

Second Chance



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Book Notes
Title: Second Chance
Subtitle: The story of a Father's Faith, a
Mother's Strength, and a Child's will to live
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Excerpts from the Book

Prologue

My courage and strength were waning; I knew my job was to protect my son but I no longer knew how. A week without sleep, my own illness, deep feelings of guilt, and the wild careening from one crisis to another had left me bereft of the hope I needed to provide strength for my son and my family. Even the adrenaline of the latest crisis was not enough to sustain me for long. We were drained. Where would we find the courage now to brace ourselves so that we could sustain him? Where would we find the wisdom to continue to make life and death decisions for our son?

An intensive care nurse walked in to the room. I wish I could remember her name, but I don't. As I rose to meet her, I had one dreadful question on my mind. For the second time since this nightmare started I asked this question, and this time I would not be denied: "Is my son going to die?" My wife and I will never forget what happened next.

Chapter Eleven

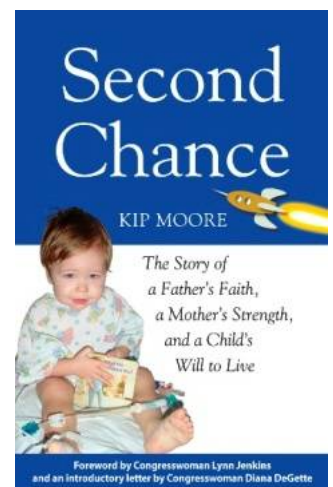
My heart went cold and stopped beating. I could not fathom why she would ask such a thing, but I saw the look of mortal fear in my wife's eyes and knew she was serious.

"We are being selfish by making him go through all this pain; we're keeping him alive just for us."

Maybe we should just let him die?

I stood there with trembling legs facing my wife and son. I didn't think I had the strength to rise above such intense misery. For the second time since Chance's stay in the hospital began, I knew fate required me to dig deep within to rescue my wife from utter hopelessness.

We do not let kids die...We do not let kids die...



Foreword by Kansas Congresswoman Lynn Jenkins and an introductory letter by Colorado Congresswoman Diana DeGette.