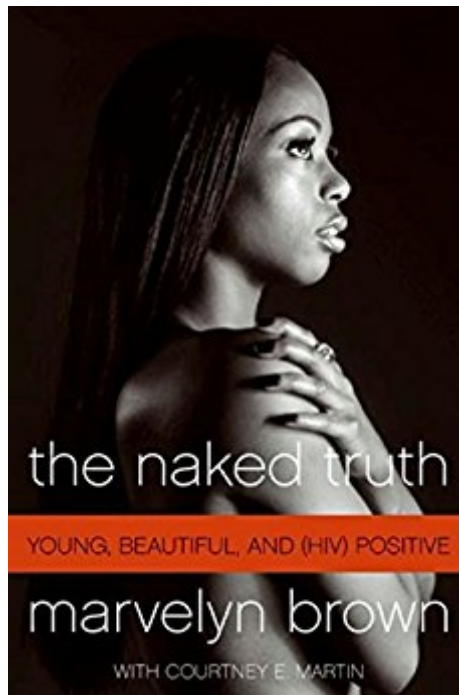




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# **The Naked Truth: Young, Black, Beautiful And Surviving**



## Synopsis

The surprisingly hopeful story of how a straight, nonpromiscuous, everyday girl contracted HIV and how she manages to stay upbeat, inspired, and more positive about life than ever before. At nineteen years of age, Marvelyn Brown was lying in a stark white hospital bed at Tennessee Christian Medical Center, feeling hopeless. A former top track and basketball athlete, she was in the best shape of her life, but she was battling a sudden illness in the intensive care unit. Doctors had no idea what was going on. It never occurred to Brown that she might be HIV positive. Having unprotected sex with her Prince Charming had set into swift motion a set of circumstances that not only landed her in the fight of her life, but also alienated her from her community. Rather than give up, however, Brown found a reason to fight and a reason to live. *The Naked Truth* is an inspirational memoir that shares how an everyday teen refused to give up on herself, even as others would forsake her. More, it's a cautionary tale that every parent, guidance counselor, and young adult should read.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This was a real good book. However I felt in some areas she repeated the same thing and overly drawn out content to add extra words for no reason. I applaud her bravery and strength and how not even long after her diagnosis she started on her journey spreading the knowledge. She could have been me, you anyone cause we've all had sex with losers but by Gods grace he kept us. I pray for her and other women and men who catch this disease and for someday a cure is found. Because African women who are raped, abused and forced into sex slavery do not have a voice so I think this book would be awesome for teenage girls and young women. She was 19 a age when life is just beginning.

I'm a 1st year medical student and I rarely have the time to read anything outside of notes and textbooks. I saw this the other night, however, and decided to purchase it as I wanted to spend the summer reading something for pleasure. I'm glad that I did. Ms. Brown does an excellent job of conveying her pain and triumphs. She really sheds a light on how HIV / AIDS is perceived in our (African-American) communities. Great read and I would recommend this to anyone. As a side note, her story reminds me of why I started this journey into medicine in the first place...

I recommend this book to all young girls, age 15 and up. Since you were speaking your truth, from a young ladies experience. This book is full of real life issues from family, divorce, responsibility, "the hood", education and love. Thanks Marvelyn for allowing yourself to become venerable enough to honestly share your life experiences. I have always heard that from our life's biggest mistakes we will find our life's gifts. Who would ever think love could be a mistake. However it is important to let young people know this truth. "Love yourself more than you love another, by always protecting yourself. And that no one is exempt, HIV is a equal opportunity employer." This is not a gay disease This is a human epidemic that has no boundaries.

The book is candid and resonates with what is happening in Kenya right now. Divorce rates, teens and young adults sexually active at an early age, many of us pretending HIV & AIDS are for "others", etc. I am going to share this book with my 18yr old daughter currently in college, as soon as is possible.

This was a wonderful book. It was informative and every high school and college age female should read it because it tells the truth about how HIV is being transmitted when you least expect it amongst our youth. African- American youth has the higher rate of new HIV transmissions; African

American females account for about 65% of the newly diagnosed cases. We CAN Stop HIV! Get Educated and Get Tested!.

This book sat in my shopping cart on for months. I finally ordered it last week, I got it in the mail yesterday and I finished reading it today! Wonderful book. It's almost unbelievable to be honest. Unbelievable that ONE person could go through all that this young lady has gone through, and the experiences she had to endure, and still be standing. Having what I would consider an abusive mother, an absent father, the suicide of a dear friend, the perceived "failure" of her life, and then cap it all off with having some dude intentionally giving her HIV !! This was a great book. I can remember being in predicaments where there was no protection available and making the same decision she did. Those who have read the book know what decision I'm talking about. This could have easily been any of our stories. I know that I have a 16 year old niece who came home with a passion mark a few weeks ago, so guess what? She WILL be receiving a copy of this book!! I would encourage everyone to share this book with the women in your families. It's very real.

This is an awesome book for a Teen's Book Club. I would also encourage parents to read this book. This book looks at HIV from a young girl's point of view. The young lady hails from TN and tells the story masterfully. She talks about the unnecessary risk taking, situational dilemmas, becoming responsible and living after the diagnosis. She also speaks about the manner in which her diagnosis and treatment was handled by medical professionals.

I had to buy this book for one of my classes for a group project. It was an okay read, the writing is decent. I would have liked it better if she began talking about HIV sooner because the first half of the book is just one messy blur in my mind. But I do like the message she's trying to convey and I do commend her for overcoming her challenges. That's mainly why I'm giving this book 4/5 stars.

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