



## Awkward Bitch: My Life with MS

*Marlo Donato Parmelee*

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Book by Parmelee, Marlo Donato

## **Awkward Bitch: My Life with MS Details**

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Author : Marlo Donato Parmelee

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## **From Reader Review Awkward Bitch: My Life with MS for online ebook**

### **Jenny says**

I really enjoyed this book and found it to be a very real account of MS flares, the torturous route to diagnosis, and coming to terms with an incurable disease. While not extraordinarily well-written, I certainly thought it was informative and a compelling story. In addition, it was sometimes laugh-out-loud funny and other times very moving. I will be sharing this book with family and friends to help them get a better understanding of the physical and emotional toll of MS on us MSers.

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### **Kristina says**

This was an interesting, educational, and slightly depressing book for me. I was diagnosed with MS on April Fool's Day this year. Unlike the author I'm very much alone, my Mom died in December and I live by myself. My adventures with MS are just starting and what I loved about this book was the authors honesty, attitude, her learned compassion, and her desire to educate. I also love her use of humor and the journey she takes the reader on. Well worth the read.

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### **Kristin says**

I can't praise this book enough. It evoked every emotion on the spectrum. It was super hard to read at times because it hit so close to home, but even during those moments I loved it. Thank you, Marlo for sharing your story with the world. I hope you're doing well and I hope you realize what a profound difference you've made in the lives of so many of us by sharing your story.

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### **kimberly merry says**

I enjoyed reading this book. I was newly diagnosed with MS and Maron Donato Parmelee capture all the emotions I was going through. While reading her book I felt that I could relate to her struggles with MS. I would highly recomend this book for anyone with MS or who is close to someone with MS. I loved this book.

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### **Eddie Slain says**

I was really interested in this book as my wife has MS, and I was hoping to get an inside view on what she is going through, through the eyes of another woman.

Whilst some of the book was insightful, I found it difficult to stay focused on the author's tale, as they seemed to jump around a lot, and leave out the deep emotional gristle that would allow me to understand

what it might be like to live with MS.

I have a ton of respect for her having written this book.

I did talk to my wife about this book, and she felt the same; it was hard to get into, even with the commonality she felt with the author's experiences.

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### **Laura Fazio says**

#### **Personal for MS patients**

As an MS patient, I enjoyed this book. It described symptoms as well as the mental responses that are very personal to me. It was an informative and entertaining book - nothing like the many books published on this subject. All MS patients will relate... non MS readers may not find it as entertaining because the author is writing about something very personal to the many MS patients in the world.

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### **Bert Edens says**

This is a wonderful and brutally honest book about Parmelee's life before, during and after her diagnosis with Multiple Sclerosis (MS). It manages to come across as a book from the heart without being depressing, primarily due to her humor. Who else can combine discussions of her bowel functions and numbness that could affect her sex life and mix it with fashionista desires and struggles.

I definitely recommend this to anyone who has MS or knows someone with MS, as it could give you an insight into what struggles Parmelee faced. While no two diagnoses and symptoms are identical since no two person has the exact same lesions in the same places, there is definitely an insight to be found in the writing.

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### **Georgina says**

Having a first hand account of someone else living with MS and navigating through the diagnosis and daily struggles is not only empowering but it brings joy to my heart to read in such a way to KNOW someone else gets it... I'm not as crazy as I thought I was or maybe even as crazy as others thought I was... Great read for those who do not live with MS but know someone who does or just curious to understand it a little better and a must read for those living through it.

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### **Frankie says**

Enjoyed this a lot. Used to watch Marlo Donato's YouTube videos when I was going through diagnosis in 2009, so when she put out the book I made a note to read it. Particularly related to the part where she was describing navigating the NHS as a non-UK native. I had my first MS attack (also double vision!) a couple of months after moving to the UK, just like her - parallel to the point of creepy! Especially the experience of going back and forth between ophthalmologists and neuro-ophthalmologists, and the looooong waiting time

even for an "URGENT" MRI.

I am looking forward to reading her next book. She has a very natural, conversational style of writing that is quite likeable. I do feel like she has taken the whole thing with a lot of good grace.

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### **Dawn Barron says**

I loved this book. The author and I are very similar in so many ways and I often felt like I was reading a story about my own life. Young, career oriented, complete inappropriate sense of humor, living (and loving) the big city and far from family. The struggles of the diagnosis process, in an unfamiliar territory also kicked my ass. I remember being so hell bent on never quitting my fancy, Michigan Ave job, even though there were days the pain was so severe I wanted to die.

We both took the same medicine (Rebif). I began reading this book a few weeks ago when I incidentally, started a new oral medicine, due to recent findings that my MS has gotten a lot more aggressive. My relapses always start in my left big toe too. Lol. I loved this book and it has a permanent spot on my bookshelf.

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### **Margaret says**

Parmelee struggles mightily to establish an "MS and the City" vibe. Her constant references to herself as "awkward bitch" are so strained, I wanted to stop her and tell her that "awkward bitch," like "fetch," is simply not going to happen. I wanted to read a witty memoir about someone's early days with MS, but this wasn't it.

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### **Betsy says**

Awkward Bitch was incredibly helpful to me as a disabled person/person with chronic illnesses, including those of the neurological variety. If you are chronically ill or know someone who is, please read this book!!! I wish I had picked it up sooner.

I absolutely adored the author's spirit, confidence, and brutal honesty. I feel like this is a "must re-read in times of crisis" book, a really rallying point.

Note: The language is quite coarse, which some people might find bothersome, but I appreciated Marlo's non-antiseptic candor. Also, the text has quite a few grammatical, spelling errors. Please don't let this stop you from getting the book's therapeutic and insightful messages.

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### **Donna says**

Beautifully written, laugh out loud funny, about one woman's MS diagnosis and how she refused to let it

define her. It reminds me of my fabulous, gorgeous friend Katie, who meets each day ready to face what life has thrown at her head on, with grace, laughter, and love?

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### **Lizzie Harwood says**

I really enjoyed Marlo Donato's voice and candor in telling of her horrific journey with MS. I won't be able to take the tube around London without thinking of her struggles just to exit stations or get on a train while in the middle of a MS relapse. This is such a hard illness and the more stories out there like this one, the better, it really gives tremendous insight into how different people cope and I loved her humor and sassiness -- don't ever lose that!!! I hope she is managing well and not letting MS "have her". Wholeheartedly recommend this book for anyone after a read of courage and not losing yourself in the face of struggles.

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### **Lydia says**

I read this book more than a year ago. Being diagnosed in 2008 I had a lot of similar things happen to me so I could relate well. Even not having any good days at the time of reading it..she made me laugh & find the humor of each situation. Even though its super scary to go through something like MS. It's an educational read for people that don't have MS too. She really shines light on what it's like to live with it. I'm looking forward to her next book!

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