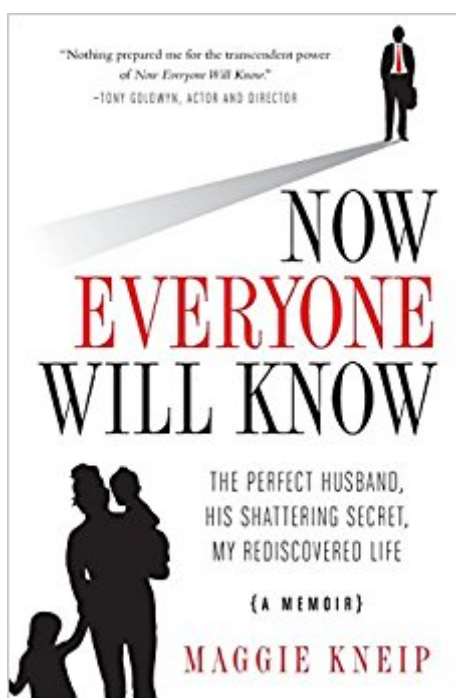


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# Now Everyone Will Know: The Perfect Husband, His Shattering Secret, My Rediscovered Life



## Synopsis

After a fairy-tale courtship in 1980s New York City, Maggie's young marriage shatters when her "perfect" husband--a star editor at The Wall Street Journal--is diagnosed with and dies of AIDS, leaving her with two young children in a city electrified by paranoia about the new epidemic. Devastated by his betrayal, Maggie struggles to protect herself and her children from stigma, keeping the circumstances of her husband's death a secret for nearly twenty-five years. It is only when a journey of self-discovery aligns with her children's coming of age and a new world of sexual tolerance that she can finally embrace the truth and set herself free. With a foreword by Laura Landro, an editor at The Wall Street Journal, and an afterword by Today show psychologist Dr. Dale Atkins, *Now Everyone Will Know* is an honest, unflinching memoir about the damaging nature of family secrets and an inspiring call to embrace every truth--the good, the bad, the ugly--that makes us who we are.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"...Nothing prepared me for the transcendent power of *Now Everyone Will Know*."--Tony Goldwyn, actor and director  
"This is a book I just inhaled. I could not put it down... It will resonate with every woman who has something to hide--and that is most of us, myself included."--Magee Hickey, news reporter, WPIX-TV New York  
"Maggie Kneip...opens up for the first time in this stunning, beautifully written and important book."--Joanne Lipman, journalist, editor, and co-author of *Strings Attached*  
"*Now Everyone Will Know* is by turns surprising, heartbreaking, inspiring, and funny. Maggie Kneip's story...will move you, and it will haunt you. Like Isabel Gillies and Marco Roth, Kneip

writes of the secrets families keep, and the wreckage such secrets can cause. This is an important book..."--Melissa Kirsch, author of *The Girl's Guide to Absolutely Everything*"A meditation on loss, forgiveness, and the ties that bind, *Now Everyone Will Know* is indelible."--Alix M. Freedman, journalist" Maggie Kneip has gathered the exquisite details of her heartbreaking journey like lilies from a field, wrapped them in words of brutal honesty, and delivered a debut memoir that serves up laughter and deep-belly sorrow in equal measure."--Katori Hall, actress, journalist, playwright, and 2010 Olivier Award winner for Broadway's *The Mountaintop*"...a powerful account of survival and redemption."--Byron Calame, journalist

Maggie Kneip is a veteran of the publishing industry, with a career spanning more than two decades in publicity and marketing at Bertelsmann, Scholastic Inc., and Abrams Books. She has performed her one-woman show, "This Is My Song," at such Manhattan clubs as the Laurie Beechman Theatre and the Metropolitan Room. Maggie is a graduate of the College of William and Mary and has a master of fine arts in dance from Sarah Lawrence College. Laura Landro (foreword) is an assistant managing editor for *The Wall Street Journal* and writes frequently on health care, including a column entitled "The Informed Patient." She is also the author of *Survivor: Taking Charge of Your Fight Against Cancer*. Dale V. Atkins, PhD (afterword), widely known as "Dr. Dale," is a licensed psychologist, popular keynote speaker, and author of six books and numerous chapters on social and relationship issues. She is a frequent commentator on NBC's *Today* show and CNN's *Headline News*, and has been an on-screen expert for several award-winning documentaries and news programs. She has a private psychology practice in New York City.

This is a book which HAD to be written. And it is written so well. Scores of people who did not personally experience the ravages of the HIV/AIDS epidemic nevertheless were confused and upset during that era. When Maggie describes scenes from her life, she does so in brief vignettes which are so immediate that we feel we were there. Her willingness to share with readers all the turmoil, all the often conflicting emotions, all the fatigue involved in years of secrecy and shame, makes this book enlightening and, hopefully, healing, not only for Maggie and her family but for the many who were touched directly by the terrible suffering, the death sentence before there were the medical treatments we have today. This is a moving but not a grim book. It is a kind of resurrection. Read it -- more than once.

