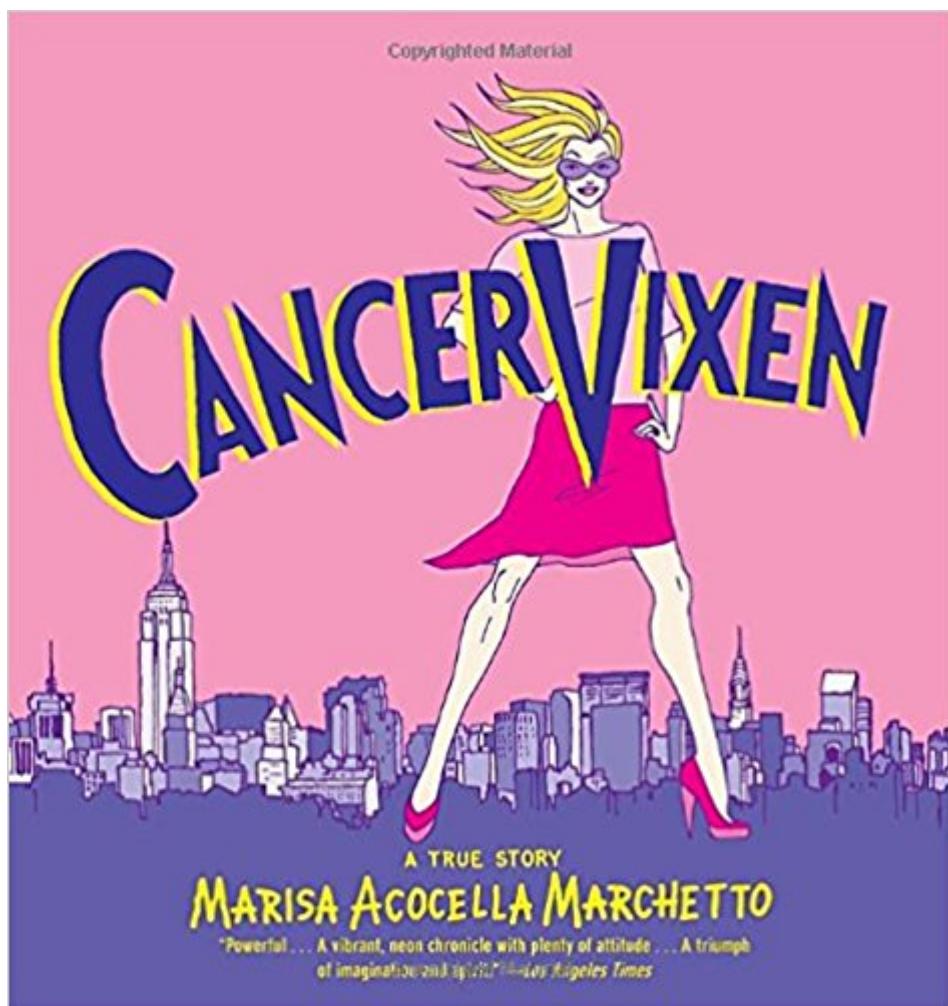


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# Cancer Vixen: A True Story (Pantheon Graphic Novels)



## Synopsis

The groundbreaking graphic memoir that inspires breast cancer patients to fight back—and do so with style. “What happens when a shoe-crazy, lipstick-obsessed, wine-swilling, pasta-slurping, fashion-fanatic, about-to-get-married big-city girl cartoonist with a fabulous life finds . . . a lump in her breast?” That’s the question that sets this powerful, funny, and poignant graphic memoir in motion. In vivid color and with a taboo-breaking sense of humor, Marisa Acocella Marchetto tells the story of her eleven-month, ultimately triumphant bout with breast cancer—from diagnosis to cure, and every challenging step in between. *One of Time*’s top ten graphic novels of the year *Slate.com*’s medical book of the year *One of the Wall Street Journal*’s five best books on living with illness *Finalist, Books for a Better Life* *Finalist, National Cartoonists Society Graphic Novel of the Year* “Powerful . . . A vibrant, neon chronicle with plenty of attitude . . . A triumph of imagination and spirit.” *Los Angeles Times* “Ebullient . . . Visually invigorating and unflinching.” *The New York Times Book Review* “Irresistibly authentic . . . These words and pictures convey humility and humanity with witty grace and heartfelt power.” *The Miami Herald* “Funny, eye-opening, moving.” *Time*

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Cartoonist Marisa Acocella Marchetto's graphic memoir about her battle with breast cancer is as bold, vibrant, and brave as she is--pumped full of color, the story leaps off the page and into your heart. Poignant and funny, this inspiring story is made all the more powerful by Marchetto's cartoons. Lucky for us, Marchetto agreed to create a cartoon just for .com customers. Check out her strip below. --Daphne Durham .com Exclusive: A Cartoon from Marisa Acocella Marchetto

