



Brain on Fire: My Month of Madness by Susannah Cahalan
Reviewed by Anushka



Nonfiction, Autobiography

Give a summary without spoilers!

Susannah Cahalan, 24, awoke alone in a hospital room, tied to her bed and unable to move or talk, with no knowledge of how she got there. She had been on the verge of a new adult life just days before, at the start of her first serious relationship and a promising position at a major New York newspaper. She was now branded as psychotic and dangerous. Cahalan narrates the incredible true story of her journey into madness, her family's tremendous faith in her, and the lifesaving diagnosis that nearly didn't happen in a brisk and powerful narrative.

What drew you to this book?

This book was part of the summer reading list, and once I had read the summary, I was interested in learning more about Susannah Cahalan's life and how she overcame her autoimmune disease.

Did it remind you of something that you've previously read?

This novel reminds me of the book "Every Last Word" by Tamara Ireland Stone because of how the girl in this book suffers from OCD and struggles to live with it, as in Cahalan's memoir she is suffering to live with her autoimmune disease.

To whom would you recommend this book?

I would recommend this book to anyone who enjoys reading autobiographies, particularly anyone who is interested in reading about overcoming adversity. People interested in learning more about Susannah Cahalan and her journey may also enjoy reading this book.

Overall, did you like it and would you recommend it to others?

I loved this book and I would definitely recommend it to others because it is a very powerful autobiography about Susannah Cahalan's life as she overcomes her rare autoimmune disease.

Anything else that you would like to add to this review? What made you choose it? Did you like the cover? Was it recommended to you? Did you find it at the library?

The cover of Cahalan's memoir seemed intriguing, which made me want to read this book.