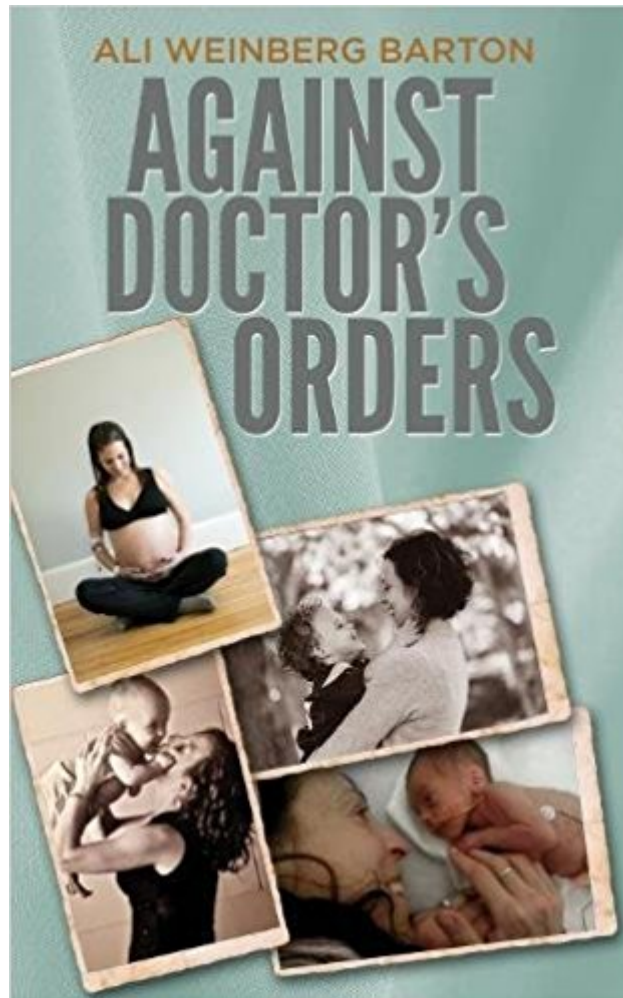




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# Against Doctor's Orders



## Synopsis

In 2012, after multiple failed in vitro fertilization cycles, Ali Weinberg Barton finally becomes pregnant. However, early in the pregnancy she experiences troubling symptoms. Finally, at 21 weeks, she is taken by ambulance to a major Boston hospital where she is told she's in acute heart failure. Early in her hospitalization, a team of cardiologists and OB/GYN physicians from one of Boston's most reputable hospitals give Ali a choice: abort the pregnancy, or both she and her son will likely die. Against the counsel of her doctors and her family, Ali refuses to end the pregnancy she and her husband had tried so hard to achieve. Ali's memoir chronicles a story of hope, heartbreak and eventual survival against long odds for her son Ethan and herself. In it, she shares the details of her life-threatening journey through a dangerous pregnancy and subsequent heart transplant.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This may be a biased review, as I am Ali's mother. If anything, this story understates the bravery and determination of Ali in her quest to both give birth to her child, and to survive this mysterious disease that was destroying her heart. Her courage and positive attitude gave strength to all of us who were trying to be there to support her. Told in her own voice, this book can provide hope to anyone who is facing a life-threatening ordeal.

I am lucky enough to know Ali and be in the background during her pregnancy and transplant. Reading this book was inspiring. The fight and determination she has for her family is amazing.

There were parts of the book that made me laugh to remember and parts that made me cry. I'm so glad that as someone in a medical profession to know that sometimes we are wrong. Her sweet boy is proof of that!

An awe inspiring story by an awe inspiring woman. This book could also be entitled "'Against All Odds". Anyone who knows Ali, understands that she's a force of nature. As her father's brother, I didn't know whether to laugh or cry when reading the chapter where Ali confronts all the medical personnel who begged her to abort. I can picture her dad's face as he looked at the window realizing that the race was on and there was no way to stop it. This has the makings of a good movie. Only, no sequels, please!

Ali is not afraid of her own shadows, she speaks her truth to the core of every experience she has endured the past few years. Those ups are so high and the lows are heart breaking. Her honesty is her strength and she is just as inspiring in person. Her love for Ethan is endless and I am blessed to have them in my family's life. Thank you for sharing your story and bringing to life your donor through your courage to keep persevering.

Ali Barton Weinberg's touching and inspirational memoir brings you face-to-face with life's most difficult decisions. Her courage and love for her unborn child lead her on a journey that is filled with hope, tears, humor and the will to survive against heavy odds. A real page turner that you will not want to put down!

I'm a lucky girl to have known Ali in person during this time in her life. What a fascinating, heartfelt story of love and the true definition of being a mother. As she recounts her story and welcomes you in to the personal details of her life, you feel like you are walking this path with her. I was nervous at times even though I knew there was a happy ending. Thank you, Ali, for sharing your story!

Ali Weinberg Barton's story is about following one's heart and gut feelings against the advice of medical professionals and close family members. A desired pregnancy followed by life threatening complications from a low functioning heart and advice to abort did not deter her from delivery of her premature son, Ethan. To survive, a heart transplant was necessary after the birth. A successful transplant ensued. This is a love story about a mother and child and a wife and husband told with honesty and self-deprecating good humor. It's a must read for any who want an example of real life

threatened and dogged determination with true life results.

I started to read a chapter or two. I read until the end of the authors notes because I literally could not put it down. This was a reboot to my soul. Grab some tissues, a bottle of water, and be ready for touching bursts of humor and moments that any mother can relate to.

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