In 2004, cartoonist Marchetto, a hyperstylish "terminal bachelorette," was busy capturing "fabulista" humor, in the New Yorker and Glamour. She was engaged to a fabulous guy, perennially cool restaurateur Silvano Marchetto, whose personal style perfectly matched her Manhattan-centric life. If this were fiction, this is exactly when she'd stumble; unfortunately for her, life imitated art, and sure enough, she found a lump in her breast shortly before her wedding. Just as bad, she didn't have health insurance: her policy had lapsed shortly before the fateful mammogram. Cancer Vixen tells the story of what happens next, and how her inner circle--stylists, gossip columnists, shoe designers and assorted others you'd only find in New York City, rallies round to help her beat the disease and get married on time and in high style. Marchetto wears her best high heels to chemotherapy and remarks on the similarities between her hospital gown and Diane von Furstenberg designs. The fashion details are great fun, drawn in a spare loose style, but it's the heart of her story, the support and love she gets from her family and friends, that make Cancer Vixen a universal story that's hard to put down. (Oct.) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

I checked this book out from the Library at Luke AFB. I had just learned my mother had breast cancer and I felt numb :( . I cried, I was confused and I was so sad for her. Reading this book helped me a lot. Cancer Vixen tells her story. The illustration are funny and I'm glad it brought some humor when all I wanted was to cry, cry. I had no idea what a portal was, I was clueless to what to expect when my mom felt nauseous, when she was in pain and when she lost her hair. I loved this book so much I looked it up on and bought immediately! Shipping was quick and the price better. I highly recommend this book if you or someone you love or care for is going through breast cancer. :)

I liked it well enough, and I wouldn't want to have missed it if I were studying a set of texts that takes on the topic. I can also imagine the book buoying the spirits of someone going through chemo --- to the extent that is possible. Marisa Marchetto is funny and sassy throughout, and she gives an

engaging inside view of Carrie Bradshaw-style New York City. Perhaps the greatest contribution she makes to the visual language of comics is her handling of how loved ones (and doctors) manage their faces when delivering bad news. Marchetto gets it exactly right, so much so that I can't believe others hadn't already adopted it. (Possibly someone else has done it, but I haven't seen it, and I'm well versed in the medium.) Oh, and I adore the way she depicts the male lead.

This book was given to me as a gift when I was diagnosed with breast cancer and it was the only book that made me truly happy; it made me laugh and feel better about myself. A wonderful book to give as a gift to someone who has been diagnosed with breast cancer, it's a graphic novel--a story told in cartoons, so sort of like a formal comic book with a hard cover. An easy read and also easy to pick up the thread if you don't have time to finish it in one sitting. It is the true story of the author's experience with breast cancer but it includes her love life and her relationship with her mother so it is gripping and hilarious (not just technical). It's the kind of book that makes you feel good about yourself as a gutsy brave person who can tackle breast cancer (as the author has done). I'd tell someone who has been diagnosed with breast cancer to buy this book first. I couldn't bear all those scientific books people give you when they hear you have breast cancer: I just wanted something to make me laugh and feel strong. This book does both!

Cancer Vixen is an account by a single woman living in NYC who gets diagnosed with breast cancer right before her wedding. She's an uptown girl who refuses to let her cancer diagnosis keep her from being true to herself. You'll note how she manages to keep her style through chemotherapy, deal with her mom, still manage to marry the man she loves and fight the breast cancer beast. She is a cancer vixen. On top of everything else she let her insurance lapse and has no health insurance and while she is feeling low on her health she has to fight off women trying to steal her man. I love her take on why she got cancer in the form of a board game and her detailed drawings of her designer shoes. Her groom-to-be owns a restaurant and their lifestyle in NYC is not without its ups and downs. It's a great account of one woman's breast cancer journey and how it affected but did not derail her life and how in the end she triumphed. The best part about the book is that she is donating part of the proceeds to help other women with breast cancer who are uninsured. A cancer vixen indeed.

I first read this book following a breast cancer diagnosis. Unlike the other books recommended to me--most of them depressing and largely unhelpful--I couldn't put this one down until I finished it.

Ms. Marchetto's frank account of her own experience made me laugh more than it made me cry and gave me strength to fight and win my own battle. Since that time, I have sent copies of this book to a number of women I know who are facing the same challenge, so they, too, can fight like a vixen and kick breast cancer's a\*\*.

This is not a traditional book about cancer, but something that will make you smile and a great gift!

I bought this for me when I had breast cancer. I loved it and have ordered other copies to give to people that were going through breast cancer. Some people might be offended by its brazen thoughts, but is funny and you can only help but laugh at it and yourself.

I don't think I would have enjoyed this book so much had it not been in graphic form. What a neat way to read a book. I'm pretty amazed by the author's candor and for sharing so much of a bad time in her life with the readers of her book. I must keep up with her and also read her other book!

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