



## Never Give in to Fear: Laughing All the Way Up From Rock Bottom

*Marti MacGibbon*

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*Never Give in to Fear: Laughing All the Way Up from Rock Bottom*, the enhanced edition of this darkly funny, dramatic memoir, describes an emerging standup comic's drug-fueled descent into the underworld, escape from human traffickers, homelessness, and ultimate redemption. With brutal honesty, humor, and clarity, the author vividly describes her experiences as she rides her downward spiral: a near-miss with a notorious serial killer, a series of tragically hilarious misadventures in the California drug world, and a terrifying account of imprisonment at the hands of Japanese organized crime, to name a few. This revised and re-edited version contains three additional chapters that introduce readers to quirky characters, insights into standup comedy, resilience and recovery, and deliver an inspiring message about healing, hope, and courage to change.

## Never Give in to Fear: Laughing All the Way Up From Rock Bottom Details

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Author : Marti MacGibbon

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## **From Reader Review Never Give in to Fear: Laughing All the Way Up From Rock Bottom for online ebook**

### **S Martin says**

This is one of those books that grabs you and drags you screaming to the end following a roller coaster you can't believe is real knowing that it must be because of the honest way the story is told. Marti is telling you her story and you have to listen.

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### **Judy says**

Marti MacGibbon's memoir is a very compelling account of her descent into despair and drug addiction. It is an insightful look at how an addict is sucked into the cycle of dependency and how difficult it is to overcome the hold that drugs can make on a person's life. The story also relates how she ultimately triumphs over the addiction by channeling her own tenacity and with the love and support of family and friends.

Thank you Goodreads First Reads and PR/PR Public Relations for the gift of this book. It was a very inspiring read.

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### **Shelley says**

Oh my god, what a fantastic thrill ride of a book. It made me look at my own life in a completely new way while taking me on an unbelievable journey of despair and redemption. This is a must read!!

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### **Horace Barnes says**

I recommend this book as an entertaining and inspiring experience. The author takes you on an extended trip through the underworld of drug culture with a focus on some of its underclass (and sometimes comical) denizens. I found her comedic style to be a pleasant relief from the drudgery of self-righteous and often boring accounts of recovering druggies. In addition to sometimes humorous, sometimes scary (and sometimes both at the same time) story content, the author, Marti, knows how to write well. This story could make a good movie. Also it illustrates that one CAN comeback from the drug abyss. This book can inspire addicts considering recovery and provide hope to people new in recovery as well as to people with family and friends in the throes of addiction. Love is what makes the world go around, and Marti seems to have found love, acceptance and opportunities to grow in unlikely places and from unlikely people. I started reading this book on a plane and was so taken in that I continued reading until I finished it. I didn't get much else done during that time, but it was worth it. The story gave me a resource to contemplate when challenged by adversity. Her triumph inspires me.

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### **Brian says**

This true story was a real page turner. It's amazing that this woman survived at all, not to mention live to write about it!!!!

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### **Rita Little says**

I downloaded this book for free on my Kindle...no expectations whatsoever...I just finished the book including the epilogue and am really glad I had the chance to read it and would gladly pay the price of the book if there was one... it was that good. I've never tried drugs but have a morbid curiosity about that lifestyle. I now have a profound respect for anyone who overcomes it. I learned quite a bit about not just the drug culture itself but the different cultures that can be intertwined in it. Marti is a great teller of her own story and I missed a lot of sleep reading this book because I was that enthralled. I am glad her story had the ending it did and I love what she learned in the jail especially from the old guy trying to teach her a lesson! I hope more and more people hear about and read this great read.

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### **Chris Thrall says**

Never give in to being ordinary!

What a stunning debut by an all-round talented individual.

The synopsis: a young and beautiful Marti MacGibbon is set to make it big on the LA comedy circuit, indeed already has an appearance on the Tonight Show with Johnny Carson lined up and ready to thrust her into comedy gold with the likes of Barr, Belushi and Pryor - but the exact same qualities that make a candidate for genius see her exploring the 'other' side of life, namely the narcotic underworld and a drug called crystal meth. In short, it's a sidetrack that sees Marti on a substance-fueled quest to understand who she really is before tapping into the rich vein of her potential and her unique, witty and far-out personality.

The book begins with a gripping portrayal of her sex-trafficking at the hands of the Japanese Yakuza criminal organization, a terrifying yet matter-of-fact account that is in itself material for a whole book. From there, the story weaves through a cameo of interesting, dubious and often downright dangerous characters and locations as Marti's attempt to find herself gradually spirals to an all-time low.

One particular line in the book - and I won't cite it as I don't want to spoil it for the reader - is a promise that she makes to her daughter. It had tears pouring down my face, as I understand the journey Marti went on and the belief-in-self that an individual must possess to make such a declaration having come home from a personal war that most others will never understand.

Full credit to an amazing person, an accomplished author, one who has managed to laugh all the way up from rock bottom. Thank you.

Chris Thrall is the author of 'Eating Smoke: One Man's Descent into Drug Psychosis in Hong Kong's Triad Heartland'- a memoir

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## **Trish says**

I just finished this book and yes I have tried pot, I was never addicted to drugs or cigarettes or alcohol. With that being said I have had many friends who were and are using. That is their choice. I think Marti wrote an amazing book that I could not put down. She was raw, funny, sad, poignant, insightful and took us all on her journey. I didn't need for her to get any more detailed than she did because I could already visualize it. I have this method, I will read the last chapter sometimes if a book gets overwhelming or too slow or I need to check in on the characters. That gave me hope. If you have not read this book PLEASE DO SO!

