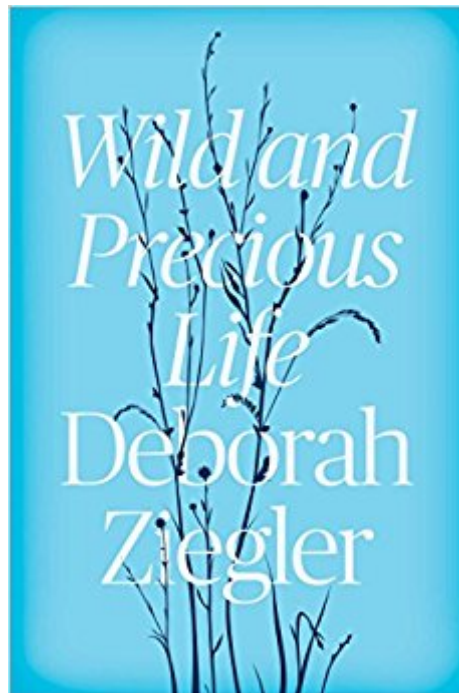




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# Wild And Precious Life



## Synopsis

When twenty-nine-year-old Brittany is diagnosed with a terminal brain tumor, she thinks almost immediately about ending her life with dignity. In this painfully honest memoir, Deborah, Brittany's mother, records the surgeries, treatments, and soul-searching that went into honoring Brittany's path. Brittany's story will have a ready audience, and Deborah's frank account of their struggles will be comforting to others facing this difficult decision.

Booklist (starred review) Written by Deborah Ziegler, the mother of Brittany Maynard "a twenty-nine-year-old woman with a terminal brain tumor" this touching and beautiful memoir captures and celebrates her daughter's spirit and the mostly untold story of Brittany's last year of life as she chose her right to die with dignity, a journey that inspired millions. On October 6, 2014, a video of my daughter, Brittany Maynard, was posted on YouTube. Brittany asked me to do the video with her, to support her. The first words my daughter uttered on the film were, "The thoughts that go through your mind when you find out you have so little time is everything you need to say to everyone that you love." Wearing a simple black sweater, her face already rounded and puffy from taking prescribed steroids, her once waist-length hair now grazing her shoulders after a craniotomy, Brittany described why she was choosing to end her life by her own hand rather than waiting for her brain tumor to rob her of everything that defined who she was. In this poignant, powerful book, Deborah Ziegler makes good on the promise she made to her only child: that she would honor her daughter and carry forward her legacy by sharing their story and offering hope, empowerment, and inspiration to the growing tens of millions of people who are struggling with end-of-life issues.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"When 29-year-old Brittany is diagnosed with a terminal brain tumor, she thinks almost immediately about ending her life with dignity . . . In this painfully honest memoir, Deborah, Brittany's mother, records the surgeries, treatments, and soul-searching that went into honoring Brittany's path . . . Brittany's story . . . will have a ready audience, and Deborah's frank account of their struggles will be comforting to others facing this difficult decision." (Booklist (starred review)) "A graceful and touching gift of love and posthumous devotion from mother to daughter." (Kirkus Reviews) "Heart-wrenching." (Publishers Weekly) "Compassionately truthful and exceptionally well written. I think this will be a best seller that will move our cause forward." (George Eighmey, JD, President of Death with Dignity)

Deborah Ziegler was born in Albuquerque, New Mexico on July 18, 1956. She currently lives in California with her husband, Gary, and two cavipoos named Bogie and Bacall.

I could not put this book down, this is one book that should be read by millions of people, after watching Brittanys YouTube videos i imagined her very ,very different from what i read about her in this book, she felt more real and not just "the poster girl for dying with dignity " Deborah is a patient and amazing mother, she should be so proud of this book. It's brutally honest, she tells of the suffering Brittany went through but also the violent outbursts that she endured, Brittanys main violence was towards her mother and husband, likely brought on by her tumor. I learned so much about Brittanys cancer and the life she lived,because she really did LIVE!

Honest and open account of a mother struggling to hold on to her child Brittany, in the face of terminal illness. Brittany's devastating diagnosis forced her to make some tough choices to preserve her dignity as the illness threatened to transform her. Both women's bravery throughout is truly inspirational as they experience impending death and a mother's worst nightmare. I enjoyed how Deb (the author and Brittany's mom) described raising Brittany throughout the years, interwoven into the book between chapters accounting Brittany's diagnosis until after her death. This thought provoking read will have you realizing just how precious and delicate life is, have gratitude, to live in the moment and not take anything for granted. The strength these two women have exhibited is beyond human comprehension. It's incredible how they can take tragedy and turn that into something meaningful with the dying with dignity cause. Deb is a very good writer, her words flow from the heart and you will not be able to put this book down.

This book is beautifully written and holds your interest throughout. I know this was a very, very personal story for Deborah to write, but I wonder if she might be a future famous author. I'd love to read something else she has written. I particularly liked her writing about locations and scenes such as Washington State and Machu Picchu; it made me want to visit these locations.

Wild and Precious Life by Deborah Ziegler is a cross between a Nicholas Sparks novel and Beaches, except that it is non fiction. This is a beautifully written love story by a mother to her wild and precious daughter, Brittany Maynard. Twenty-nine year old Brittany is diagnosed with a fatal and inoperable brain tumor and this is the story of how Brittany and her mother start a journey of how to die with dignity. It is a treacherous journey on how to deal with the tumor, how to say goodbye, how to deal with death while how to still live life to the fullest. It is the story of how Brittany takes back control of her life with the help of her mother, Deborah. In choosing to die on her terms, Brittany is able to live life on her terms. It is the story of how a fatal illness rips a family apart and then at the end, brings them back together. In her mother's words, Brittany lived more in her twenty-nine years than most people live in 90 years. "Promise me you won't let me suffer, momma.", Brittany pleads, while her momma promises, " I will not let this tumor torture you. I will do whatever I have to do." And so she did. They moved to Oregon where the Death with Dignity law was already in existence. This is the story of a journey: a journey of trips, a journey of advocating for a child, of advocating for others, and of finding and repairing the relationship between a mother and a daughter that at one point was broken. Brittany died on a date of her choosing, surrounded by her loved ones, resting her head on her mother's chest while her mom read her poetry. This book reads like poetry and thanks to Brittany and Deborah, several states now offer the choice to terminally ill people on how they wish to die. Deborah kept her promise to her Mary Poppins loving Sweet Pea: She did whatever it took to not let that tumor take away what her daughter held most dear: control over her body. Together in life as in death, Brittany and Deborah are a force to be reckoned with. This has major motion picture written all over it.

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