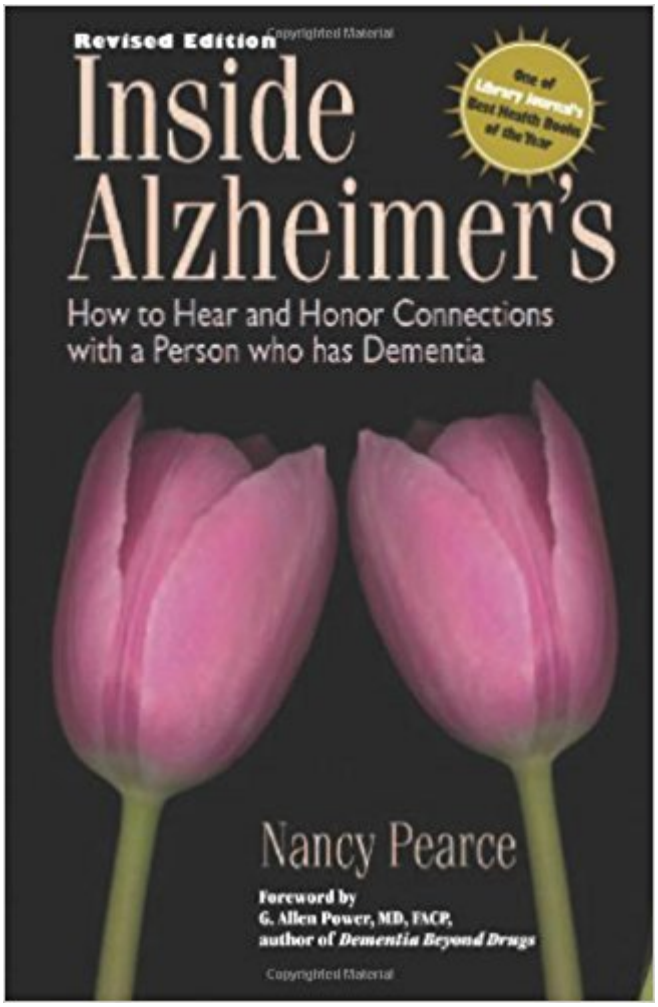
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Inside Alzheimer's: How To Hear And Honor Connections With A Person Who Has Dementia



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Synopsis

We have long underestimated the person who has dementia. Each one’s ability to reach out in familiar ways certainly diminishes yet he or she is always able to experience the deep benefits that come from being in vital relationship with others. Inside Alzheimer’s tells how dozens of persons with dementia and their sharing of wisdom, humor and life’s teachings led Ms. Pearce to the six basic principles of connection--how one person connects with another: Intend a connection, Free yourself of judgment, Love, Open to receive love, Silence and Thankfulness. Internalizing these principles has empowered hundreds of family, friends, and professionals to create moments of connection with persons, regardless of how advanced the dementia, and to co-create a more supportive community of care.Inside Alzheimers was revised to address the dramatic need to simultaneously provide a compassionate community of care for the one person who does not have any time or energy left to even pick up a book the frequently isolated and overwhelmed 24/7 caregiver. This revised edition includes two 7-page, ready-reference articles that give information collected from hundreds of once-overwhelmed 24/7 care persons who wanted to give concrete, helpful messages to overwhelmed (or soon-to-be) 24/7 care persons and to persons in the community who are concerned about them. It also includes a foreword written by renowned physician Dr. Allen Power (author of Dementia Beyond Drugs), expanded resources including new sections such as Excellent Free Resources and Building a Supportive Community of Care, Cut and Post Cards, and many new exercises to enhance reader understanding and energize the spirit.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

