

Tomorrow Will be Different

Forward and Introduction Summary/Reflection

Joe Biden wrote the forward for the memoir. In this, he described how he first heard of Sarah McBride and her activism. Additionally, the introduction was Sarah's story of her coming out via a Facebook post at twenty-one years old. At the time, she was serving as American University's student body president as a senior. Sarah described that American University and the activists she was working with were extremely supportive and had nothing but loving words.

Chapter 1 Summary/Reflection

Sarah McBride describes her environment as she grows up in Wilmington, Delaware. She goes into detail of her childhood in which she was assigned male at birth. Throughout the chapter, McBride's narration describes their continuous interest in politics, Jack Markell's campaigns, and student body elections of their own. Sophomore winter break, McBride decided it was time for them to live their truth and come out as transgender. Sarah states that her parents took the news as a big shock, however, they were supportive of what they were just told. Her parents did grieve the "loss of their son." But thanks to Sarah's older brother Sean, who was openly gay and married, her parents were able to become even more accepting and put the situation into perspective. All of the above were things in which Sarah was thankful for, but she was still nervous as to what would come later on.

Chapter 2 Summary/Reflection

Sarah begins to describe the next weeks and months after coming out to her parents. She slowly came out to her close friends, family, and Jack Markell. Sarah explained that Jack and his wife embraced Sarah and her transition with open arms and hearts. She also reminded her readers

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how thankful she was to still be aware of some of the privileges she enjoyed. For example, Sarah stated that she enjoys the privilege of being white and affluent putting her in a situation that she has the means to look for another place to live if something does not work out at her current living situation. Lastly, Sarah explained her first date after transitioning with Andy.

Chapter 3 Summary/Reflection

In this short chapter, Sarah describes her journey in receiving an internship opportunity at the White House and changing her name legally. Sarah had always dreamed of interning at the White House from a very young age. Therefore when she got the news that her application was accepted she was ecstatic. Furthermore, she understood that the name on her license would be the name on her name tag. Due to the name still being her birth name, Sarah worked on getting her name legally changed. In Delaware, the requirements are to first publish the declaration of your new name in two different papers and then appear before a judge at a hearing. Sarah did exactly that and her name was instantly approved by the judge. With that, Sarah received her new license exactly two weeks before her first day at the White House. She was able to walk into the first day of her internship and show the Secret Service her new ID. With that she was welcomed with open arms as Ms. McBride.

Chapter 4 Summary/Reflection

Sarah described that she absolutely adored working at the White House in the Eisenhower Executive Office Building (EEOB) section. In this component of the internship, Sarah would be working mostly on social justice projects with White House officials. For example, her cohort was instrumental in helping shape policy for LGBTQ+ rights as well as a

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multitude of other minorities. Additionally, Sarah describes the first time she came out to a coworker. She explained that she was both overjoyed and scared that someone did not know she identified as transgender because she did not want someone to believe she was deceiving them. McBride also went into detail about her having a conversation with one of her bosses in order to help educate him on the subject. Lastly, Sarah briefly described Andy's revelation of being transgender in college.

Chapter 5 Summary/Reflection

In this part of the memoir, Sarah chose to elaborate on her personal and professional life. In her personal life, her relationship with Andy was continuously budding. Professionally, Sarah was working with Equality Delaware on two bills. She was working on marriage equality and the transgender non-discrimination bills. The marriage equality bill would allow same-sex couples to be legally married in the state of Delaware. That was passed and signed into law, the transgender non-discrimination law would legally state that transgender folks cannot be discriminated against in realms such as housing, employment, and public spaces due to their gender identity.

Chapter 6 Summary/Reflection

Sarah described in detail her activism pertaining to the 2013 Transgender Non-Discrimination bill. She along with many other activists continuously lobbied for the bill. Additionally, she met with Senators personally to try to sway them to vote yes. After two excruciating hours of debate in the Delaware Senate, the bill was passed by a vote of eleven yes! It was an extraordinary feat. However, there is still more work to be done. The bill still needs to be passed through the Delaware House of Representatives.

