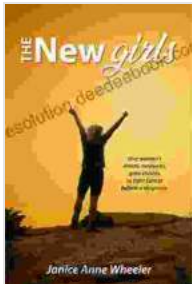


Drastic Choices: The BRCA Breast Cancer Gene



The New Girls: Drastic Choices & BRCA, the Breast Cancer Gene by Janice Anne Wheeler

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 1832 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 113 pages
Lending : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported



The BRCA breast cancer gene is a gene that increases the risk of developing breast and ovarian cancer. The gene was first identified in 1990, and since then, it has been found that mutations in the BRCA gene are responsible for about 5-10% of all breast cancers and 15-20% of all ovarian cancers.

Women who carry a mutation in the BRCA gene have a significantly increased risk of developing breast and ovarian cancer. The risk of developing breast cancer by age 80 is about 65% for women with a BRCA1 mutation and 45% for women with a BRCA2 mutation. The risk of developing ovarian cancer by age 80 is about 35% for women with a BRCA1 mutation and 15% for women with a BRCA2 mutation.

There are a number of options available to women who carry a mutation in the BRCA gene. These options include:

- **Increased screening:** Women who carry a BRCA mutation can reduce their risk of developing breast cancer by having regular mammograms and breast MRIs.
- **Prophylactic mastectomy:** A prophylactic mastectomy is a surgical procedure to remove both breasts. This procedure can reduce the risk of developing breast cancer by 95%.
- **Prophylactic oophorectomy:** A prophylactic oophorectomy is a surgical procedure to remove both ovaries. This procedure can reduce the risk of developing ovarian cancer by 80%.

The decision of whether or not to have a prophylactic mastectomy or oophorectomy is a personal one. There is no right or wrong answer, and the best decision for one woman may not be the best decision for another. It is important to weigh the risks and benefits of each option and to make a decision that is right for you.

Genetic Testing for the BRCA Gene

Genetic testing for the BRCA gene is available to women who are at high risk of developing breast and ovarian cancer. Genetic testing can be done through a blood test or a saliva test. The test results can tell you if you have a mutation in the BRCA gene and, if so, which mutation you have.

Genetic testing can be a valuable tool for women who are at high risk of developing breast and ovarian cancer. However, it is important to remember that a positive test result does not mean that you will definitely

develop cancer. It simply means that you have a higher risk of developing cancer than women who do not have a mutation in the BRCA gene.

If you are considering genetic testing, it is important to talk to your doctor about the risks and benefits of the test. You should also talk to a genetic counselor to learn more about the BRCA gene and the implications of a positive test result.

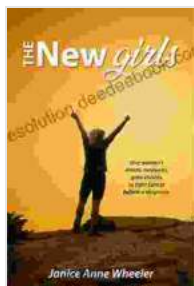
Support for Women with the BRCA Gene

There are a number of resources available to women who have been diagnosed with a mutation in the BRCA gene. These resources include:

- **Support groups:** There are a number of support groups available for women who have been diagnosed with a mutation in the BRCA gene. These groups can provide you with emotional support and information about the BRCA gene and your treatment options.
- **Online resources:** There are a number of online resources available for women who have been diagnosed with a mutation in the BRCA gene. These resources can provide you with information about the BRCA gene, your treatment options, and support groups.
- **Genetic counselors:** Genetic counselors can provide you with information about the BRCA gene, your treatment options, and support groups. They can also help you to make a decision about whether or not to have genetic testing.

If you have been diagnosed with a mutation in the BRCA gene, it is important to know that you are not alone. There are a number of resources

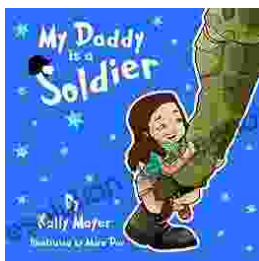
available to help you cope with your diagnosis and make decisions about your treatment.



The New Girls: Drastic Choices & BRCA, the Breast Cancer Gene by Janice Anne Wheeler

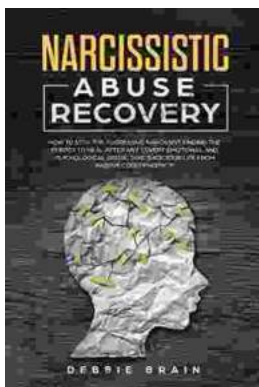
★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 1832 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 113 pages
Lending : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported



The Bedtime Story of Love Between Daughter and Daddy

Once upon a time, there was a little girl named Lily who loved her daddy very much. Every night, before she went to bed, Lily and...



How to Stop the Aggressive Narcissist: Finding the Energy to Heal After Any

Understanding the Aggressive Narcissist Aggressive narcissists are individuals with a heightened sense of entitlement and superiority....

