

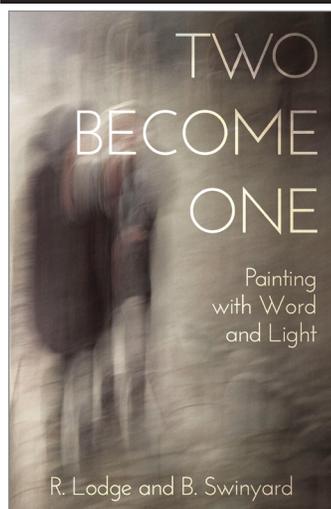


Matador®

POETRY AND PHOTOGRAPHY

WWW.TROUBADOR.CO.UK

PRESS RELEASE



TWO BECOME ONE

Richard Lodge & Brian Swinyard explore the meaning of life as they face their own diagnoses in an innovative poetry book.

What is a life well lived? How do you cope with those moments when your whole life seems to come crashing down around you? Can there be such a thing as a good death? These are the questions that Richard Lodge and Brian Swinyard attempt to answer in their blend of poetry and photography in *Two Become One*. Having both been diagnosed with illnesses, the authors have teamed up with The Motor Neurone Association and Sarcoma UK to share half of the proceeds and spread comfort to those looking for answers.

"We have both been diagnosed with devastating diseases, Motor Neurone Disease and Sarcoma, but we have chosen not to let that define us," explains Richard and Brian. *"Rather we would share with the readers our joy in the celebration of life and the power of love and friendship. In part, this is a fragment of our own journey, to deal with the effects of our diseases, the diagnosis, the treatments and the ultimate outcomes and how we have faced these challenges and sought to find comfort and guidance for ourselves and our families, for none of us ever deal with or face these issues alone."*

Consultant Cancer Surgeon, humanist and poet, Richard Lodge, shares a lifetime of experience and dedicated practice focussed on helping patients and their families. His search for a simplified exposition of the role of love, endurance, empathy and dignity was made even more poignant when he was diagnosed with the terminal illness, Motor Neurone Disease (MND or ALS). However, life nor art is one-dimensional. It is here that Professional Photographer, International Judge, Lecturer and Tutor, Brian Swinyard, has produced images that have emotional content whilst questioning the traditional concepts of 'What Is' and 'What Reality Means'. This too was thrown into sharp focus by his diagnosis and subsequent treatments for Sarcoma, a rare form of cancer that is all too often life-limiting.

The authors have teamed up with the two aforementioned charities that work tirelessly to raise awareness of the diseases that they represent, fundraise for research into the causes and treatments of those diseases and provide information and support to patients and families so affected: *"We are proud to have joined with them to support their missions and hope, in some small way, to have helped in raising awareness and showing that there is life, love and hope even in the face of such adversity."*

Recognising that the fusion of word and image can transcend a mere record and amplify each other, the two friends have produced this tribute to the human spirit. They offer their thoughts and those of much more ancient philosophies on life, love and circumstance and how to approach them with dignity, forbearance, tolerance and delight.

RELEASE DATE 28 October 2018

ISBN: 9781789015720 Price: £ 10.99



FOR AUTHOR INTERVIEWS, REVIEW OR COMPETITION COPIES, ARTICLES, PHOTOS OR EXTRACTS

SOPHIE MORGAN

TEL: 0116 279 2299 EMAIL: SOPHIE_MORGAN@TROUBADOR.CO.UK

TROUBADOR PUBLISHING LTD, 9 PRIORY BUSINESS PARK, KIBWORTH, LEICESTER LE8 ORX