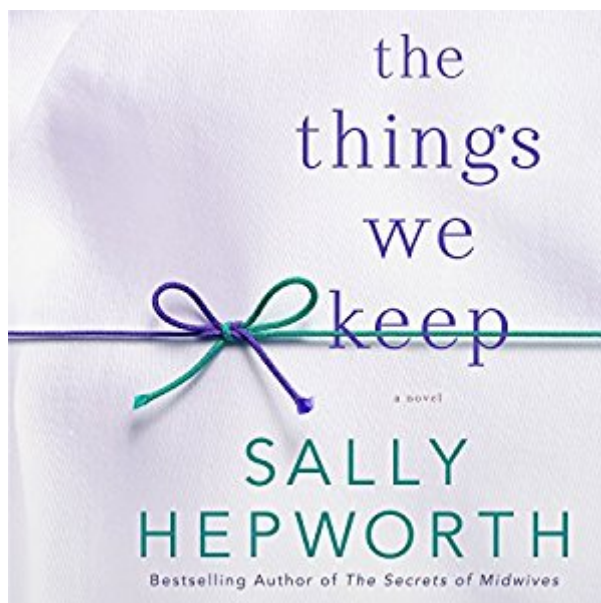


The book was found

The Things We Keep



Synopsis

Anna Forster, in the early stages of Alzheimer's disease at only 38 years old, knows that her family is doing what they believe to be best when they take her to Rosalind House, an assisted-living facility. She also knows there's just one another resident her age, Luke. What she does not expect is the love that blossoms between her and Luke even as she resists her new life at Rosalind House. As her disease steals more and more of her memory, Anna fights to hold on to what she knows, including her relationship with Luke. When Eve Bennett is suddenly thrust into the role of single mother, she finds herself putting her culinary training to use at Rosalind House. When she meets Anna and Luke, she is moved by the bond the pair has forged. But when a tragic incident leads Anna's and Luke's families to separate them, Eve finds herself questioning what she is willing to risk to help them.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Whether you have ever known a person with dementia or are just reading this book, you can not help to be moved by this beautiful book. I felt so many emotions of love, worry, sadness, and anger, and yet through it all there is always hope and deep compassion. *The Things We Keep* is an extraordinary novel about the love between Anna who is 38 and has early onset dementia and Luke, 41 who also has dementia and is a resident in Rosalind an elderly care home. Anna can't remember his name but calls him "young guy" and the two only want to be with one another. Eve is a recent widow, who finds herself needing a job and is hired to be a cook in the Rosalind facility.

She struggles to keep a deep dark secret so that she can keep her daughter Clementine in her same school district without moving. The character development is deftly told with alternating chapters by Anna, Eve, and Clementine going back through time. There are decisions made, that alter life choices, and the author does a magnificent job of giving keen perspective to the characters and their feelings as they evolve. Life is not always what it seems on the surface. Brilliantly written, with a real feel into the mind of someone struggles with dementia, this book is one I so loved. Truly it is one that touched the deepest corners of my heart.

A different spin on the topic of Alzheimer's disease. Characters and topics are very relatable. The idea of love is at the center of the novel while also dealing with real life issues and death. Ending, while a bit abrupt, was interesting as it is open to reader's imaginations or a sequel.

A good idea for a book but too confusing. It was all over the place. I am dealing with someone with dementia and I guess I just don't see the reality in the book. My opinion.

This book describes the main character's journey once she is diagnosed with early-onset Alzheimer's and through her experience living in a care facility. It's narrated not only by the main character, but also by a woman working as a cook in the care facility and another resident who becomes involved with the main character. As the daughter of someone with Alzheimer's, I was very moved by how the author managed to get inside the mind of someone slowly losing herself to this terrible disease. I also felt the author accurately captured daily life in a care facility where a lot of living is still going on, even though the residents have lost their former lives. This novel has many sad moments, but also many moments of joy and humor.

Can I give it six stars??? The story is a page turner from the opening paragraph. The author has managed to write a beautiful story about love and what's important in life while providing such a compassionate awareness for a disease we only associate with the withered elderly. The manner by which she delivers such a rich story, taking readers back and forth in time, is surprisingly effective and engrossing. I read this book in three nights, looking forward a day to getting back to characters that had become so real to me. I cried at the end. I didn't want to say goodbye either (read the book and you'll know what I mean).

When I first read the review of this book in Family Circle Magazine, I was really interested. When I

received this book, I was a little scared. I waited a few days before I started reading it. The subject matter was hard to digest. By the time I finished, I learned a lot about dementia. There have been cases of dementia in close family and friends. It helped me understand better what they were going through mentally and physically. It still really scares me because dementia can happen to anyone at any age. Mostly we think it is a very old person who gets dementia, but it can happen in the thirties.

This is not a happy book, and for many it will be disturbing and frightening subject matter. But it does give you much to think about. Would be a great book club book.

Wow I'm a hospice nurse so, I was very impressed with this book, I know how hard it is for people in homes. It opened my eyes to see some of the things they see. Would recommend this book for everyone but especially those that have loved ones with dementia.

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