

## Dedicated to Vanessa Annabel Schaffer Sequeira



My dear friend Vanessa,

So, it is very short, this life of ours. We never know where it will take us, and then suddenly it has passed us by.

Many of us spend it looking for the answer to questions we don't know how to ask. Many of us don't have the courage to ask them, and are unhappy with the answer when it does appear.

But whoever has the courage always searches.  
Whoever has wisdom, always asks.

We are only waves breaking on this beach. Once in a while, along comes a wild wave, which knocks down our castles of sand and gives a new beginning to our constructions. From there, that wave returns to the sea, and joins with the infinite ocean, leaving only its distinctive trail on the face of the earth.

I don't know what I would have said to you, had I known that life would take you from us so soon. I don't know if I could have dealt with this reality. There are so many questions I don't have the courage to ask.

But this I do know:  
That in every twitching leaf, I will see you smile.  
In every tranquil forest, I will remember your energy; that which you didn't know you had.  
In every birdsong, on the edge of a river in the early hours of the morning, I am going to hear your voice.  
And in the quiet waters, where the current blends together our dreams and our souls, I'm going to wait for our next meeting.