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[Notes Left Behind: A Touching Self-Publishing Success](#)

Tuesday, January 13th, 2009

Cecelia Ahern's [PS, I Love You](#) is the fictional account of a young widow who receives messages left by her husband who died of a brain tumor. [Notes Left Behind: 135 Days With Elena](#) on the other hand, is not fiction. It is a collection of messages hidden around the house by Elena Desserich, a real little girl who died of brain cancer at only 6 years old.

Elena's parents have self-published her messages as a tribute to their daughter and also as a means of raising funds for [The Cure Starts Now](#), an organization they established to support pediatric brain cancer research.

Elena left literally hundreds of notes hidden around the house as a gift to be discovered after she had gone. For her younger sister Grace, she even left behind "The Kindergarten Survival Guide".

[Notes Left Behind](#) also includes the daily journals Elena's parents posted online to keep family members updated on Elena's progress.

It's incredible to think that one so young, faced with the unthinkable had the heart and the forethought to leave such a precious gift for her family.

Currently only available as a [self-published book](#), [Notes Left Behind](#) has been taken to auction by literary agent, Sharlene Martin so stay tuned for future publication information.

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