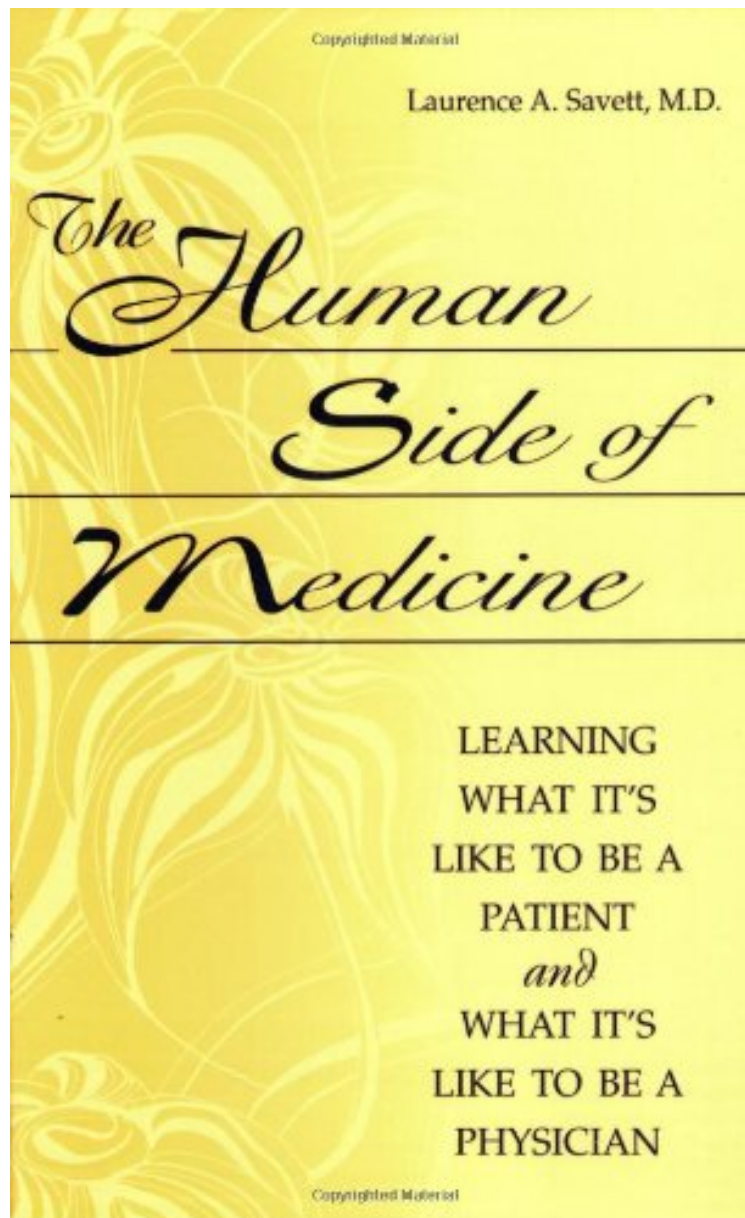


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The Human Side of Medicine: Learning What It's Like to Be a Patient and What It's Like to Be a Physician

Laurence A. Savett

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Laurence A. Savett : **The Human Side of Medicine: Learning What It's Like to Be a Patient and What It's Like to Be a Physician** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The

Human Side of Medicine: Learning What It's Like to Be a Patient and What It's Like to Be a Physician:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy JHHAmazing perspective. Will read again and again.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. This is meant to be read again and againBy George LeventhalI was very interested in this book, it was a wonderful window into Dr. Savett's life as well as the life of a physician in general. As an undergraduate student, I one day hope to use Dr. Savett's lessons in what will hopefully be my medical career. Until I reach that point, I intend on re-reading this book several times and using the knowledge I gain from it in everyday life, as most of Dr. Savett's core arguments can be applied to any situation.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent book, definitely worth readingBy ADThis book is very well-written, with fantastic content. Many medical books can be boring, but this book is actually a great, very enjoyable and interesting read! Great book!!!!!! Highly recommend for anyone--especially those in or interested in going into the health care professions.

