

Reviews on Facing Death

“A rare and beautiful dialogue on liberating death. Through the wisdom of our grief, we enter into an existential sense door, where death itself becomes a festival of wonder, a heightened radical ride into the heart of the ever-present future, and beyond. This is a must read for every person on earth who cares about the future of life and death.”

~ Jeannine Davies, PhD, Psychologist, Author, Relational Dharma

Facing Death: An Intimate conversation with a Buddhist and a Sufi, Alan Clements and Reverend Bodhi Be

For most of us, there are individuals in our lives who have had a profound effect on us. They may be family members, friends or teachers who offer to assist us on this often challenging, or even perilous life journey. There are also those who have an immeasurable effect on the lives of thousands by offering their wisdom, guidance, and the precious pearls garnered from their personal life experiences. Alan Clements and Reverend Bodhi Be have done this and much more, over many decades; influencing and altering the course of countless lives in ways that have uplifted and inspired a deeper sense of the reality we are all immersed in, and the inevitability that we all face.

Alan Clements is a former Buddhist monk, human rights activist, investigative journalist and meditation teacher. In recent years, he has dedicated his attention to personal and planetary transformation, and to the study of consciousness. Faced with the great challenges in the world today, he encourages us to listen to life - the core intelligence of nature and the human heart. Alan has authored 12 books including *“A Future to Believe in”* and *“Wisdom for the World”*.

Reverend Bodhi Be, an ordained Sufi minister, is the executive director of Doorway Into Light, a nonprofit organization on Maui that operates Hawaii’s only certified green funeral home, as well as The Death Store a community resource center in Haiku. The Reverend is a funeral director, workshop leader and end-of-life bereavement counselor.

In this remarkable book, entitled *“Facing Death”*, the two men have fused their depth of wisdom with a deeply personal acknowledgment that is essential for anyone ready to accept the simple fact that one day we will die. There is an irony in that it reads like a casual conversation between two old friends, and yet the dimensions covered between them are as sacred as reading a spiritual text. Both bring an enlightened view to a potentially sobering conversation, and even share a touch of humor along the way. The spontaneity, intimacy and honesty of the conversation is a refreshing alternative to the more often solemn discussions that surround this topic. This book is a rare find and ignites the reader to navigate a terrain from the viewpoint of these two men, who are both offering a perspective grounded in the current reality of their personal lives.

Bodhi, who has had significant experience in support of the dying, has the insights and tools to share what he has learned from his experience over the past 16 years. And Alan, who has been told by his cardiologists, all exceptionally skilled in their field, that the recently discovered severely enlarged ascending aortic aneurysm, is placing him at the precipice of dying at any moment. The doctors use the term “like a ticking time bomb” to convey the urgency of his circumstances. This communion of spirits in this conversation conveys an immediacy in this meaningful dialog.

Both men have deep insights on the topic of death, from different camera angles, and yet they share in a way that offers the reader a portal to a revolutionary way of illuminating this, all too often, delicate subject.

With this book, Thanatology may become a more familiar word within the general public and a source of interest and contemplation. It is the study of death and the practices associated with it, including the study of the needs of the terminally ill and their families.

In closing, I have had the immense good fortune of knowing both men for over 30 years and have been the beneficiary of their loving kindness, remarkable intelligence and heartfelt compassion, at a time when I was at my own edge and facing the possibility of dying. Their clarity and counsel provided a guidepost to both move forward in life, while simultaneously offering the liberating support to release my body when it is my time.

My respect for these two gentlemen is enormous. I am honored and take genuine pleasure in recommending this most meaningful book; one that is relevant to anyone willing to explore the nature and great mystery of impermanence.

~ Summer Richardson

Alternative health practitioner, Freedom of Speech activist, Artist and nature lover from Maui, Hawaii

“The Death Store is going to respect our new culture where we can bring death out of the shadows, and Bodhi is our leader. Every time you think of dying, think of this store.”

~ Ram Dass

(at The Death Store Grand Opening on Maui October 2012)

“Facing Death” is available for Pre-order Now, on Amazon, Barnes & Noble and many other online booksellers worldwide.

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