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# Breathing Should Never Be Hard Work: One Man's Journey With Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis





## Synopsis

Robert Davidson was diagnosed with Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis in October 2007 after having difficulties with the fitness test necessary to retain senior level soccer referee status. Rather than give in to the disease and die, he decided to fight and live as normal a life as possible, borrowing from Winston Churchill, the mantra â œNever surrenderâ •. He and his wife, Heather, believe it was this attitude that led to him â œwinningâ • a double lung transplant January 30, 2010, just weeks before he would have died from the disease. This book is about his journey with that life threatening disease. Although it â œsteals away the suffererâ ™s breathâ • Robert travelled to China (finding 12,800 feet up the Himalayas too high) and to the highlands of Scotland for his wifeâ ™s 60th birthday celebration. He describes with great candour, and sometimes humour, the worst symptoms and challenges of Pulmonary Fibrosis. The huge efforts of getting up in the morning, visiting the local pub for â œattitude adjustment hourâ • and just breathing. The relief of the lung transplant that saved his life and the establishment of The Canadian Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation tells us that we should all have hope and never surrender.Hope you enjoy the journey!

### **Book Information**

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#### **Customer Reviews**

Thank you for writing your story! It helped me to remember, after watching my husband fight this disease for 3 years that's there is still another chapter to be written! One of survival! Life after Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis! I will read this often while we battle on. My husband is a fighter! We find so often doctors almost seem reluctant to give you any hope, they don't seem able to face you either at the same time! It's like not talking about the elephant in the room. We've been told the worst, but no one has really ever talked with us on positive out comes of transplant. Hope even a little, for even a little while is so good to feel! The end stage stuff was very hard to read! We've not walked that journey yet! I pray that maybe a cure or treatment will by the grace of God be available before then. We are hanging on to the hope that we are one of the lucky ones, that this disease will be slow in its progress. I will pray for your good health. Also for the family that gave you the gift of life. May god bless and reward you! He already has!

I read this book as my brother, too, was suffering from this horrible disease, (Pulmonary Fibrosis, Familial type) and I had just read the first three chapters, and thought, oh, he needs to read this, too. (as he had been talking about seeking a transplant in the future) So I purchased it, and had it shipped to him. It gave him a lot of hope, and sent him on his way to be tested for a transplant, but alas, it wasn't meant to be, I suppose. He passed away, the same day that he was listed, at UCLA. Thank you Robert for the spark of hope you gave my brother. If only he had been listed much earlier. This disease is the worst possible of all diseases (I think, except for possibly ALS), and has taken away four of our family members. May they all Rest in Peace. Thank you for telling your story, Robert, and I hope your gift of life continues to give you life, for many years to come.

As a lung transplant recipient I would have liked to see more detailed info about his journey through the transplant than his his detailed account of his trips. Got confused and thought it was a travel guide.

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