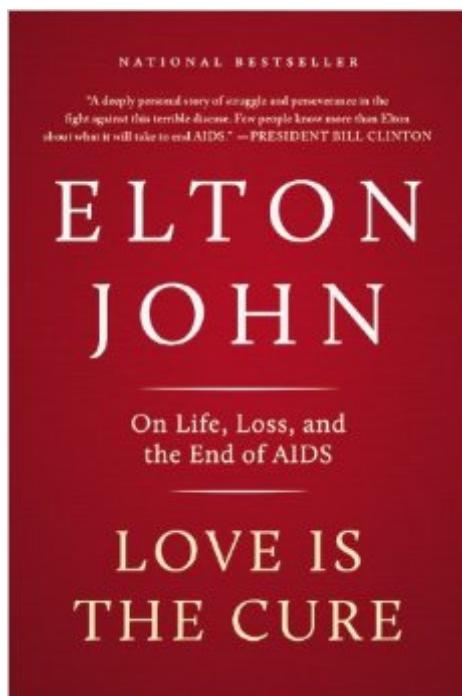


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Love Is The Cure: On Life, Loss, And The End Of AIDS



Synopsis

A deeply personal account of Elton John's life during the era of AIDS and an inspiring call to action. In the 1980s, Elton John saw friend after friend, loved one after loved one, perish needlessly from AIDS. He befriended Ryan White, a young Indiana boy ostracized because of his HIV infection. Ryan's inspiring life and devastating death led Elton to two realizations: His own life was a mess. And he had to do something to help stop the AIDS crisis. Since then, Elton has dedicated himself to overcoming the plague and the stigma of AIDS. The Elton John AIDS Foundation has raised and donated \$275 million to date to fighting the disease worldwide. Love Is the Cure includes stories of Elton's close friendships with Ryan White, Freddie Mercury, Princess Diana, Elizabeth Taylor, and others, and the story of the Elton John AIDS Foundation. Sales of Love Is the Cure benefit the Elton John AIDS Foundation.

Book Information

Paperback: 256 pages

Publisher: Back Bay Books; Reprint edition (November 26, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0316219916

ISBN-13: 978-0316219914

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.8 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 11.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (68 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #104,198 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #15 inÂ Books > Health, Fitness & Dieting > Diseases & Physical Ailments > AIDS #631 inÂ Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Biographies #1085 inÂ Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Arts & Literature > Actors & Entertainers

Customer Reviews

If you want a book about Elton's life, with all the gossip, the music, the costumes, the flowers, the feathers, the tiaras, the tantrums, the ups, and the downs, not to mention his genius, you will have to look elsewhere. This book is not for you. But if you are interested in Elton's charitable endeavors, or the AIDS epidemic, or the social and health issues that face humanity, or if you would like to support the Elton John AIDS Foundation, you should buy this book (proceeds from which benefit the EJAF) and read it. Elton John should be commended for making his first book not a self-congratulatory autobiography but a plea for help in his chief passion, the fight against AIDS. Yes, Love is the Cure contains many autobiographical elements. Elton explains how his young

friend, AIDS victim and activist Ryan White, unwittingly placed the musician on the path to recovery from life-threatening multiple addictions. This, in turn, enabled Elton to do what he wishes he'd done sooner - become a volunteer, activist, and fundraiser extraordinaire to rid the world of AIDS and the mass suffering, social and economic disruption, and terrible deaths it causes. We read how Elton took many valuable lessons from his own experiences - before, during and after rehab - and applied them to his work against AIDS. For example, through his leadership, the EJAF has been very aggressive in reaching out to marginalized populations, including not just men who have sex with men, but sex workers, intravenous drug users, prison inmates, and the desperately poor, in countries around the globe. EJAF monies are funneled to local organizations in such diverse places as South Africa and Ukraine designed to meet very specific needs.

Elton John is the rarest of celebrities. He is one of a handful of famous people who's talent and appeal allows them to remain an A list star decade after decade. We all know of his musical genius. I've always been fascinated by his larger than life...well ..life. I remember seeing him being interviewed by Tom Snyder many years ago on that late late night talk show. He admitted his "bi-sexuality" during that interview. It was a different time and it was scandalous to say the least. It was big news and of course the judgement and homophobia was quick to follow. It was at that moment that my admiration for Elton John began. Years later he became one of the very first celebrities to advocate for those suffering from HIV and AIDS. He and Elizabeth Taylor were the first and the biggest stars to tackle a very unpopular cause. His personal friendship and support for Ryan White and his family as well as his founding of The Elton John AIDS Foundation showed he will willing to walk the talk. My respect for Elton grew stronger. When he came out as a gay man, knowing the possible effects on his career, my respect for him grew even stronger. When he married his longtime partner David and later became a father, my respect and admiration, well you know -.I've always wanted to know more about the man behind the public persona. I really never thought he would write an autobiography. Although he's been prolific as a performer and philanthropist, and has been interviewed many times, he has kept a great deal of his private life out of the public eye. He's certainly outspoken on almost any subject (and anybody) that he has an opinion on. He's done outrageous and provocative things and has offended countless celebs with his brutal honesty. But there was for me a great curiosity about what made him tick.

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