## On the Brink: The Coming of AIDS

On the Brink: The Coming of AIDS is a groundbreaking book that tells the story of the early days of the AIDS epidemic. Written by Randy Shilts, the book was published in 1987 and quickly became a national bestseller. It is widely credited with raising awareness of the disease and helping to bring about a national response to the crisis.

## The Early Days of the Epidemic

In the early 1980s, a mysterious new disease began to appear in gay men in New York City and San Francisco. The disease, which later became known as AIDS, was characterized by a weakened immune system that made patients susceptible to a wide range of infections and cancers.



## On the Brink: The Coming of AIDS by Rose Kiser

**★** ★ ★ ★ 4.1 out of 5 Language : English File size : 329 KB Text-to-Speech : Enabled Screen Reader : Supported Enhanced typesetting: Enabled Word Wise : Enabled Print length : 71 pages Lending : Enabled



At first, the medical community was baffled by the new disease. Doctors had never seen anything like it before, and they were unsure of how it was

spread or how to treat it. As the number of cases grew, so did the fear and panic.

Shilts' book tells the story of the early days of the epidemic from the perspective of the people who were living through it. He interviews doctors, scientists, activists, and patients, and he paints a vivid picture of the confusion, fear, and heartbreak that characterized the time.

#### The Rise of Activism

As the AIDS epidemic grew, so did the activism of those affected by the disease. Activists demanded more research into the disease, better treatment for patients, and an end to the discrimination that people with AIDS faced.

Shilts' book played a major role in the rise of AIDS activism. The book's unflinching account of the epidemic helped to galvanize the gay community and led to the formation of numerous AIDS activist organizations.

### **A Lasting Legacy**

On the Brink: The Coming of AIDS remains one of the most important books ever written about the AIDS epidemic. The book's unflinching account of the early days of the disease helped to raise awareness of the epidemic and bring about a national response to the crisis. It also played a major role in the rise of AIDS activism, which has led to significant advances in research, treatment, and prevention.

#### Reviews

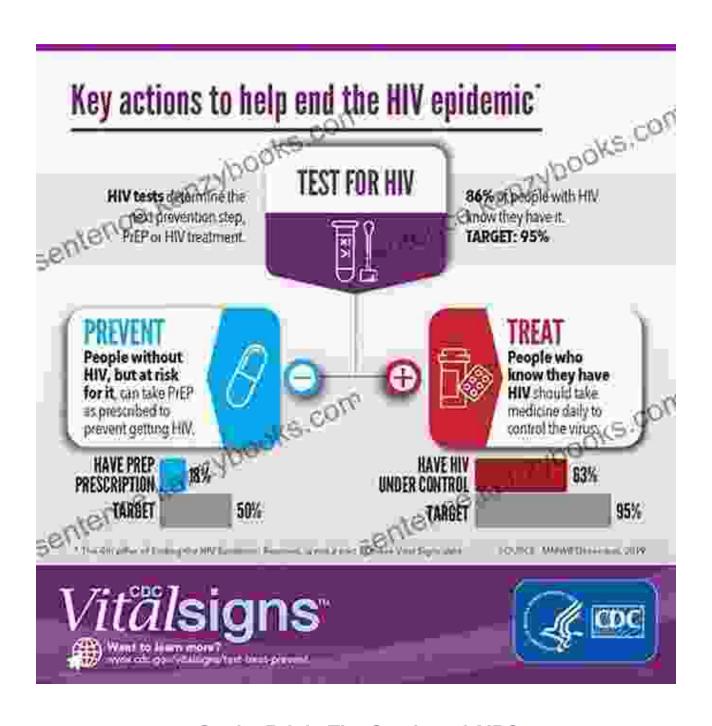
"On the Brink is a powerful and moving account of the early days of the AIDS epidemic. Shilts' writing is clear, concise, and compassionate, and he

does an excellent job of weaving together the personal stories of those affected by the disease with the larger historical context. This book is a must-read for anyone who wants to understand the AIDS epidemic and its impact on the world." - **The New York Times** 

"On the Brink is a groundbreaking book that tells the story of the AIDS epidemic in a way that is both informative and deeply moving. Shilts' writing is clear, concise, and compassionate, and he does an excellent job of weaving together the personal stories of those affected by the disease with the larger historical context. This book is a must-read for anyone who wants to understand the AIDS epidemic and its impact on the world." - The Washington Post

### **Buy the Book**

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