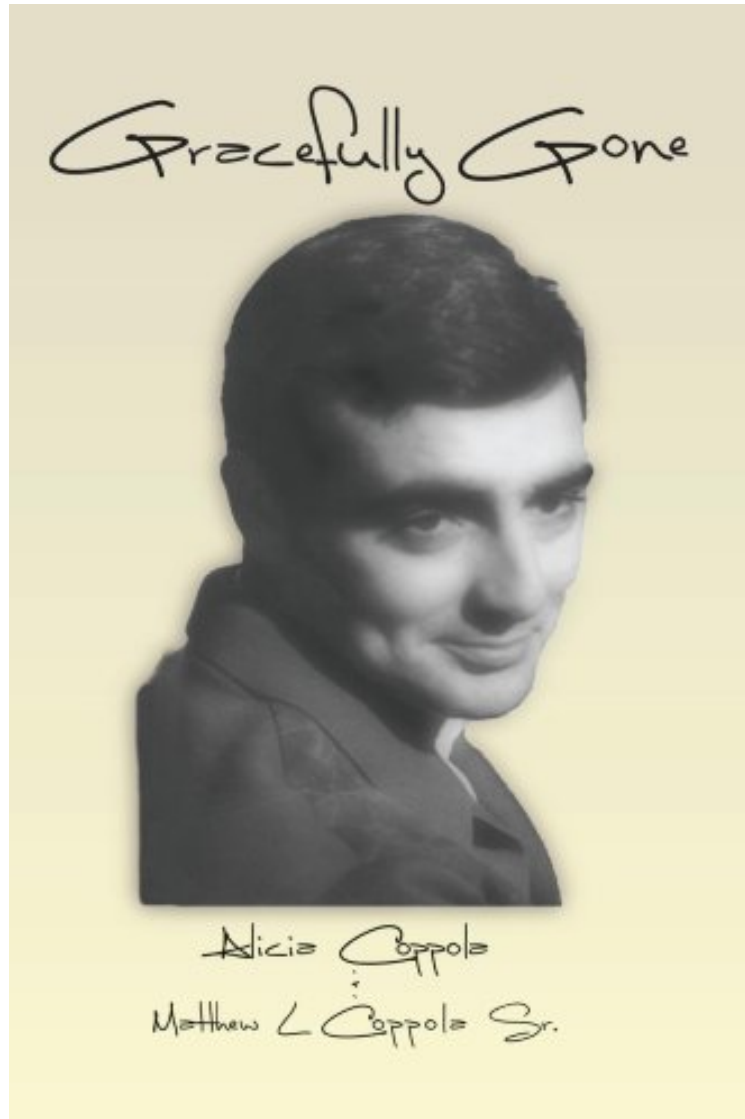


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Gracefully Gone (English Edition)

Von Alicia Coppola

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Produktinformation Verffentlicht am: 2013-06-05Erscheinungsdatum: 2013-06-05File Name:
B00D8FVOV8 | File size: 24.Mb

Von Alicia Coppola : Gracefully Gone (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Gracefully Gone (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich.
Gracefully GoneVon Nele S.You think, memoir equals either boring or so extraordinary that no mortal could identify him/herself with that person? Well, think again, or rather read Alicia Coppolas book Gracefully Gone. Its the fusion of two journals: her fathers, Matthew L. Coppola Sr. and her own, linked by his fight against brain cancer.Its a situation almost everybody can relate to. Lucky people, who havent lost a loved one to a disease, be it cancer, Alzheimers or

