"Pictures are all that's left of my little girl.
I've written this to keep her story alive so someday children
like her can live."—Frank Deford

ALEX

The Life of a Child

FRANK DEFORD

A father recalls his daughter's courageous
struggle with cystic fibrosis

Frank Deford

Alex: The Life of a Child

Alexandra Deford, a precious and precocious woman, was just eight years old when she died in 1980 following a battle against the debilitating effects of cystic fibrosis, the number-one genetic killer of children. A fresh introduction contains info on the most recent cystic fibrosis study, and a touching postcript reveals how the Deford family came to terms with the increased loss of Alex. Her poignant and uplifting story touched the hearts of thousands when it had been first published and converted to a memorable television movie. I noticed from a female who became a pediatric nurse after reading the reserve." It's terribly dramatic, but they literally say that." Deford says. "It's tremendously gratifying if you ask me. Rarely does a week pass that I don't get a letter about this book. People leave things at her grave. They do. I have people show me that she changed their lives. "Invariably, and happily, there's usually somebody at each appearance who either brings that book or wants to chat about their link with cystic fibrosis.Whenever he speaks, sportswriter Frank Deford knows people will bring articles for him to sign. Hearing from people like that means more if you ask me than anything. But what makes him happiest is definitely when someone attends a sports-oriented lecture and provides a duplicate of Alex: THE LIFE SPAN of a Child for him to sign.

