



**Forum: Bookworm Gallery (é±è®€è—•æ—†)**

**Topic: The Diving Bell and the Butterfly**

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Posted by: Elinor

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The Diving Bell and the Butterfly is a translation of the French memoir *Le scaphandre et le papillon* by Jean-Dominique Bauby. It describes what his life is like after suffering a massive stroke that left him with a condition called locked-in syndrome.

The entire book was written by Bauby blinking his left eyelid. An amanuensis repeatedly recited a frequency-ordered alphabet, until Bauby blinked to choose the next letter. The book took about two hundred thousand blinks to write and each word took approximately two minutes. The book chronicles everyday events and what they are like for a person with locked-in syndrome. These events include playing at the beach with his family, getting a bath, and meeting visitors. The book was published on March 6, 1997. It received excellent reviews and sold 150,000 copies in the first week. Three days after the French version of the book was published, Bauby died.

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\\_Diving\\_Bell\\_and\\_the\\_Butterfly](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Diving_Bell_and_the_Butterfly)