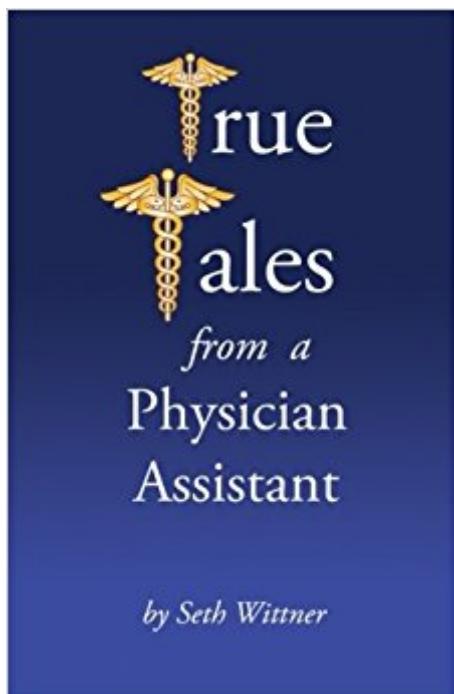


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True Tales From A Physician Assistant



Synopsis

A collection of funny, sad and thoughtful anecdotes taken from a lengthy career as a physician assistant. The book deals with questions like why an ear surgeon might not want a deaf young man to get a cochlear implant; how a PA deals with questionable practices going on around him; and what the strangest day ever in a psychiatry practice might be like. This book will hold much of interest for PAs past, present and future as well as for the patients who rely on them. REVIEW BY A PA PROGRAM PROFESSOR *“I had the pleasure of reviewing a book recently published by a veteran physician assistant by the above title. It is a collection of short stories, each only a couple of pages long, that makes for easy reading. It’s a book that you can pick up, put down, and pick up again even a week later since the short stories end, making it an ideal late night or lunchtime read. Each of the short stories is based on real life experiences by this PA in the course of his career. It is not a self-glorifying autobiography. It is a collection of memorable experiences, some focused on the patient, some on the patient’s family, and some on the supervising physician or even a specialist whose expertise was critical in the care of the patient and provided a learning experience for the PA. There are funny stories, sad stories, ingenious revelations, and that stereotypic patient story. I enjoyed reading this book for all of the reasons above, but I think that the most enjoyable part was the reflections I experienced about my own patients in the course of my career. Many of these stories triggered memories of previous patient experiences of my own. I have often stated that I would write a book someday...Well, this Seth Wittner did just that! If you’re expecting some complex novel detailing the psychologic journey of a student becoming a PA and learning the life of a PA the hard way, you’re not going to get it. If you’re looking for some enjoyable, mostly light-hearted recollections of patient-care experiences, it’s worth the read! I, personally, think that it would make a great holiday gift for a PA who perhaps mentored you, a supervising PA at your place of work, or just a PA friend! It’s available on and is not expensive.” Theresa Neumann, PA-C Director of Legislative Affairs, MAPA Academic Coordinator & Clinical Assistant Professor at Towson University/CCBC Essex PA Program*

Book Information

Paperback: 240 pages

Publisher: CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform (July 5, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1514849399

ISBN-13: 978-1514849392

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.6 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 13 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 15 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #281,382 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #60 in Books > Medical Books > Allied Health Professions > Physician Assistants #300 in Books > Medical Books > Medicine > Medical Ethics #34968 in Books > Health, Fitness & Dieting

Customer Reviews

Seth Wittner has been a physician assistant for fifteen years, following a career in music. He grew up near the Belmont Track and watched losing tickets fill the air from his high school classrooms. Seth received a B.A. in mathematics from Reed College and an M.A. in Scandinavian Studies from the U. of Wisconsin after working in Oslo, Norway and becoming proficient in Norwegian. His medical career has focused on Ear, Nose and Throat, Cardiology and Psychiatry. He lives in Henderson, NV.

The insight of the physician's assistant is another way to be entertained and educated into the world of Medicine and interesting patients and doctors. These stories focus on his years as a PA, a second career after a career in music. This has good stories that focus on Doctors out there as well as patients and egos and politics abound.

Seth Wittner provides such an illustrative picture of his journey to becoming a physician assistant. But don't let the title fool you! This book is not only about one PA's experience in medicine with his patients. It provides an allegorical narrative of life's challenges and surprises and how every decision and encounter leads to something that is meant to be. Appropriately, Seth provides humorous but realistic accounts of how carelessness and lack of communication steered by stereotype and society can play such a role in misunderstandings and misdiagnosing in a professional field. This allows the reader to become more aware and present when visiting a practitioner and to also become more empathetic of treatment providers and the ethical guidelines they must follow. Lastly, Seth's timeline of his role as a musician also provides an interesting juxtaposition between science and art through Seth's narrative of medicine and music. Overall, a wonderful read! I highly recommend the purchase, especially for the price and quality!

A very conversational book, the stories are story but tell a good narrative. It's nice to see stories from a PA rather than a doctor for once, so as to gain a different perspective on medicine. I hope to see more books like this.

The beautiful detail in which Wittner flows us through his moments, from a musician to a healer, flows through each of the pages. From turning down beautiful ballerinas to prescribing healing therapies the story is intriguing and inspiring! Wittner's moments give every patient a glimpse into the mystifying perspective behind the stethoscope.

As a fellow PA, I am finding this book very entertaining to say the least. I have the pleasure of knowing the author and as a fellow colleague I can relate to many of his stories. I had the chance to start reading it at the gym and found that I was able to do an hour of cardio in no time! I have also had the opportunity throughout my career to work in many areas of medicine and find this book very enjoyable and at times humorous, being able to relate to the accounts of other PA's throughout their individual journeys. Thank you Seth for this compilation of True Tales....I am looking forward to Part 2.

I bought this book since my son just qualified as a PA-C and I wanted some idea of what he might experience in his new career. What I found was a very enjoyable series of short vignettes from the day-to-day life of a PA who has practiced in many areas of medicine over his fifteen years in the profession. Some are happy, some are not, but they all helped me to understand what a PA does in his/her daily life. Kudos to Wittner for a very enjoyable, very understandable book.

Bought this as a gift for my best friend that just graduated PA school. She loved it!

I let a Physicians Assistant read it. He described it as amateurish and had better stories. Needs a good professional editor.

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