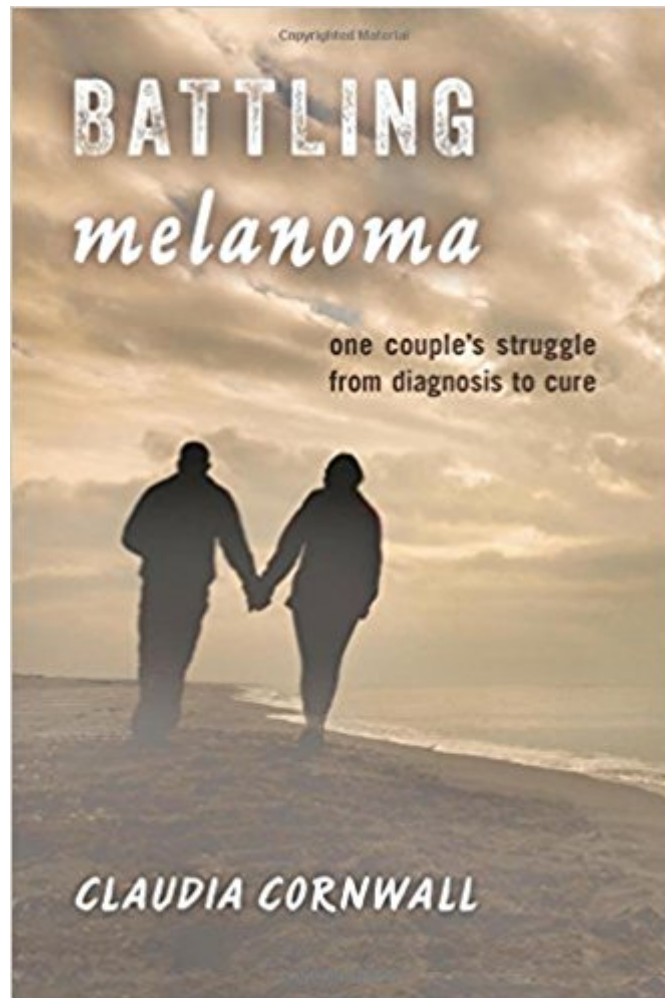




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# Battling Melanoma: One Couple's Struggle From Diagnosis To Cure



## Synopsis

In June 2013, Gordon Cornwall's melanoma went metastatic and spread to his brain. He and his wife, Claudia, thought it was a "game-over." But his oncologist encouraged them to look for a clinical trial that might work for his form of melanoma. After embarking on a continent-wide search, they found a study in Texas with spots for just two more patients. They scrambled to get Gordon enrolled, and in August 2013, three days after he had his first infusion, he was astonished to see a lump on his shoulder softening and shrinking. Three months later, in November, a CT-scan revealed that all his tumors had disappeared. This story of one couple's battle to beat melanoma illustrates how a new treatment, immunotherapy, can defeat even aggressive forms of the disease. It also shows how patients can access the most advanced therapies by enrolling in clinical trials. Claudia describes Gordon's case and learns from conversations with eminent researchers. She paints a portrait of an illness that is difficult but not impossible to combat. With vivid firsthand accounts from their diaries, as well as Claudia's intimate narrative of the ups and downs of cancer treatment, this book will be a ready resource for melanoma patients and their families. It demonstrates how they can fight the disease medically as well as support each other emotionally and physically.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Claudia Cornwall's *Battling Melanoma* doesn't only take the reader through the emotional upheaval that can follow a diagnosis of cancer, in her words it "also demonstrates what

[illegible]

Claudia Cornwall, a freelance writer for over 25 years, has written six books and many magazine articles. Her memoir, *Letter from Vienna: A Daughter Uncovers her Family's Jewish Past*, won

a BC Book Prize for best non-fiction. Her biography, *At the World's Edge: Curt Lang's Vancouver, 1937-1998* was a finalist for the 2012 Vancouver Book Award. Her medical history, *Catching Cancer: The Quest for Its Viral and Bacterial Causes*, was selected by the American Library Association's publication, *Booklist*, as one of the best books of 2013 and short-listed for the Canadian Science Writers' Association Book Awards (2013). Claudia also teaches in Simon Fraser University's Writer's Studio.

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