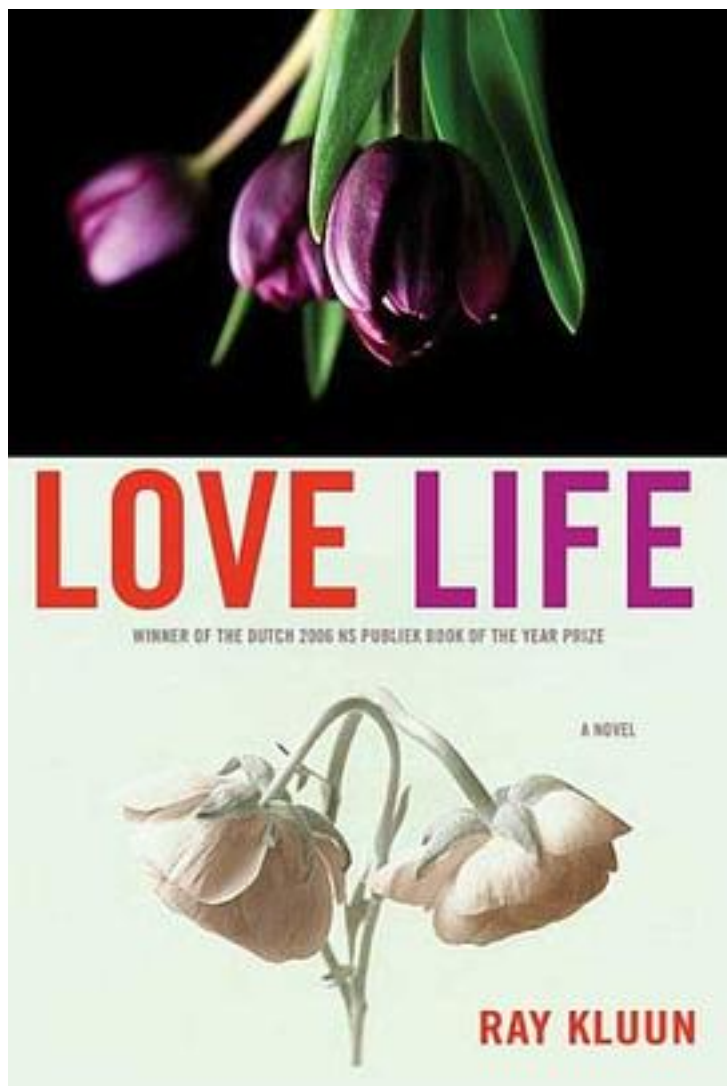


Love Life



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著者:Ray Kluun

出版者:Pan Books

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In the Dutch Kluun's brutal roman à clef, Dan and Carmen van Diepen are successful professionals in their 30s, raising their young daughter in Amsterdam's suburbs while still partying zestfully, when Carmen's diagnosis with an aggressive form of breast cancer puts her life on hold. Dan, who narrates, soon rages against the incompetence and insensitivity of the doctors treating Carmen, and the couple alternate between manic joy and terror as they realize Carmen won't live to see their daughter, Luna, grow up. At the same time, confirmed club hound Dan pursues numerous infidelities, comments on his greatly diminished affection for his stricken wife and offers few apologies. As Carmen grows increasingly ill, they learn to forgive each other's faults, and Dan takes on the heavy burden of Carmen's decline. The final chapters find Carmen, Dan and their colorful cohort of yuppie friends pulling together to support Carmen's decision to end her life with dignity. Kluun's novel was a bestseller in Europe, and the translation is poignant, humorous and very graphic on the cancer. Kluun's take on marriage may be too European for the States, but his lacerating portraits of the medical establishment will certainly hit home. (Aug.)

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In this wrenching, humorous, compelling novel based on his wife's death at 36 from breast cancer, Kluun turns on a dime. Reacting to wife Carmen's anxiety about chemo baldness, husband Dan is at first wry, but then desolation sets in: Carmen is afraid of losing her breast. I'm afraid of losing the Carmen I know. A lonely anxiety I don't share with anyone. Maybe I attach more importance to Carmen's breast than I do to Carmen's life? The many side effects of chemo's the body's protest against it; ultimately aren't as bad as the increasingly painful and difficult insertions of needle and tube. Throughout, Carmen's spirit surprises. When her swelling belly (a side effect) conjures thoughts of shopping for maternity clothes, We're hoping for a boy, she ironically gushes. She leaves Dan when he drunkenly crashes the car after carousing with other women, but reconciles with him, chooses euthanasia, welcomes final visitors, and says good-bye. Scott, Whitney --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

“An ode to love.” ---NRC Handelsblad

“Kluun knows how to affect you deeply.”

---Marie Claire magazine

“A wonderful novel about courage, helplessness and real love.”

---Cosmopolitan Germany

“A radical 21st century version of Love Story.”

---Der Spiegel (Book of the Week)

作者介绍:

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标签

荷兰

2007

评论

竟然有人读过，我不是第一人哈哈。蛮好看的，一本关于死亡、人生、爱情的书。妻子身患癌症日渐消瘦，丈夫一面照顾妻子，私底下却又在寻欢作乐。最后妻子还是选择了安乐死，看完确实有些感慨。

最难的事情是：说爱你，珍惜你，好好地说再见。

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书评

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