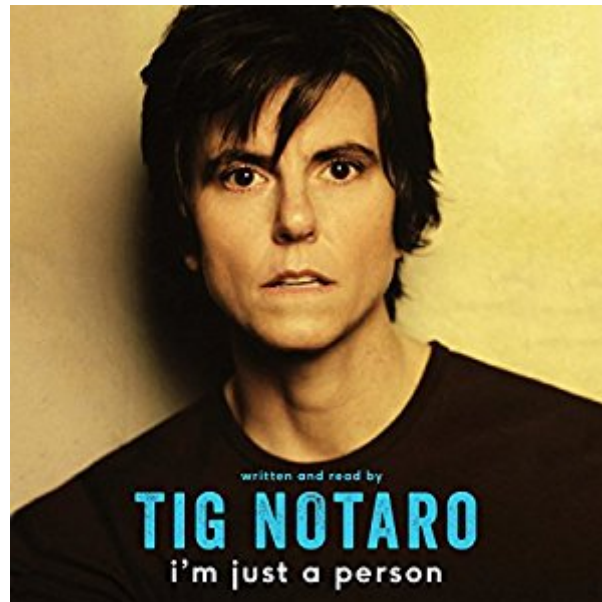




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I'm Just A Person



Synopsis

One of America's most original comedic voices delivers a darkly funny, wryly observed, and emotionally raw account of her year of death, cancer, and epiphany. In the span of four months in 2012, Tig Notaro was hospitalized for a debilitating intestinal disease called C. diff, her mother unexpectedly died, she went through a breakup, and then she was diagnosed with bilateral breast cancer. Hit with this devastating barrage, Tig took her grief onstage. Days after receiving her cancer diagnosis, she broke new comedic ground, opening an unvarnished set with the words, "Good evening. Hello. I have cancer. How are you? Hi, how are you? Is everybody having a good time? I have cancer." The set went viral instantly and was ultimately released as Tig's sophomore album, *Live*, which sold 100,000 units in just six weeks and was later nominated for a Grammy. Now the wildly popular star takes stock of that no good, very bad year - a difficult yet astonishing period in which tragedy turned into absurdity and despair transformed into joy. An inspired combination of the deadpan silliness of her comedy and the openhearted vulnerability that has emerged in the wake of that dire time, *I'm Just a Person* is a moving and often hilarious look at this very brave, very funny woman's journey into the darkness and her thrilling return from it.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I am a diehard comedy geek and a dedicated bookworm. So, to have a comedian of Tig Notaro's caliber write a book was great news and I had very high expectations of this book. And they were exceeded. Tig really knows how to write as though she is sitting having coffee with you, like a new

friend that you're getting to know. Even though she's put it all out there, there is still a bit of alluring mystique. She is picking and choosing how and what to reveal, as one would in real life. Tig Notaro's humor is throughout the book, with her amazing wit that made me literally laugh out loud many times. Her story is one of deep sorrows, highs that surpass her dreams and a very self-aware examination of her relationships, dealing with a series of crushing blows, her reflections on past opportunities taken. She has lived a unique life and her voice is like no other, yet her struggles and victories, her strength and vulnerability are so relatable. Her acerbic humor is potent, but there is a deep, understanding kindness in her. I feel privileged to read about her, because though she may be a person, she's a very worthwhile person to get to know. She is a woman of many talents. Writing a great book is one of them. I definitely give her book 5 stars and recommend it to pretty much anyone because it's a funny take on life when it gets rocky. Who cannot relate to that?

I've seen Tig's standup (Can I call her Tig? I'm going to.) more than a handful of times and I heartily recommend it to anyone that expresses even the vaguest of interest in comedy. This book is not a comedy routine—though Tig's deadpan humor is innate—and it is wonderful in that respect. Like I assume a lot of fans feel, I knew a lot of tidbits about what I'll call Tig's 'hardships' thanks to a combination of her openness in her work and various media. Still, reading through her experience was astounding and emotional (and of course there was so much I did not know). To derail this general review and take on a personal note—I recently was by the side of my person as they struggled through a long-term medical emergency, and both my person (who is doing very well now, thanks) and I have previously suffered loss and had successive bad luck that feels like a personal vendetta from the universe against us respectively. As I read this book several months after me and my person have been settling back to life as it is now, I could not help but apply her template onto us as I at times cried, laughed, celebrated, and nodded along. It's not the same, and nothing is the same, but it was a comfort. It's the sort of comfort you get in talking to other people who have suffered similarly to you, that can look you in the eye and ask you questions that might have uncomfortable answers. It is unexplainable. It's more than not being alone in suffering but that is probably part of it. Anyway, I have majorly digressed but I just want to end by saying that this book touched me and I look forward to more of Tig to come.

I bought this book because I was curious to know who Tig Notaro is. So happy I did - I found that her story really resonates with me for a gazillion reasons. This book has everything - laughter, tears, sweetness. Definitely recommended!

WOW! What a story. Although Tig is a comedian, this is not a humorous book. It is a serious recounting of a very troubled year in her life. Note that as I've just had a single mastectomy, I was particularly interested in how she dealt with learning that she had cancer. Her "Tig has cancer" comedy-club set was right on. She talks about how people call her brave, but in her mind, she was just living her life with what life dealt her. Had I been a stand-up, or maybe someone who regularly spoke at a podium, I would have announced my milady in the same manner. Note that since writing this book, she and her wife have twins. Check the web for seeing Tig and her new babies nestled on her chest. Very touching. I love her family and how she accounts for everyone in her book as well as in her routines.

This is a brilliant and short and sweet book. It is more of an emotional journey than a comedy book (though I did laugh a bit while reading it), as you might expect if you know what it is about. Tig is a hilarious and loveable personality, but facing C-diff, pneumonia, breast cancer, and her mother's death soon after a breakup it is unsurprising that it's more about getting through things than one joke after another per se. If anything, Tig is a great writer and I would seek out anything she writes. And hopefully this will lead people who haven't seen them already to watch her comedy specials. Tig is a very unique voice and I'm so grateful she's still around to write books and create comedy.

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