

# Everything to Live For: The Inspirational Story of Turia Pitt

*Turia Pitt*

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***Everything to Live For* is the story of one young woman's survival against extraordinary odds, a testament to the human spirit.**

In September 2011, Turia Pitt, a beautiful 23-year-old mining engineer working her dream job in the far north of Western Australia, entered an ultra-marathon race that would change her life forever. Trapped by a fire in a gorge in the remote Kimberly region, Turia and five other competitors had nowhere to run. Turia escaped with catastrophic burns to 65 per cent of her body.

With too little unburned skin left for skin grafts, Turia was put in an induced coma in the Burns Unit at Sydney's Concord Hospital while her body fought life-threatening infections and her surgeons imported skin from California. She lost the fingers on her right hand and her fingers on her left are partially fused together. She needed a new nose. There have been numerous operation, yet there are many more to come.

While the story of Turia's survival involves many people - other race competitors, her rescuers, medical professionals - at its core is the strong will of Turia herself as she continues the long rehabilitation process with the loving support of her partner, Michael Hoskins, and that of their families in their New South Wales south coast hometown of Ulladulla, where the local community has rallied, raising funds to help with huge medical bills.

*Everything to Live For* is also a love story. Michael, Turia's handsome teenage crush who became the love of her life, now cares for her as they plan a new life together; he is there to encourage Turia in her determination to move forward in an outwardly different body.

The real tragedy of this story is that it should never have happened - because the race should never have happened. The findings against the organisers of the event, Racing the Planet, in a far-reaching parliamentary inquiry by the Western Australian Government in 2012, were damning.

Despite facing a future with multiple challenges, Turia is optimistic. She is driving again and studying for her Master's degree. She is walking in marathons and would one day like to run again. Above all, she wants her story to make a difference: her mission is to make skin a more prominent organ in the repertoire of donated organs.

It is a miracle Turia lived when she was expected to die. But Turia was not ready to die - she had too much to live for.

## Everything to Live For: The Inspirational Story of Turia Pitt Details

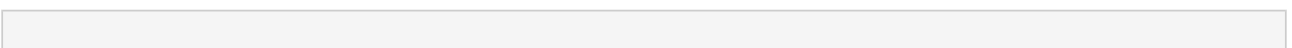
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## **From Reader Review Everything to Live For: The Inspirational Story of Turia Pitt for online ebook**

### **Karleen says**

This book was an intriguing read and I couldn't put it down. I am left dumb-founded by what a giant f\*\*\*-up the event run by RacingthePlanet was, their extreme lack of preparation, emergency planning, accountability and support to label a few points. What else can you label Turia's story as other than inspirational? - the intrinsic motivation she must have to still keep up extreme endurance events let alone other more simple daily activities like reaching our face and brushing our hair that so many of us take for granted. It certainly puts my problems into perspective. Also I must say thank you Turia for commending your Occupational Therapists on a few occasions, it is fantastic for the profession to have recognition and publicity. I read in a media report Turia was writing a second book? I would definitely read the follow up. Will have to make do with media coverage for now. Would recommend this book to everyone, it only took me a day to read and is eye-opening.

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### **Sharon B says**

Sometimes you need a book like this to put your own life and daily challenges into perspective. Turia Pitt is an extraordinary woman who even in the hopeless of moments never allowed herself to give up!

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### **Tania says**

This is an inspirational story of a very determined lady who never gave in to the circumstances of a terrible bungle of planet ? racing. The sad thing was the miss communication and lack of planning and also the lack of ownership and responsibilities of the organisation. I am so pleased that Turia has a wonderful family and friend network behind her as she goes through her life.

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### **Bruce Martin says**

It was ok. It was more a factual account of what happened and the subsequent recovery process. It would have been better if it was a bit more psychological and played more on the feelings and real overcoming of the mind which I believe Turia did have to do.

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### **Suzie Flohr says**

great book written by a great girl

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## **Lisa says**

A fast read, although a little dry in the end as it goes into the legal issues and responsibilities. I really connected with this book having both lived in Kununurra and volunteered at a remote ultra marathon. The honesty of the emotions and the strength of Turia's support make this an inspiring read, although as she says in the book, if she'd been in a house fire rather than an ultra, there wouldn't have been the public interest.

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## **Rose Neild says**

Wow. How could anyone complain about anything after reading this? What an incredible positive warm human being. It is little wonder that such a special soul could compel such love and devotion as turia inspires and receives from her family and her dedicated partner Michael. What more proof do you need that love begets love?

I am proud to be a health professional when I read how positively so many doctors, nurses and allied health professionals have worked with this remarkable young woman to make life special again. These stories are important because they remind us to never give up.

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## **Allison says**

What a story. What a women. While the writing was a bit meh, Turia's inspirational story more than makes up for it.

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## **Kerryn Lawson says**

I give this book 5 stars not because it was awesomely written, because at times it was a little random in how it jumped from past to present. I gave it 5 stars because of the survivors, because of the people who helped the trapped athletes, because of Turia and Kate's families, because I sobbed at what they endured, because now years later Turia is a Mum, because they all have to live with the after effects of that one moment, because I had absolutely no idea what burns patients go through. Take absolutely nothing for granted.

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## **S.C. Karakaltsas says**

This is a journey that should never have happened. One, that no matter what you might think at the end, has multiple effects on many people. That's how it was for me when I read this book. I'd heard a bit about it over the years from the media. Turia Pitt was caught in a bushfire while running a marathon in 2011. Her story unfolding on the pages is gut wrenching. I couldn't help but be caught up in the emotion particularly when I read about her bravery and the steadfast courage and love from her partner, family and friends. No parent wants what happened to Turia for their child. The story unfolds with the help of writer Libby Harkness and the details of what happened and why are clearly explained. It truly is a story of inspiration. For anyone who thinks they can't do something, just read this book and you'll soon see that with the right mindset, you probably can.

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**Lyndal Ruth says**

Could not put it down. Turia's brave spirit was immensely moving and provoked me to rethink the value of appearance. It also exposed the magnitude of errors in RtP behalf.

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**Louise says**

To read Turia's story in her words and be able to put all the news reports and snippets together, I am again horrified by her and her fellow competitors experience. And filled with such joy for Turia, her family and the human spirit and all she has overcome and her new baby. Much love xx

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**Sami Van Der Sterren says**

I read this in about 24 hours. I couldn't put it down, what an amazing story of resilience and determination! I loved it!

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**Daniella Olofsson says**

I may be partially biased writing this, having briefly known Turia many years ago, but I think that it's fair that it only makes this story more powerful. I'll always remember her as the girl with the beautiful smile that rarely left her face.

Reading her book, after all she's been through, she hasn't changed. It's truly remarkable. The positive attitude that she has is still there and still shines through, even in novel format. It's a real wake up call to realize that no matter how shit things can be, you can still find a reason to smile and keep your head up. She is an admirable woman and I am so overwhelmingly impressed by her. Well done Turia, your entire journey is inspirational :)

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**Lisa says**

Sometimes you need a book to put your life into perspective. Turia certainly does that.

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