

Two Small Footprints in Wet Sand: The Uplifting True Story of a Mother's Brave Quest to Save Her Daughter

By Anne-Dauphine Julliand



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The empowering and inspiring true story of a parent devoted to making the most of her child's short but beautiful life.

On the day lovely little Thaïs turned two, her mother, Anne-Dauphine Julliand, discovered that her child had an untreatable genetic disease, the rarest of the rare, a silent disorder that would advance, slowly paralyze her daughter's nervous system, and eventually take her life. Metachromatic leukodystrophy—MLD—was the diagnosis. There was no cure.

Two Small Footprints in Wet Sand is the true tale of a blissfully happy little girl, and of family, friends, and the medical community united to define life by its beauty rather than its length. In this inspiring and honest book, Julliand explores not only the pain, exhaustion, discouragement, and burdens, but also the promise of happy and fulfilling existence for Thaïs, and the quest to "add life to days when we cannot add days to life." With her "exceptional insights" (*Elle*), Julliand "charts suffering of mythic proportions, [and] the lessons gleaned from her daughters prove incredibly wise. Unflinching and inspirational, [*Two Small Footprints in Wet Sand* is] a parent's powerful tale of finding love and understanding beyond the senses."—*Kirkus Reviews*

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Editorial Review

Review

Reviews for the international bestseller Two Small Footprints in Wet Sand

"Though the author's account charts suffering of mythic proportions, the lessons gleaned from her daughters prove incredibly wise. Unflinching and inspirational, a parent's powerful tale of finding love and understanding beyond the senses."

—Kirkus Reviews

"Exceptional insights into life." —*ELLE*

"A story carried by the incredibly tranquility of spirit of a mother put to the test." —*Le Point*

"An extraordinary autobiographical account."

About the Author

Anne-Dauphine Julliand was born in 1973 in Paris. After studying journalism, she went on to work as a journalist. In 2006, she learned that her second child, Thaïs, was suffering from a rare disease and didn't have much time left to live. She wrote this book after the overwhelming two years in which she and her husband, supported by all those around her, took care of Thaïs. At first, she wrote it for herself, her husband, and her children. *Two Small Footprints in Wet Sand* became a publishing phenomenon that swept France off its feet and is now a bestseller there.

Adriana Hunter is the translator of works by Catherine Millet, Genevieve Jurgensen, Amelie Nothomb, Viviane Moore, and Louis Sanders.

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