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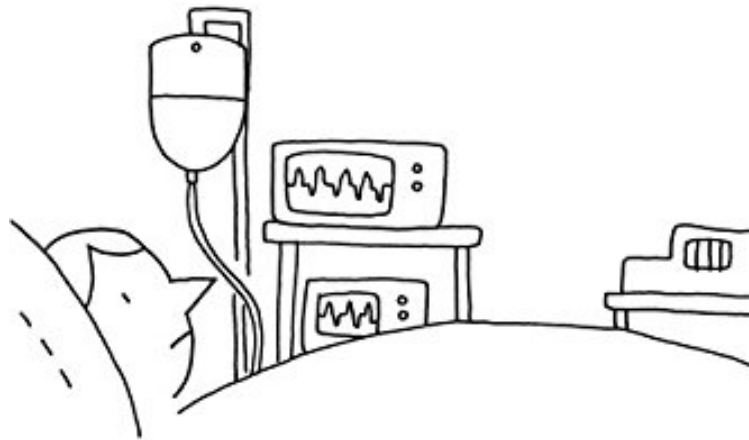
The Hospital Suite

John Porcellino

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John Porcellino : The Hospital Suite before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Hospital Suite:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Through suffering to a meaningful, rewarding life By Tim Lukeman Since discovering the work of John Porcellino, I've been an admiring fan of his honesty depiction of everyday life in its often surprising beauty occasional terrors. This latest work only increases my admiration. An in-depth memoir of his struggles with both physical illness emotional turmoil in the forms of OCD depression, "The

"Hospital Suite" is unsparing in its depiction of the bodily psychological pain of an ongoing struggle with one major health issue after another -- unsparing, but never sensational. Porcellino recounts all of this in a matter-of-fact, often humorous fashion. Yet the humor never distances the reader or minimizes the pain, as it often can -- in this case, it makes his suffering even more intimate unsettling for the reader. As a result, when he finally begins to see daylight again, the reader feels his overwhelming relief joy. He's also quite candid about the personal toll taken by those years, including the end of a marriage the dread of losing everything that matters to him, right down to his creative abilities. But there's never any tone of self-pity, even when he shows us his bouts of self-pity at the time in all their naked embarrassment. As always, Porcellino's art is beautiful in its clean, deceptive simplicity. There's never a single superfluous line, never an unnecessary detail. It's a reflection of both artistic maturity his own Buddhist practice, removing extraneous artifice to get at the essential truth. Again, his self-deprecating sense of humor after the fact makes it all the more delightful moving, even when he's plunging into the depths of personal darkness. If ever there was an argument for the artistic integrity of the comics form, this is it -- most highly recommended! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Enjoyable To The Last page By Deborah Jackson Loved this book!!! I've spent quite a bit of time in the hospital myself so I could relate to all the little drawing details; this would make a good gift for a loved one in the hospital or anyone who likes a good graphic memoir. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Customer It's sad but makes hospitals feel slightly better I guess. A good long read, definitely worth it.

Poetic musings on illness and the art of getting by from a mini-comics master The Hospital Suite is a landmark work by the celebrated cartoonist and small-press legend John Porcellino an autobiographical collection detailing his struggles with illness in the 1990s and early 2000s. In 1997, John began to have severe stomach pain. He soon found out he needed emergency surgery to remove a benign tumor from his small intestine. In the wake of the surgery, he had numerous health complications that led to a flare-up of his preexisting tendencies toward anxiety and obsessive-compulsive disorder. The Hospital Suite is Porcellino's response to these experiences simply told stories drawn in the honest, heart-wrenching style of his much-loved King-Cat mini-comics. His gift for spare yet eloquent candor makes The Hospital Suite an intimate portrayal of one person's experiences that is also intensely relatable. Porcellino's work is lauded for its universality and quiet, clear-eyed contemplation of everyday life. The Hospital Suite is a testimony to this subtle strength, making his struggles with the medical system and its consequences for his mental health accessible and engaging.

The Hospital Suite by John Porcellino [is] a memoir . . . of undiagnosed illnesses . . . It's really fascinating and really self-revelatory and very clear-eyed. NPR Pop Culture Happy Hour Quiet [and] haunting . . . The Hospital Suite is a reminder that the seemingly basic chemistry of words and picture can uniquely, compellingly address the deepest fears that face us--up to and including the ultimate one. Entertainment Weekly The rawness of Porcellino's work, its unfiltered directness, is the essence of its charm. Los Angeles Times For an artist who so often picks out the fleeting poetic instant, Porcellino is equally and affectingly adept at tracing the prolonged, prosaic nature of suffering--and especially the tortuous reasoning of his obsessive-compulsive disorder. Globe Mail Beautifully crafted . . . [The Hospital Suite is] a rough, occasionally harrowing journey, but Porcellino's dogged determination to keep a grip on his dignity in the face of the most humiliating physical and emotional debilitation is ultimately the very best kind of life affirming. AV Club Best Comics of 2014 About the Author John Porcellino was born in Chicago, Illinois, in 1968, and began drawing and writing at an early age, compiling his work into handmade booklets. His acclaimed self-published zine, King-Cat Comics and Stories, begun in 1989, has found a devoted worldwide audience, and is one of the most influential comics series of the past twenty-five years.