

John Otterbacher

Love, Adventure, and the other 4%

Reviews of Sailing Grace

“The real story is the author’s amazing resilience and sheer bloody-mindedness in fighting for his seriously damaged heart... a remarkable book written by a remarkable person.”

Jimmy Cornell
Author

“Funny, tragic, uplifting, moving and humorous. It will speak not only to timid sailors, but also to anyone facing immense difficulties, setbacks and even life-threatening danger in their non-sailing lives. An inspirational story with a message for everyone.”

The Sydney Institute (Australia)

“Heart disease may have run in John Otterbacher’s family, but he was determined not to let that stop him from fully living his life. And that meant testing his limits, whether by running marathons or sailing across the Atlantic four times.”

Outside Magazine

“The book is incredibly moving and beautifully written. It will change the way you view life and death.”

Lifeboat (England)

“His name is John Otterbacher. Heart disease tried to kill him, but he wouldn’t stop living. He resolved not just to survive, but to really live. *Sailing Grace* tells not only of stubborn perseverance, but of embracing mortality and finding peace in the simple act of living day-to-day.”

“If you like stories of survival and tales of family life and well-spun adventure yarns, I’d suggest you read it too.”

Charleston Gazette

“An advocate of ‘living out beyond your fears,’ John is a role model of strength, perseverance and hope.”

Mature Lifestyles Magazine

“A love story in more ways than one. Facing the future without trepidation is one of life’s greatest gifts; it leaves you limp, exhausted. If it doesn’t sell, there is no adventure left in literature.”

Detroit Free Press

“John Otterbacher knows about matters of the heart.”

Blue Magazine

“When hope and heart disease collide, hope sometimes wins.”

Richard McNamara, M.D.

Chief of Cardiology, Spectrum Health Center

“Sailing Grace is a thoroughly engaging book. Wise people have known forever that life is a near-death experience. The costumes of our lives can be suffocating and Otterbacher and his family shed theirs going to sea. They win big and we win along with them by reading the engrossing and perilous adventure story they made of their lives.”

Jim Harrison

Author/Poet

“John Otterbacher’s exquisite tale of one man’s journey into himself, and of his family’s dramatic crossing of the Atlantic, is a powerful elixir for anyone tiptoeing through life and settling for dreams deferred. Sailing Grace is absolutely terrific in its rendering of the sea, of man, and our innate need to engage our soul and senses in ways both small and gargantuan. I wept at the conclusion.”

Grand Rapids Press

“On the blue Atlantic and in bleak hospital wards, John Otterbacher has weathered the sorts of storms that ultimately define a person... assuming they manage to survive. Otterbacher’s gifts were his family and friends, and the dream that sustained him. Ours is this book that, with humor and humility, tells his tale.”

Herb McCormick

Cruising World Magazine

“A remarkable tale of a man who defied the odds to make this voyage to his ancestral home in Ireland. If you like sea shanties, this is for you. If you like to read about men of courage and determination, this is definitely for you.”

Celtic Life (Canada)

“Sailing Grace is a medical mystery and a family love-and-learning story. Buy it, read it, and you will be carried away, living each suspenseful moment with this remarkable family. Once I started reading this book I could not stop! Dr. John Otterbacher is a gifted story writer and a man who truly emanates hope from his heart.”

Rich DeVos

Co-founder of Amway, Author of Hope From My Heart

“Extremely well written. A real page-turner.”

Cowes Online (England)

“This inspirational and unique story will enthrall all readers.”

The Strand (New York City)

“I enjoyed reading *Sailing Grace*. It was hard to put down.

Dr. Kenneth Cooper
Founder, Cooper Clinic

“I read *Sailing Grace* last night. I read it in one sitting. I did not plan it that way. I just could not put it down. *Sailing Grace* is extraordinary, so rich in imagery. It is poetry.”

Christine St. John

“...the story of a courageous man. A well-written book and a pleasure to read. The author has an engaging style that enables the reader to identify with the very real crisis occurring in his life. An inspiration.”

Good Old Boat

“After a long and perilous journey, *Sailing Grace* into Schull Harbor in Ireland at sunset is sure to bring a tear to all Irish eyes. John Otterbacher’s gripping story personified the best Irish characteristics of determination, fortitude and of course humor. It’s a wonderful and inspiring story. You cannot put it down.”

Jean Kennedy Smith
Former Ambassador to Ireland

“A remarkable story of conquering fears and a 4,000-mile dramatic crossing of the Atlantic with landfall in Schull, Ireland. A truly inspirational story.”

Ontario Sailing

“... a compelling story.
... a great read for sailors.”

examiner.com

“I am a nurse working for the British Heart Foundation, specializing in heart failure. This book is essential reading for anyone involved in cardiac care.”

Jane Mac Aulay R.N. (England)

“An Irish love of language helped him create a book that’s friendly while formidable, startling while reassuring. In truth, each scene charms.”

Midland Daily News