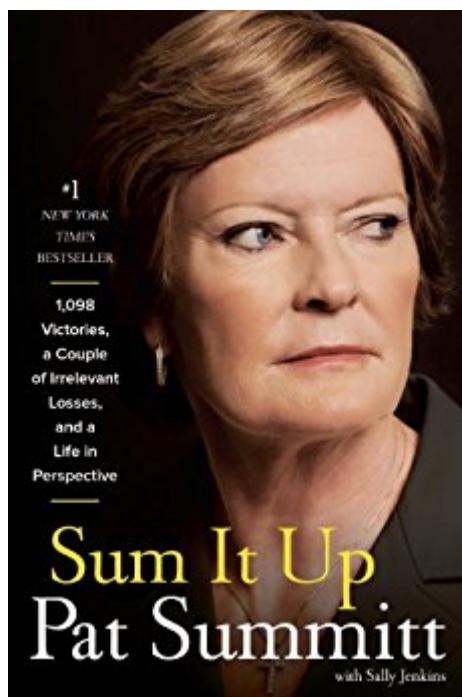


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Sum It Up: A Thousand And Ninety-Eight Victories, A Couple Of Irrelevant Losses, And A Life In Perspective



Synopsis

Pat Summitt, the all-time winningest coach in NCAA basketball history and bestselling author of Reach for the Summitt and Raise The Roof, tells for the first time her remarkable story of victory and resilience as well as facing down her greatest challenge: early-onset Alzheimer's disease. Pat Summitt was only 21 when she became head coach of the Tennessee Vols women's basketball team. For 38 years, she broke records, winning more games than any NCAA team in basketball history. She coached an undefeated season, co-captained the first women's Olympic team, was inducted into the Basketball Hall of Fame, and was named Sports Illustrated 'Sportswoman of the Year'. She owed her coaching success to her personal struggles and triumphs. She learned to be tough from her strict, demanding father. Motherhood taught her to balance that rigidity with communication and kindness. She was a role model for the many women she coached; 74 of her players have become coaches. Pat's life took a shocking turn in 2011, when she was diagnosed with early-onset Alzheimer's disease, an irreversible brain condition that affects 5 million Americans. Despite her devastating diagnosis, she led the Vols to win their sixteenth SEC championship in March 2012. Pat continued to be a fighter, facing this new challenge the way she's faced every other--with hard work, perseverance, and a sense of humor. From the Hardcover edition.

Book Information

File Size: 12864 KB

Print Length: 434 pages

Page Numbers Source ISBN: 0385347057

Publisher: Crown Archetype; 1 edition (March 5, 2013)

Publication Date: March 5, 2013

Sold by: Random House LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B00985E9HS

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #109,622 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #6 in Kindle

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Customer Reviews

I bought Sum It Up as soon as it came out and all I can say is if you are looking for an inspiring read, this is it. Pat Summit is a fascinating women with an incredible career and a lot of courage and grit. Her co-author Sally Jenkins has a great gift for bringing out interesting details that provide the story behind the story. While Summit has coached women's basketball, I found her ideas on what it takes to be a champion to be directly motivating to me in my work which has nothing to do with sports. I was also interested to learn about Summit's early life and how those experiences shaped who she became. Of course, this book is bittersweet because of Summit's diagnosis of early onset Alzheimer's, yet again Summit's is inspiring us by reminding us to face and fight adversity as hard as possible as well as to treasure each moment.

I have read other books about -and by- Pat Summit and really enjoyed them. As a basketball junkie I very much appreciate the details of coaching and playing in her very specific and passionate style. Her photo on the cover is a perfect replica of her death stare and it sets the tone of the book. The recruiting, teaching, disciplining, educating, maturing and - most important - the US NOT ME values she demanded of the players, are what made them the dominant team they were. The rest of the book covers her background and life away from the gym; and is very easy to read because it fits in perfectly with the games. I bought this book more for her Alzheimer's Disease diagnosis than the Basketball, and it was very much worth the cost and time to have an understanding of how someone with so much drive would face such a looming barrier. Each chapter includes, sometimes brief and sometimes longer, Alzheimer's situations, facts and opportunities presented to anyone facing such an unknown future. How any one person handles this "future" is up to them, but holding it all inside is the worst possible response !!! After going through the first set of tests two weeks ago ----- I received my diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease TODAY at age 69.

I have always been the fan of the TN Lady Vols. I knew she was strong, intense and a great coach from afar. But after listening to this book. I admire Pat Summitt more than ever. What a role model but I wish I had when I was a teenager about to decide on a college. Heartfelt , truthful, and encouraging. This is a great read and needs a 10. Maybe I'll even try to get it signed . Go Pat!

I bought this book because I had heard about it and I was not disappointed. I loved the stories of her youth and her description of how she worked just as hard as her brothers and always tried to please her father. I could identify with that.. I also live in Tennessee and I am familiar with the area where she grew up. It is amazing to me how she accomplished so much in her lifetime coming from a rural area and how quickly she adapted to a more progressive way of life. I have always admired Pat Summitt but i think I admire her even more now that I have read her book. The chapters are a little lengthy but I would definitely recommend this book. It is sad that such an energetic and worthwhile person has this disease. But I am glad she wrote this before she completely lost her memories.

I was worried that I wouldn't enjoy this book due to my lack of basketball knowledge. That was not an issue at all - even though I think those of you understanding basketball would enjoy it even more. She wrote about the insecurities derived from a very country upbringing and the ways she overcame them. She expressed the desire for physical and verbal gestures of love from her father only to realize later in life that the things he did for her (having high expectations, a good work ethic, moving the family so she could play basketball, etc.) were signs of love that molded her into the person she became. She is very candid about dealing with Alzheimer's. She is a strong woman and a role model for women. I wish her the best!

This is a great book. I couldn't put this down once I started reading it. It makes you feel like you know Pat Summit as your personal friend. You just start to root for her and her team. I would highly recommend if you want something uplifting and touching.

I loved this book. Full disclosure. I have lived in Knoxville, TN for the past 33 years ... it is now my hometown, and I have heard Pat Summitt speak, seen her at Lady Vols games and seen her interviewed on the news and at games many many times. I only wish that this book had been written before she left the public eye. I would have appreciated her so much more. An amazing life. One amazing woman. Great book.

Few role models in our society today exist like Pat Summitt. As a lifetime women's basketball fan, I've always admired Pat Summitt. As a young girl, my dream was to play for Pat because in the world of women's basketball in the late 80s and early 90s, Pat Summitt was THE coach in the game. My dream was to have those steely blue eyes glare deep in to my soul, rip me up and down

and challenge me to pursue greatness. Regardless of whether you are a Pat fan, a women's basketball fan or even just a sports fan, this is an excellent read. The incredible integrity and intensity Pat Summitt lives out in all aspects of her life is a lesson we can all learn from. The challenges she faced and the way she paved the way for women in sports, as well as the workplace in general, makes me incredibly grateful. I feel more and more indebted to Pat and other women like her (including my own mother) who opened the realm of possibilities to my generation as well as my daughters. If you've read her other two books, there is a certain amount of repetition, but this book goes deeper on a personal level and shares events that have transpired since her other two books. I've always respected that Pat shares not only her greatest triumphs, but the mistakes she's made and how she learned from them. This book includes all the above, showing us what it means to truly pursue excellence with grace and dignity. This is also an excellent gift for others. I purchased it for my mom as well as a friend of ours who does ministry to local coaches in our area.

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