At a time of great change in the technology and delivery of medical care, the timelessness and permanence of the non-technical aspects of medicine the human side are of profound value to patients and physicians alike. With more than 30 years of medical practice, teaching, advising, and mentoring medical students and undergraduates, Savett champions two premises: first, that the importance of physicians mastering the human side of medicine is as critical as learning its biology and technology; and second, that this can be taught. Attending to the human side refines diagnosis and treatment by recognizing the uniqueness of each patient's experience, and it enriches the experience for all those in the caring professions. Physicians who have always put their patients' interests first and never compromised their professional values have preserved their identity, vitality, and enthusiasm as caring doctors. This is a book about what keeps the practice of medicine stimulating: not fascinating cases, but fascinating people and relationships, the best reasons to enter medicine. Learning the human side of medicine, asserts Savett, will help attract talented and compassionate people to the field. Full of stories and lessons, *The Human Side of Medicine* is important reading for those considering a career in medicine and related professions, those already practicing and patients.

"Dr. Savett beautifully articulates the intricacies of human illness, the experience of being a patient and a doctor, and the doctor-patient relationship....Few books capture as well the essence of what it means to be a physician."-Paul W. Evans, M.D. Portland, ME "The Human Side of Medicine makes an important and unique contribution to the art of healing. It is adroitly fitted to the issues surrounding the under-attended position: that healing can be understood most effectively through patients themselves and their families."-Madgetta T. Dungy, Ph.D. Assistant Dean of Faculty Affairs University of Iowa College of Medicine "I am impressed by Dr. Savett's ability to place complex ideas and emotions, and distill the essence and values of the profession, into a readable, enjoyable and insightful book for students, residents, physicians, and patients."-Gregory M. Vercellotti, M.D., F.A.C.P. Senior Associate Dean for Education and Professor of Medicine, University of Minnesota Medical School "Humanism in health care is not as rare a commodity as the popular rhetoric would have us believe. Larry Savett's book describes his way of practicing medicine, which I had the privilege to experience when he was my personal physician. As he teaches medical students and undergraduates, Dr. Savett is able to inspire them toward a values-based practice."-Marie Manthey, M.N.A., R.N., Minneapolis, MN Author of *The Practice of Primary Nursing* "The Human Side of Medicine should be required reading for anyone considering a career in medicine...including those who are interested but unsure about medicine and those who are firmly committed....Dr. Savett's life experiences are woven into the fabric of the text giving the book credibility and warmth....So much of this book is about being a good listener."-William H. Harvey, Ph.D Professor of Biology, Earlham College, President, Central Association of Advisors for the Health Professions "What a special gift this book is, not only for the general public, but also for those like me who teach, and those who have come to learn in medical school. Laurence Savett shares the process of practicing humanistic medicine by explaining how to stand in the patients' shoes and look through their eyes, while actively listening to their stories. This highly readable, useful book is a treasure."-Susan Resnik, DrPH Facilitator, Doctor/Patient Communication Segment, University of California, San Diego, School of Medicine Author of *Blood Saga: Hemophilia, AIDS, and the Survival of a Community* About the Author LAURENCE A. SAVETT, M.D. practiced primary care internal medicine in Gloucester, Massachusetts, and St. Paul, Minnesota, for 30 years. Dr. Savett teaches about the psychological and social dimensions of medicine and the doctor-patient relationship at the University of Minnesota Medical School, where he is Clinical Professor of Medicine, and at Macalester College and the University of St. Thomas, where he helps advise pre-medical students and other pre-health professional students. He has served on the admissions committee of the University of Minnesota Medical School and the board of the Central Region of the National Association of Advisors for the Health Professions. He is a Fellow of the American College of Physicians.