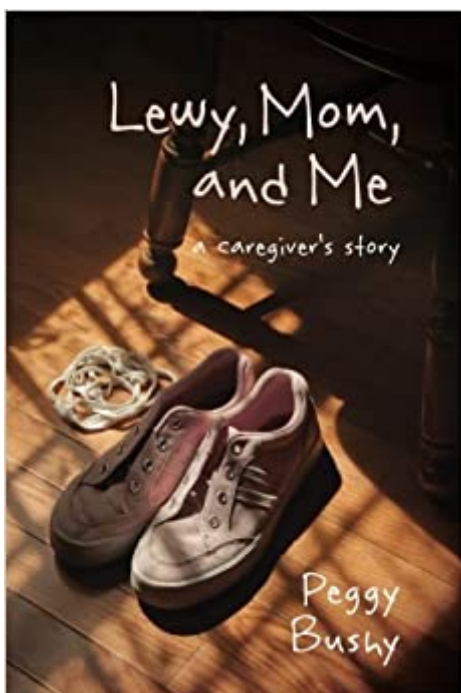


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# Lewy, Mom, And Me: A Caregiver's Story



## Synopsis

In her seventies, Peggy Bushy's mother, Francesca, started telling unbelievable stories. She claimed that people were invading her home and trying to kill her. She also became anxious and reclusive. For several discouraging years, Bushy searched in vain for a reason for her mother's behavior. Finally, Francesca was diagnosed with Lewy body dementia. Although it's the third-most-common cause of dementia, Bushy was unable to find much information on the disease, and the medical community was frustratingly unhelpful. *Lewy, Mom, and Me* is the book that Bushy wished had been available when her mother was first diagnosed. It details her personal journey of discovery, with all its challenges and revelations, and is written in a compassionate, empathetic style that will comfort any reader dealing with a parent's decline. Bushy explains how she learned to accept the changes in her mother and to support Francesca emotionally as she grappled with her frightening illness. She also describes what was involved in caring for her mother first at home, then in long-term care, and finally in hospice. Part memoir and part survival guide, this compelling testimony offers support and information for family caregivers of aging parents.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Now retired, Peggy Bushy formerly worked in the field of religious education. She has a BA in psychology as well as an MS in education and allied professions. When her mother developed Lewy body dementia, she found a distinct lack of knowledge and support from the medical community.

Hoping to provide this support for others, she was inspired to write Lewy, Mom, and Me. Bushy is the mother of three and the grandmother of four, with her fifth on the way, and she lives on Cape Cod, Massachusetts, with her husband, Tom.

Such an inspiration to us all, to put into words the struggles we all face and don't talk about! Once you start you will not put down until finished! Can't wait to see what Peggy writes next.

I read the book in a day, but took my time to review. Mainly because I know almost everyone in the book, as I grew up in the wonderful town where Francesca grew up and know her sisters and brothers, cousins, etc and can picture so much of what was written. So I tried to stay objective. At times I was so angry at the medical field for not listening, over and over again, to Peggy. My heart was broken for everyone involved. I learned so much about Lewy Disease - I had only vaguely heard of it but didn't understand it. Peggy, what you have done for your Mom is so very full of love, along with the pain. Your husband deserves lots of hugs along with the many friends and relatives who helped along the way. Beautifully written, heartfelt and should be read by anyone and everyone.

This amazing book should be read by EVERYONE to remind us of the incredibly difficult challenges that people face, seen and unseen, everyday. It should serve as a reminder, in this ambitious and impatient world, that real people are standing in every line, driving every car, sitting in every office, hospital and airport - many just trying to cope with impossible situations and caring for the people they love. More compassion is needed in all facets of our lives!!! Thank you Peggy for sharing your story. Your strength and compassion throughout is beyond words and yet you managed to write a beautiful heart felt story that will inspire and educate people for years to come. You should be so proud of this book and yourself!! Lauren Brading

Wow, loved this story of ultimate family love, pain and commitment. One of just maybe three books that I read from cover to cover in one sitting. I loved how intimately the story is told. At times I was laughing out loud then very sad that it took so long and so much pain for a proper diagnosis and treatment. Highly recommend!! I'd love to see it turned into a screen play.

Peggy Bushy shares the story of many of the challenges, thoughts, triumphs and heartbreak of a caregiver who has taken care of an elderly parent.... and this book is a must read for every

caregiver to be. Her writing and honest story touch your heart and open your mind to the issue many are facing or will face caring for an elderly parent. I wish I would have read this years ago....Lewy, Mom, and Me: a caregiver's story

Such a wonderful story of a wonderful caretaker, the love shine through from beginning to end!

The author clearly put her heart and soul into this story. It was emotional and endearing. Francesca was very easy to fall in love with, despite the frustrations caused by Lewy. Absolutely read this book!

This is a story that made me laugh and cry and realize that we all face incredibly difficult challenges in life that force us to succeed. Dealing with a parent who was diagnosed with Alzheimer's in her mid-sixties gives me some idea of Peggy's situation. When your beloved mum who has always been so dedicated and determined starts failing; you are incredulous. Peggy's story is validating and real. Thank you, Peggy for sharing this with all of us. This book is timeless.

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