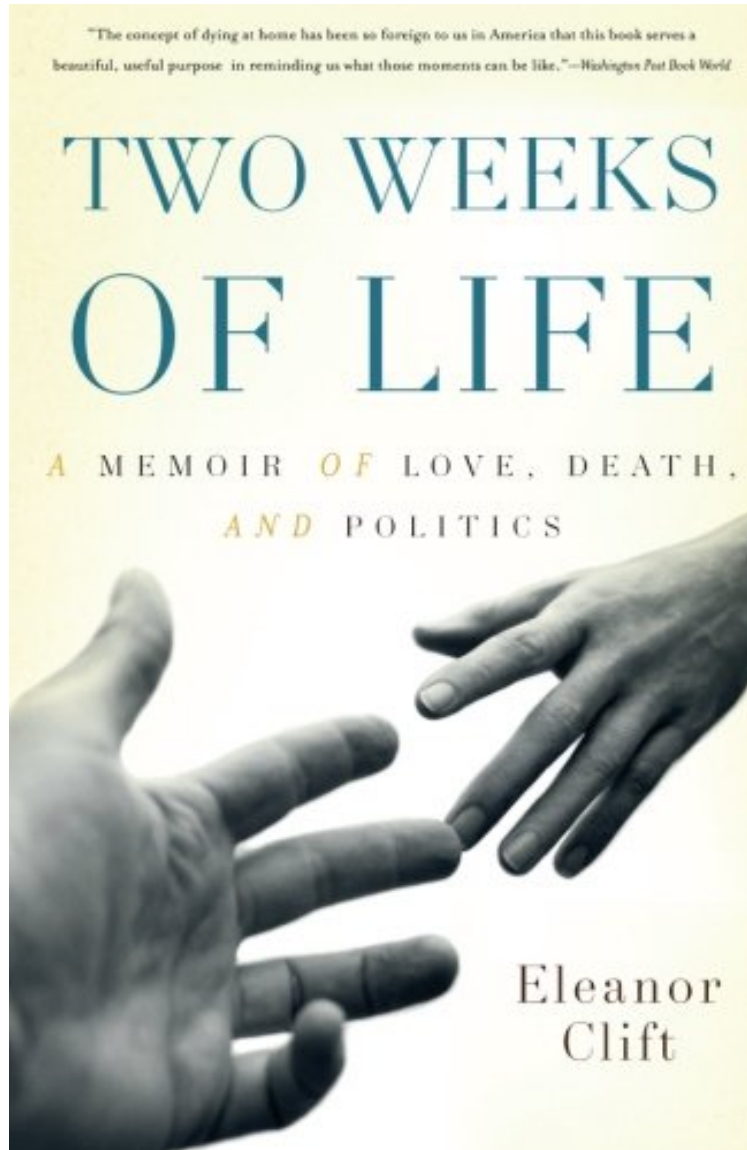


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## Two Weeks of Life: A Memoir of Love, Death, and Politics

*Eleanor Clift*

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#2600882 in Books Eleanor Clift 2009-02-24 2009-02-24Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.63 x .87 x 5.63l, .79 #File Name: 0465012809352 pagesTwo Weeks of Life A Memoir of Love Death and Politics | File size: 34.Mb

**Eleanor Clift : Two Weeks of Life: A Memoir of Love, Death, and Politics** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Two Weeks of Life: A Memoir of Love, Death, and Politics:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. well-written and thought-provokingBy Marilyn, teacher and woodworkerIf you love the way Eleanor Clift stands up to the conservatives on the MacLaughlin Group, you'll enjoy and sympathize with her touching memoir.She details the difficult but compassionate decision many people have to

make.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. End of Life IssuesBy PDMI found Eleanor's book to be a very emotional and poignant story. She points out the struggles we have as a society and individually of dealing with end-of-life issues and appropriate care for the patient.2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. DisappointedBy Curious ReaderI wanted very much to like this book, and I did--but only somewhat.The Terri Schiavo material began to seem like filler to me and made me lose interest in the rest of the book. I followed the Schiavo case rather closely when it was in the news, and I didn't buy this book expecting more re-hash of it--but that's what I got.

While Eleanor Clift cared for her husband, journalist Tom Brazaitis, through the last two weeks of his life, the nation watched a very different death play out as Terri Schiavo entered her final days. In the commonalities and contradictions between these events, Clift probes the underlying questions: How should we handle the decisions surrounding a loved one's death? What if that loved one did not speak to us about these issues?

From Publishers WeeklyIn this elegant, heartrending account of the final choices we make, journalist Clift (Founding Sisters) juxtaposes the death of two people, one close to her and the other a national cause celebre. Clift's husband of 20 years, Tom Brazaitis, also a journalist, was diagnosed with metastatic kidney cancer in 1999, and after undergoing various debilitating treatments, by March 2005 he lay dying in his home hospice. Meanwhile, the fate of Terri Schiavo, a woman in a permanent vegetative state in a Florida hospice, hung in the balance, decided by courts and President Bush himself. Schiavo's husband and parents were battling over the decision to cease feeding her by tube, and their family custody case turned into a crusade led by vociferous fundamentalist Christians. In diary format, Clift recounts the history of Tom's illness and their relationship while weaving in references to the Schiavo case and touching knowledgeably on the history of the hospice movement. The two main narratives work surprisingly well together, the tenderness and pathos of the first serving to illuminate the complex moral issues of the second, and visa versa. The result is a moving portrait. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. "Kirkus s""A powerful mix of opinion, reporting and poignant recollection."John Danforth, former United States Senator from Missouri""Two Weeks of Life" helps us think deeply about about the end of life decisions that the successes of modern medicine have thrust upon us: how and how long to survive under the most dire conditions.""New York Times Book ""Eleanor Clift's reporting on the Schiavo ordeal is thorough, and her tender description of her husband's exemplary death demonstrates how hospice care can help achieve what she calls a 'more peaceful ushering in of the inevitable.'""Booklist""Clift's situation with her husband is an intensely personal one, and readers will feel for the couple as they learn of his diagnosis and their attempts to find extraordinary treatments to cure the cancer that originated in his kidney and then spread to his brain."Helen Thomas, Hearst Newspapers columnist"Eleanor Clift has written a remarkable book about the disgraceful government intervention in the death of Terri Schiavo and brilliantly melded in the death of newspaper man Tom Brazaitis, her husband. She tells the story that gripped the nation and made it deal with the profound questions of life and death. It's a great book."Morton M. Kondracke, author of "Saving Milly: Love, Politics and Parkinson's Disease""As someone who has cared for a dying spouse, I found Eleanor Clift's story of her last days with her beloved Tom moving and enriching--and her account of poor Terri Schiavo's demise, perfectly horrifying. This book will enlighten all who read it--hopefully including our national leaders--about the difference between 'good death' and 'bad death.'""About the AuthorEleanor Clift is a contributing editor for Newsweek and a regular panelist on the nationally syndicated show The McLaughlin Group. She lives in Washington, D.C.[www.EleanorClift.com](http://www.EleanorClift.com)