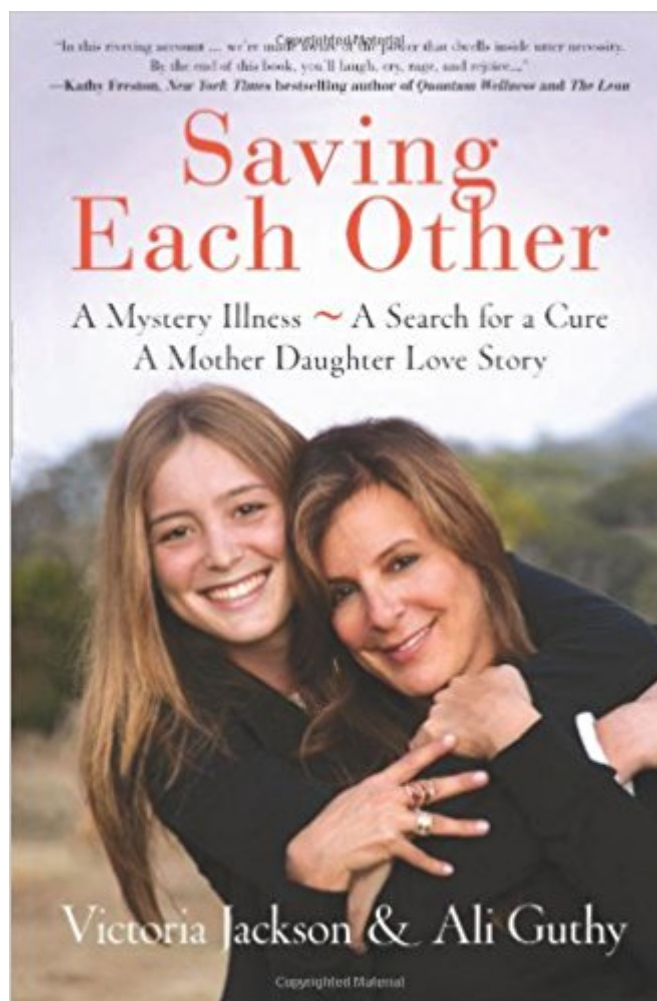


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Saving Each Other: A Mother-Daughter Love Story



Synopsis

On the surface, Victoria Jackson is the American Dream personified: from a troubled childhood and unfinished high school education, she overcame immeasurable odds to create a cosmetics empire valued at more than half a billion dollars. Married to Bill Guthy, a self-made principal of infomercial marketing giant Guthy-Renker, Victoria's most treasured role is mother to three beautiful, beloved children, Evan, Ali, and Jackson. Suddenly, Victoria's dream life is broken as she begins to battle a mother's greatest fear. In 2008, her daughter, Ali, began experiencing unusual symptoms of blurred vision and an ache in her eye. Ali's test results led to the diagnosis of Neuromyelitis Optica. NMO is a little understood, incurable, and often fatal autoimmune disease that can cause blindness, paralysis, and life-threatening seizures, and afflicts as few as 20,000 people in the world. At the age of 14, Ali was given a terrifying prognosis of four to six years to live. Saving Each Other: A Mother Daughter Love Story begins just as Victoria and Bill learn of Ali's disease, starting them on a powerful journey to save Ali, their only daughter, including bringing together a team of more than fifty of the world's leading experts in autoimmune and NMO-related diseases to create the Guthy-Jackson Charitable Foundation. Told in alternating viewpoints, Victoria and Ali narrate their very different journeys of coming to terms with the lack of control that neither mother nor daughter have over NMO, and their pioneering efforts and courage to take their fight to a global level. Bringing their story to light with raw emotion, humor, warmth, and refreshing candor, Saving Each Other is the extraordinary journey of a mother and daughter who demonstrate how the power of love can transcend our greatest fears, while at the same time battling to find a cure for the incurable.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

In this inspirational story, a makeup-mogul mom fights to get diagnosis and treatment for her teen daughter, who seems to have a mystery illness. The family lives in Beverly Hills, 90210, and Victoria worries that Ali suffers from anorexia. Doctors think she may have multiple sclerosis. But it turns out she suffers from an uncommon autoimmune disease, neuromyelitis optica (NMO), which can cause blindness, paralysis, and seizures. Victoria and Ali alternate in telling their story, and both possess plenty of personality. When Victoria offers her horrified daughter marijuana to help her feel better, Ali says, "Mom, get that away from me!" Like a typical teen, Ali adores her mom, though she refers to her as her "Smother Mother." Victoria and her husband, each an entrepreneur extraordinaire, end up starting a foundation to research and fight NMO. With that kind of get-up-and-go, they vow to help others with this illness, and readers will want to follow in their footsteps. --Karen Springen