The story of a girl by her father Alex Deford was created in 1971 and died just 8 years later on in 1980. A good book. Alex: The Life of a Child is the tale of her existence as informed by her father. When I was 12 or 13 I bought a copy of the book at a yard sale. You can find other ailments and disabilities which are just as deadly. For reasons uknown I really loved the story of Alex. The author enables you to into those final moments of her existence, how she faced them & It really is touching and informed with such honesty and heartbreaking love. Life expectancy of people with adequate pancreatic function could be more than 50 years. About Alex. an absolute must read.. The unavailability makes no sense, since this is an extraordinary film. what it is like to watch your child die. Actually abbreviated, it was staggering. I saw it film later on, and still later, I came across and bought the whole book. Since that time, few January 19th's, the anniversary of her death, have passed that I have not thought of Alex and the family members she left behind. I would do her memory even more justice if I remembered her birthday instead, but her father didn't compose of her birth just how he do of her death.Frank Deford is a great and prolific writer of both truth and fiction and who makes personal to the reader every event he shares of Alex's life and death. Sad but touching I read this publication as a child and bought the ebook last year. As he stated, she got spent so much of her little existence dying that she wasn't going to miss the final action when it arrived. He paints nearly every hour of this last day of her life therefore vividly that I wondered if he was taking notes since it happened; he do, after all, keep an individual journal (no, I don't believe that he held a notebook by the medial side of his dying baby's bed, only that he wrote it in such detail that it was as if he had done so.) These days, a lot of people who die of lengthy, drawn-out ailments die peacefully, only semi-conscious, doped up to the gills against unbearable discomfort. But though Alex might have been in pain, death didn't take her peacefully. Never feel sad for yourself. I must say i want to view it again since it has been 31 years, but it doesn't appear to be obtainable anywhere. Perhaps he didn't indicate to create her death even more poignant than her existence, but it will be impossible to play it down. It was difficult enough to learn when I wasn't however a parent.We're able to wish that types of childhood ailments were written about as beautifully. Strangely, it's not the version I remember reading when I was youthful.Alex's story made me alert to cystic fibrosis, to the point that We felt compelled, once We was gainfully employed, to begin with contributing several dimes a season to the CF Base. It's never been very much, but neither gets the base ever came back an uncancelled check if you ask me claiming it was inadequate to accept.Other parts of the story produce strong impressions, such as her ability to act and mimic anything she saw in a TV or movie display; she could have been an actress, or maybe a dancer, as she liked to twirl around with grace and energy, "imaginating" a global in which nobody suffered pain or death or had to do therapy. The deep and serious discussions with people beyond her family circle regarding loss of life, God and Heaven and her love of jokes and humor and silliness. Her obsession with beauty and jewelry, and the outrageous insensitivity with which she was treated several times by chilly and heartless doctors. It isn't also about cystic fibrosis; It became a lot more meaningful after I became a parent. I examine it multiple moments. He states at one point that "some diseases, even some fatal types, don't put too many demands on the family of the patient." I felt like this wasn't quite a fair statement. If someone you care about has a disease, particularly a possibly fatal disease to one's child, the demands of just living day to day with the understanding that you will never have the ability to neglect your child's a healthy body is a pretty difficult burden to carry, not forgetting the 'round-the-clock effort devoted to simply making the kid comfortable. i read it many years . I can't imagine he would truly plan to dismiss additional fatal illnesses children suffer as being easier to cope with.But really, this story is not actually about sick children. Thankfully, I can say that today, through my very own encounter with doctors and hospitals, the medical staff in the pediatric departments deal with their young individuals with great respect and compassion. it really is about Alex, and there is only ONE Alex Deford. When you are feeling down grab this book and find out what you are actually missing. the family. Movie version is nowhere found I saw the original broadcast of the film edition and am still overcome with emotion whenever I believe about any of it. The CF Foundation in addition has benefited. So, thank you Alex, for living, and many thanks, Frank Deford, for sharing your daughter with the rest of us. She worried about the effect of her death upon her family members... This version of the book is abridged. I think they updated it which is the one I recall. Deford's debate of how they came to adopt their daughter, Scarlett. That is a wonderful publication, but the Kindle edition can be abbreviated. Alex was very brave & A real tear jerker & glimpse into lifestyle with CF. Very good book. This is actually the existence of Alex, a little woman who dies of cystic fibrosis at age group 8. It discusses the disease, what it does to the kid, & You don't gain anything meaningful from it. Having hardly ever met her, other people inspired by this reserve or the movie, check out her grave site and also have joined the plight searching for an end to CF. I recommend obtaining a version in print. sensible beyond her years. It's been years since I last browse it and it is still a great story. I first discovered this story in the December 1984 Reader's Digest in the featured book section. She died on January 19, 1980, sitting directly and eyes wide open, with her parents, Carol and Frank at her aspect. A good book. Especially her death. And then still even more, when my daughter was identified as having a brain tumor. Many key parts are left out, including Mr. This must be the original. She acquired Cystic Fibrosis. Sad but touching. A Sentimental Read This account is a poignant appear at a father-daughter relationship as a child born with cystic fibrosis struggles and ultimately loses her battle at the age of eight. Frank Deford is definitely a former Sports Illustrated article writer, and a previous basketball star who became a article writer in a far more personal way.. This Unforgettable Story Will Squeeze Your Heartstrings and Make Your Eyes Moist and Glisten With Sadness, Joy and Awe! Alexandra Miller Deford was created on October 30, 1971. A genuine tear jerker - not really for the faint of center. The struggle and heartbreak as put down on the net is overwhelming .Alex: THE LIFE SPAN of a kid was compiled by her dad, and published in 1983. I've not read any various other books or content articles by Frank Deford; however, my guess is normally that this may be the most poignant tale he has every informed. like straight waterworks via my face Among the saddest books I've ever read. A lot of her childhood friends were influenced by Alex and so are practicing the field of health care. Over the years this book has been used in schools to teach children as young as a decade old. How it steadily takes over someone's life until you'll find nothing left.Relating to my study, CF is primarily a disease that is much more prevalent with Caucasians and "over 90% of the affected infants now survive further than one year."Studies show "the life expectancy of cystic fibrosis patients has been increasing in the last 40 years. I recommend reading it. The tears I shed as I began to read the 1st handful of chapters just made me recognize that life is so precious and when parents have a child born to them and then have to be told that the present of life is going to be brief is something nobody should have to hear. She was a poster child for CF. She was an angel of a child. Her brother, Christopher was her idol. A lot more than anything she wished to live and be free of CF. Abridged.She lives on in the hearts and minds of those who know her story. Alex would be 41 now, experienced she survived, yet she'll permanently be the brave litttle lady who lives in the web pages of this unforgettable tale told by her dad in a manner that will squeeze your heartstrings and make your eyes moist and glisten with sadness, joy and awe.Celebrate and enjoy the life span of an angel! mandatory read. I do hope that I'm mistaken in his meaning of this statement. If you adores children and their indomitable spirits, this is a good publication to learn... i read it a long time ago when it initial came out, but wanted to read again once the author Frank De Ford passed away. She didn't battle it, but neither do she go quietly. I read this publication or a single similar titled "A WOMAN NAMED ALEX". I hardly ever found a publication that moved me so much or the like of a dad for his daughter. Five Stars Love ?? this book, wish we could order the film. The story as informed by the father is one that you will remember as I do today. I have the book on my bookcase facing outward so that The little girl named Alex is usually smiling at me. Her and the loving family that she acquired, fought the battle on her behalf life on a daily basis. Her existence was taken by a genetic disorder, Cystic Fibrosis (CF), an incurable monster that ravaged her body and took everything from her except her amazing impact on others and the gut-wrenching tale of her lifestyle."Alex lived, adored and set a good example for the age range. Those parents that provide all the love caring for a disabled child will be the most blessed parents on the planet. I understand that there surely is, as he says, no value in losing your son or daughter. But because the relax of us experienced the nice fortune to stumble onto his story of Alex, many, plenty of others have found meaning within their own lives due to Alex's life, however brief it had been. She was awake and aware to the very last second of her brief life. This is heartbreaking since this is such a powerful movie that I wish I could show to others.. I know this should be a review of the book, but there's nowhere else to touch upon the movie. Yes, I'll get the publication.As a frail baby, when Alex was diagnosed with CF, she was not expected to live a lot more than 5 weeks, but she was a fighter who struggled to be as normal as possible, under no circumstances using her disorder as a justification for not participating. Having the ability to somewhat relate to this story on an individual level, it produced me cry ; like straight waterworks coming from my face. Love this book so very much and love just how it was told Five Stars ????????? Five Stars A beautiful story written by her dad. The reading of the book should be done by itself and without any interruptions. Alex and her dad are together again..