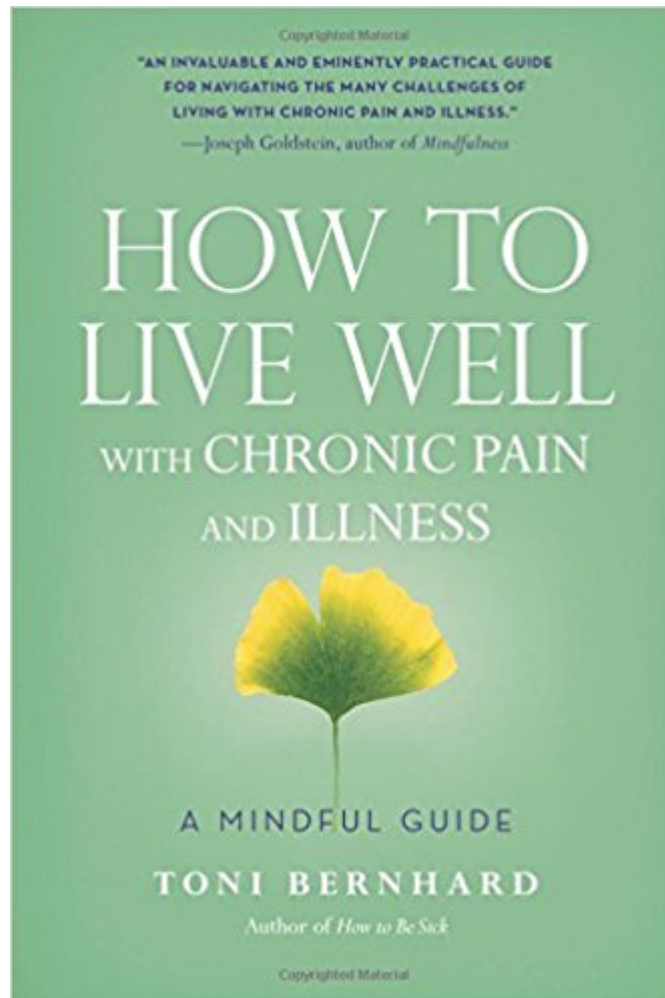




The book was found

# How To Live Well With Chronic Pain And Illness: A Mindful Guide



## Synopsis

Comfort, understanding, and advice for those who are suffering--and those who care for them. Chronic illness creates many challenges, from career crises and relationship issues to struggles with self-blame, personal identity, and isolation. Beloved author Toni Bernhard addresses these challenges and many more, using practical examples to illustrate how mindfulness, equanimity, and compassion can help readers make peace with a life turned upside down. In her characteristic conversational style, Bernhard shows how to cope and make the most of life despite the challenges of chronic illness. Benefit from:

- Mindfulness exercises to mitigate physical and emotional pain
- Concrete advice for negotiating the everyday hurdles of medical appointments, household chores, and social obligations
- Tools for navigating the strains illness can place on relationships

Several chapters are directed toward family and friends of the chronically ill, helping them to understand what their loved one is going through and how they can help. Humorous and empathetic, Bernhard shares her own struggles and setbacks with unflinching honesty, offering invaluable support in the search to find peace and well-being.

## Book Information

Paperback: 352 pages

Publisher: Wisdom Publications (October 6, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1614292485

ISBN-13: 978-1614292487

Product Dimensions: 6 x 1 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 65 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #40,387 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #12 in [Books > Health, Fitness & Dieting > Diseases & Physical Ailments > Physical Impairments](#) #55 in [Books > Health, Fitness & Dieting > Diseases & Physical Ailments > Pain Management](#) #280 in [Books > Health, Fitness & Dieting > Alternative Medicine > Meditation](#)

## Customer Reviews

“In this comprehensive book, an empathetic Bernhard offers guidance to those whose lives have been turned upside down by illness. Excellent firsthand instruction for anyone dealing with a debilitating illness.” (Booklist)

“This book is so honest, so real, and so practical, it is a must have for everyone, patient and caregiver alike.” (American Chronic Pain

