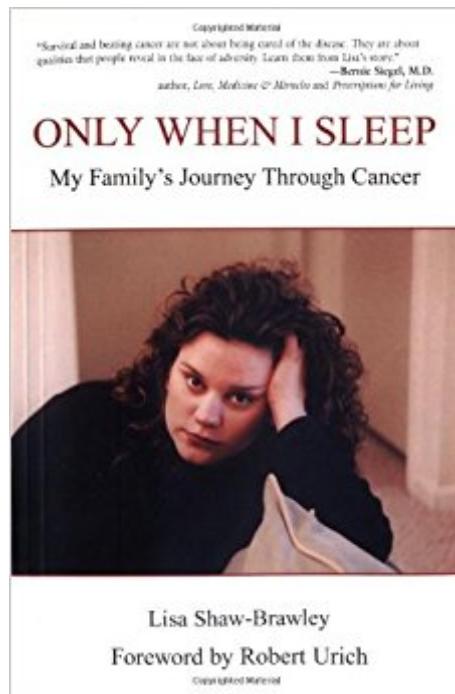


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# Only When I Sleep: My Family's Journey Through Cancer



## Synopsis

In December of 1995, at the age of twenty-four, Lisa Shaw-Brawley was diagnosed with Hodgkin's disease, a form of lymphoma. Shaw-Brawley and her husband were visiting her family in California during the Christmas holidays when swollen glands sent her to see her lifelong family doctor. Only When I Sleep: My Family's Journey Through Cancer is her inspiring, first-hand account of what she learned that day and the battle she fought against cancer, based on the journal she kept from the moment she was diagnosed. The story chronicles in detailed, compelling scenes both the emotional and physical journey of cancer, including the numerous tests and treatments Shaw-Brawley endured. Honest and forthright, the author does not disguise the bitter truth of her experience or the fear that accompanied her diagnosis. Because of this, the book will reassure newly diagnosed cancer patients that their fears-of possible infertility, hair loss and recurrence-are normal and give them guidance on facing these fears. Only When I Sleep is also the story of Shaw-Brawley's family, and their journey through a harrowing and ultimately strengthening experience. The book is a remarkable story of family love and the commitment of marriage, which also explores the tensions and comforts of returning home as a married adult. In vivid prose, the author invites the reader into her family's home, into their hearts, and into the battle of their lives. As readers join in this journey, they will be moved, informed, reassured and assisted in their personal journey. The author's father also contributes a heart-warming journal entry of what his family endured, offering comfort and insight to every mother and father in a similar situation. In the end, a second miracle in Shaw-Brawley's life proves to be the ultimate lesson in redemption and hope. This, coupled with her determined fight, will send a clear message of survival that will inspire and empower other cancer patients.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

One word...amazing! I have not had cancer myself, however I have many friends and family members who have both won their battle with cancer and some that have lost. I thought I understood what they were going through, not until I read Lisa Shaw-Brawley's book did I realize just how little I knew about their struggles. I found this book educational and surprisingly, though I never thought I would describe a book on cancer as such, but also a love story. For such a young woman, being diagnosed with Hodgkin's, Lisa at only 24 is a very centered and determined young woman. In the very early stages of her treatment she made choices about her journey through cancer that meant the difference between living and dying. With determination to fight her way back to a body free of cancer, along the way Lisa helped those around her deal with all of their confusion and fear of a disease that came into their lives with a thunder and changed them forever. Have faith in God, trust in your doctors, love and support from family and friend and a will to survive, is what Lisa said got her through to where she is today. I cried for her and rejoiced for her and along the way was lost in this book that I could not put down. I have a greater understanding and admiration for what my friends and family members went through because of "Only When I Sleep". Thank you Lisa for writing this book.

This is a wonderfully uplifting book on surviving a difficult battle with cancer, but it is even more the story of a family's love and support for each other through that difficult battle. Through this young woman's faith in God's healing power, and the love of her parents and husband she confronted this terrible illness with determination to live and the courage to undergo the treatment necessary to live. It is obvious, too, that her family also had to have a lot of courage and faith in this battle. Where many husbands might have become faint-hearted in this, Lisa's husband stayed at her side and had tremendous conviction that she would recover. He is to be praised for his steadfastness! With her recovery complete, what a blessing Lisa, her parents, and her husband were given with the birth of a son. This is most definitely one of the most uplifting and inspirational books I have had the pleasure of reading in a long while. I highly recommend it!

This book is an enlightening experience into a world that I knew virtually nothing about. I have never

had to deal with Cancer in a personal way, but I feel better equipped to do so if needed. This book will be an inspiration to those who have had to deal with this in their lives or who are going through it now. But for those of us who never have, it can help us to be more compassionate to those that need us to be. This is not merely a story of survival, but even more so, a story of love. No matter what we or a loved one may go through, we need our family. Lisa was able to go through everything she did with the love and support of her family. Love really does conquer all.

This is a wonderful book. It will make you cry, but will also bring joy to your heart and a smile to your face. It makes you realize the "choices" Lisa and her family had to make to survive where very hard for her and her family. You will admire her strength, courage, and her determination to beat this. You see first hand how it effects everyone in her family. How the love of her husband, parents, family members and friends are unconditional. It shows us how the small things we all take for granted can be taken away from us in seconds and our world can be turned upside down. How Lisa never gave up and if you "believe" anything is possible.I highly recommend this book to everyone, not just those dealing with cancer. There is a "lesson" for everyone to learn from Lisa's experience. It's a WONDERFUL story of love, courage, faith and determination of a young woman who is fighting to survive cancer.

Lisa Shaw-Brawley's newly released book "Only When I sleep....My family's journey through Cancer" is a tearful and heart warming look at a family's struggle and challenge as they all face cancer. As a breast cancer survivor this book speaks realistically to the many layers a person experiences when dealing with this disease. Cancer does not just affect the patient, it's effects run through family, friends and those aquatinted with the person. Information and education will assist a person in the struggle which must be faced when hearing the words, "You have cancer". Lisa's book addresses the fear, challenges, and medical procedures which she faced and how she and her family survived. The joy is in the ending, but you'll have to read the book to receive that blessing.

"Only When I Sleep: My Family's Journey Through Cancer" is a wonderful account of a young womans physical & emotional struggle, as well as her familys, through one of the most frightening battles of their life. Cancer is the ultimate "dirty word" in the vocabulary of the English Language. Lisa brings to this book her heart warming love & devotion for husband & family, as well as her own inner strength & spirit. Way to go, girl.

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