



Patient Care: Death and Life in the Emergency Room

Paul Seward

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A boy is pulled from a river and brought back to life: Will he be the same child he was? A priest on the verge of a heart attack leaves the hospital to see old friends: Is an evening of reunion worth the risk of death?

Recalling remarkable cases—and people—from a career launched in the first days of the specialty of Emergency Medicine, Dr. Paul Seward leads us in his memoir through suspenseful diagnoses and explorations of anatomy. By his side, we learn to distinguish nursemaid's elbow from a true broken arm. We learn how our breathing and swallowing mechanisms resemble a practical joke.

But when a baby's heart stops and a young doctor forgets what to do, the situation is far from funny. Within the conditions of great stress and rapid decision-making that are routine in the ER, Dr. Seward shows us that physicians must be more than technicians of the body; they must be restorers of the human. Whether it is comforting anxious family or subjecting a distressed patient to tough procedures—resulting, once, in a patient's punching our doctor—on every shift, a physician learns the difficult work of caring for strangers.

Yet this is a physician who rejects doctor-as-god narratives. He highlights the essential role of nurses and other colleagues, including a pharmacist whose story is hard to forget. Throughout Patient Care, Dr. Seward reflects on how a life in medicine tests what it means to put ethics into practice.

Patient Care: Death and Life in the Emergency Room Details

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Author : Paul Seward

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From Reader Review Patient Care: Death and Life in the Emergency Room for online ebook

Dr. Ulrich Aldag says

A great book for young people considering to become MDs as well as for all of us.

An unpretentious book that shows what medicine is really all about.

A must-read for any young person who is considering to study medicine, and a reassuring advice for all of us who most likely will end up in an ER once in our lifetime when help is most urgently needed.

Erika says

Seward berättar om fall han mött under sitt arbete som läkare på olika akutvårdsavdelningar. Jag som är svag redan för sjukhusserier och tycker att det mesta som gäller människokroppens uppbyggnad och funktion är fascinerande gottade mig åt att han tar sig tid att förklara fakta. Dessutom uppskattar jag åtminstone inledningsvis hans ödmjuka förhållningssätt till sina egna misstag och de sjuksköterskor som hindrat honom från att begå ännu fler – fast mot slutet börjar jag tycka att han drar fram den där ödmjukheten en gång för mycket. Ändå fint att ta del av berättelser om och insikter från akutvården.

Laura Trout says

I really enjoyed this book. I have been an RN for 30 years in many roles. If all health care providers could be like Dr Seward, emergency rooms would be a far safer and kinder place. He writes in a way anyone can understand and explains in a way I found better than how I taught nursing students.

Kathy says

Listened to audiobook.

Kimberly Newcomb says

I won Patient Care and I received it on 5/1/2018, I was in between books at the time and started reading it. first story grabbed my attention. Short ER stories and with a family members in medicine and having a little knowledge of the medical field, I could relate to some of the stories, especially the first one and the gentleman in the coma. Wonderful book, just finished it. its a fast quick east read.

Stacee says

I am a huge fan of reading books that are sort of behind the scenes, especially if they're medical in nature, so I was all over this one. Sadly, it got lost in other review books and I just found it today.

I really enjoyed the format of the book. Each chapter spans a case and it made it able to focus on one story, one patient, and one set of symptoms.

The tone of the book is fantastic. Nothing was too doctor-y and the medical terms were easily explained. Everything was easy to understand and it really felt like sitting in someone's living room, talking about their day at work.

Overall, it was captivating storytelling about an important and intriguing field.

Huge thanks to Catapult for providing the arc free of charge

Maggie Carr says

4? | published summer 2018 | fans of untold stories of ER

Dr. Seward rejects doctor-as-God narratives to write frankly about moments of failure, and champions the role of his colleagues in health care. And, for all the moral dilemmas here, there is plenty of wit and humor, too. (See the patient who punches the doctor.) Readers of Patient Care will find themselves thinking along with Dr. Seward: "What is the right thing to do? What would I do?"

Diana Mack says

dr paul seward recalls his beginnings as a doctor and how he arrived in emergency medicine. he recalls certain cases that are etched in his mind.

I work in the medical field and I enjoy reading about medicine and I enjoy watching medical shows. this book is amazing. dr seward's tone is not of "I am a DOCTOR" but pulls you into what he is seeing and how he will treat it. the stories have good endings and sad endings. one story "nova"; I cannot get it out of my head.

more doctors should follow in dr seward's footsteps in how he approaches people and medicine. it also will help me in my work as I realize that how someone presents is not necessarily what is happening to that person

highly highly recommended

Marjorie Clark says

Perfect description of life in an ER!

Well written and accurate. Dr. Seward was one of my favorite Pediatric ER docs to work with. He has

successfully written the book I have yet to write from a Pediatric nurses point of view. Pediatric emergencies will always be my first love.

Melissa says

I read a lot of such books written by doctors. This is the best so far. The closest is probably hot lights cold steel. I love the way this book is written and how the every chapter has a story. I hope Paul Seward releases more books! I will be here! Haha

Melissa Watton says

Seemed very self serving and there was no connection between chapters. I don't really understand why this book was written

Crystal says

It was a interesting read. I liked that each chapter was a different story, it made it a good book to have in the car when I have short breaks to read. I also thought it was refreshing that in some parts if he did not remember somethings, he said so.

Susan Reeves deMasi says

Very interesting non-fiction, and a very quick read.

Mary says

Loved the narrator!

Kelley says

This memoir is written by an ER Doctor in his seventies thinking back over his 40 yrs as a Dr. This is a book about his insights and stories about his experiences in the ER of several different hospitals across the country. I learned some medical info that I did not know and the cases he chose to tell are very interesting.
