

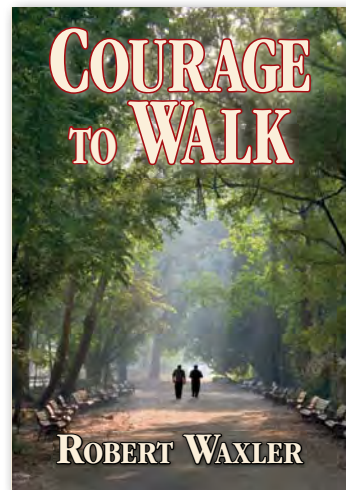
For Immediate Release:

Courage to Walk — by Robert Waxler, pub. by Spinner Publications

PUBLICATION DATE: JUNE 15, 2010 ♦ ISBN 978-0932027-64-1 ♦ TRADE PAPER

A father's memoir of his son's battle with a crippling illness, tells a family tale filled with fear and hope-- a heartfelt story of medical intrigue laced with the magic of poetry and meditation.

NEW BEDFORD, MASS. Life is good for young Jeremy Waxler. He has just passed the law boards and is working at his uncle's law firm in New Bedford, Massachusetts. On his 33rd birthday, he celebrates with his parents, Bob and Linda, enjoying stuffed lobster at the Venus de Milo. Just three days later, a stunning turn of events starts to unfold: a panicked Jeremy calls to say he cannot move from his bed. He is paralyzed. So begins the whirlwind of hospitals and doctors, medical procedures and recovery, described in Bob Waxler's new memoir, *Courage to Walk*.



LIST: \$14.00 ♦ 144 PP. ♦ 6" X 9"

The story centers on Bob and Linda's return to a dark place they remember all too well. Having already endured the loss of one son, they are not willing to suffer another tragic blow—and neither is Jeremy. Anxious but determined, the family launches into a courageous journey battling formidable odds to make sure Jeremy returns to his friends and to the courtrooms that he loves.

Waxler draws on a wide range of poetry, from Ovid to William Blake, to deepen the spirit and meaning of this family tale. The unique use of poetry, combined with the vivid descriptions of the family's journey, ensure every reader will become emotionally invested in Jeremy's recovery.

From the moment the Waxlers learn of Jeremy's strange and sudden illness to the very last page, *Courage to Walk* is a gripping and intimate read. The story tells us something important about compassion and the strength of the human spirit. In the process, it demonstrates how beauty and truth, faith and courage can help all of us in times of crisis. Relying on the strength of their relationships as much as on the team of medical experts that labor over Jeremy's recovery, the Waxler family endures.

Robert Waxler is an English professor at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth. He is also the co-founder of the university's Center for Jewish Studies as well as of the alternative sentencing program, Changing Lives Through Literature. In addition to *Courage to Walk*, Waxler has co-authored the memoir *Losing Jonathan* (2003) and *Finding a Voice* (2006).

This is a very important story, beautifully told. . . . [It] reminds us that a parent's love for a child truly knows no bounds.

– Elizabeth Mehren, Professor of Journalism, Boston University, author of *Born Too Soon*

Bob Waxler offers a compelling story that reads at times like a medical thriller, at times like a philosophic meditation, and at times like a family tale of fear and hope. . . . I am moved by the way the poetry throughout the story allows us to glimpse how close to a miracle this whole experience really is.

– Dr. Al Rabson, Deputy Director National Cancer Institute at NIH