



Days of the Giants

R.J. Petrella

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Set in the politically tumultuous Boston medical world of the early 1990s, Days of the Giants follows intern Slater Barnes through a conflict between Boston City Hospital staff and corrupt municipal officials. Despite facing a life-threatening medical diagnosis of his own, Barnes chooses to train in one of the country's most demanding teaching institutions, Boston City Hospital. Inspired by the public hospital's mission to treat patients regardless of personal resources, and undaunted by its deteriorating physical condition, Barnes finds meaning in his work and falls in love with the institution. But when Boston mayor Peter Doyle pushes a vast rebuilding plan for the hospital through Boston City Council, corrupt city officials mastermind a scheme to turn the plan into a profit. In so doing, they threaten the hospital's very existence and force Barnes and the rest of the BCH staff to defend it. Then, a resident is murdered... A portion of the proceeds from sales of this book will be donated to Boston-area hospitals and health-related charities.

Days of the Giants Details

Date : Published January 27th 2015 by Wide Yard, Inc. (first published December 15th 2014)

ISBN : 9780988628021

Author : R.J. Petrella

Format : Hardcover 394 pages

Genre : Mystery, Fiction

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From Reader Review Days of the Giants for online ebook

Kme_17 says

I received this as a first read. This one gets you from the first page. I really like the mystery. I liked the plot of merging the hospitals together. I also like the writing. Definitely will read more of this author.

Evija says

The story was well balanced and interesting. It contained enough of the mystery to keep you hooked up but at the same time it felt very real. The characters were strong and believable as well as the problems presented in the book. At times it felt more like a very interesting documentary rather than a fiction book. Works your brain as well.

I didn't like the voice at times though. I think that remarks and exclamations was out of place. I don't know what the author was trying to achieve, may be the sense of presence, but all those "better don't start" and other phrases were annoying as well as too much exploited "darn" phrase. Didn't see a point of fathers voice as well as the voices were identical.

Got this book for free from goodreads giveaway. Was very much disappointed that it arrived without cover. Didn't know that for free means lesser quality :(

R.J. Petrella says

Midwest Book Review:

A riveting and enjoyable read from first page to last, "Days Of The Giants" is an expertly crafted mystery with many an unexpected plot twist and surprising turn. Clearly documenting author R. J. Petrella as a master of the mystery/suspense genre, "Days Of The Giants" is very highly recommended for mystery fans and community library collections. It should be noted that "Days Of The Giants" is available in a hardcover edition (9780988628021, \$26.99), a paperback edition (9780988628038, \$19.99) and a Kindle edition (\$3.99).

<http://www.midwestbookreview.com/sbw/...>

Billy Buttons says

This book was entered in The Wishing Shelf Book Awards. This is what our readers thought:

Title: Days of the Giants

Author: R J Petrella

Star Rating: 4 Stars

Number of Readers: 15

Stats

Of the 15 readers:

Editing 9/10

Style 8/10

Cover 3/10

Plot 9/10

Total 29/40

12 would read another book by this author.

4 thought the plot was the best part of the book.

3 thought the setting was the best part

3 felt the strong characterisation was the best.

0 thought the cover was good or excellent.

12 thought the author was a good writer.

15 suggested the book needs a new cover.

9 suggested it needs a better blurb.

Readers' Comments

'I did enjoy this book. Forget the cover, which is terrible, and sit back and enjoy an interesting mystery populated by interesting characters. The author works particularly well with speech.' Female reader, aged 35

Awful cover, dodgy blurb but...the book's pretty good. I enjoy a good medical drama and this one is particularly good as there's a little murder/mystery in there too. It cracks along at a fast pace, and the characters are given time to develop naturally within the story. Excellent! Now, get the cover and blurb sorted and it might sell pretty well.' Male reader (publisher), aged 55

'I see the author's a doctor and, accordingly, the story has a very 'realistic' feel to it. Thankfully, the author's not an illustrator which explains the cover. A brick wall. Now I've seen everything. This is a bit of an 'underdog' story and I did, for the most part, enjoy it. It's character-led which helps, and the setting is well-described. I'd read another of this author's books.' Male reader, aged 67

'Politics, medical drama AND a murder/mystery. A character-led story which packs a punch!' The Wishing Shelf Book Awards

Brenda Schneider says

A enjoyable and riveting mystery!!! I won this book in a goodreads giveaway

Marian Gils-McLeod says

My thanks go out to Goodreads for receiving this book through their giveaway. I enjoyed the book though at first it took me awhile to get used to two narrators speaking throughout. The theme of merging two hospitals and the dishonest city officials trying to make it happen kept me wondering what was going to happen next. I expected a fast paced plot but that did not happen but the pace did allow for an easy read which I enjoyed. Thanks again for this book.

Linda says

A great read although I found it a bit slow to get into, enjoyed the narrative style but would have preferred it without the narrative from his father.

Yoshi Sei says

Days of the Giants is a brilliantly written novel. It is thrilling and spiritual. Slater Barnes becomes an instrument of God to take care of his patients. I highly recommend this novel especially to those who provide tireless services in our health care system. Sei, Y., Maryland

Linda Marie Marsh says

Ohhhh i loved this one. The author has written a novel that reads like a true accounting of his own experiences in a Boston hospital- it is just that realistic.

It starts off with a jolt and he maintains the pace right to the very end... It does make you yearn for the good ol' days....the 'days of the giants'when medicine was a selfless profession with health as its soul aim, not seen as a potential financial gold mine. I understand that the majority of doctors still feel this way but get caught up in the cogs of the controlling boardrooms. What if we could have a happy medium- does it.... could it exist?

Days of Giants has characters on both sides of that medical fence, and is an action packed 2 thumbs up read.

Reader Views says

Reviewed by Michel Violante for Reader Views (01/16)

In “Days of the Giants” by RJ Petrella, we follow Slater Barnes, an intern at the Boston City Hospital. The setting is the early 1990s, and the story is an intense medical mystery/thriller and suspense novel, full of politics, drama, and corruption. Barnes, in spite of his life-threatening medical diagnosis, devotes his life to the meaningful work he finds at the hospital. The problems begin when the mayor of Boston presses a rebuilding plan for the hospital through the Boston City Council. Some corrupt city officials smell an opportunity for profit and develop a scheme that in the end threatens the existence of the hospital, which in turn, forces Barnes and the rest of the staff at Boston City Hospital to defend the plan. Trouble ensues when a resident is murdered. Hold on tight for this one – it’s a ride you won’t soon forget.

The story captures the reader immediately with the powerfully intense prologue, and the same level of tension and drama is carried throughout the read. The writing is brilliant, speaking directly to the reader in an engaging narrative style. The scenes and settings are impeccably crafted and one definitely gets the feeling of being right in the middle of the story. The characters are fully believable and relatable and Barnes is a worthy heroic protagonist. The hospital setting is completely realistic with remarkable detail. Unexpected twists and turns in the plot keep the reader engaged and possibly wanting to read ahead!

I highly recommend “Days of the Giants” by RJ Petrella. That this is the author’s first complete novel is quite noteworthy, I can only hope we get to see more work from Petrella soon. He is sure to draw a large fan base from enthusiasts of multiple genres, including murder/mystery, medical thrillers, and suspense.