Association)“An invaluable and eminently practical guide for navigating the many challenges of living with chronic pain and illness.” (Joseph Goldstein, author of Mindfulness)“Toni Bernhard shares her own powerful experience of how mindfulness practice can deeply support anyone with chronic illness.” (Sharon Salzberg, author of Real Happiness)“Let Toni Bernhard be your guide in this life-changing journey.” (Larry Dossey, MD, author of One Mind)“Immensely practical and infused with warmth, wisdom, and unflinching honesty.” (Dr. Alice Boyes, author of The Anxiety Toolkit)

Toni Bernhard is the author of the award-winning *How to Be Sick: A Buddhist-Inspired Guide for the Chronically Ill and Their Caregivers* and *How to Wake Up: A Buddhist-Inspired Guide to Navigating Joy and Sorrow*. Until forced to retire due to illness, Toni was a law professor at the University of California–Davis, serving six years as the dean of students. She has been a practicing Buddhist for over twenty years. Her blog, “Turning Straw Into Gold,” is hosted on the website of Psychology Today. She can be found online at [www.tonibernhard.com](http://www.tonibernhard.com).

This is the book I wish I’d had when I began my journey with chronic pain ten years ago. It’s practical, reassuring, and written by someone who’s traveled the journey. Toni Bernhard is a best-selling and award-winning writer of *How to Be Sick* and *How to Wake Up*. She also writes a popular blog on Psychology Today, *Turning Straw Into Gold*. Her readers adore her, as evidenced by her over 200,000 fans on Facebook. Previously a law professor, Toni became ill in 2001 while on a trip to Paris and has never recovered her health. Experiencing chronic flu-like symptoms and often being bed-bound hasn’t stopped her from leaving a full and rich life. As Toni writes in her introduction, *How to Live Well* is “one dose stark reality, one dose practical skills, and one dose humor.” Her books are inspired by her 25 years of Buddhist study and practice, but like well-known Western dharma teachers such as Sharon Salzberg and Tara Brach, she explains these concepts in a relatable way. As she wrote in her first book, she considers the Buddha not to be a god, but the greatest psychologist of all time. You definitely don’t have to be Buddhist or know anything about it to benefit from this book. In fact, *How to Live Well* focuses less on Buddhism per se and more on mindfulness and other proven cognitive practices. Each of the chapters is relatively short, and can stand alone. You can dip in and out of the book depending on your needs. For people with chronic pain and illness, who sometimes have short attention spans (like me) this is a great feature. I always like reading the Table of Contents before I buy a book. Here are the major sections in *How to Live Well*, with each section having anywhere from three to nine

short chapters. I. Skills to Help with Each Day II. Mindfulness: Potent Medicine for Easing the Symptoms of Chronic Illness III. Responding Wisely to Troubling Thoughts and Emotions IV. Special Challenges (includes topics such as sleep, uncertainty, dealing with doctors, relationships with caregivers, and young people with chronic illness) V. Isolation and Loneliness VI. Enjoy the life you have VII. For Family, Friends, Caregivers, and Anyone Concerned about Chronic Illness VIII. Last but Not Least (Including Toni's "true confessions" and heartfelt wishes for her readers) I've learned so much from Toni, but probably the single most important thing is the life-changing practice of being kind to myself. In a previous interview with her, she said: "I look at it this way. We control so little in our lives, but the one thing we can control is how we treat ourselves. I see no reason for us not to be as kind and gentle with ourselves as we can be. It's not our fault that we have health problems. We're in bodies and they get sick and injured. It will happen to everyone. This is how it happens to us." In her warm and wonderful way, Toni reminds us in her new book that "being kind to yourself is the best medicine."

I am only partially into this book but already it is presenting practical advice on dealing with pain and illness. the author explores the many very subtle difficulties encountered by those suffering from chronic conditions and how to use mindfulness to cope with them. among the most important is being able to communicate openly so that people can help. self compassion and choosing how to expend one's energy are some of the tools she presents. she is a very good writer and the chapters are short and succinct.

