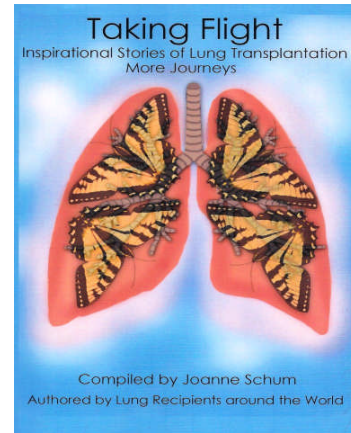


A Review of

Taking Flight: Inspirational Stories of Lung Transplantation - More Journeys (2011)

Compiled by Joanne Schum

Authored by Lung Recipients around the world



In this second volume of lung transplant stories (the first was her 2002 compilation of the similar title, *Taking Flight*), Joanne Schum, herself a lung transplant recipient now out 14 years, gathers another 166 stories of inspiration that should be the bible of required reading for anyone associated with lung transplantation, either as a patient, a candidate, a family support member or medical professional.

Leading off with several introductory chapters written by medical professionals that offer fascinating insight into the lives of those who work with the miracle of lung transplantation and then research into its future that serve as background to the many recipient stories that follow. In themselves they would have made the whole reading of this book worthwhile but here they are only the icing on top of the cake, as it were.

Each short story, most of a single large format page in length, is written by a lung recipient or donor family offering insight into their personal challenges with this very difficult medical environment, offering testimony to the success of the miracle of lung transplantation in overcoming the many lung related (often deadly) diseases. For anyone considering their options in dealing with lung issues there are many, many stories of triumph for each disease, offering inspiration when facing stressful and scary decisions of whether to opt for joining the waiting list. From lifetimes of breathlessness to short term illnesses, from the youngest to the older, there is something for everyone in this amazing compilation of stories of determination, resilience and triumph over seemingly insurmountable odds.

Due to the nature of each story being complete unto its own, the reader can pick any page and start reading. But, if you choose to do that, first, read the opening chapters which in turn are supported by the actual life sharings that follow in those individual articles. There is so much hope in the near future that medical technology will continue its advance to the point where a waiting list for donated lungs will be history. Lungs will be routinely maintained ex-vivo and repaired/tested before implant as is already being done and described in Dr. Egan's introduction.

Note: This paperback book is available on-line at [Amazon](http://www.amazon.com). Visit the author's Facebook site at <http://www.facebook.com/groups/245756329913> for more about lung transplant and post-transplant life discussion.

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. His 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