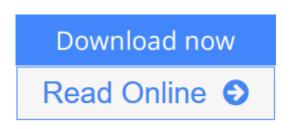


To the Edge and Back: My Story from Organ Transplant Survivor to Olympic Snowboarder

By Chris Klug



To the Edge and Back: My Story from Organ Transplant Survivor to Olympic Snowboarder By Chris Klug

Displaying faith, courage, and perseverance, snowboard racer Chris Klug battled for years to have his "extreme" sport accepted in the mainstream. He rose through the World Cup ranks and won a bronze medal at the 2002 Winter Olympics less than two years after undergoing a lifesaving liver transplant. Not since Lance Armstrong's It's Not About the Bike has a stricken athlete's story been as poised to transcend the sport. In 1996, during snowboarding's World Cup season, Chris was diagnosed with primary sclerosing cholangitis-the same disease that would cause the death of his childhood hero, football great Walter Payton. His four-year wait for a donor came to an end when his rapidly failing liver prompted doctors to move him up on the transplant list. With the shooting death of a thirteen-year-old boy, Chris was given the organ that gave him a second chance at life. From his youth as a high school football hero, to his campaign for snowboarding's acceptance, and through surgery, recovery, and Olympic glory, every setback and victory in Chris Klug's ride is riveting. To the Edge and Back will be cherished as a story of an athlete who represents the best of the human spirit.

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Editorial Review

Review

After TO THE EDGE AND BACK, don't be surprised if your own desire . . . to aim a little higher becomes undeniable. -- U.S. Snowboarding News

Chris Klug has shown the courage, resolve, and faith that make me proud to call myself a fellow transplant recipient. -- Sean Elliot, former NBA star and transplant recipient

Chris Klug is a model for us all with his courage, perseverance, and will to live.... A true American hero. --Tommy G. Thompson, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

About the Author

Chris Klug is the first athlete ever to win an Olympic medal after organ transplant surgery. He has compiled four World Cup victories, three Grand Prix wins, five national titles, a U.S. Open victory, a bronze medal in the 2002 Winter Olympics, and is in training for the 2006 Winter Olympics in Turin, Italy. He was one of the eight Olympians chosen to carry the Ground Zero flag into the 2002 Winter Games Opening Ceremonies. He lives in Aspen, Colorado. Steve Jackson, from Evergreen, Colorado, is the author of LUCKY LADY, which won the 2003 Colorado Book Award for History.

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