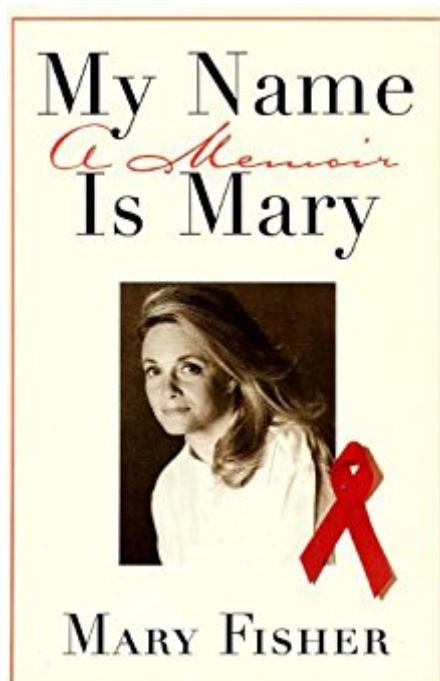


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# My Name Is Mary: A Memoir



## **Synopsis**

"The AIDS virus is not a political creature. It does not care whether you are Democrat or Republican. It does not ask whether you are Black or White, male or female, gay or straight, young or old. Tonight I represent an AIDS community whose members have been reluctantly drafted from every segment of American society." So said Mary Fisher in her historic speech at the 1992 Republican National Convention. *My Name Is Mary* chronicles the emotional events leading up to and following this momentous evening. In a memoir that exhibits the same grace and unflinching honesty that moved the nation, Mary Fisher shares the story of her life. Raised in a socially prominent, affluent Michigan family, Mary Fisher seemed to have it all. She socialized with important and often famous friends and eventually married a handsome artist with whom she had two sons. Although the marriage ended in divorce, Mary continued to thrive in her roles as mother and artist. However, in 1991 Mary's world was turned upside down by the news from her ex-husband that he had AIDS. An HIV test revealed that Mary, too, was infected. Terrified, struggling against fear, depression, and anger, Mary ultimately found a new life mission in her positive status—she began to educate others about the need for compassion and activism in the face of this epidemic. Her unspoken motto is powerful—one person can, indeed, make a difference. Whether describing her difficult childhood, reflecting on raising her two sons, discussing her evolution as an artist, or explaining her coping mechanisms for survival, *My Name Is Mary* is warm, caring, and inspirational—like Mary Fisher herself.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

The AIDS issue was secondary to her rant about her biological father. I worked with many AIDS patients during this era and it was very difficult when the public perceived that it could be communicated by casual touch. Interestingly, her father was abandoned by first his wife, then his children were removed by careful manipulation of the step-father who seperated his acquired family away from any biological connection with some subtle moves. The author is too wounded to see that it was her mother who was the one who initiated the seperation for a better life and a return to what was familiar. The "princess" wasn't happy so she went home to mommy and daddy.

This book arrived in the condition that it was described as. The price couldn't be beat! Haven't had a chance to read it yet, perhaps after the holidays. Subject matter is the kind of material I find interesting and I look forward to being able to take the time out to read it.

Very interesting to read about Mary Fisher. I've read them all. Very interesting and brave woman.

I chose the rating because, it was a used book, and had writing on it and from a library. I have bought used books before and never have writing on them. So if I wanted to resale, might be hard to because of the writing on the book. But other wise, I really like the book, a lot of information on Aids and HIV. I have been looking for a book like to this read and when I seen her on the news, I had to get one. I am glad I did.

This audio book was fantastic. It is included on my short list of audio books that I've listened to more than once. But the book was published in 1996, can anyone tell me what has happened to Mary Fischer since then? Why did I like the book so much? It was well-written. Read by the author, it was sincere and heartfelt. Mary Fischer's life has been filled with many challenges. The listener may have experienced some of these challenges: life with an alcoholic parent, marital problems and divorce, lack of recognition at work, dealing with a deadly disease. But whether the listener has

first-hand experience with a particular problem or not, Mary's narrative will pull at your heart, put you in her shoes, make your heart beat a little quicker at the tense moments, bring a lump to your throat at others. I listened to this book during a week that I was particularly down about my long commute and work situation. I couldn't have made a better choice. I wish Mary Fischer well and thank her for sharing her story.

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