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Chapter 7 Summary/Reflection

Throughout Sarah's journey she has had to deal with many obstacles. One of which being passing the Gender Identity Non-Discrimination Bill. The bill was continuously amended. Many changes were made to the language in order for more Representatives and Senators to agree to the passage. After much opposition from individuals and groups who were against the bill, the bill was finally passed.

Chapter 8 Summary/Reflection

Andy and Sarah are about to start a life altering journey. Not too long after the couple moved in together and Sarah started her full-time job, Andy got the news that he has cancer. It sent the couple into a whirlwind trying to find the best doctors with the help of Sarah's brother Sean. With Sean's help, the couple was able to get an appointment at John Hopkins. Andy went in for surgery two short weeks later, starting a long, hard, tiring journey that will last the next few months.

Chapter 9 Summary/Reflection

Andy and Sarah continue Andy's journey with cancer. Sarah describes the immense amount of worry that went into every doctor appointment and step in treatment. Thankfully, Andy had completed his radiation and chemotherapy leading him to be able to ring the bell. Afterwards, Andy wrote an op-ed in *The Advocate* explaining how fortunate he was that he had good insurance through his company that afforded him the privilege of not being in incredible debt after treatment. His article also encouraged others in the LGBTQIAP+ community to look

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into healthy insurance through their company or the Affordable Care Act 2014. Sarah, working at the same company was also afforded the privilege of having supportive health insurance. She was able to undergo gender affirmation surgery. After recovery, Sarah and Andy went on a trip back to Andy's hometown for a family reunion. There along with a few days before the trip, Andy had developed a consistent cough. This symptom could indicate lung cancer as a result of the cells spreading, as per Sarah's brother. Additionally, Sarah also knew that if it was indeed lung cancer, it could very well be terminal. However, Andy did not know that at this time.

Chapter 10 Summary/Reflection

As a piggyback from the previous chapter, Sarah explains Andy's medical condition. It has been confirmed that Andy's condition has gotten worse and the cancer has spread to his lungs, making it terminal. With that news, Andy immediately asked Sarah to marry him. She graciously accepted and the two began to plan a wedding for the fall. However, over the next two weeks, Andy's condition declined rapidly causing them to move up the ceremony. Friends, family, and community members helped plan the wedding for the couple, paying for everything. So, on the afternoon of August 24 the couple became husband and wife, forever and ever.

Chapter 11 Summary/Reflection

Sarah described the somberness of Andy's funeral and cremation. Additionally, Sarah described the immense progress made in terms of increasing LGBTQ human rights legally across the country. For example, there were Senate bills being brought to the floor in Andy's honor that encompassed protections in housing, health care, job, and many others. In addition, in the months after Andy's passing, the Supreme Court ruled in favor of same-sex marriage on June 26,

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2015. Sarah also described how breathtaking the rainbow lights were in front of the White House. She also expressed her constant yearning for Andy to be there with her and see the progress the country was making.

Chapter 12 Summary/Reflection

The title of this chapter says it all, “There’s that word again, ‘History.’” Sarah McBride made history during the 2016 Democratic National Convention by become the first ever transgender individual to address the national during a major party convention. Sarah described the three weeks leading up to the convention as sleepless nights, very little food, and lots of nerves. She wanted to ensure that she got one message in particular across, that behind every policy decision being made is a real person with feelings that is being impacted. Sarah McBride was and still is an incredible inspiration to so many transgender folks in the world of politics.

Chapter 13 Summary/Reflection

Sarah wrapped up her book describing the recent changes in the United States government and how it impacts the LGBTQ+ community. She states that by electing the current President, many LGBTQ+ youth suicide hotlines were ringing and many were under extreme emotional distress. This was due to the fact that they were unsure as to whether they would still have the human rights they had already fought so hard for. While Sarah explained that she nor anyone else could predict what would happen she did state that we are a community for a reason. She exclaimed that by having each other’s backs, picking one another up, and being there for one another tomorrow will be different.