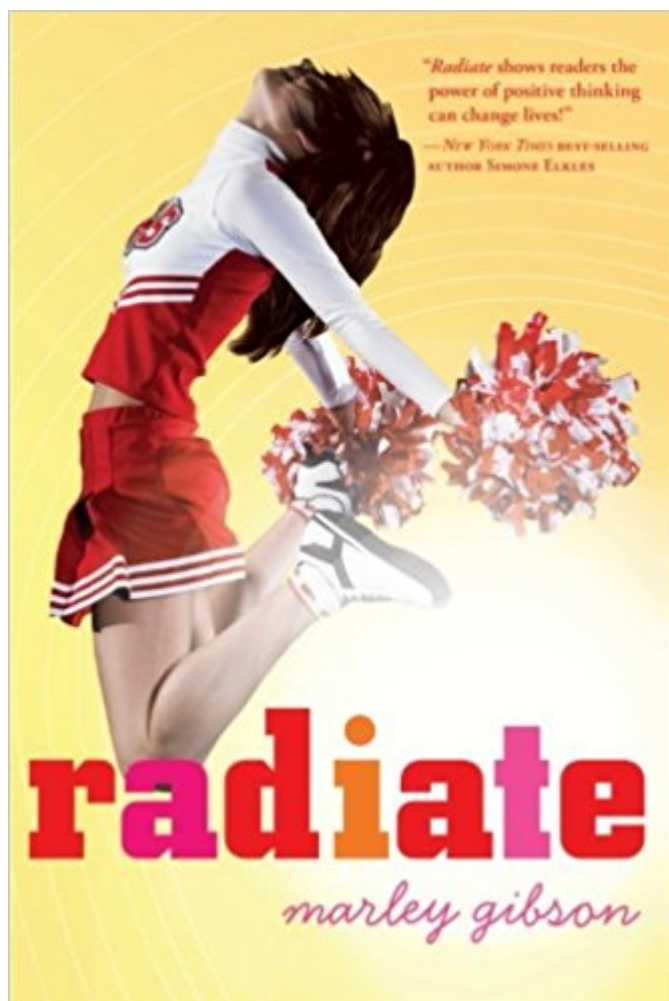


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# Radiate



## Synopsis

Hayley Matthews is determined to be the best cheerleader she can. She works hard and pushes herself 110% all the time. Then Hayley finds a lump on her leg. The diagnosis is cancer. The prognosis is unclear. She could lose her leg. Or maybe her life. At first Haley is scared, terrified. In an instant, everything she's worked for seems out of reach. But Haley is strong. She's going to fight this disease. She will not let it take her life or her dreams.

## Book Information

Paperback: 416 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 47 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,987,272 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #30 in Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Religious Fiction > Christian > Sports & Recreation #40 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Religious > Christian > Family #184 in Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Religious Fiction > Christian > Family

Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

## Customer Reviews

Gr 9 Up-When Hayley Matthews earns a spot on the varsity cheerleading team, she has everything she's ever wanted, including the attention of the most popular boy in school. But during exhaustive practices, Hayley finds a lump on her leg that turns out to be cancer, and she must forgo cheerleading camp for treatment in Birmingham, AL. She faces her circumstances with fierce determination and a positive attitude. When she returns to school, her friends are supportive and welcome her back on the team, and her boyfriend is affectionate, even when Hayley loses her hair to chemotherapy. Then her parents, who are already struggling financially, have a stack of medical bills to pay, and a friend receives a diagnosis of advanced leukemia. At nearly 400 pages, the novel still reads quickly, sometimes too quickly, as Hayley's narration often lacks depth. Nevertheless, her determination is inspiring and uplifting and challenges readers to embrace the power of positive

thinking in the face of life's obstacles.-Kimberly Garnick Giarratano, Rockaway Township Public Library, NJ (c) Copyright 2011. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