This book is for not only addicts, but if you have ever been co-dependent, suffered from PTSD for whatever reason, or for whatever reason running from emotions and living. It's a great read!

Marti is more than a survivor, more than street smart, she has had and still does have Angels watching over her! By all accounts she should have been dead many times over, or in prison. But she's not. She has a strong character and very compassionate loving soul. I am glad she survived to tell her story.

Marti always held onto hope, learned to visualize happiness and love and manifest that into her life. She has learned that gratitude goes along way!

Thank You Marti!!!! You are amazing, awesome, or amazingly awesome and fearless! Love that about you! Very intuitive even though you didn't listen to that voice much during those times of despair.

Thank you  
Trish  
A fan in Texas

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## **Valerity (Val) says**

Never Give In To Fear: Laughing All the Way Up from Rock Bottom (Kindle Edition)

I enjoyed this book far more than I'd expected to. It became a page-turner for me, and I could not get enough of its bizarre scenarios that just kept coming. Been in a few odd situations myself in my life, so I could relate, but Marti's just take the cake and more! Wow. From drug addiction to being sold into slavery, being a stand up comic, domestic violence, homelessness, there is all kinds of wild stuff going on in her life. But she never gives up completely on herself.

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## **Crystal Trent Dotson says**

Marti MacGibbon is a beautiful woman who loses herself to a life of drugs , she is trafficked to Tokyo , and made into a sex slave. She endures rape , beating , homelessness , and seperation from her daughter. She uses drugs to block out all her pain, after years of being an addict , she fights her fears and becomes the brilliant person that was hiding behind the drugs.

This is an excellent memoir, I was shocked by everything this one human being went through, but yet she finally saw the light and was strong enough to overcome all the darkness that had entered her life.

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### **Sandra says**

I thought the drug abuse would never end, and just too much but, in the end it was inspiring and I appreciated the authors honesty in telling her story and overcoming things that caused her life to be so chaotic.

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### **Jennifer K says**

I think that it was very well written, and the author took great care not to glamorize the world of the addict. She told the story straight to the point which is that no matter how much "fun" it is to engage in drug use, it can spiral out of control pretty darn quickly.

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### **Isabel says**

I won this book through First Reads. Overall the book was pretty fast paced, but it was so much of the same. Marti was an addict over and over and over and over again. She escaped being another victim of some serial killers, still an addict. She escaped the sex trade in Japan, still an addict. She escaped natural disasters, still an addict. I am happy that she was finally able to pull herself out of the hole that she was in and make a good life for herself, but I feel terrible for her daughter. Her daughter never really had a mother in her life and despite that she was able to give her a chance. My sister is in the same situation and it ticks me off knowing that time and time again she has chosen drugs over her daughter. Hopefully, one day my niece will forgive my sister for her actions, but she may not because she may not think that she is worth it.

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### **Tiara says**

I read this book completely on whim. It was one of the free Kindle eBooks being offered on Amazon's site recently. Normally, I probably wouldn't have read/bought a book like this unless it came highly recommended from people that have similar reading tastes as I do. However, since it was free, there was no real risk involved, so I figured that I might as well read it.

I'm not very familiar with Marti MacGibbon. I've only read blurbs about her here and there. Usually when I'm not familiar with the person whose autobiography/memoirs I plan to read, I put them off for a slow reading day. However, the promise of this book dealing with addiction, human trafficking, and eventual redemption are part of the reasons that I went ahead and started this rather than shelving it for another time. I'm a sucker for redemption stories.

Marti's humorous telling of her story is filled with dark, wry humor that often comes off a bit self-deprecating, which is a little different. Often, former addicts tend to come off a little preachy. While that's not necessarily a bad thing, it can be a bit off-putting when you just want to read a real, raw story, which is what Marti presents in her book. Her struggle with her addiction and wanting to be a good mother to her daughter presented an interesting angle to her story as well.

She says addiction and denial made her believe that she was in control of her life for so long, even when all the signs said she wasn't. Quite simply put, I'm amazed at everything she went through and how she found the strength to carry on even after a near-debilitating addiction and being sold into sex slavery by an acquaintance. She is very fortunate because so many women in her same condition are not here to tell their stories today.

I'm surprised at how much I enjoyed this book. My heart really ached for her as I read this. It was almost like reading a confession from a friend rather than an account of her life. The writing was personable and engaging, even if parts of it were a little repetitive. Much of this book focused on her downward fall rather than her eventual redemption. I wouldn't recommend this if you're a person who is easily triggered, though, since she is very candid about her drug abuse and various dangerous situations she's found herself in.

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### **Sofia says**

I have a soft spot in my heart for addiction literature, and Marti MacGibbon's memoir runs the gamut--from poignant to hilarious to outrageous to unbelievable to suspenseful to affirming. As she explains in the epilogue, she purposely avoids glamorizing the effects and sensations of her drug use (her drug of choice being meth) and she firmly believes that as long as a person is still alive, no matter how bad things have gotten, there is still hope. At 300+ pages, MacGibbon's book is a quick and compulsive read. Sure, she overuses exclamation points, but that's a minor quibble considering the story she has to tell. "Never Give in to Fear" is a good read, especially considering so much of addiction literature focuses on the negative. MacGibbon opts to promote and espouse the positive. Amen for that.

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