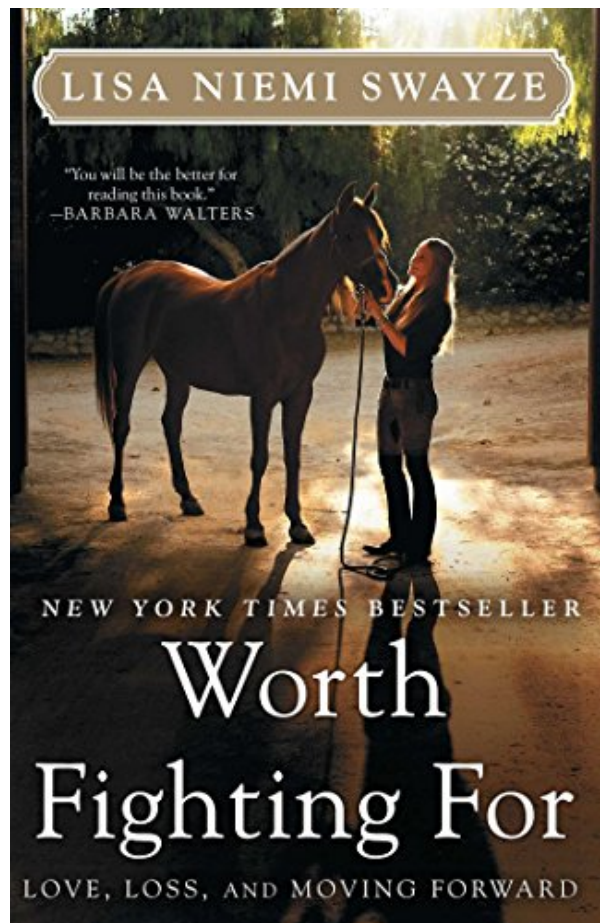
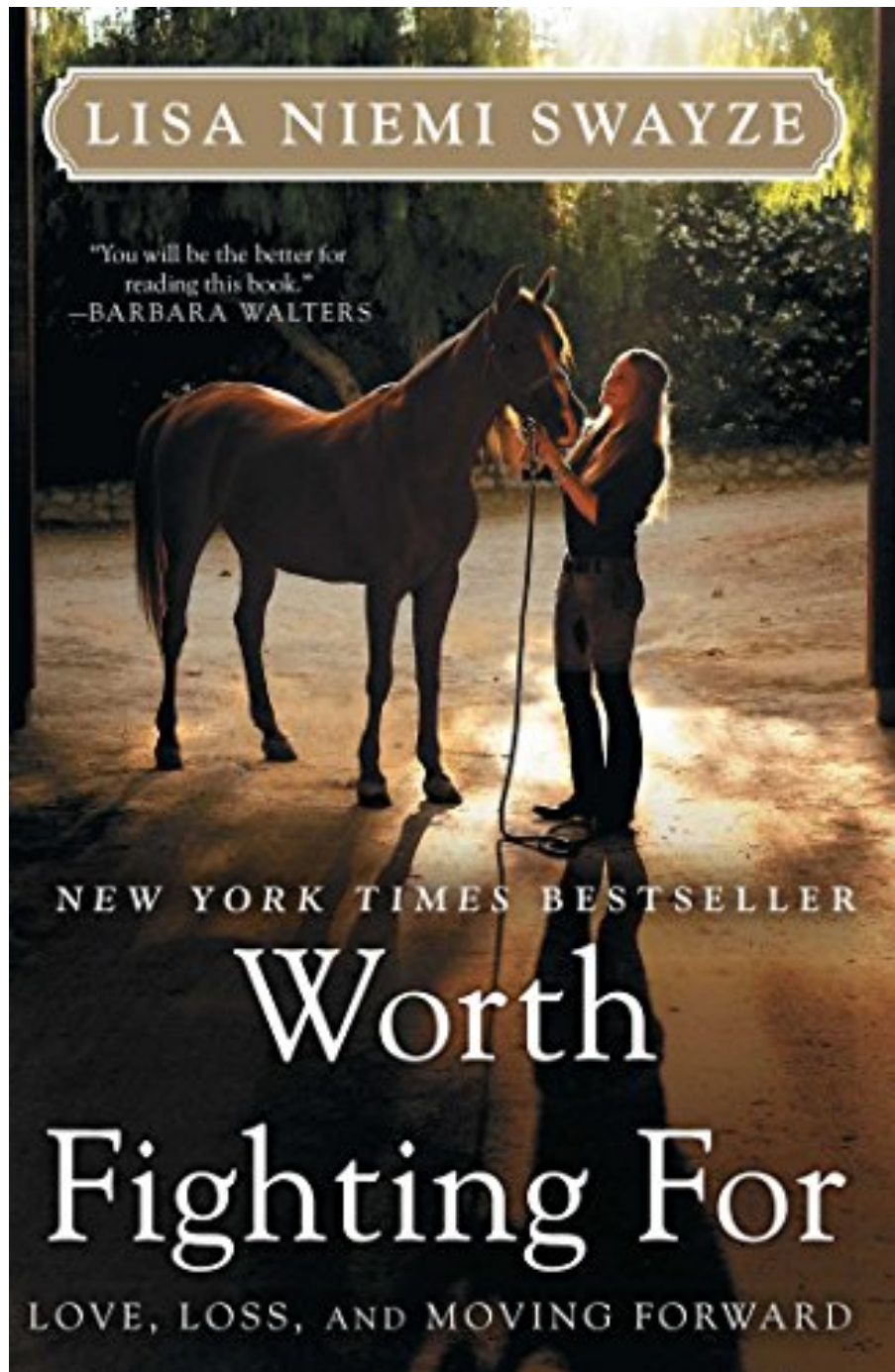


WORTH FIGHTING FOR: LOVE, LOSS, AND MOVING FORWARD BY LISA NIEMI SWAYZE



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Amazon.com Review

Images from Worth Fighting For
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Patrick and I were/are both pilots, and we shared our love of aviation.
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May 2009. At our ranch in New Mexico with two of our dogs, Lucas and Kuma.
I walk out for one on the happiest days of my life-- the renewal of Patrick's and my wedding vows.
At Rancho de Dias Alegres in New Mexico. The land is beautiful, soulful, and serene.

