Dancing On Sand

- The gift of time -

André Bek

This book is a statement, it is a thriller, it contains medical facts, but it is essentially a story about love, survival and life itself.

André Bek was a marine commando. Tough, unyielding, 'invulnerable', in other words: a real man. Then his life took a dramatic turn. Through transplantations in a period of twenty years, he was given four times a new kidney. Four times relatives gave him literally a piece of themselves, out of love for André. Four times he accepted reluctantly, yet gratefully.

The sheer fact that all this happened to him and that he by telling his story makes himself very vulnerable, grants this book great authenticity and truth.

From the epilogue by Professor Willem Weimar, Erasmus MC, Rotterdam:

In 'Dancing on Sand' André Bek writes about his life in a personal and vulnerable manner. A life cruelly disrupted by a severe kidney disease, but yet fit to be lived thanks to an active and positive attitude in André and his loved ones. Of course he describes his agony, insecurity and worries that come with a fatal disease. But he manages not to slip into complaining and lamenting. On the contrary, he succeeds in making it very clear to us that we can make a stand against disease and sorrow. Even when one's kidneys are failing. Even in those circumstances life holds more than medical care and hospitals, we can dive to colourful corals, swim amongst tropical fish and dance on sand.

André's story shows that without any doubt he could not fight his kidney disease on his own. Without his 'support group' he would have lost. In fact, his story is not about his disease, not about treatments, such as dialysis and renal transplants, not about hospitals and surgeons. It is a book about solidarity within families, between partners. The book is about the completely natural way in which kidneys are freely donated in order to save the life of a loved one and make this life fully worth living.

Dancing on Sand *The gift of time* André Bek 240 pages Dutch edition ISBN 9789088230004, 240 pages, Published March 2007

Foreign rights available

LezersPoort Publishers PO Box 474 2000 AL Haarlem the Netherlands

More information: <u>dg@lezerspoort.nl</u> T/F +31 (0)23 5313614