any other life-changing and -taking illness! But even then, it is possible to feel for the 12 year old girl who tries to belong while her emotional vulnerability having to deal with the fear of losing her father makes her a gazelle with a twisted ankle lying just outside a lions den (p. 37). Or with the teenager who is desperately trying to find an anchor. Or, of course, the young woman of 22 years, who tends to her father in the final five months of his life, torn between nerve-wracking dreams and most precious moments like a fathers smile, that keep one going in such a situation which would consume everybody, let alone a young adult who already lost her childhood to the impending loss. As Alicia puts it: Today was a hard one: A good one because I got to spend all day with my father but a hard one because I got to spend all day with my father. (p. 121). Gracefully Gone is split in four parts, the memories of her father, which are interspersed throughout the book, her own recalling the years from 1980 (when he was diagnosed with brain cancer) to August 1990, her journal from August 1990 to January 1991, and an epilogue 2013. While reading this book, I partly felt like watching a movie, or reading a novel and I had to remind myself that it is in fact a true story. Not because its so unreal it isnt, as I stated above but because its written in such a nonchalant, direct, non-artificial way, that it was as easy and entertaining to read as a novel should be. It made me not want to lay the book aside until I finished it. Although the whole situation is, of course, sad and partly tragic you probably will cry, at least once! , this book is far from being a tragedy. Be prepared to burst out laughing because of a funny turn you werent expecting, a phrasing that puts sassy teenage Alicia right in front of your minds eye, or because of dry wit shining forth. Something will make you laugh or smile even in the chapters about the gravest and most sorrowful times (to pick just one cue: nickname; p. 130). One cannot possibly miss that Alicia has written this book from her heart. Her love for her father shines out of and stands strongly behind every page. The honesty and depth of emotion in Gracefully Gone will certainly touch your heart.

Kurzbeschreibung Gracefully Gone is the fusion of two journals: my father, Matthew L Coppola Sr.s and mine. My fathers journal was written in 1982, two years after his diagnosis and remission with brain cancer. Mine was written in 1990-1991, roughly eight years later, as he began to die. In Gracefully Gone I chronicle my twenty-one year old pursuit of life and all the bitter and amusingly confusing angst that accompanies being twenty-one during the last six months of my fathers struggle towards death. What I am hoping, what I am counting on, is that my life, my fathers life and our story, might be meaningful to strangers; or perhaps, if not meaningful, then at the very least, identifiable, relatable and at times, humorously understandable. Gracefully Gone is not about death, it is about the journey of a family, specifically, the journey of a young girl trying to find her way in the wake of growing up in the looming shadow of cancer. Gracefully Gone is written as a prayer for all the families, all the children too young to understand and for all the victims of this all too often insurmountable war to know they are not alone. After all, the sad fact is in the world we live in today there are no strangers to cancer and there are certainly no strangers to struggle and loss. Even though my mother and brother went through the same experience as I, we experienced it very differently. It was as if my father was the LOVEBOAT and we three were on our own separate lifeboats surrounding him, each of us handling our grief privately. Perhaps, if were really lucky, Gracefully Gone might allow someone a little peace and some comfort knowing that even though they are on their own lifeboats they are in an ocean full of them.

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ber den Autor und weitere Mitwirkende You know me from CBSs Jericho, the only television show in a decade to be renewed after cancellation due to popular fan response. You also know me from the 141 episodes of primetime television that I have done in my twenty-year career: From Lorna Devon on NBCs long running soap opera Another World for which I was nominated twice and won the Soap Opera Digest Award for Outstanding Younger Leading Actress to starring in television series such as TNTs Bull, NBCs Cold Feet, to name a few. I am highly recognizable for my roles in CBSs

CSI and Two And A Half Men, NBCs Law And Order; Criminal Intent, Crossing Jordan, USAs SUITS and the feature film National Treasure 2, Book Of Secrets. I have recently recurred on ABC FAMILYs Nine Lives Of Chloe King and USAs Common Law. You will see me very soon playing Talia Hale in the much anticipated flashback episode of MTVs Teen Wolf. It brings me back to my home network where I began my career during my college years at NYU, as the hostess of the iconic popular MTV game show Remote Control alongside co-host Colin Quinn. My father was Matthew Louis Coppola Sr. He was born October 30, 1942 and died January 13, 1991. Everything in between these dates was a life well lived and well loved. According to the people who knew him best my father had a great sense of humor and a childlike sense of fun. He was a great athlete, a hard worker and a terrific friend. He was a pied piper to all children, a supportive, loyal husband, a dreamer, an actor and a present, fair and loving parent.