Maggie Kneip fell in love with John Andrew almost at first sight. She describes so well that heady

feeling that comes from knowing that someone you find especially rarified falls for YOU. Andrew seemed to have it all: a distinguished family, two Ivy degrees, a flair for presenting himself, an accomplished journalist, witty and clever, sexually attractive, and acceptable to her parents. And although she was an attractive blonde with her own solid credentials, she didn't always feel that way. No wonder that she was devastated when after the birth of their second child and John's big promotion at the Wall Street Journal, he started acting strangely. One night in a familiar tony restaurant, he fell apart, unable to recognize a catsup bottle or express a thought. Could he be having a nervous breakdown? At home, he had a blazing fever. Still, she called his psychiatrist rather than rush him to a hospital, in part because there was no one to stay with their infant and their toddler. Within 24 hours, he was hospitalized, and not long after that diagnosed with full-blown AIDS. In hip New York City, AIDS was in full epidemic, and gay men everywhere were dying in large numbers. But Maggie and John lived in Hoboken, NJ, among a group of young families who thought of themselves as much hipper than they were in practice. Even though she and the children were uninfected, she was advised not to reveal John's diagnosis. She shares the unfolding of this ugly disease and the demise of their love story with enormous power and compassion, never rushing to deny of her own deep anger and sense of betrayal. Just as difficult is the reaction of acquaintances, especially the parents of her children's classmates. One reports her to child welfare authorities. Another organizes other parents to pressure the school to hold her daughter back from first grade. This has some counterweight in the support of John's colleagues, her family and his, her running buddies, and a few trusted friends. But fear prevails in the court of public opinion. John dies, and she meets a new man, his emotional opposite. They move to Connecticut, but many years pass before she can let go of John. This book is the story of that journey. This is the story of a certain time when AIDS forced us to deal with secrets of sexual orientation and habits many had repressed. AIDS eventually made it easier for people to reveal homosexuality, but it did less for people along the margins of their lives—parents, spouses, children. This courageous memoir gives voice to their suffering.

A very well written book. A powerful story that revisits both a sad time in history and a horribly unfair personal situation. Many questions remain, but when all is said and done it is satisfying to read about how the author and her family were able to survive and persevere. I recommend taking the time to read this author's story.

5 star memoir - kept my attention from the first page. Maggie allowed the reader into her world

without looking for pity. It's clear to me as someone obsessed with memoirs that it is critical to have a strong story and experienced and talented writer. Now Everyone Know provides a snapshot in time of a sad saga in our country's history through a very personal lens.

The candor and rawness with which Kneip recounts her story is to be applauded. It's apparent that "Now Everyone Will Know" was a much-needed catharsis for this strong and courageous woman--the final step in her journey to wholeness. Vivid details and crisp writing make this not only a beautiful read, but a page-turner. Kneip's incredible honesty and personal reflection are what drive this book. The AIDS epidemic was, perhaps one of the most defining events of LGBT history. It was, after all, what forced people to realize that gays and lesbians were part of their neighborhoods, schools, churches, work places and in Kneip's case, family. By writing this memoir, Kneip has brought to light an oft-forgotten part of the AIDS tragedy and in turn, has educated a new generation on how deeply this disease affected so many people. As a facilitator for an LGBTQ youth group, I express my profound thanks--for making her story public and living authentically.

Most of us -- fortunately -- can only imagine going from a picture perfect life to a living hell in the span of several months. This is a story of tragedy, betrayal and, ultimately, some form of redemption both for the victims and the protagonist. A gripping story that will keep you wondering what you would do when faced with similar circumstances.

I could not put this book down. I can only imagine what this poor woman went through. While I applaud the fact that she forgave her husband, I can't believe he didn't have the decency to apologize or show any remorse. I understand why she finally forgave him and glad she was able to tell the truth after all these years. It was a tragic story that needed to be told.

Did you love EAT, PRAY, LOVE? Do you eagerly await the next Kaye Gibbons, or Anne Lamott? You have to read Maggie Kneip's deeply felt memoir. I couldn't put down this story of one woman's journey through adulthood, motherhood and coming into herself while carrying the burden of a dark secret to protect her children and herself. The writing zooms along. The emotions are palpable and genuine. The complexity of the situation is matched by the complexity of the protagonist: neither a saint nor a sinner... Maggie is a woman who seems to become more real as the pages turn and as her life moves forward. I loved this book and highly recommend it. You won't forget it and I bet you'll be urging it on your friends, too.

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