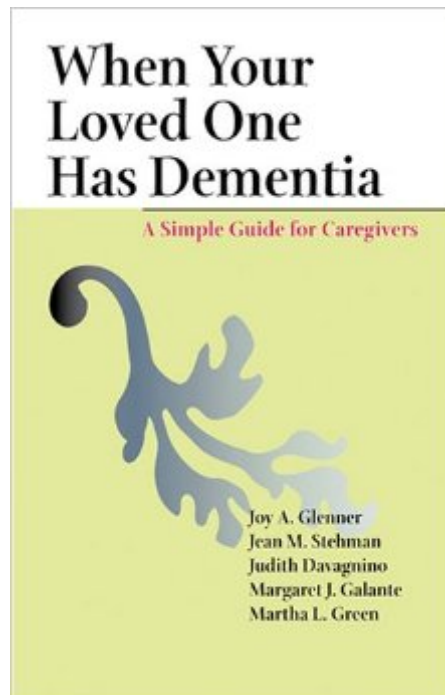


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# When Your Loved One Has Dementia: A Simple Guide For Caregivers



## Synopsis

Eighty percent of persons with dementia live at home, and the family members caring for them are often overwhelmed by the enormous responsibility and the complexities of care. This book is designed to support the caregivers and help them understand the needs and feelings of the person for whom they are caring. A central focus is the goal of sustaining a loving family relationship between the caregiver and the patient. Developed from a training program for professionals and family caregivers, this book teaches the basics of dementia care while emphasizing communication, understanding and acceptance, and personal growth through the caregiving experience. The result is a guide that integrates the practicalities of caregiving with the human emotions that accompany it.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

When caring for a loved one with dementia at home, there is little time for reading; this book was a quick read offering good insights to basic care. Good resources were also offered.

Any who care for Alzheimer sufferers or those with other dementias know the challenges involved: eighty percent of people with dementia live at home, and family members often find themselves challenged by unfamiliar demands and new routines. *When Your Loved One Has Dementia: A Simple Guide For Caregivers* reviews all kinds of challenges, from safety in handling and caring for sufferers and communication challenges to understanding levels of impairment, daily life, and more. An excellent starting point for those with questions.

Even though this book may seem simple at first glance, it is loaded with advice that any caregiver can use. It covers the necessary basics that any caregiver must know about such as: communication, safety, and meaningful activities you can do together. by Susan Berg author of Adorable Photographs of Our Baby: Meaningful, Mind Stimulating Activities and More for the Memory Challenged, Their Loved Ones, and Involved Professionals

This was suggested to me by a friend who is a psychiatric nurse when I asked if there was a book or two she could recommend that would give me more information about vascular dementia. It gives a lot of suggestions for things to do to assist people with Alzheimer's disease or other forms of dementia; but, it didn't really answer the questions I have about what happens and why.

I am half way through this book and can already say that it is a great resource. If you are starting down this road with a family member or friend get this book as soon as possible. It may take a few bumps out of the road for you.

A too simple guide for caregivers. Now it does give some interesting tips on communication, activities, problems meeting goals, etc., it is really, in my opinion, a book for individuals who are new to the caregiving situation. It does not address the complexities about how the caregiver feels; like tips for assuming patience in the face of a very daunting, tiring task. What is not discussed is how caregivers can help themselves in fighting fatigue, symptoms of burnout, and lack of sleep. Now as caregivers, this is not to say we should feel victimized; it is a circumstance that one day we may all find ourselves in. It is simply that this book is not really a stress-reliever, it reads more like a primer that I feel could make a newcomer to this game feel a little guilty. Like the chapter on the activities. Who has time for that? It's a nice idea, but when you are changing bed linens, feeding, giving medications to, and making certain on a daily basis that your loved one does not hurt himself, there is little time for "activities". I also get the impression, as in many other books, it assumes that all caregivers have help. Not! What if you have no family and friends around? What if you cannot afford a paid caregiver? While, as previously stated, this book might be a good beginning point for a person starting their journey as a caregiver, I would ask the newcomers to this role please do not feel guilty if you are not engaging in everything contained in this book; you are no doubt doing an excellent job, and the very best you can.

Published in 2005 by the Johns Hopkins University Press, this small book is clear, concise and a great help for the thousands of families who must deal with dementia. There are six chapters: The first is "Understanding and Acceptance". Very difficult to do but this chapter lays it all out. The second chapter is "Preparing For The Future". Dementia is a terrible disease and the "long good-bye" requires compassionate caregiving. The third chapter is "Communication, the Key to Quality of Life for You and Your Loved One." As a caregiver, you will refer to this chapter many times. The fourth chapter is "Safety for You and Your Family Member with Dementia." There are many helpful suggestions for in-home care. The fifth chapter is "The Necessities of Daily Life: Getting Things Done with, Not Just for, Your Loved One". And the sixth chapter is "Keeping Busy and Enjoying Time Together." Also included is a glossary, resources, and an index. The "Bible" for Alzheimer's caregivers is "The Thirty-Six Hour Day", however, this "simple" guide for caregivers is like a condensed version and covers a great deal so I highly recommend it for reading, giving, and sharing. Those who have a parent or a partner with dementia need all the resources they can find. If you have a friend or family member who "doesn't understand dementia" - give them this small book loaded with information on the subject.

This is a great informational book for the person who is entering uncharted waters regarding the health and well-being of a family member or friend with mild cognitive impairment or mild dementia. It teaches the basics and is a great beginner book. You will need to pursue other avenues to obtain information regarding advanced impairment or dementia. This is a great door-opener but leaves questions unanswered regarding progression of dementia or Alzheimers and how to deal with issues regarding non-compliance of a patient.

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