



# **In-Between Days: A Memoir About Living with Cancer**

*Teva Harrison*

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**In-Between Days: A Memoir About Living with Cancer** Teva Harrison  
**2016 Governor General's Literary Award Finalist**

**2017 Kobo Emerging Writer Prize Winner**

**2017 Joe Shuster Award Nominee**

Teva Harrison was diagnosed with metastatic breast cancer at the age of 37. In this brilliant and inspiring graphic memoir, she documents through comic illustration and short personal essays what it means to live with the disease. She confronts with heartbreaking honesty the crises of identity that cancer brings: a lifelong vegetarian, Teva agrees to use experimental drugs that have been tested on animals. She struggles to reconcile her long-term goals with an uncertain future, balancing the innate sadness of cancer with everyday acts of hope and wonder. She also examines those quiet moments of helplessness and loving with her husband, her family, and her friends, while they all adjust to the new normal.

Ultimately, *In-Between Days* is redemptive and uplifting, reminding each one of us of how beautiful life is, and what a gift.

## In-Between Days: A Memoir About Living with Cancer Details

Date : Published April 23rd 2016 by House of Anansi Press

ISBN : 9781487001087

Author : Teva Harrison

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# **From Reader Review In-Between Days: A Memoir About Living with Cancer for online ebook**

## **Melanie says**

I feel like Teva Harrison is a friend and an advocate even though she has no idea who I am. This book is fiercely honest. It's gentle, too. If you know someone with cancer or are someone with cancer, In Between Days might take away some lonely.

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## **David Schaafsma says**

A kind of hybrid prose and comics/cartoons memoir about the author's being diagnosed with (incurable) metastatic breast cancer at the age of only 37. One page has images, the next has an anecdote or reflection, and I guess I might have preferred more of one than the other.

I wasn't a fan of the illustrations (give her a break, maybe? While she calls herself an artist, this is her first foray into cartooning), but also in a way--I know this sounds crazy--I actually might have preferred her illustrating her struggles, focusing on the images to convey her experiences--to her prose. But I can say if you have cancer or know someone close to you that has cancer, this could be an important book for you. It has a very high Goodreads rating so far, so lots of people love it, find solace and fellow-feeling in it. A quick glance at some of the reviews confirms this, too.

I don't have cancer (I think) though I have a lot of experience with family and friends who have or have had it. I also have read a number of cancer memoirs and specifically graphic memoirs about living with cancer and thought this was good, honest, real, useful, pretty engaging. And sad, of course, though she is hopeful her team can turn "incurable" into "chronic condition."

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## **Kari says**

Given to me by the author's sister - this graphic novel memoir about being diagnosed with cancer at age 37 shows heart from the first frame. I didn't know about Teva's journey before reading this - but felt like she took my hand and led me thru her world... I wish I had seen her while she was in Portland on the book tour because she felt like a friend by the books end...

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## **Jennifer Spiegel says**

I read cancer books for fun.

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## **Regina says**

My daughter won this book on Goodreads and passed it on to me to read. As a breast cancer survivor, I could relate to everything the author shares in her memoir. I loved how honest she is about her experiences and thoughts as she deals with metastatic breast cancer. Thanks to Teva Harrison for sharing her journey, and showing how to find beauty and hope while living with this disease.

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### **Susan says**

This was a very moving book. I definitely shouldn't have read this in one sitting, just before bed. The BRCA1 mutation runs in my family, and this book had me lying awake for a long time, thinking about the women in my family. I have a few friends who are currently living with stage 4 breast cancer, and this book helped me understand how they must be feeling.

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### **Lisa Marie says**

I liked the creative format the author used for her story and expression of her experience. It's raw, made me think a lot about mortality in the face of cancer through the author's journey and without. Her story and the stories of her family members are full of hope, survival and the will to live.

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### **Tova says**

While I think this book would be great, I feel as if it's going to be too triggering personally.

