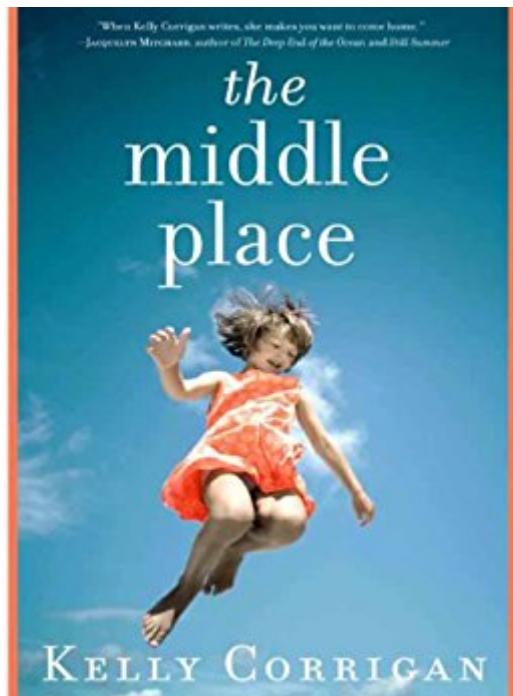


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# The Middle Place



## **Synopsis**

r> Kelly Corrigan is a natural-born storyteller, a gift you quickly recognize as her father's legacy, and her stories are rich with everyday details. She captures the beat of an ordinary life and the tender, sometimes fractious moments that bind families together. Rueful and honest, Kelly is the prized friend who will tell you her darkest, lowest, screwiest thoughts, and then later dance on the coffee table at your party. Funny yet heart-wrenching, *The Middle Place* is about being a parent and a child at the same time. It is about the special double-vision you get when you are standing with one foot in each place. It is about the family you make and the family you came from--and locating, navigating, and finally celebrating the place where they meet. It is about reaching for life with both hands--and finding it.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

I loved this book. Kelly is incredibly relatable to me, not only because I also grew up on the "Main Line", but because her relationship with her parents is so similar to mine and so many of my friends.

It was a really easy read and one that I almost rushed, Dying to get to the next chapter. It was all the sadder too, to read it this week, the week after her father passed away. I can only imagine how sad she must be, and how I will be upon losing my own father one day. A great read.

Great story, a little slow in the middle.

So relatable since so many families struggle with illness, long distances and the grasping to make more memories. To keep growing the family and loving each other forever is at the heart of their grasping.

Like Kelly Corrigan , I am a breast cancer survivor. Even though I have been cancer-free for over 15 years, this book brought it all back. When you have cancer, you're swept up in the process. The medical care providers have ways of doing things, everyone has an opinion, and sometimes even your friends say the dumbest things. It's all consuming, and there's such a sense of urgency. You want to ask questions and think about options, but you're told there's no time, and you're sucked into it. Like Kelly, I also had a father with cancer, although unlike Kelly and her dad, we were not in treatment at the same time. Also unlike Kelly, I did not have a good relationship with my father. I was very young when he had his first bout with cancer, but I still remember very well the frustration I felt as he shopped around for a diagnosis more agreeable to him than cancer. I remember shouting at him - "You'd rather DIE than have surgery?? You'd rather DIE than take care of your family??" (BTW he did have surgery and lived through two more bouts of cancer.) Kelly very accurately describes what it's like to be the advocate for a reluctant cancer patient. This book will hit you in the heart if you have cancer, are a cancer survivor, or are caring for someone with cancer. If you are fortunate enough to have not been touched by cancer, this book will help you understand what it's all about. I looked at some of the one and two star reviews, many of which stated that Kelly sounded whiny and self-indulgent. I strongly disagree! Having cancer threatens everything you are and everything you have. Perhaps you have to experience it to understand some introspection is appropriate when your life is at risk and you are facing your own mortality. And if you are a daughter who had a poor relationship with her father, Kelly's strong and loving relationship with her father may make you a bit jealous and bring on a few tears. I thought this was a lovely book. I will be purchasing the print edition to add to the lending library I maintain for the autobiography class I teach. And I don't do that with many books!

I'm a breast cancer survivor this could have been written by me. I cried through out. It was a real been there done that story. The realty was amazing. She said in print what I felt when I was going through my journey but never expressed to anyone. It was well written and only someone who has made the journey can appreciate the story.

As a middle aged person, I can relate to being "in the middle" with younger kids and an aging parent--as a man, it was hard to relate to some of the more female responses to her life situation--but, she's an engaging writer, a good storyteller and the book caused me to think, reflect, tear up and smile often--that's the best one can hope for in a book and from a writer-

I knew this family before I read this book! Just finished Glitter and Glue and I needed more of the Corrigan's. Aside from wanting to be a Corrigan after reading the first one, I was so accustomed to Kelly's warm candid writing which lulled me to sleep at night praying for a positive outcome on all health problems for this family. I was immersed and was so sad to come to the end!

This book was recommended to me by a friend. Both of us are middle children. I was drawn into the story immediately. It was relatable, funny and had great entertainment value. I love the way this author writes. She is a great storyteller. I can't wait to read her other work.

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