



FOREWORD

Edwin Cameron is an important South African who has made lasting contributions in many fields, not least the law. I am delighted that he is now adding to his titles that of 'author', and I have no doubt that this book will contribute to the greater good in the same way that he has done in other areas of life.

It is as a campaigner in the HIV/AIDS pandemic that Edwin has been most readily recognisable as a public figure in recent years and, as someone living with AIDS himself, his witness and activism have shown the hallmarks of great bravery and principle that I have long associated with his name.

Several years ago, I sent a message in support of Edwin, who was to deliver the Diana, Princess of Wales Lecture on AIDS. I said it was a particular privilege to pay tribute to him as one of South Africa's new heroes: as a human rights lawyer and now Justice in our country, his record is a testimony to his convictions and integrity. I added that as an AIDS activist he had demonstrated a level of courage and humanity that inspired many people into action. I reiterate that message now, and hope that the publication of his story will mean that still more people come to understand that this pandemic demands action in the same way that the struggle against apartheid demanded action.

I hope that every person who reads this book will feel encouraged to make a contribution to the campaign to provide the means and resources to end the pandemic. AIDS and the stigma attached to it remains one of the greatest challenges for all of us wherever we live, and it is voices like Edwin's that will remind us, and keep on reminding us, that no one should sleep easily until the disease is defeated.

Edwin Cameron was courageous in publicly declaring his status. He is an example to all that one can live with that status and continue to make a meaningful contribution to achieving a better life for all. This book will, I am certain, be a further major contribution by this courageous South African towards that quest for a better life for all.

NR Mandela

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N Mandela', written in a cursive style.

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