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### **Laurie Siblock says**

I am living with Stage 3 Ovarian Cancer, currently in remission. My preferable term for "in remission" is "cured". Teva describes my own experience so perfectly that I want to buy her book for everyone I know and when I give it to them I can say, "This is exactly what I'm going through". Although I have to acknowledge that, while Teva's Stage 4 Metastatic Breast cancer is incurable, my remission has a chance of really turning into "cured"; if I can make it to the 5-years-after-treatment stage without a recurrence. I'm told that after 5 years, if the cancer hasn't come back, you have the same odds as anyone else of getting cancer again. I don't know if that is true or not, but I'm pinning my hopes on it. Don't correct me if I'm wrong, pretty please.

Thank you, Teva for being brave and being so open, public and honest with your experience. Your drawings were delightful and I avidly read In-Between Days in almost one sitting, interrupted only by sleep, a sleep in which I almost got up at 3:00 in the morning to finish your book. Your book is going to make a lot of difference to people living with cancer and those who love and support them. <3

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### **Sardonyx says**

Goodread's rating scale is 0 (did not like it) to 5 (it was amazing). I gave it a 5, because I've been reading it

since yesterday and my stomach has been in knots and my eyes on the verge of tears since I started, heck, even as I write this review. Teva's honest descriptions of what her life is like living with metastases cancer just broke my heart into a million pieces as I read it. It gave me some serious insights and better understanding of what someone with cancer experiences. I wish her well in her continued journey fighting, surviving it and living her life as fully as she can!

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### **Sharyl says**

Teva Harrison's wonderful, touching work of art about her life, before and after her diagnosis of Stage 4 metastatic breast cancer, at the age of thirty-seven. Teva is an inspiration to everyone, with her profound expressions of living life to its maximum. I would recommend this to absolutely anyone.

I never would have found out about her on my own--I'm thankful for my bookish friends!  
And--she has a blog.

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### **Canadian Reader says**

Teva Harrison has written a delicate, beautiful, and honest memoir, interspersed with comics. (I had heard that this was a graphic memoir, but that is not strictly true. There is a nice balance of visuals and text.) Diagnosed with metastatic breast cancer at age 37, she had experienced deep, inexplicable bone pain for months before the painful breast lump pointed to what was really going on. Even though she had a family history of reproductive cancers--a great aunt and aunt who had died of metastatic breast cancers and a maternal grandmother who survived 3 cancers (Ashkenazi Jewish genetics explain some of this), Teva's doctors missed her cancer in its early stages. By the time she was diagnosed, she was stage IV. The cancer was in her bones and subsequently moved to her liver. Teva addresses the fear, the anxiety, the sickness that comes with the treatments she receives, the pain, the treatment-induced menopause and sexual dysfunction, and her profound love for her husband and for life. Plainly, this is not an easy read, but Teva's love of life provides a balance of sorts against the pain and sadness of the story and its reminder that we all are mortal, after all.

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### **Suzze Tiernan says**

Hard to read, yet so full of hope. I pray for the author and anyone else living day to day with cancer.

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### **Samantha Price says**

I spent most of this book either crying, or screen-shotting the pages (read on my iPad), so I wouldn't forget all of the experiences Teva described that are the exact same as my own.

Also living with Stage IV, the feeling of hope-turned-sadness-turned-anger is so real for me. If you ever want a glimpse into my life, or anyone living with this incurable disease, read this book. It'll break your heart but you'll come out more compassionate, guaranteed.

\*\*after reading a second time I cried less (maybe I have more gotten used to the idea) but felt more. I cried through the sad parts but didn't pay enough attention to the hopeful. This is a book I will re-read again and again.

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### **Meghan says**

Holy crap. Will have to take a little longer to process Teva's book and what makes it so special, but wow. Met her when she was one of the featured authors of my local authors festival, and only picked up the book after I saw her on a panel. Now that I've read it, I need to meet and speak with her again. It's just lovely.

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