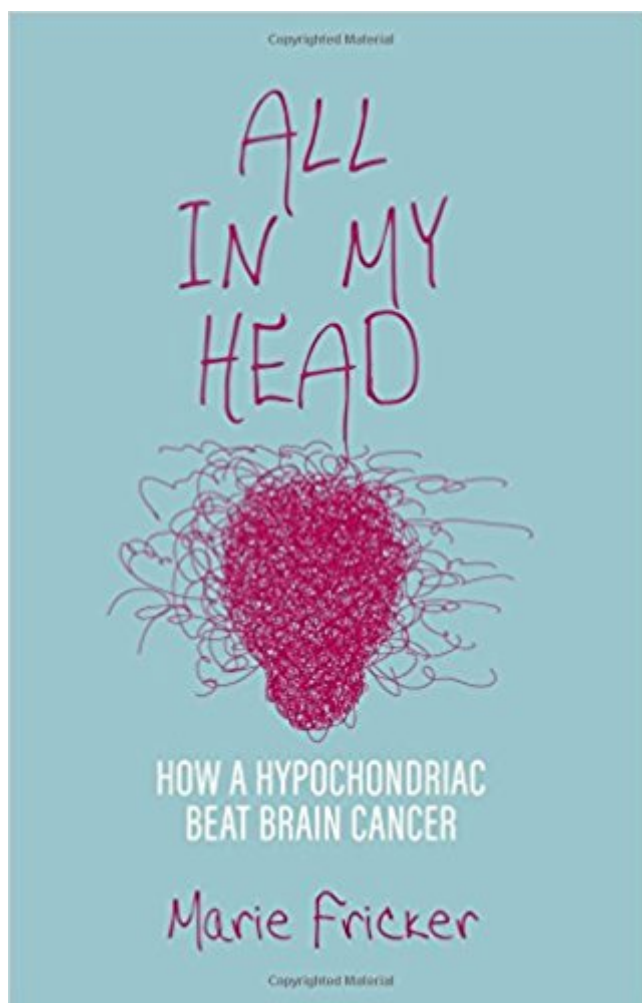


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# All In My Head: How A Hypochondriac Beat Brain Cancer



## Synopsis

When 55-year-old Marie Fricker complained of a burning hot foot, chills, and a pins-and-needles feeling crawling up her leg, nobody paid much attention. Marie was a lifelong hypochondriac and frequently predicted her own doom from perceived maladies ranging from cholera to the common cold. As far as her friends and family were concerned, this was just one more. It wasn't. Three weeks after the birth of her first grandchild, Marie was diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumor. She was treated with chemotherapy and went into remission but was given only a 20 percent chance of surviving five years without a recurrence. Eight years later, the author tells her story of fear, perseverance, and hope with a wry humor that sheds light into the dark abyss of battling a catastrophic disease. You will laugh and cry with her and benefit from her Top 15 List of practical strategies for coping with cancer.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Marie Fricker is a head writer for a billion-dollar real estate company in the Greater Boston area. She is a freelance writer who has had feature articles published in Boston magazine and many other publications throughout New England. She is the recipient of four international communication awards for a video documentary she wrote and produced entitled The House that Jack Built. Marie has a bachelor's degree in English from the University of Massachusetts and a master's degree in journalism from Boston University. She and her husband, Al, have two children, Allison and Jason, and five grandchildren—Benjamin, William, Christian, Olivia, and Sam.

I bought this book for my wife Carol because she recently lost her brother who had brain cancer. She told me that it really helped her as she has other members of her family that are dealing with cancer. Marie gave her hope in dealing with her other brother, her sister and her sisters two daughters are going through. There is so much cancer in her family. Carol loved how Marie told stories about her past and her children and what they dealt with what she was going through. My wife and I agree that this is a book that should be on the best sellers list. We also believe that she has a great future as a writer. Carol is right beside me as I write this, in fact these are her words and I agree with her 100%.

I actually went to high school with the author, but we were not close friends. I am going through my own journey with Triple Negative Breast Cancer and was reluctant to read it.....I thought well at least it's about a different kind of cancer and it would be nice if I bought the book and supported an old friend. Was I happy that I purchased it. Marie is a fabulous story teller. I laughed, I cried, and boy did I relate. Anyone who is fighting a life threatening disease should read this book. Somehow, with a positive attitude, some humor and a lot of tears and support, we find a way to make it through the pretty tough road we need to travel. I haven't seen Marie in over 40 years.....and we have reconnected. She is a fighter, strong and a warrior. I definitely recommend this book. I left a copy in the infusion center where I have my chemo weekly. I know that this book will help those feeling lost to find their way.

As a PCNSL Sister Warrior I was excited to read this book. It was candid and took me through her journey in a personal way. Thank you Marie for sharing your story and giving others a look at how facing a devastating cancer diagnosis can lead to healing.

A book that hones in on how a person reacts to a frightening diagnosis. At an uplifting time of life, the horror of sudden ailment and diagnosis is described. Dealing with exhaustion, treatments and the need (and reception) of love and support. A wry sense of humour (titles of chapters are good example), description of the sense of fear...and a way of coping, is important to all. Very well written book for those on both sides of a sudden burden. Uplifting to boot.

Everything else got in the way while I was reading this book. I read at 5 a.m. and at midnight because I had such trouble putting this book down. Marie Fricker is a talented writer who shared her journey in an exceptional manner. She let the world in to see her darkest moments and her

celebrations. I laughed and I cried. I was sad and I was inspired. I learned a lot from her journey and would highly recommend this book. I LOVED IT!

I loved this book! As a cancer survivor, I could relate to Marie's anxiety and struggles as well as her faith and hope while battling her disease. The book grabbed me from the start and I couldn't put it down. The short chapters were a real plus for me and made it so easy to read. The balance of humor with sadness made her journey so real and left me feeling grateful and inspired. Marie is truly a gifted author.

A woman and her ordeal, at once heart wrenching and inspirational. Marie writes in a candid and authentic manner. She offers an accounting of a story which so affects everyone in her orbit; her family, her friends, her co-workers and leaves no part of the experience untold. Her short but pithy chapters are anecdotal, and she somehow manages to bring humor into an experience which allows both her and the reader to carry on. Thank you, Marie, for sharing your story. What a wonderfully meaningful way to personally reflect on your ordeal and share the emotional roller coaster with you audience. Well done!David A.

Such a great read ! Not only is this book educational, it is truly straight from the heart and so entertaining . Marie is a truly gifted writer and I admire her ability to take you along on this journey through her ups and downs with brutal honesty and a witty sense of humor.

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