

Smink Works Books

PRESS RELEASE

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Brazilian author tackles life questions

Brazilian author Alfredo Karras is used to taking on big issues. As a newspaper cartoonist his political cartoons have often drawn the ire of the military in Brazil.

In his first book, entitled *Be*, Karras turns his attention to major life questions, delivering an insightful and enlightening novel. The moral allegory tracks the powerful journey of Knight Henrique who discovers life is a consequence of choices. "We make choices every moment, every second, often not realizing what we are doing ... The small choices we make each moment lead us to big ones; crucial moments in which we must decide which way to go," the book states.

What emerges is life wisdom in the tradition of Richard Bach and Antoine Saint-Exupery. "I want to help people to discover the power that exists in their souls," Karras says.

The book also includes beautiful illustrations created by the author. With limited access to water colors, Karras used a mixture of color pens and water to create them. "When you are poor, you must to be creative," he says.

Be is the first book to be published by Australian publisher Smink Works Books. Publisher Suzanne Male says the book stood out because of its positive and innovative content. "Without giving away too much, I like the fact that it completely eliminates regret; that it doesn't matter what you've done, you can still change and have a positive impact on society."

"It is a book with a great deal of depth. It has obviously come from the hand of a very thoughtful man who has spent much time musing on life. That really shows in the book; it doesn't just revise theories already in existence, it goes beyond that."

Be is available in both English and Karras's native language, Portuguese. (Smink Works has created a special Portuguese page at <http://www.sminkworks.com/br>). The novel is currently available as an e-book in Microsoft Reader and Adobe PDF formats.

For more information or to organise an interview with Alfredo Karras, please contact:
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About Smink Works

An Australian business based in Melbourne, Smink Works was established in 2002 by editor and journalist Suzanne Male. She brings a varied background to the business, encompassing 10 years' experience in the media and media publishing in both Australia and the United Kingdom.

A small-press publisher, the business has been established to provide a stepping stone for the unpublished author. In an era where publishing of unsolicited manuscripts is rare, Smink Works Books is taking on new writers with innovative works and a fresh voice, in what is their first step to international success and acknowledgment.

The aim of Smink Works Books is to publish fiction with a philosophical basis. That is, stories that through observations about life, the world and society, offer insight to readers. Like other philosophical works, the novels may offer answers to recurring problems, or a better way of looking at the world and living in it. Thus, the novels available from Smink Works are works that have the power to transport readers, through the fictional element, as well as induce fundamental change. Indeed, they are novels that encourage people to experience life as an adventure in self-discovery.