A must read! Love this book!! Teaches people who live with pain and disability and chronic illness how to live happily in the moment and give compassion to yourself and those around you. Solid teaching for gaining acceptance and peace with a difficult life with chronic illness. The author is amazing. She lives with chronic illness and speaks from personal experience. So easy to understand and apply. Brilliant.

As with Toni Bernhard's earlier books, I have found this to be an excellent reference tool for myself and a great gift for other friends who are coping with similar issues. I especially appreciate her use of her personal story to teach and inspire. This will be a book that I will return to again and again.

This is a well written and extremely helpful book. I highly recommend this book for people with chronic pain or illness.

This an amazingly helpful and even guide to living with long term chronic illness, especially after you are done thinking you can will yourself back to being "normal". Toni is gentle with expectations and wise about realities.

Bernhard is a wise woman who's undergone 15 years of a difficult chronic illness, and used her deep engagement with Buddhism to stay sane and functional in the face of unimaginable loss. This, her third book, is eloquent and moving. It's useful not only to the chronically ill but to everyone who deals with the ill and the elderly, and to everybody else, since life is almost by definition a circumstance of constant loss. She's funny and sensible and leaves you full of hope.

Well written book. Having a chronic illness is so difficult. Toni has shown how to deal with this on a daily basis and with a more peaceful mind.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

How to Live Well with Chronic Pain and Illness: A Mindful Guide MARIJUANA: Guide To Illness And Pain Management (Medical Marijuana, Pain Management, Cannabis, Epilepsy, Cancer Treatment, Chronic Pain) Classification of Chronic Pain: Descriptions of Chronic Pain Syndromes and Definitions of Pain Terms Lubkin's Chronic Illness: Impact and Intervention (Lubkin, Chronic Illness) Chronic Illness: Impact And Intervention (Lubkin, Chronic Illness) Back Stretching: Back Strengthening And Stretching Exercises For Everyone (lower back pain, healing back pain, stretching exercises, back pain treatment, ... pain relief, stretching, back pain Book 1) Coping with Chronic Illness: \*Neck and Back Pain \*Migraines \*Arthritis \*Fibromyalgia\*Chronic Fatigue \*And Other Invisible Illnesses The Ultimate Guide to Sex and Disability: For All of Us Who Live with Disabilities, Chronic Pain, and Illness Brain Inflammation in Chronic Pain, Migraine and Fibromyalgia: The Paradigm-Shifting Guide for Doctors and Patients Dealing with Chronic Pain (Inflammation Mastery & Functional Inflammology) Anti Inflammatory Diet: Chronic Disease to Healthy Living - A Simple Guide (Chronic Pain, Arthritis, Joint Pain Book 1) Despite Lupus: How to Live Well with a Chronic Illness Despite Lupus: How to Live Well with a Chronic Illness (1) Chronic Pain: Taking Command of Our Healing! : Understanding the Emotional Trauma Underlying Chronic Pain The Better Bladder Book: A Holistic Approach to Healing Interstitial Cystitis & Chronic Pelvic Pain[ THE BETTER BLADDER BOOK: A HOLISTIC APPROACH TO HEALING INTERSTITIAL

CYSTITIS & CHRONIC PELVIC PAIN ] by Cohan, Wendy (Author ) on Nov-09-2010 Paperback  
Live Pain Free Without Drugs or Surgery: How to use Integrated Positional Therapy to eliminate  
chronic pain Hip Flexor Pain: The Ultimate Guide to Fix Tight Hip Flexors and Cure Tight Hips Life!  
(hip flexors, hip pain, hip flexor stretches, hip flexor, hip pain relief, hip joint pain, hips) Chronic  
Kidney Disease: The Essential Guide To CKD - Learn Everything You Need To Know About  
Chronic Kidney Disease (Chronic Kidney Disease, Kidney Stones, CKD) Chronic Fatigue Syndrome  
and the Yeast Connection: A Get-Well Guide for People With This Often Misunderstood Illness--And  
Those Who Care for Them Fight Back Pain: Healing Backache, Strengthening Muscles and  
preventing pain (Live Long Live Health Books) The Autoimmune Wellness Handbook: A DIY Guide  
to Living Well with Chronic Illness

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)