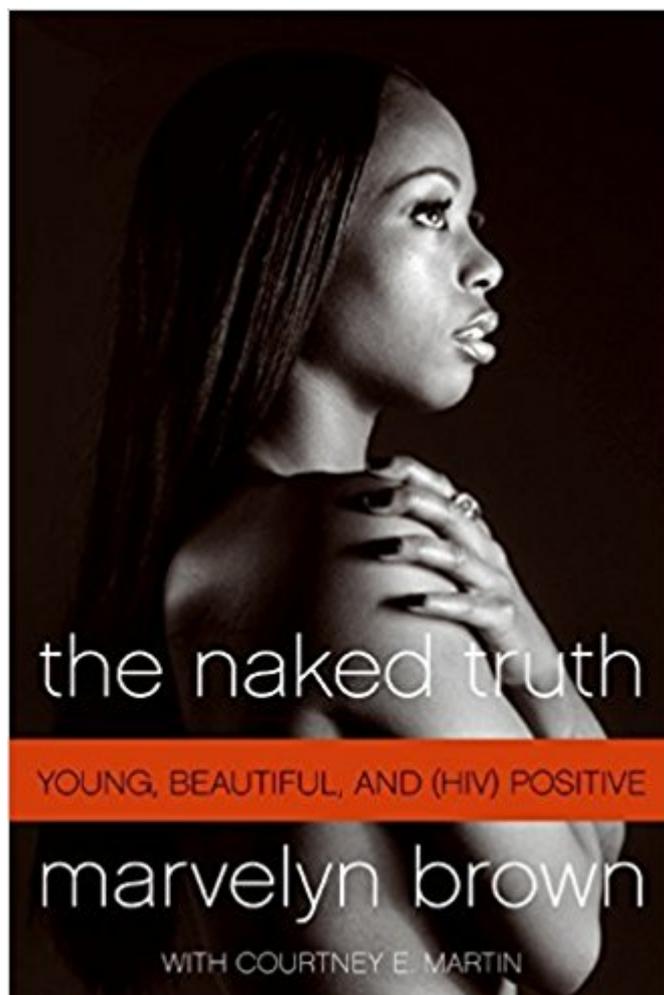


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The Naked Truth: Young, Beautiful, And (HIV) Positive



Synopsis

The surprisingly hopeful story of how a straight, nonpromiscuous, everyday girl contracted HIV and how she manages to stay upbeat, inspired, and more positive about life than ever before. At nineteen years of age, Marvelyn Brown was lying in a stark white hospital bed at Tennessee Christian Medical Center, feeling hopeless. A former top track and basketball athlete, she was in the best shape of her life, but she was battling a sudden illness in the intensive care unit. Doctors had no idea what was going on. It never occurred to Brown that she might be HIV positive. Having unprotected sex with her Prince Charming had set into swift motion a set of circumstances that not only landed her in the fight of her life, but also alienated her from her community. Rather than give up, however, Brown found a reason to fight and a reason to live. *The Naked Truth* is an inspirational memoir that shares how an everyday teen refused to give up on herself, even as others would forsake her. More, it's a cautionary tale that every parent, guidance counselor, and young adult should read.

Book Information

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Product Dimensions: 5.3 x 0.5 x 8 inches

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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (56 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #327,847 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #41 in [Books > Health, Fitness & Dieting > Diseases & Physical Ailments > AIDS](#) #197 in [Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Regional U.S. > South](#) #804 in [Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Ethnic & National > African-American & Black](#)

Customer Reviews

First, I'll deal with the misleading part. The product description states that Ms. Brown is a non-promiscuous young woman. I take issue with the 'non-promiscuous' part. If Ms. Brown had not caught HIV from Prince Charming, she very easily could have caught it from one of her many other sexual partners. The definition of promiscuous is having multiple sexual partners. By definition, Ms. Brown was indeed promiscuous. THAT is how she caught HIV. Her message is that everyone, even

non-promiscuous heterosexuals, are at risk. That message is very important. She should not jeopardize that message by trying to pretend she was being chaste and still caught HIV. One last issue I had with the book: I think this message needs to reach everyone, not just African-American females. Her language is raw. That may jeopardize her message by turning some people off before they have a chance to finish the book. Having said that, let me reiterate the importance of her message. Actually, there is more than one message. She talks about the impact of suicide, the impact of growing up without the presence of a father-figure, the long-term impact of decisions one might make in high school, and the impact of low self-esteem (self-love)- all while sending the message that being HIV+ does not need to be a death sentence. All of these messages are so important and she does a great job of getting those messages across. I used the book last night to have a discussion with my daughters. Ms. Brown's words are more eloquent than mine, so I actually read out loud from the book. Her message that suicide does NOT send the message you may intend is extremely powerful. I read that to my girls. I read to them the myths and realities of AIDS.

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