



Book of the Week

***The Answer Is: Reflections on My Life* by Alex Trebek**

Book Review by Maureen Lang

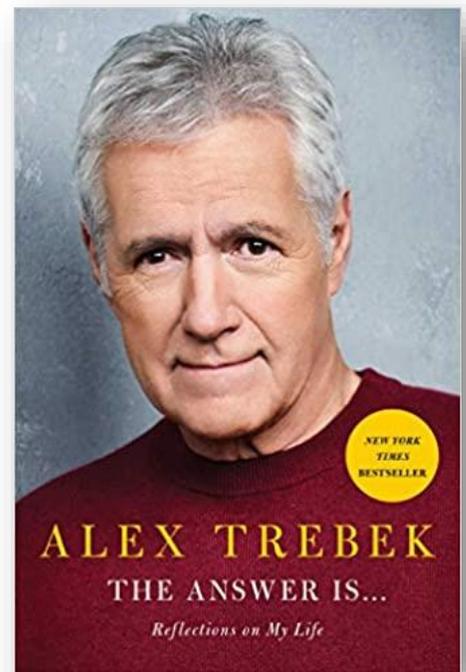
The answer is ...

When any of us hear these three words we are instantly transported to a specific time or spot when we sat in front of the television set with our family or friends playing a friendly, impromptu game of Jeopardy! Now, in the book, "THE ANSWER IS..." by Alex Trebek, we get to meet the famous quiz show host who after thirty-six years has really made this show an American tradition.

Alex Trebek shares his life story in this book, as a memoir and really a farewell, as he walks through battling pancreatic cancer. But do not think this is some mawkish, sad story, because it's not! It is a very practical, to the point series of short chapters about his beginnings in Canada, his road to second tier (his words) stardom, his philanthropy, and his family.

Trebek really is a man who is bright, but probably not brilliant. He is hard working, but also playful. Though he is well known by several generations of viewers, he is not self-absorbed or condescending. Alex demonstrates a common man element that runs throughout the book. For example, how many people of his wealth would we expect to see remodeling a bathroom or repairing things around the house? Alex does, because he likes to prove to himself that he can rise to whatever challenge he meets!

If you want to read an upbeat, positive book to start out the coming year, this book fills the bill. It covers the almost eighty years that Alex Trebek has traveled to find his way into most people's lives. It is a timely and an entertaining read that I am sure you will enjoy.



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