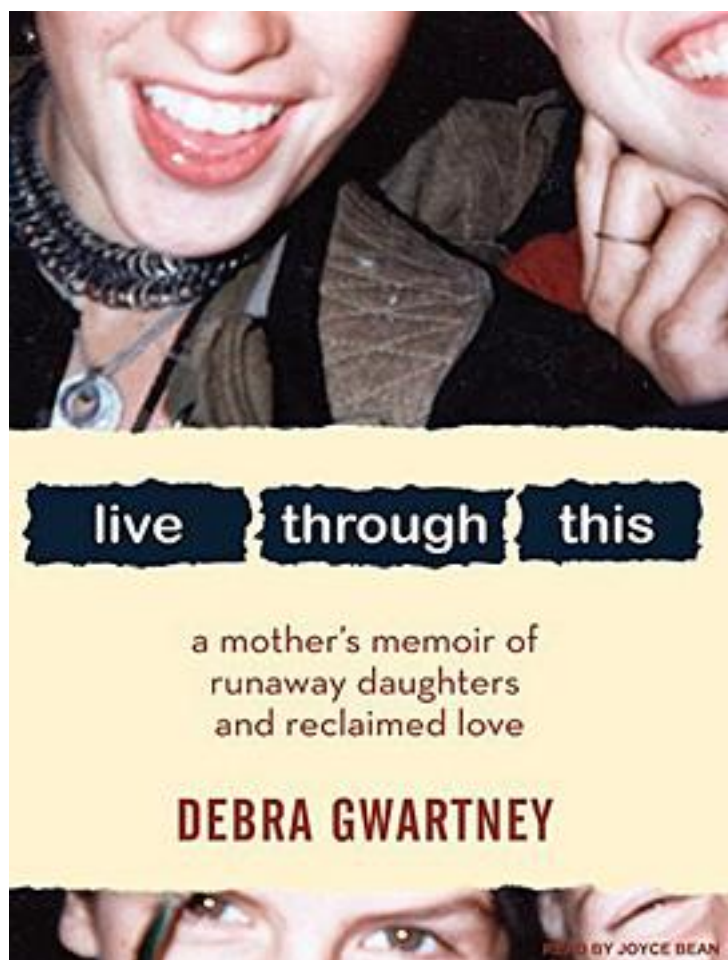


Live Through This



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著者:Debra Gwartney

出版者:Houghton Mifflin Harcourt (HMH)

出版时间:2009-2-11

装帧:Hardcover

isbn:9780547054476

What makes Debra Gwartney's *Live Through This* special is its literary precision, its truly startling honesty, and, most of all, its ability to sift through pain and ashes and find—not bitterness—but humor and, always, love. I hope every parent in America

reads this wonderful book"—Tom Bissell, author of *The Father of All Things* With four young daughters and a miserably failed marriage, Debra Gwartney moves halfway across the country, to Eugene, Oregon, for a new job and what she hopes will be a new life for herself and her daughters. The two oldest, Amanda, 14, and Stephanie, 13, have a symbiotic relationship so intense they barely know where one begins and the other leaves off. They come to blame their mother for their family's dislocation, and one day the two run off together—to the streets of their own city, then San Francisco, then utterly gone.

Live Through This—as emotionally wrenching and ultimately redemptive as David Sheff's *Beautiful Boy*—is the story of Gwartney's frantic effort to recover the beautiful, intelligent daughters she cherishes. The harrowing subculture of the American runaway, with its random violence, its horrendously dangerous street drugs, and its patchwork of hidden shelters—none of them interested in a parent's grief—is captured by Gwartney with brilliant intensity.

Faced with the unraveling of the family she thought she could hold together through blind love, Gwartney begins the painful—and universal—journey of recognizing her own flawed motivations as a mother. The triumph of Gwartney's story is its sensitive rendering of how all three, over several years, have dug deep for forgiveness and a return to profound love.

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目录:

[Live Through This_下载链接1](#)

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评论

[Live Through This_下载链接1](#)

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