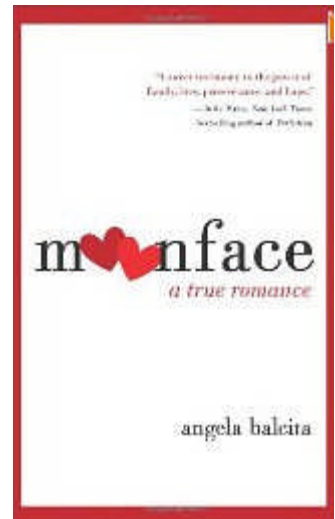


A Review of

***Moonface: a true romance (2011)***

Author: Angela Balcita

As the title suggests, Angela's book is truly a young couple's modern day love story with her three times failing kidney health challenges, a knight in shining armor who supports his love for her in both words and action. In the final chapters, there is a beautiful happy ending as they (now a family of three) ride off to face the future.



An easy engaging read, this is a living kidney donation first hand account of how it is supposed to work and how it sometimes turns out to be more complex than anticipated. The recipient's insightful and very open heartfelt sharing of her many ups and downs, has both humor and pain throughout. Through gifted writing, the reader can "feel" Angela's emotions in facing fears of losing first, her brother's donated kidney, and then her loving partner's donated kidney. Charlie takes it all in loving stride, supporting her in so many ways throughout. But above all this, the really special and deepest part of the love story is their desire to have a baby after the second transplant, a high risk decision but definitely an ever more frequent occurrence these days. In their case the doctor's warnings play out, leading to yet another kidney adventure with many dimensions to it, making this book unique among the many others I have read. Family support sustains through it all, winning out in the life that continues to play out even after the book's story closes.

**Moonface** is a beautiful and moving love story for all, but will be especially valuable reading for anyone considering living donation, either as the donor or the recipient. When it comes to making a decision about giving birth after a transplant, this is a must read, but don't expect a simple lesson that will provide your own answer. Each and every life is unique, so this story is just one of many possible outcomes. There is a win/lose example of what can happen, both good and risky with outcomes that will both touch the heart and leave you with serious concern, as it should.

Note: This softback book is available on-line at Amazon.com, BarnesandNoble.com and Borders.com

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**Reviewer bio:** Jim Gleason, receiving his own heart transplant Oct. '94, retired after 37 years with Unisys Corporation in 2005, is a volunteer with NKF, UNOS, TRIO and the Gift of Life Donor Program in Philadelphia, as well as a nationally recognized speaker and author. Jim's own book, **A Gift from the Heart**, is offered in thanks to his donor family and can be obtained on a CD without cost by contacting him at GleasonJim@aol.com