



# Stay Close: A Mother's Story of Her Son's Addiction

*Libby Cataldi*

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## **Stay Close: A Mother's Story of Her Son's Addiction** Libby Cataldi

Libby Cataldi was the head of a private school and prided herself on being attuned to the problems her students endured. So how was it that she missed her own son Jeff's descent into addiction, even as he escalated to more and more dangerous drugs? How did Jeff, a loving brother and son, and a star athlete, start using in the first place? And how could Libby help him without risking the rest of her family?

"Stagli vicino", an Italian recovering addict told the author. "Stay close?never leave him, even when he is most unlovable." This is not a book about how to save a child. It is a book about what it means to stay close to a loved one gripped by addiction. It is about one son who came home and one mother who never gave up hope.

*Stay Close* is one mother's tough, honest, and intimate tale that chronicles her son's severe drug addiction, as it corroded all relationships from the inside out. It is a story of deep trauma and deep despair, but also of deep hope?and healing.

He told her, "Mom, never quit believing." And she didn't.

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