"Sometimes we're given a physical or spiritual challenge that we have no idea how we're going to rise to." In this riveting account of a mother-daughter love story and their urgent search for a cure, we're made aware of the power that dwells inside utter necessity. By the end of this book, you'll laugh, cry, rage, and rejoice...and you'll feel that lovely connection to life that you only get when you pass through your dark night of the soul." •Kathy Freston, New York Times bestselling author of *Quantum Wellness* and *The Lean*"Any parent or child will be moved and inspired by this story of how love and dedication can conquer pain and fear; a vivid reminder that there is nothing more powerful or enduring than the bond of mother and daughter." •New York Times bestselling author Rob Lowe"This is a spectacular and gripping story of personal courage and entrepreneurial creativity, involving a mother and daughter. It is a story of medical researchers and disease detectives working hard to cure a young woman's frightening disease. The saga is ongoing, exciting and full of drama and hope." •Larry Steinman MD, Professor of Neurology and Pediatrics Stanford University and Chairman of Immunology 2002-2011"I once said that life is found in the dance between your deepest desire and your greatest fear. *Saving Each Other* is about a pathway where two women face their greatest fears and experience their deepest desires together as they take on an incurable disease. It's quickly obvious this disease is no match for the powerful combination of a mother's love and

devotion with a child—his hope, determination and will. You will be moved and inspired as you go on a journey with these two extraordinary women and find newfound courage within yourself."—Anthony Robbins, New York Times bestselling author, internationally-acclaimed speaker, and peak performance expert "Saving Each Other is a love story, a medical mystery, and also the proof we badly need that cooperation beats competition every time. This is an irresistible book that inspires readers—and could reform experts."—Gloria Steinem "I've made a career telling inspirational women's stories. This real life story is a triumph. Saving Each Other is about a mother and daughter bonding over love, maturity and survival. Victoria and Ali, two people I've admired for years, have written an incredibly moving and important story that must be shared."—Garry Marshall "The unstoppable power of these two extraordinary women is an unforgettable and inspirational experience you will carry in your heart forever."—Dustin Hoffman "As a woman, mother, and close friend of the authors, I find this story deeply moving on so many levels. The work that I've seen Victoria, Ali, and the foundation undertake has been extraordinary, especially in bringing doctors together to share ideas and create a dialogue that wasn't there before. As their experts grow closer to finding better, more effective treatments for this disease, they can open the door for solutions to many other diseases—and that's just incredible!"—Reese Witherspoon "Saving Each Other is a testament to a mother's incredible strength and a daughter's unshakable courage. However, it is so much more than that. The Guthy/Jackson family's journey in fighting Ali's disease and their refusal to give up is beyond inspirational; it is truly one of the greatest love stories I've ever read. This wonderful book will make you laugh and cry. But most of all, you will cheer for this amazing family's unflinching tenacity and hope in the face of enormous obstacles and fear. Their fight will ultimately help save countless other lives."—Sherry Lansing, CEO, The Sherry Lansing Foundation

Being on my own personal journey with a teenage who is challenging health, Saving Each Other, gave me the courage, confidence, strength, love and re-newed my spirit To continue on a path that is unknown. Saving Each Other is one of my favourite books at the moment, I recommend every one To read it. This book brought me back to a place of hope. God gives us challenges in life and this mother- daughter team conquered there's. Australia, Xx

This book was literally what we needed. After dealing with a very recent diagnosis of NMO, our lives have been turned upside down. The fear of not knowing and being given this scary, cold diagnosis was too much to handle. After immediately searching for support and information online, we quickly came across this book and purchased it. I just finished the book last night. This book is heartwarming, and I can relate to the familial bond exemplified in this book. This book is a treasure for us, and has helped us navigate this disease during the past couple of weeks. Both Ali and Victoria shared their experiences candidly which helps us going through the initial stages of living with this new reality.

An awesome story about a brave young lady and her persistent mother! This is a must read for anyone going through a tough medical journey, especially a rare disease like NMO. I also have this disease. Reading this story has brought new courage to my soul!

Great service, arrived on time packed very well so all was well looked after. A great story I have just finished after discovering the book about a disease I have- thank you!

As a radio show host, I read and discuss a book with its author every week...sometimes this is a hard task.. BUT THIS BOOK ROCKS ... the interview is probably archived (I 'd tell you where, but this isn't about me but about the book). It is a compelling fast read...and wonderful to boot. Wow and great insight into medicine and how progress is and isn't made! n Thanks for writing it, and thanks for letting me interview you. @YoungDrMike Mike Roizen MD

Good read. I also have NMO. Very grateful I am able to have this book and hear the Story. Grateful for Alley and Victoria.

This is the story of what one devoted mother (with access to BIG funds) could do to help her child. It is a pattern the medical profession should duplicate and our government too! God bless this mother and daughter.

Fantastic book for anyone with a daughter! Mother and daughter story of coping with an incurable disease. Read this book for great insight!

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