"RADIATE is a word that aptly describes this novel. I found myself caught in the tight grip of hope and determination. A story as extraordinary and as powerful as this one will affect the reader long after the book is finished, especially after knowing the source of the author's inspiration." - Colleen Houck, NYT Bestselling Author "RADIATE shows readers that the power of positive thinking can change lives!" - Simone Elkeles, NYT Bestselling Author "I have never read a writer with a voice as characteristic and consistent! I love it!" - Jennifer Echols, author of *Going Too Far* and *Forget You* "If you are a cancer survivor, please read this book. Smile, cry, and cheer like I did. It will make you feel great to be alive. If you are not a cancer survivor, please read this book and know that everything that Hayley goes through, and her reactions to it all, are genuine. Her story will make you feel great for Hayley to be alive. Very rarely am I inspired by a work of fiction. Radiate is truly inspirational."--Andrew D. Carlson, author of *Sue's Fingerprint* and *Sue's Vision* "Radiate shows readers that the power of positive thinking can change lives!"--New York Times bestselling author Simone Elkeles "Whether she's writing about teen ghost huntresses or a cheerleader battling cancer, Marley Gibson has such a distinctive voice. I have never read a writer with a voice as characteristic and consistent. Love it!" - Jennifer Echols, author of *GOING TOO FAR* and *FORGET YOU* "Radiant is a word that aptly describes this new novel by Marley Gibson. Hayley's startling journey as a teen fighting cancer is intense and astonishing and I found myself caught in the tight grip of hope and determination. A story as extraordinary and as powerful as this one will affect the reader long after the book is finished, especially after knowing the source of the author's inspiration."--Colleen Houck, New York Times best-selling author of *Tiger's Curse*. "This book is about a tough and fun and cool cheerleader, who still keeps cheering after her diagnose, and tries to maintain a normal life, the only right [thing] to do in this situation, and I can only cheer, cheer, cheer for Hayley's positive attitude and the positivity that radiates through this amazing book! I loved the way it was written, thumbs up to Marley Gibson! Impressive and highly recommended!"--Marjoleinbookblog "Challenges readers to embrace the power of positive thinking in the face of life's obstacles."--School Library Journal

This book hits home for me. Having lost so many family members to cancer and watching several still battle this horrible disease, "Radiate" is more than just inspirational. It is a guide book for

anyone who is battling adversity. Ms. Gibson draws her storyline from her personal battle with cancer. It is a story of triumph and growth! I was moved from tears to laughter in this cleverly written book. Marley Gibson has outdone herself in "Radiate"!

When you begin reading this book, you will feel yourself in the room with the characters. You're literally in the story as each character's story entwines with Haley's. You will quickly find yourself immersed, as well as emotionally invested in the story. Marley's writing style is brilliant, as it caters to readers from 13- 40 and beyond. When you purchase your copy, be prepared to be unwilling to lay it aside, as it will be difficult to walk away from. Aptly named Radiate- because it RADIATES inspiration, and triumph over adversity! A must read! \*A note of thanks to Marley Gibson for sharing her personal triumph over the monster known as cancer, and for letting her light radiate for the rest of us!\*

This fictional account of real teen with cancer reveals what strength of character is required when what you have always wanted to do is crushed by the unfair in life. Hayley stands up for herself with other teens and even her medical team. It is funny and inspirational. In an era where most teen books are just a rehash of other stories, Radiate stands above.

Marley Gibson is a masterful writer. As a cancer survivor myself it opened my eyes to how other people view you. This book is emotional, uplifting and would be a gift to yourself to read

I absolutely love this book!! It is like a perfect back flip! Or getting out of the hospital on a good sunny day . suspenseful very well written!:) great for teens and middle school!

Hayley is such an inspiring character. She's so positive and I'd hope that if I ever got cancer, I could keep that kind of attitude. This is more than a book about cancer though, it is a book about survival, the bonds of family, and about living to fight another day so that you can do what you love. Hayley was so strong, and it kinda inspired me to be a better person. She went through so much more than I have and I've been much more down than her, but I love that she still made time for others, and didn't get so focused on herself. I related to this book because even though there is nothing wrong with being a "band geek" or a "jrotc nerd" which was exactly what I was, and mostly happy about it, I wondered occasionally how the popular side lived. It was neat to read about someone crossing that divide, being able to fit in and loving what she does. Not only is Hayley a great main character, I

also enjoyed Lora and Gabriel. They rang true to me, and I would love to have friends like them. This book is very emotional at times, I was tearing up at a few parts, and I think that Ms. Gibson did a good job being descriptive, moving the plot along, and making me connect with the characters. It made it even more awesome that Ms. Gibson wrote from experience and her personal life, and the foundation that she started.

Cancer hits much too close to home for many, myself included. There are some well written and best selling books that I simply haven't been able to read for this reason...it's still too raw and real to go there. Unless the message is positive and one of hope, which is what this book offers. Radiate is a warmly written story that pulled me right in and kept the pages turning. The mix of fun and light drama, Hayley making the team and crushing on a hot guy offset the very serious real drama that was happening as a much too young girl battled cancer. I think this is an important book for teens to read because it's something they can relate to. Hayley is not just a sick girl, she's a normal teen struggling with fitting in and being popular and chasing her dream. It shows a real glimpse into a world most people don't know anything about, and in doing so makes it a little less scary. It would be a wonderful book to be read in schools, so that kids learn about what it's really like to go through this, as there are unfortunately kids in every school dealing with cancer and a book like this could help classmates understand and even offer support. This would be especially meaningful for any sick kid or family member or friends because most importantly, this story is an inspiring one that offers hope and a happy ending.

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