One of Library Journal s Best Consumer Health Books of the Year. One of the most devastating consequences of Alzheimer’s diseases for patients and their caretakers is the inevitable loss of the ability to communicate and form connections. In her first book, Pearce--a medical social worker with more than 20 years of experience working in long-term healthcare and hospice settings--reminds readers that there is a person inside Alzheimer’s and other dementias who needs to be heard, seen, valued, and appreciated. Writing for family members, friends, healthcare professionals, and those who want to form and maintain meaningful connections with dementia patients, Pearce teaches her six principles of connection: intend a connection, free yourself of judgment, love, be open to being loved, silence, and thankfulness. Each chapter includes stories and anecdotes about people with Alzheimer’s and ends with a summary and exercises for "working it out." Including resources and filled with practical wisdom, this groundbreaking, transformational, and informative book is highly recommended for all public and academic libraries --Elizabeth M. Wavle, Elmira Coll. Lib., NY --Library Journal"ÃƒÂ¢€Â Â|Inside Alzheimer’s is a practical, conversational guide for those new to the disease, as well as advice and techniques for seasoned professionalsÃƒÂ¢€Â Â‖[This book] helps families and caregivers better understand individuals with Alzheimer’s through love, acceptance and communication." --ForeWord MagazineNancy Pearce makes being with persons with dementia seem natural as she helps each one continue to participate in life as fully as possible...This is a must read for all who work or spend time with persons with dementia --Virginia Bell, MSW, coauthor of The Best Friends Approach to Alzheimer’s Care"Ã¢â ¬Â|Inside Alzheimer’s is a practical, conversational guide for those new to the disease, as well as advice and techniques for seasoned professionalsÃ¢â ¬Â‖[This book] helps families and caregivers better understand individuals with Alzheimer’s through love, acceptance and communication." --ForeWord MagazineNancy Pearce makes being with persons with dementia seem natural as she helps each one continue to participate in life as fully as possible...This is a must read for all who work or spend time with persons with dementia --Virginia Bell, MSW, coauthor of The Best Friends Approach to Alzheimer’s Care"Ã¢â ¬Â|Inside Alzheimer’s is a practical, conversational guide for those new to the disease, as well as advice and techniques for seasoned professionalsÃ¢â ¬Â‖[This book] helps families and caregivers better understand individuals with Alzheimer’s through love, acceptance and communication." --ForeWord MagazineNancy Pearce makes being with persons with dementia seem natural as she helps each one continue to participate in life as fully as possible...This is a must read for all who work or spend time with persons with dementia --Virginia Bell, MSW, coauthor of The Best Friends Approach to Alzheimer’s

Care

Nancy Pearce, MS, LISW, is a medical social worker with over 20 years of experience in working in long-term healthcare and hospice settings. She received an MS in Education in 1972 from Syracuse University and a Master's in Social Work from the University of CT in 1988. In her practice, she integrates her education research foundations with understanding from both her work experience and studies in spiritual and religious wisdom traditions. Ms. Pearce specializes in working with persons who have dementia and teaches families, friends and professionals, both nationally and internationally, how to communicate and connect effectively with persons who have dementia.

This book provides a very clear, comforting and confidence inspiring way for family and friends to spend time with a person with Alzheimer's. I really appreciated how the author was able to explain the meaning of the world to someone who has Alzheimer's so that I could spend all of my time responding from that context. This allows me to avoid responses that while normal and seemingly logical to me would make no sense to the person with Alzheimer's. The explanations and coaching language are very effective. It was easy for me to grasp and imagine the world of the person with Alzheimer's. By almost being able to walk in their "mocassins" I am able to focus entirely on learning how to get better at it - and therefore be a better friend and companion. Inside Alzheimer's covers the six basic principles of forming a dynamic: freeing oneself from judgment, love, openness to receive love, silence, and thankfulness. "I would much rather err on the side of assuming that the person with dementia can participate in his decisions about end-of-life care, rather than assuming he can't. It happens more than one would expect that during an open discussion, the person with dementia pops into a particular moment of clarity and clearly provides input." Highly recommended as guideline, aid, comfort, and inspiration.

Pertinent for caregivers and family who are having difficulty relating to a patient/loved one on the dementia spectrum. Many stories of individuals and the way they found connection with dementia patients. Having dealt with this, it is such an individual thing - each person's dementia has many facets and manifestations. This book cannot possibly relate to everyone's experience, or assist everyone in need.

Very helpful! The stories of others gave me some ideas to try to reach my "special lady" during the forever changing moments of her time. 'IF LOST" sticks with me & helps remind me why I do my job

during the rough times of someone else's life going through Alzheimer's. Such a sad loss... but we find comfort & joy for her in her special moments in time....

I loved this book. It really helped with a spiritual connection to this awful disease, that eventually took my mother's life. I would highly recommend it to anyone that is struggling with how to connect with their loved one who is afflicted with alzheimer's disease.

My mother was recently "offcially" diagnosed with Alzheimer's; however, we've know quiet awhile something was going on. This book has been a tremendous help in understanding this disease and how to relate to her better. No, it is not the same or will it ever be, but we can move forward into a new relationship ... and this book has given me hope that it is possible. Very easy read! I love the stories.

This book was a great help to my mother and me as we dealt with my father's Alzheimers progression.

I read this and then bought it for my mom. My dad is in a skilled nursing facility with Alzheimers and this Nancy really does a good job on giving you the right perspective and mind set. My mom has finished it and passing it on to a friend!

Fantastic Book Wonderfully written and helpful for communicating with loved ones and others with alzheimers

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