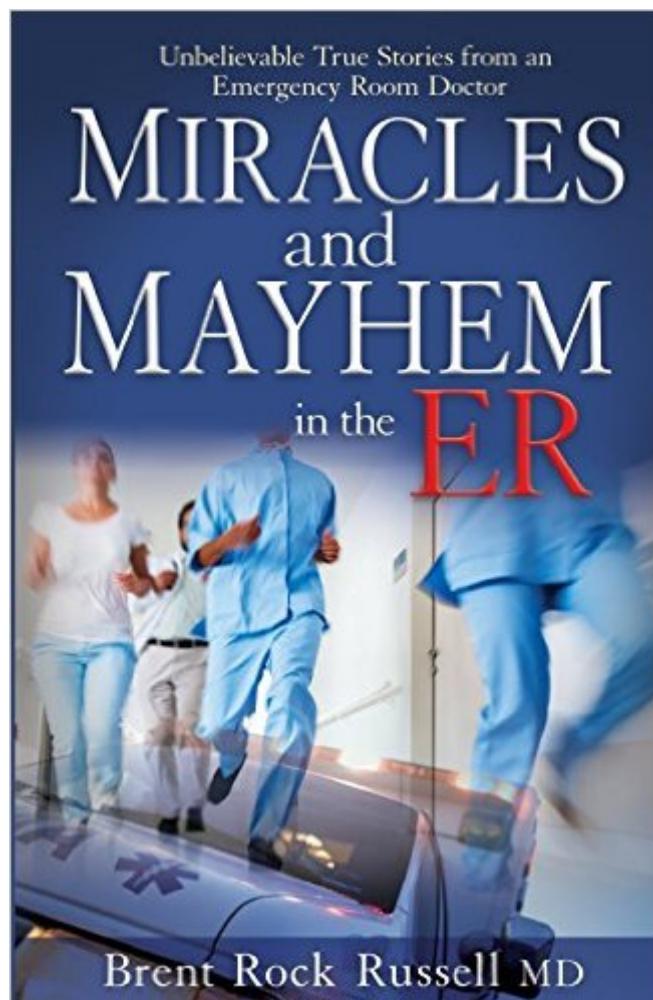


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Miracles & Mayhem In The ER: Unbelievable True Stories From An Emergency Room Doctor



Synopsis

In Miracles and Mayhem in the ER, Dr. Brent Russell shares true-life stories of his early days as an Emergency Room doctor. Contemplative and oftentimes hilarious, Dr. Russell leads the reader through the glass doors and down the narrow halls of the ER where desperate patients, young and old, come to get well. Occasionally heart wrenching and always fast-paced, Miracles and Mayhem in the ER will have readers holding their breath one second and celebrating the next. Through his night shifts at a renowned Portland, OR hospital, Russell discovers his role and his confidence as he treats people from all walks of life including humanity's most bizarre in the ER. Each shift brings a new, bracing story to tell.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (211 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

I picked up this book as a "Daily Deal" and expected it to be a light-weight collection of stories of strangeness in the ER. God knows, ER personnel see more weird things (and people) in a shift than most of us see in a lifetime. And there ARE lots of hilarious and shocking tales. But it's a much deeper and more thought-provoking book than I was prepared for. Starting with his childhood growing up in a small southern college town and continuing on to his medical training and first years in practice, Dr. Russell examines the complexities of life in general and of devoting yourself to a field that demands so much. He tells how his up-bringing shaped him and determined his professional "style" and approach to life. In particular, it's a fascinating look at the mentality of the men and women who choose a specialty that seems to require super-human powers. They are (by necessity)

adrenaline junkies. An ER doctor must be constantly alert (even when he/she is sleep-deprived) and focused on the task at hand. He deals with patients he's never seen before and will never see again. He must have the confidence to make split-second, life-or-death decisions. And he frequently must do so without the luxury of a "consult" with specialists. For an ER doctor, lawsuits aren't a vague possibility, but an inevitability, and each one is potentially career destroying. It's a book you start and keep reading until you finish. The only quibble I have is that the conversations between the young men seem too pat and thoughtful and avuncular. I suspect that the author is remembering what went through his head as he and his friends were talking. Most men communicate in monosyllabic fashion.

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