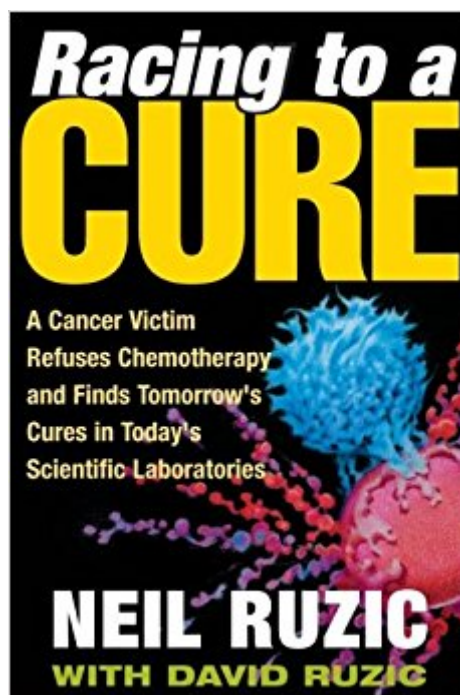




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Racing To A Cure: A Cancer Victim Refuses Chemotherapy And Finds Tomorrow's Cures In Today's Scientific Laboratories



Synopsis

When Neil Ruzic was diagnosed with mantle-cell lymphoma, he declined the recommended chemotherapy & went on a quest for a more effective cure, visiting cancer research laboratories & investigating the latest molecular therapies. This memoir records his successful search for a cure.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

In September 1998 publisher and scientific journalist Ruzic was diagnosed with mantle-cell lymphoma (MCL), an aggressive cancer of the lymph system. Even for an otherwise healthy man in his upper sixties, this was worse than a death sentence. He faced a prognosticated further life-span of 18 months, and that would be made insufferable by side effects from the prescribed chemotherapy. For Ruzic, a self-defined "change agent," consuming large quantities of chemical poisons only to allow cancer still to claim his life was unacceptable. In his opinion, physicians too easily rely upon what is considered the gold standard of cancer treatment, chemical therapy. His scientific mind was certain that there were other, perhaps more effective and certainly less deadly treatment options, if one could find them. He made finding a cure for his cancer a full-time job, one in which he emptied entire file cabinets only to refill them with volumes of new research. He discovered that an abundance of biological therapies is being developed in the scientific, rather than the strictly medical, arena; and he reports that those biotherapies and vaccines are proving highly effective for cancer treatment. His well-written memoir recounts a four-year odyssey that took him from splenectomy and diagnosis, through successfully ditching chemotherapy in favor of biotherapy,

and to what he boldly calls a cure. Donna ChavezCopyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

"Racing to a Cure is a true adventure story complete with suspense, action, and the mysteries of cancer explained. The present relationship between all-knowing doctors and sheeplike patients should change into a partnership due to this book. It is must reading for anyone hoping to be cured of cancer."

When my brother was diagnosed with Mantle Cell Lymphoma, he decided it was time to do research. His wife looked at everything she could find and her research lead her to this Book. His first oncologist wanted to start Chemo the next day, even tho he had never treated this rare form of cancer. This book put my brother on a different path. He was able to find the right Doctor who understood his cancer...and the first thing he told him "was Chemo will not work for you". Reading this book gave us hope and a CHOICE! There are other treatments out there!!!

This is a must read for every cancer patient, oncology nurse, and other professionals in the field of cancer care, research, etc. Neil was tenacious in his search for answers. Intelligent and compelling reading. His tension is felt between the lines as he searches for answers for himself and others. Bravo to a book well written and a life well lived! Do pay attention to his derogatory comments on "alternatoids". I wish someone could do the same for 'alternative' treatments that Neil and other research scientists have done in the technological bio fields. The same chemistry and better does exist within our natural world, but it requires extensive research and knowledge and targeting for each individual. There is no real one size fits all, but Neil does give us hope through that technical bio world that we could conquer cancer. Thanks, Neil.

I loved this book. Read it!! It really should have been publicized much more; far lesser books end up on the NYT bestsellers list. It is a true adventure story about a man diagnosed with mantle cell lymphoma (one of the worst cancers) who refuses to be just another sheep within America's "chemo culture". Instead, he crisscrosses the country in his own airplane, meeting and talking to scientists (the true cancer doctors) within their own laboratories, at the cutting edge of knowledge, in order to try to find a cure for his disease. This book was truly eye-opening, and it is even worth a second-read. It was written with the painstaking efforts of a great science writer who can effectively communicate to the layman and hold the interest of scientists at the same time, something that's

very hard to do. I applaud Mr. Ruzic's achievements and his selfless efforts to help others who haven't been blessed with his intellect and financial advantages in life. We need people like him in government. Things really need to be shaken up in the FDA. Ironically, the slow progress in the development of effective new clinical treatments for cancer continues at a time when the scientific understanding of cancer and its molecular bases has grown by leaps and bounds in the past 8 years. One problem appears to be that oncologists have their hands tied by the FDA, and as a result, they often neglect to keep up with the latest developments. This is why we continue to lose so many people to cancer, and so many cancers remain completely incurable (e.g. pancreatic cancer). For instance, even with new cancer vaccines and monoclonal antibodies under development, virtually all clinical trials today require the patient to first take massive doses of highly toxic chemotherapeutic agents. Often cocktails of toxic chemotherapeutic drugs are used that simultaneously devastate the immune system and end up making the cancer refractory to further treatment. What remedies can be taken against this wrong-headed philosophy in order get more of the latest less toxic biotherapies from the lab and into the clinic NOW? After reading this book, it is clear to me that the hospital administrators overseeing the oncology residency programs in America need to be replaced with fresh blood. Also, the FDA needs to be reformed from the ground up. I especially liked one quote in this book, which I have found to be so true, "Welcome to the world of cancer, where doctors are witches and patients are doctors....." Such is the state of affairs in this country, where our government has given us third-rate medical care for cancer, with doctors who fill your body with toxins and then leave you for dead, telling you there is nothing more that can be done. We deserve better treatment, even if that simply means regaining our God-given freedom to treat our own bodies against this dreaded disease.

A fairly technical book. Neil Ruzic researches Cancer treatment options that do not use chemotherapy. It is a great book for anyone needing to identify with someone else who has had cancer and find out other options.

Mr. Ruzic died in late January 2004. His illness returned and claimed his life a few months after the book published. Nevertheless, his efforts and spirit as described in this book are heroic, and our medical practitioners have a lot to learn about how to train people and think objectively.

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Racing to a Cure: A Cancer Victim Refuses Chemotherapy and Finds Tomorrow's Cures in Today's Scientific Laboratories
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