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Alan Greaves

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GOING STRAIGHT

LIVING WITH ANKYLOSING SPONDYLITIS
a laugh a minute!



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Alan Greaves : **Going Straight: Living with Ankylosing Spondylitis-A Laugh a minute!** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Going Straight: Living with Ankylosing Spondylitis-A Laugh a minute!:

9 of 9 people found the following review helpful. I cried so hard I laughed!By SeattleloverAs a suffer of AS for the past 16 years (12 of which were undiagnosed) I loved this book even as I sobbed through it at 4:00 a.m. This reading and crying and laughing at the same time was quite a feat, I must say, because I read it during a particularly violent flare of uveitis (an inflammatory eye condition related to AS), which left me only one good eye to read with to begin with. Written in a quirky and conversational style, the book relates one person's individual experience with this extremely painful and very disabling disease. One quickly becomes aware that Mr. Greaves is a philosopher of pain, that he has studied at its knee and been rapped on the knuckles repeatedly by it, the sternest of taskmasters. What he has learned is what anyone struggling with a chronic disease must learn: I have it, but I don't have to surrender to it. Although it is a recitation of a life of pain, I didn't find the book depressing at all. Rather, I found it to be very uplifting and encouraging. After mind-numbing, spine-twisting, life-altering pain, Greaves is gracious and thankful and funny as hell. If you have a less debilitating case of AS than the author, you will feel lucky and extremely thankful after you've read it. If you have a worse version of this condition, you will at least feel less alone. Never give up! Never surrender!

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Alan Greaves is a great A.S. companion -- take him along for the ride!By SamLoved this. I have recently been diagnosed with AS (quite belatedly -- I've had it for 30 years), and this is the best first-hand account of the disease I've read. The author's honest and disarming portrayal of his own humanness is strangely comforting, and his attitude of humour, acceptance, and gratitude is inspiring. There's a great line towards the end of the book: "AS is a cruel master; it has bent me to its will. I am what I am because of it, but odd to say, I would not have missed the experiences it has brought me, not for the world." Thanks for that, Alan!

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. A good book to read after researching and learning about AS.By GA PeachI agree with Seattlelover's review of the book. I have suffer with AS for 18 years (15 years misdiagnosed). I can relate to the pain struggle of Mr. Greaves. His debilitation with AS is extreme. I have bad days and better ones. Mr. Greaves is thankful for his support group. I'm blessed to have the support of family, friends and good doctors like him.