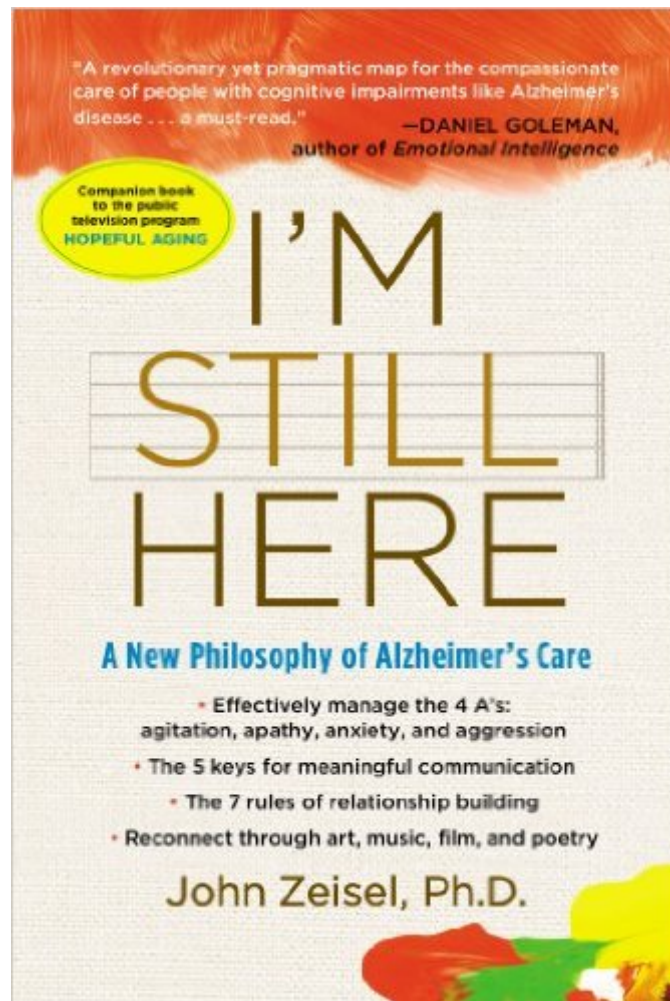


The book was found

I'm Still Here: A New Philosophy Of Alzheimer's Care



Synopsis

A revolutionary new approach to Alzheimer's care, focusing on a patient's strengths to maintain connections with others and the world. There currently is no cure for Alzheimer's disease, though it can be treated. For the last fifteen years, John Zeisel, Ph.D. has spearheaded a movement to treat Alzheimer's non-pharmacologically by focusing on the mind's strengths. Still Here is a guidebook to Dr. Zeisel's treatment ideas, showing the possibility and benefits of connecting with an Alzheimer's patient through their abilities that don't diminish with time, such as understanding music, art, facial expressions, and touch. By harnessing these capacities, and by using other strategies, it's possible to offer the person a quality life with connection to others and to the world. In March 2013, Dr. Zeisel and his work will be the focus of the program airing on public television stations entitled "Hopeful Aging," bringing his life-changing ideas to a national audience.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book may be helpful and appreciated by readers who don't understand the behavioral changes that the Alzheimer's victim manifests and need to be told that there is- indeed still a person in there. I use the word "victim" even though Zeisel prefers to call them "people living with Alzheimers" because Alzheimer's disease not only predictably produces a downward spiral toward death but changes the very essence of who the victim is- including social roles and self-care abilities such as dressing or bathing and ultimately the ability to swallow food. They are indeed victims of what might

be considered one of the most terrifying diseases. Zeisel also uses another euphemism- the word "partner" instead of "caregiver"- almost as though to minimize the devastation experienced by spouses, friends and children as they lose previous social relationships (especially of spouses), take on the burden of making financial and health care decisions and endure the physical demands of dressing, toileting and feeding another person. This is not a partnership. It is the caregiver who is responsible for finding financial assistance for home care or a facility that provides adequate care and stimulation. I'm Still Here offers some good tips on behavioral interventions and setting up the environment to promote quality of life and decrease agitation. The Arts program as described provides the much needed social and sensory stimulation many memory impaired individuals lack. But all of this stimulation can be provided with meaningful photographs, music, familiar movie clips and other personalized sensory stimulation modalities such as smelling the familiar aroma of apple pie.

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