This process of self-discovery is accompanied by another kind of exploration. "Very slowly—and for some reasons I do not understand I find this of immense importance—I am remembering him for myself. Small details: how his hair grew, the different coloured greys in it; the shape of his brilliantly blue eyes that are echoed in his daughter and two of his sons; the shape of his hands." The family photograph album, which at first she found quite unbearable, has become "an endless joy" and she gathered around her "a small treasury of the things people said, the anecdotes, the repeated letters."

Those who have experienced it will recognise this phenomenon: Mary Jones was falling in love. The preoccupation with the other person, the simple joy of each symbol and memory, the endless longing and all of this made more poignant and, perhaps, more necessary *because* she had previously denied it and had often distanced herself from her husband during his life. It is almost as if this "powerful and overbearing" man was too dangerous, in life, for an unqualified commitment but, being gone, could no longer hurt her save by his absence. So paradoxically, she entered into a new relationship with her dead husband and, in the end, what emerges is this book and . . . "not until the last few pages of typing this did it occur to me that I have written a *love* story."

COLIN M. PARKES
MD, FRCPsych

A RECKONING

May Sarton. London: The Women's Press, 1978 (reprinted 1987). £4.95.

For a work of fiction May Sarton writes with an empathy and understanding unusual in a book of this kind.

Laura has in inoperable cancer and does not have long to live. With courage and determination she faces her last few weeks. She explores her relationships past and present, and begins to see the small world around her with a heightened perception.

This is a poignant novel that is not oversentimental. It provides an insight into the process of dying which could be useful for those who come into contact with the dying and bereaved.

ELIZABETH PARKES
Royal Free Hospital Palliative Care Support Team

NOTICE TO READERS

Books reviewed in 'Bereavement Care' may be ordered from Meditec Medical & Nursing Book Service, York House, 26 Bourne Road, Colsterworth, Lincs. NG33 5JE (Tel. 0476 860281).

BEREAVEMENT CARE is published for all Cruse workers and others who wish to deepen their understanding of bereavement. It is sold subject to the condition that it shall not be lent, re-sold, reproduced in part or in entirety, hired out or otherwise circulated without the publisher's consent.

The editors welcome advertisements and inserts, but do not necessarily associate themselves with the views of the advertisers, or books advertised.

Editorial Office: Cruse House, 126 Sheen Road, Richmond, Surrey TW9 1UR.

Editors: Colin Murray Parkes MD DPM FRCPsych
Dora Black MB ChB FRCPsych DPM

Managing Editor: Patricia Scowen MA SRN HV

Cruse Director: Derek Nuttall

Training Officer: Nicholas Tyndall

Information Officer: Wendy Wilson
Cruse House, 126 Sheen Road, Richmond, Surrey TW9 1UR. Tel. 01-940 4818.

Cruse News

Major Disasters Working Party

The Joint Working Party on Disasters, set up at the invitation of the British Government to look at the provision of social and psychological support to the bereaved after major disasters, has met on two occasions and plans to make its report within 12 to 18 months. The Working Party is being organised by Cruse.

The Hillsborough Disaster

A major disaster occurred in Sheffield on 15th April with the death of 95 football fans at the Hillsborough Football Stadium soon after the start of the semi-final match between Liverpool and Nottingham Forest.

As soon as the extent of the disaster began to emerge, our Sheffield, Rotherham and Chesterfield Branches made counsellors available and from then on through the weekend they worked extensively at the Sheffield hospitals, the mortuary and other places. We are deeply grateful to them for their ready and willing response and for everything they, and those co-ordinating the Cruse response, did.

Gradually the focus moved to Merseyside and our Liverpool, Wirral and Ellesmere Port Branches are involved in the help being provided there. Again, we are very grateful for their response. A number of those killed lived out of the Merseyside area and Cruse's help is available to them too.

Contact is being maintained not only with Cruse people in these centres but also with the Social Services and other statutory and voluntary carers.

Obituaries

We are sad to report the death of two loved and much respected men.

Dr. George Day was a Patron of Cruse for many years and a founder member of the Norwich Branch. His busy life included a love of music and much work for the Samaritans.

Dr. David Morris was a leading paediatrician with a deep concern for these bereaved by a stillbirth, and the prime mover behind the foundation of the Greenwich and Bexley Branch of Cruse.

We will miss their lively support, but above all we will miss them.

A fuller obituary of Dr. David Morris will appear in a subsequent issue of *Bereavement Care*.

New Branches

Since our last issue, new Cruse Branches have opened at Falkirk (1st March), Peebles (29th March), Blackpool (19th April), West Kent (20th April), Leicester (26th April) and Kettering (27th April).

Steering Committees

Steering Committees, which precede the opening of a new Branch, have been established at Uttlesford (Essex), Burton upon Trent and Canterbury and Thanet.

Bereavement Counselling Courses

For details of Cruse's and other bereavement courses and conferences, please see page 8.

BASIC COUNSELLING SKILLS

A Manual for Trainers of Bereavement Counsellors

by **Lyn Franchino,** Ph D.

This step-by-step programme in six sections is written by an experienced Cruse trainer.

The Manual contains clear teaching material, 22 exercises, 17 handouts, assessment sheets, trainers' notes and bibliography.

Price £25+£1.85 postage & packing (UK). Overseas: please add £2.75 for postage and remit by sterling draft payable in London.

A STRUCTURED YET FLEXIBLE TRAINING PACKAGE WHICH IS A "MUST" FOR WORKERS AND TRAINERS IN GRIEF AND BEREAVEMENT

Published by Cruse

Available only from Cruse, Cruse House, 126 Sheen Road, Richmond, Surrey TW9 1UR, England.

1989 Subscriptions—U.K.: individuals £6.00, libraries and institutions £11.00, Cruse workers £4.50. All inclusive of postage and packing. **Overseas rates: Europe,** individuals £7.00, libraries and institutions £12.00. **All other countries:** individuals £8.25, libraries and institutions £13.25. All inclusive of air mail. Kindly remit by sterling draft payable in London. Some back numbers available at £1.10 per copy, plus 20p postage (inland). Free index on request. Offprints of single articles available at 40p.

"Bereavement Care" is published three times a year in Spring, Summer and Winter. An index to 1988 and 1989, volumes 7 and 8, will appear in the Winter issue 1989.

Copyright Cruse—Bereavement Care 1989
Printed by E. H. Baker & Co. Ltd., 86 Lower Mortlake Road, Richmond, Surrey TW9 2JH. Ref. 58309