



Never Say Never: Finding a Life That Fits

Ricki Lake

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Never Say Never: Finding a Life That Fits Ricki Lake

The world first met Ricki Lake in 1988 as Tracy Turnblad in the film *Hairspray*. Weighing in at just over 200 pounds, the 5'3" teenager challenged what it meant to be an overweight woman in America: *this* fat girl got the guy, was part of the in crowd, and could sing and dance like nobody was watching. When she got her own talk show at twenty-four, Ricki had been transformed. She was a slender, mature woman whose long-running show changed daytime television forever. And when Ricki left it all behind to follow her heart and produce *The Business of Being Born*, we once again saw her in a new light, as a passionate advocate who wasn't afraid to stand up for her beliefs and work for change.

Ricki Lake's life has been a series of rebirths—from fat to skinny, married to divorced, rich to poor, and more. In her intimate, bold, and relatable book, Ricki shows us how her unique life in the spotlight offers wisdom to anyone who has ever struggled in her own skin. She takes us behind the scenes of her troubled childhood—filled with food issues, abuse, and an unabashed yearning for a better life outside of her suburban home. She pulls back the curtain on her talk show and her early days as a “fat actress,” and she shows how she reinvented herself as an author, filmmaker, and much beloved finalist on *Dancing with the Stars*. Ricki weathered near-bankruptcy and an extremely difficult divorce, but, as she writes, life always hands you the unexpected—so you should never say never. Much to her surprise, Ricki has dated some of Hollywood's most eligible bachelors, appeared on the cover of *Us Weekly* magazine in a swimsuit, and fell in love when she least expected it. And now she's ready to talk about it all.

Never Say Never is an inspiring, entertaining, and down-to-earth account of one woman who defied the odds and refused to give up. By trusting her gut and following her heart, Ricki Lake turned an unconventional life into an unparalleled triumph, and this memoir stands as a hopeful, hilarious, and honest exploration of how any woman can do the same.

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