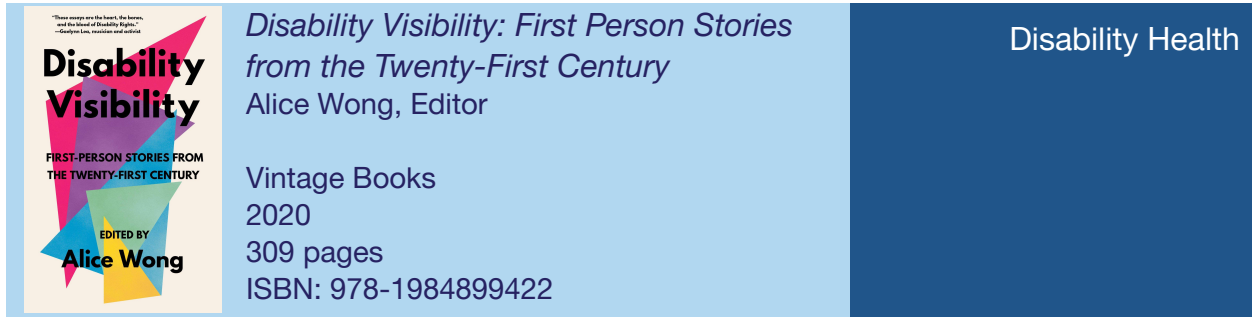


Discussion Guide



Summary

Disability rights activist Alice Wong brings tough conversations to the forefront of society with this anthology. It sheds light on the experience of life as an individual with disabilities, as told by none other than authors with these life experiences.

Questions

1. Wong states, “Staying alive is a lot of work for a disabled person in an ableist society...” What examples does the author discuss of this work in the introduction?
2. Why do you think Alice Wong, the editor of the book, chose to name and organize the essays into the four parts?
3. What stories have stayed with you? Why do stories from everyday people matter?
4. Did you learn any new vocabulary? Were you surprised by any phrases or terms? Why are the words we use important?
5. Alice Wong describes the disability community as, “political, power, resistance and magic.” What examples for each of these categories can you locate or identify from the stories in the book?
6. What are some of the disability rights issues the authors identified? How did people discuss fighting or advocating for their rights?
7. Harriet McBryde Johnson says, “We enjoy pleasures other people enjoy and pleasures peculiarly our own.” What pleasures might be unique for disabled folks?