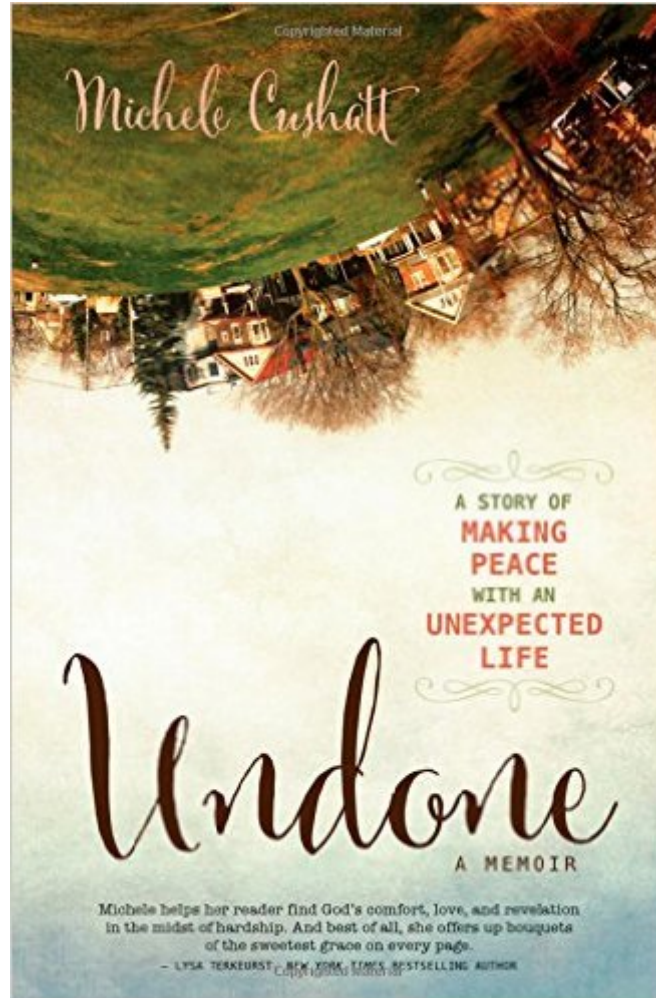


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Undone: A Story Of Making Peace With An Unexpected Life



Synopsis

Undone is author Michele Cushatt's quest to make peace with a complicated life. It is an honest confession of a diagnosis of cancer and the joys and disappointments of motherhood and marriage, ripe with regret over what is and, yet, still hopeful for what could be. With enough humor to ease the rawness of the story, Undone takes the reader on a roller coaster two-year journey through the unexpectedness of life. A look back makes Michele long for a do-over, the chance to make fewer mistakes and leave less of a mess to clean up. A look forward makes Michele wonder if all her attempts to control life have robbed her of the vibrancy of it. And, in the middle of this internal chaos, she finds her once-pristine house filled with the sights and sounds of three small, uncontrollable children who just want to be loved. In the end, Undone turns complication into a beautiful canvas, angst into joy, and the unknown into an adventure, revealing that sometimes life's most colorful and courageous stories are written right in the middle of the mess.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Michele Cushatt is one of the best writers I've read in a long time. And her new book, Undone, gives more than good writing. It's a great perspective on life. Real life. The book hooked me early on. I read. And read. And read. Refreshing, real, raw. She had me laughing and crying often on the same page. The message of the book is wonderful. The fairytale we want out of life isn't real. It never was. If you've ever struggled with shattered hopes, a fearful diagnosis, a wayward child, a dysfunctional church, or the silence of God, Undone will walk beside you as a companion. It asks as many questions as it answers, showing us that we need God's presence and promises more

than we need to know His reasons. Undone shares Michele's journey down the road of an unexpected life. Michele's cancer revealed a cancer far worse than the one in her heart. We all have this disease, don't we? My favorite quotes: "Peace isn't a byproduct of control, the payout of a happy conclusion. Peace is the infiltrating, life-giving presence of a very real God. One who loves nothing more than to step into the middle of locked and darkened rooms and impossible circumstances, close enough to touch." (Page 57) "Just as a writer must embrace a rough draft as the necessary means to a book's successful end, I had to learn how to embrace my life's process. Including the countless ways my shortcomings and flaws have made me a better character in my own story." (Page 190) "At times I wish it were easier, I won't lie. I'd give anything for a normal, boring day. But I'm not sure normal would keep me kneeling.

Michele's timeless book, *Undone: A Story of Making Peace with an Unexpected Life*, takes us on a 2-year journey where she comes to the end of herself. Where she eventually discovers that complicated can be beautiful, joy can replace fear, and the unexpected is really an invitation for adventure. Her memoir chronicles a journey through cancer as well as unexpected turns in motherhood and marriage. Yet, this book is not just about the author. Michele's story is our own. A story of unexpected twists and turns in a messy life and the faithfulness of a sovereign and loving God. In all honesty, the events in *Undone* at times feel disjointed as references to cancer surgeries and doctor calls pop in to set up the next scene. The jumping around in time left me a bit confused. How many cancer diagnoses? Where did the littles fit in the timeline? But then again, I guess that is often how real life seems. Michele's memoir is vulnerable, captivating, relevant, and inspiring. I found myself nodding along as she described yet another scene of being undone. Not just a book on surviving cancer or the messiness of parenting, *Undone* is a treasury of experiences that all point to one eventual realization, there is beauty and peace to be found not in conquering this difficult and messy life, but in the midst of it. A gifted writer, Michele led me into her story and showed me how it applied to mine. Her thoughts and revelations matched what I've felt but didn't have the words to express. The lessons she has learned through her unexpectedly messy life, although gleaned while walking a vastly different path, still somehow parallel each of ours. She writes raw and honest, with profound insights.

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