



Event Date: October 18, 2010

The recent era has seen a rise in writing about illness, including physician and patient memoirs, blogs about illness and the practice of medicine and fiction based on the experiences of patients. Such writing can be illuminating and healing and can foster important conversations about health and the nature of suffering. But at a time when information can be shared with a keystroke, issues of privacy and confidentiality demand our careful consideration and thoughtful reflection. Jay Baruch, M.D., will discuss the moral and ethical implications of this kind of writing.

Baruch is an assistant professor of emergency medicine at the Warren Alpert Medical School at Brown University. His collection of short fiction, *Fourteen Stories: Doctors, Patients, and Other Strangers* received an honorable mention in the short-story category in *ForeWord* magazine's 2007 Book of the Year Awards. His fiction has also appeared in numerous print and online literary journals. In addition to his emergency-medicine practice, he serves as director of the medical-ethics curriculum and of the medical-ethics scholarly concentration at Brown's medical school.

EMILY BRENNAN of USC's **NORRIS MEDICAL LIBRARY** has selected the following resources to help you learn more about the topic. Please visit the online version of this guide at norris.usc.libguides.com/memoirs for much more.

Selected Physician Memoirs

CONTEMPORARY MEMOIRS

After Harm: Medical Error and the Ethics of Forgiveness

By Nancy Berlinger

Norris Medical Library WB 60 B515a 2005

Blue Collar, Blue Scrubs: The Making of a Surgeon

By Michael J. Collins, M.D.

Norris Medical Library WZ 100 C7122b 2009

Complications: A Surgeon's Notes on an Imperfect Science

By Atul Gawande

Norris Medical Library WZ 100 G284c 2002

Final Exam: A Surgeon's Reflections on Mortality

By Pauline W. Chen

Norris Medical Library WZ 100 C518f 2008

HISTORICAL MEMOIRS

Autopsy: The Memoirs of Milton Helpert, the World's Greatest Medical Detective

By Milton Helpert

Norris Medical Library W 825 H483a 1977

The Anatomist: A True Story of Gray's Anatomy

By Bill Hayes

Norris Medical Library QS 11.1 H417a 2008

SELECTED PATIENT MEMOIRS

Breast Cancer: Twenty Women's Stories:

Becoming More Alive through the Experience

By Susan Diemert Moch

Topics: Breast Cancer

Norris Medical Library WP 870 M688b 1995

In Love with Daylight: A Memoir of Recovery

By Wilfrid Sheed

Topics: Polio, Depression, Tongue Cancer

Norris Medical Library WM 40 S541i 1995

My Stroke of Insight: A Brain Scientist's Personal Journey

By Jill Bolte Taylor

Topic: Stroke

Norris Medical Library WL 355 T243m 2008

The Center Cannot Hold: My Journey through Madness

By Elyn R. Saks

Topic: Schizophrenia

Norris Medical Library WM 40 S158c 2007

The Diving Bell and the Butterfly

Written by Jean-Dominique Bauby and translated from the French by Jeremy Leggatt

Topic: Quadriplegia

Norris Medical Library WL 346 B337d 1997

Medicine in Literature

Fourteen Stories: Doctors, Patients, and Other Strangers

By Jay Baruch

Doheny Memorial Library PS3602.A779F68 2007

Stories of Sickness

By Howard Brody

Norris Medical Library WM 178 B864s 2003

The Inner World of Medical Students:

Listening to Their Voices in Poetry

By Johanna Shapiro

Norris Medical Library WZ 350 S529i 2009

Vital Signs: Medical Realism in Nineteenth-Century Fiction

By Lawrence Rothfield

Norris Medical Library WZ 330 R846v 1992

Blogs

CarePages

CarePages websites are free patient blogs that connect friends and family during a health challenge

www.carepages.com

Dealing with Alzheimer's

By a patient with early-onset Alzheimer's

www.creatingmemories.blogspot.com

GruntDoc

Ramblings of an emergency physician in Texas

www.gruntdoc.com

KevinMD

A practicing primary-care physician discusses health related issues

www.kevinmd.com/blog

My New York Minute

By Dan Zenka, vice president of communications for the Prostate Cancer Foundation (PCF) and a newly diagnosed prostate cancer patient

www.mynewyorkminute.org