## 10 Sanity-Saving Strategies for Women Coping with the Stress of Illness

Being diagnosed with a serious illness can be a life-changing event. Not only do you have to deal with the physical symptoms of your illness, but you also have to cope with the emotional stress that comes with it. This stress can take a toll on your mental and physical health, and it can make it difficult to cope with your illness.

If you are a woman who is coping with the stress of illness, there are a number of things you can do to help yourself. Here are ten sanity-saving strategies:



Chronic Resilience: 10 Sanity-Saving Strategies for Women Coping with the Stress of Illness (For Readers of The Body Keeps the Score or Taming Chronic Pain)

by Danea Horn

★★★★ 4.1 out of 5

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#### 1. Practice self-care

Self-care is essential for your physical and mental health. When you are sick, it is important to take care of yourself both physically and emotionally. This means eating healthy foods, getting enough sleep, and exercising regularly. It also means taking time for yourself to do things you enjoy, such as reading, listening to music, or spending time with loved ones.

#### 2. Build a support system

Having a support system is essential for coping with the stress of illness. This support system can include your family, friends, co-workers, and healthcare providers. These people can provide you with emotional support, practical help, and information about your illness.

#### 3. Manage stress

Stress is a normal part of life, but it can be especially difficult to manage when you are sick. There are a number of things you can do to manage stress, such as exercise, meditation, yoga, or spending time in nature. It is also important to talk to your doctor about stress management techniques that may be right for you.

### 4. Seek professional help

If you are struggling to cope with the stress of illness, it is important to seek professional help. A therapist can help you to identify the sources of your stress and develop coping mechanisms. Therapy can also help you to improve your mood, manage your anxiety, and sleep better.

#### 5. Be kind to yourself

It is important to be kind to yourself when you are sick. This means forgiving yourself for not being able to do as much as you used to, and

accepting that you may need to rest more. It also means talking to yourself in a positive way and avoiding negative self-talk.

#### 6. Take one day at a time

When you are sick, it can be easy to get overwhelmed by the future. However, it is important to take one day at a time. Focus on getting through each day and don't worry about what tomorrow may bring.

#### 7. Find joy in the little things

Even when you are sick, there are still things that can bring you joy. Make an effort to find joy in the little things, such as a beautiful sunset, a good book, or a funny movie. These small moments of joy can help you to cope with the stress of your illness.

#### 8. Be grateful

It is easy to get caught up in the negative aspects of illness. However, it is important to remember to be grateful for what you have. Take time each day to think about the things you are grateful for, such as your loved ones, your home, or your health. Gratitude can help you to focus on the positive aspects of your life and cope with the stress of your illness.

#### 9. Live in the present moment

When you are sick, it can be easy to dwell on the past or worry about the future. However, it is important to live in the present moment. Focus on the things that you can control and let go of the things that you cannot. Living in the present moment can help you to reduce stress and anxiety.

### 10. Believe in yourself

Coping with the stress of illness is a challenge, but it is important to believe in yourself. Believe that you can get through this and that you will come out stronger on the other side. Your belief in yourself will help you to stay positive and motivated.

Coping with the stress of illness is not easy, but it is possible. By following these ten strategies, you can help yourself to cope with the stress and improve your quality of life.



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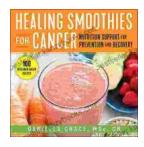
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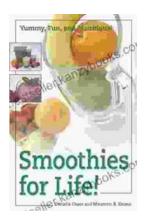
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