



Left Neglected

By Lisa Genova

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From neuroscientist and bestselling author Lisa Genova comes a story of resilience in the face of a devastating diagnosis. After a car crash leaves a vibrant mother in her thirties with a traumatic brain disorder called “left neglect,” she learns what truly matters most in life.

Sarah Nickerson, like any other working mom, is busy trying to have it all. One morning while racing to work and distracted by her cell phone, she looks away from the road for one second too long. In that blink of an eye, all the rapidly moving parts of her over-scheduled life come to a screeching halt. After a brain injury steals her awareness of everything on her left side, Sarah must retrain her mind to perceive the world as a whole. In so doing, she also learns how to pay attention to the people and parts of her life that matter most.

In this powerful and poignant *New York Times* bestseller, Lisa Genova explores what can happen when we are forced to change our perception of everything around us. *Left Neglected* is an unforgettable story about finding abundance in the most difficult of circumstances, learning to pay attention to the details, and nourishing what truly matters.

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Left Neglected By Lisa Genova Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

In neuroscientist Genova's second novel (after *Still Alice*), a car crash gives a successful younger woman an obscure neurological syndrome called Left Neglect. Upwardly mobile Sarah and Bob Nickerson live in suburban Massachusetts with their three small children. Both work 60-hour weeks, though the economic downturn looms. When Sarah wakes up eight days after crashing her car on the way to work, the doctors inform her of her condition, which causes her brain to ignore the left side of everything, and she begins a long and uncertain recovery. Genova vividly describes Sarah's fear and frustration about a recovery that may never come, turning her struggle into a lesson in forgiveness, acceptance, and adaptability; insights reveal themselves with extreme clarity, and small moments between Bob and Sarah illustrate his stalwart love, though readers may want a more thorough investigation of his growing role as caretaker, and as a character. More accessible than her somber first book, which dealt with early-onset Alzheimer's, the central condition causes readers to wonder what brain disease she will think of next. (Jan.)

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From [Booklist](#)

First-person narrator Sarah Nickerson is a 37-year-old, overachieving multitasker with a Harvard MBA and a demanding job as vice president of human relations at a Boston consulting firm. Her husband, Bob, works at a struggling tech start-up and shares in the upbringing of their three young children in an affluent suburb. Then there's a car accident on a rainy November morning, and a traumatic brain injury leaves Sarah with "left neglect," a lack of awareness of anything to her left, including the left side of her own body. The one person who can help when insurance runs out is Sarah's mother, Helen, yet their relationship has been rocky ever since Helen was a virtually absentee mother for Sarah after Sarah's brother, Nate, died in childhood. As Sarah's struggles parallel those of her 7-year-old son, Charlie, just diagnosed with ADHD, there is healing of body, mind, and mother-daughter relationship and acceptance that "normal is overrated." Neuroscientist Genova (*Still Alice*, 2009) once again personalizes an actual disabling brain condition to create irresistibly readable and moving fiction. --Michele Leber

Review

"Imagine your too busy, over scheduled, Type A life coming to a screeching halt. That is what happens in Lisa Genova's timely new novel, *LEFT NEGLECTED*. As her protagonist, Sarah Nickerson, works her way through a devastating brain injury and back into that hectic life, she is forced to re-evaluate what really matters. I dare any reader to not do the same in their own lives after reading this book."

--Ann Hood

"Devastating and hopeful, haunting and familiar, *Left Neglected* is a triumph of insight and empathy."

-- Stefan Merrill Block, international bestselling author of *The Story of Forgetting* and *The Storm at the Door*

"Once again, Lisa Genova goes where few authors dare, and mines a compelling and beautifully written story about finding peace, wisdom and human connection. While Sarah Nickerson's condition is rare, her journey is universal. "

--Lynn Kiele Bonasia, author of *Summer Shift*

"Achingly real. Beautifully written. Lisa Genova takes us on a moving journey of loss, forgiveness, hope, love and the resilience of the human spirit."

-- Julia Fox Garrison, author of *Don't Leave Me This Way*

"Lisa Genova has done it again! By turns chilling and deeply moving, *Left Neglected* is a stunning reminder that a single moment can change a life."

--Brunonia Barry, author of the New York Times best seller *The Lace Reader*

"Lisa Genova is the Michael Crichton of brain science. What she proved with *Still Alice*, she proves again with *Left Neglected*. This is huge, powerful human drama at its elegant best."

--Jacquelyn Mitchard, author of the New York Times bestseller *The Deep End of the Ocean*

"Intuitive and captivating. In this moving chronicle of a family's struggle with brain injury, Lisa Genova powerfully conveys the shattering trials of an ordinary life made alien by brain injury, and in the process reveals the true power and strength of the human spirit. *Left Neglected* will leave you stunned and inspired."

--Michael Paul Mason, author of *Head Cases: Stories of Brain Injury and Its Aftermath*

"Remember how you couldn't put down *Still Alice*? Well, clear your schedule—because you're going to feel the same way."

--JODI PICOULT

"The journey Lisa Genova takes us on in *Left Neglected* is a personal one, for any woman who's ever had to make a business call while driving to day care, or who finishes a full day's work at a high-powered job only to start the second shift as a mom: sometimes, we literally need a shock to the system to remember what matters the most in life. Remember how you couldn't put down *Still Alice*? Well, clear your schedule - because you're going to feel the same way."

--Jodi Picoult, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *House Rules* and *Sing You Home*

"*Left Neglected* is a novel worth reading for the way it informs a little-known medical condition, as well as the engaging story of a character who transcends what could have been a tragedy to find a fresh appreciation for life."

--*The Boston Globe*

"Amid devastating neurological damage, Genova once again emphasizes heartwarming adaptation."

--*San Francisco Chronicle*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

William Martel:

As people who live in the modest era should be update about what going on or data even knowledge to make these individuals keep up with the era which is always change and advance. Some of you maybe will certainly update themselves by examining books. It is a good choice for you personally but the problems coming to you is you don't know what one you should start with. This *Left Neglected* is our recommendation so you keep up with the world. Why, because book serves what you want and wish in this era.

Tyler Smith:

Left Neglected can be one of your beginning books that are good idea. We all recommend that straight away because this guide has good vocabulary which could increase your knowledge in language, easy to understand, bit entertaining but still delivering the information. The article writer giving his/her effort to set every word into delight arrangement in writing Left Neglected nevertheless doesn't forget the main place, giving the reader the hottest in addition to based confirm resource info that maybe you can be one of it. This great information can certainly drawn you into fresh stage of crucial thinking.

Annie Adcock:

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Frank Monroe:

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