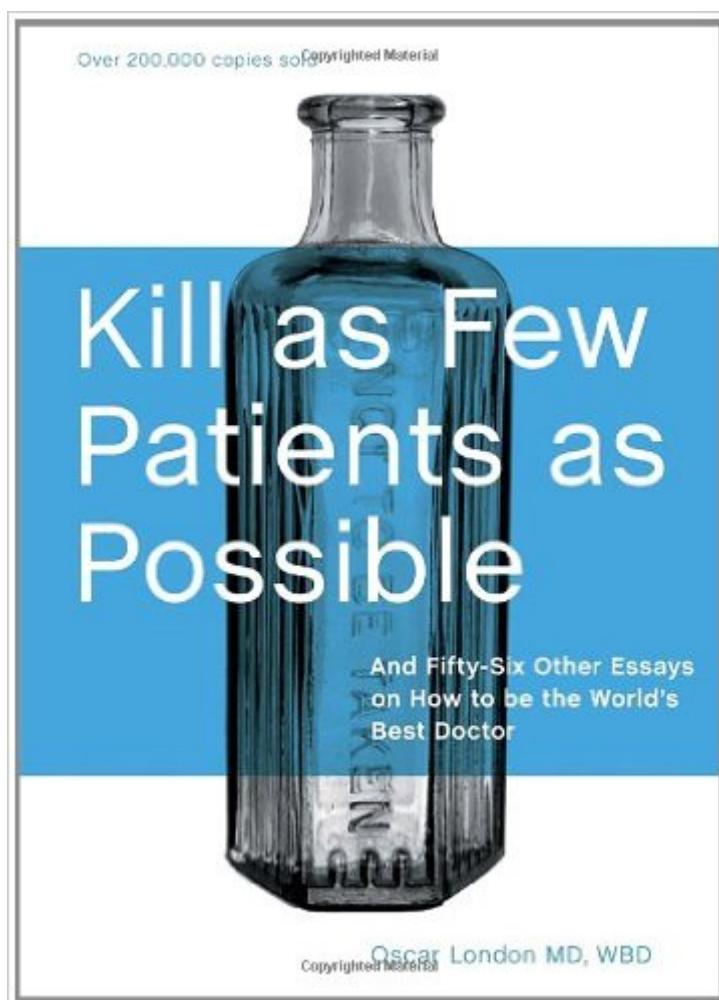


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Kill As Few Patients As Possible: And Fifty-Six Other Essays On How To Be The World's Best Doctor



Synopsis

This oft-quoted all-time favorite of the medical community will gladden--and strengthen--the hearts of patients, doctors, and anyone entering medical study, internship, or practice. With unassailable logic and rapier wit, the sage Dr. Oscar London muses on the challenges and joys of doctoring, and imparts timeless truths, reality checks, and poignant insights gleaned from 30 years of general practice--while never taking himself (or his profession) too seriously. The classic book on the art and humor of practicing medicine, celebrating its 20th anniversary in a new gift edition with updates throughout. Previous editions have sold more than 200,000 copies. The perfect gift for med students and grads as well as new and practicing physicians. Approximately 17,000 students graduate from med school each spring in North America.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Having practiced medicine for longer than I'll admit, my sense of humor may no longer be entirely standard. London combines his love of people and hard-learned lessons of practice to produce these essays, fortunately of a length much shorter than Charles Lamb's. These transparently written essays may explain otherwise in-explicable physician behavior. "My daughter told the doctor she knew she wasn't pregnant, but he did a pregnancy test anyway." "My back hurts, and all my other doctors give me narcotics, but Dr London didn't." Other stories of his approach to back pain, stomach pain, etc, may make you wish he were your own doctor. Don't expect him to expose the foibles of his patients; his sharpest barbs are aimed at himself and his colleagues. I keep this on my bookshelf and always enjoy taking it down for a short browsing.

....if so, then this book will cause you a some serious pain! The pseudonymous "Oscar London" is not only a great and funny writer, but almost certainly an excellent doctor as well. And like all good humor, there are also profound truths buried within (well, okay, maybe the term "buried" isn't the best word to use in describing a book on doctoring). In this book, you can see Dr. London, with wit, comedy, tragedy, or irony, tackling all the very serious issues that stress out doctors and push lesser healers into burnout, addiction, or depression. Medical errors, insurance hassles, predatory "financial advisers", professional jealousy, doctor-nurse relations, difficult diagnoses, malpractice attorneys, incompetent medical students, long-winded patients, pill-seeking addicts: Dr. London has seen it all, and has a humorous or insightful take on it that will amuse all and help physicians cope with the significant stressors of practicing medicine. As a practicing physician, I think this hilarious little book is up there among the best books anywhere about not merely being a doctor, but becoming a good (or great) doctor.

The work in question is particularly appealing to physicians, as they have experienced what Dr. London is describing, having traveled the same road through college and medical school and private practice. His wit is keen and often it makes the reader laugh out loud . . . nearly unable to stop. Patients will also enjoy it, but the common understanding of physicians makes M.D.'s the real target of this book.

I am a woman surgeon at Harvard Medical School (48 years). For the past 5 years I have presented this very funny but useful book to my graduating residents and fellows. They all love it. Recommend it to all - including non-doctors.

In one word this book is hilarious (although excellent is another word that comes to mind). I don't agree with every piece of advice given but I admire Dr. London for not being afraid of going against common sense ethics and giving information that can actually be used. The views are fresh, well written and humorous. A book anyone involved in the health industry should read.

Bought this as a gift for one of the doctors I work with, but I cheated and read it first. Very enjoyable, short (1-2 page) chapters. Clever and thought-provoking at the same time. The perfect bathroom reader.

Gave this as a gift. It was found so amusing that we sat over Christmas dinner in a restaurant laughing over how much "truth" was in each passage. It has since been the talk of other colleagues.

Face it folks, anyone in the field of medicine works far too hard to loose their sense of humor! Its dangerous for your health. I will be the first to admit that my sense of humor has always tended more towards satire and pun than crack-falls, and this book serves it up! I even liked it enough to buy another copy as a gift. I definatly reccomend this book for anyone looking for a few laughs in a hard-working profession.

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