

Further Reading

Not Fade Away

Rebecca Alexander (2014)

BIOGRAPHY ALEXANDER

Thirty-four-year-old Rebecca Alexander is a psychotherapist, a volunteer, and an athlete. She is also almost completely blind, with significantly deteriorated hearing. When Rebecca was twelve, her parents were told that she would be completely blind before she turned thirty. In college, she found out that due to a rare genetic disorder-Usher Syndrome Type III-she was losing her hearing as well. This is her story of success.

Song Without Words

Gerald Shea (2013)

BIOGRAPHY SHEA

Bringing new insight into the nature and significance of language, the author, who discovered at the age of 34 that he had been deaf since childhood, shares how he compensated through his amazing ability to translate the melody of vowels.

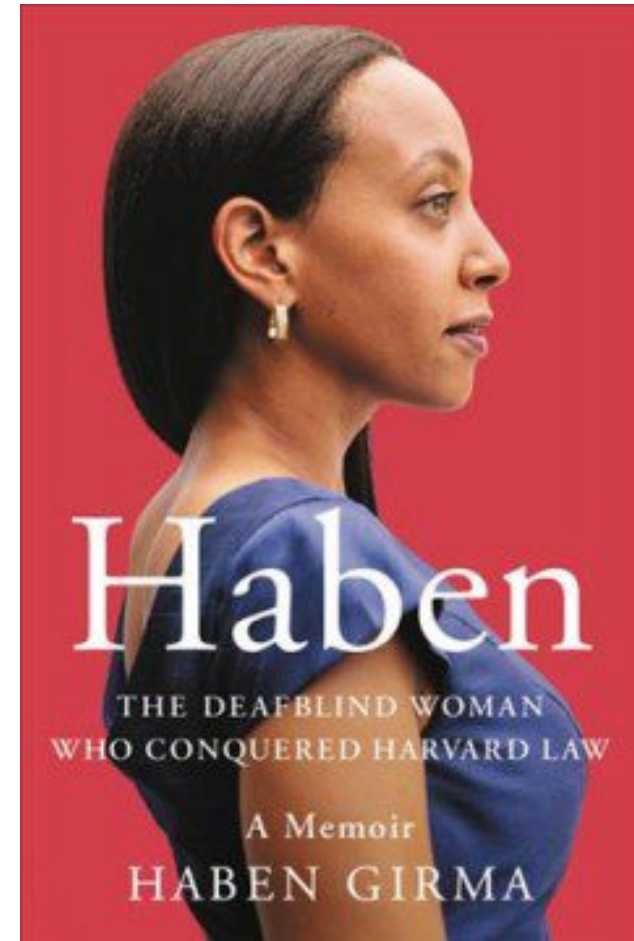
Nujeen: One Girl's Incredible Journey from War-torn Syria in a Wheelchair

Nujeen Mustafa (2016)

BIOGRAPHY MUSTAFA

The co-author of I Am Malala traces the inspiring story of Syrian refugee Nujeen Mustafa, who, after being born with cerebral palsy and denied an education because of her disability, made a harrowing journey by wheelchair from her war-ravaged home to safety in Germany.

Book Discussion Guide



About the Book

Documents the story of the first deaf and blind graduate of Harvard Law School, tracing her refugee parents' harrowing experiences in the Eritrea-Ethiopian war and her development of innovations that enabled her remarkable achievements. Haben defines disability as an opportunity for innovation. She learned non-visual techniques for everything from dancing salsa to handling an electric saw. She developed a text-to-braille communication system that created an exciting new way to connect with people. Haben pioneered her way through obstacles, graduated from Harvard Law, and now uses her talents to advocate for people with disabilities.

Discussion Questions

1. How did the book make you feel?
2. How do you feel about how the story was told?
3. What did you already know about this book's subject before you read this book?
4. What did you think about the main "characters"?
5. Which parts of the book stood out to you?
6. What themes did you detect in the story?
7. Which places in the book would you most like to visit?
8. What is your impression of the author?
9. What aspects of the author's story could you most relate to?
10. Share a favorite quote from the book. Why did this quote stand out?
11. How does this book compare to other similar books you've read?
12. What did you think about the ending?
13. How did this book change you?

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