From Booklist

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From Patrick Swayze's widow—the moving, New York Times bestselling account of grief, loss, caregiving, and moving on, with touching stories from their final months together.

When Lisa Niemi first exchanged vows with Patrick Swayze, she promised to be with her husband “till death do us part.” But how many couples stop and think about what that truly means?

Worth Fighting For is both a candid tribute to a marriage and a celebration of the healing power that each day holds, even in the most difficult of circumstances. Lisa shares the details of Patrick's twenty-one-month battle with Stage IV pancreatic cancer, and she describes his last days, when she simply tried to keep him comfortable. She writes with heartbreaking honesty about her grief in the aftermath of his death and openly discusses the challenges that the years without him have posed. Her story is an emotionally honest and unflinching depiction of loss, but it is also a hopeful and life-affirming exploration of the power of the human spirit. “I tell you, I am a different person now,” she writes, “one who has been thrown into the fire and forged.”

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- Original language: English
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- Dimensions: 8.37" h x .80" w x 5.50" l, .64 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 336 pages

Features

- Great book!

Amazon.com Review

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Most helpful customer reviews

57 of 61 people found the following review helpful.

"I was hoping to wrap my experience with him into a nice little bow.."

By Kcorn

Anyone who has been through grief and loss will appreciate the honesty of Lisa Niemi Swayze, wife of Patrick Swayze, as she describes their life together, the ups and downs - and finally, his death after a brave struggle with pancreatic cancer. As Niemi Swayze puts it, she still "runs hot and cold", still feels anger for the bad times even as she cherishes memories of wonderful moments. Again, in her own words, there is " no in-between." Anger and grief, often intertwined. There are also vivid descriptions of the couple's marriage, with Patrick Swayze, the celebrity actor propelled to fame by movies such as Ghost and Dirty Dancing, as

one half of that couple . From first meeting to life with a famed actor, Lisa chronicles the journey.

While most readers of the book should relate to the grief and loss felt by Niemi Swayze, fans of Patrick Swayze also get an upfront and very personal take on him, written by the woman who lived with and loved him, hanging in there through extremely turbulent times (even before the cancer diagnosis). The majority of the book focuses on the time after Swayze learned of the cancer and how the couple struggled to get through this searingly difficult period. They'd already survived so much by that point...Swayze's battles with alcohol, the loss of their dreams for a child, etc.

Things became so tough that in 2003 the couple were at the brink of divorce, with Swayze's heavy drinking a major factor. At his wife's request they lived apart, coming back only after Swayze made significant changes. Another issue was the fact that the Lisa Niemi who met Patrick when still very young was a far more quiet and private person than her energetic and outgoing husband. She learned to adapt but being in the public eye was not easy for her. She is quite honest that she had actually given up on their marriage and lost hope before...well, I'll let you discover that part for yourself...but only add that any reader feeling hopeless about a marriage might feel inspired by Lisa's experience and honesty.

But it was far from all bad times and struggles. There were also the incredibly happy moments, many of them happening as a result of Swayze's career. Celebrity opened doors to a whole new world including frequent travels, the opportunity to meet all sorts of people, all while learning and growing together. Meanwhile, their bond strengthened, forging a deeper love between the two.

Many couples mature as they go from young newlyweds to more seasoned partners and Lisa and Patrick aren't the only couple to have faced incredible challenges. But Niemi Swayze reveals, with poignant detail, how it feels to fight for her marriage- and her husband's life - as media, photographers, and fans watched every move.

I found the book to be a very touching memoir as well as inspiring. Perhaps you will as well. To get a take on Swayze's entire life, including the time before he met his wife, check out Swayze's book *The Time of My Life* . Each book is well worth the reading, particularly if you are a fan of celebrity bios or have wondered about the actor's background and life before and after fame.

29 of 31 people found the following review helpful.

Real life

By Anne Kennedy

My husband has pancreatic cancer. Her description of their journey through the stages of his treatment while living life and battling this horrible disease were excellent. I wept, smiled and laughed. I was in awe of how she picked up the medical terminology and treatments, adapted to this situation, protected him, and became the lead member of his care team. Bravo!!!

A true caregiver in every sense, but this was about more than cancer. It was a love story. Very few of us in this life experience the love and commitment they shared.

I could not put the book down. I was hesitant to share it with my husband, but it was too powerful to keep to myself. We wept together, laughed together, and he came away with a deeper appreciation of what these last 9 months have been for me.

An excellent read.

21 of 24 people found the following review helpful.

It will not only touch your heart but grab hold

By Amazon Customer

I read "Time of My Life" and loved it. I read this one and loved it even more. When someone you love is

diagnosed with cancer it is a fight. For all people involved it is an emotional fight and a physical fight. This book takes you into their 21 month battle with Patrick's cancer and makes you realize why Patrick loved her for over 3 decades. Lisa took personal care of him his entire illness...learning to do everything that he needed to be done. She never gave up hope, with cancer hope is all you have, but at the end she had the love and compassion to let him go. Patrick was lucky to have her and I was lucky to have her book to read. If you've ever lost anyone to cancer this book is your story also. It became mine. Read "Worth Fighting For"...it is so worth it.

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