



THE *NEW YORK TIMES* BESTSELLER

THE GOOD NURSE

A TRUE STORY OF
MEDICINE, MADNESS,
AND MURDER



CHARLES GRAEBER

"A stunning book...that should and does bring to mind
In Cold Blood...A thriller in every sense of the word."

—JANET MASLIN, *New York Times*

Charles Graeber

The Good Nurse: A True Story of Medicine, Madness, and Murder



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"CHILLING. When nurse Charlie Cullen was arrested in 2003, journalists were quick to dub him "The Angel of Loss of life." -- Stephen King An intimate -- and frightening -- glimpse inside the mind of America's most prolific serial killer, Charles Cullen, whose 16-year long "nursing" career left as much as 400 lifeless." But Cullen was neither a mercy killer nor a simple monster. He was a child, a husband, a dad, a best friend, and a valued caregiver. He was also implicated in the deaths of as many as 400 people, and may end up being the most prolific serial killer in American history. In this riveting work of investigative journalism, Charles Graeber-the only person Cullen chose to speak with pursuing his arrest-reveals how Cullen got aside with murder for such a long time. Cullen's career in the world's most trusted occupation spanned sixteen years, across 9 hospitals. Based on thousands of hours of previously unseen and unheard footage, recordings, and records, along with comprehensive interviews with homicide detectives, Cullen's friends, family members, coworkers, and confidential informants and whistleblowers, plus exclusive, one-on-one interviews with Cullen, himself, THE GOOD NURSE paints a dramatic portrait of madness and the bounds of friendship, and shines a spotlight on America's medical system. A harrowing and irresistibly paced reserve, you'll never appear at a hospital the same way again.



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Review from a nurse When I first heard about this book about NPR, and heard the author interviewed, I was angry. I am a nurse myself, one who functions toward empowering others and advocating for the empowerment of nurses. What made me most angry was the name of the book, "The Good Nurse. A few patient safety laws were passed following the arrest, state nursing boards revised their procedures, and internal process adjustments were made. I recommend reading/listening to this. Will Def make me question life more today. As a worried public we have to allow our outrage around the activities of these institutions be known and continue steadily to call for justice to be served: there is absolutely no statute of limitations around murder charges and I'd deem a number of these organizations to be essential players in the ongoing murders. In the end, to be able to move beyond and heal from occasions such as for example described in the publication, the profession must acknowledge and shine a light on our dark side. Of training course, in hindsight, the choices to make are clear, but cases never play out this way. Cullen is clearly a damaged personality in fact it is interesting to me that a few of his co-employees perceived him seeing that a "great nurse"... was it because he held to himself, made the coffee, and was often working overtime? Looking at it from that standpoint, the hospitals appear malicious in their negligence and was horrified at the sequence of events. the things I believe make a good or excellent nurse. Are nurses therefore overworked and stressed that just having a seemingly competent nurse in place to lower our nurse-individual ratios deems them a good nurse? How does this happen Wow what a 'story'! Like Cullen, most of these criminals possess horrible childhood situations which have rendered them almost non-human. As the author provides some detail around Cullen's background, I did experience I wanted to learn even more about him. I also was still quite definitely bothered by the name as I was reading the book. This lead me to emailing the author and having a continuing verbose email exchange over many days. Mr. This case was meticulously researched (I was reading so fast, I didn't spot the footnotes until chapter 5 - rich store of information in the rear of the book! He described that he didn't go into greater detail about Cullen himself, as the man was fairly uninteresting as a personality, and that the real horror of this story revolves around the way the system failed to shield the victims and the victims' family members, as the facilities and the administrators appear to have avoided persecution. He told me how the name emerged for him and he explained of his own tips around "doing great" vs. being a great moral agent. Pharmacies and nursing units also audit medication gain access to, administration, documentation, waste materials, and return, but this usually targets narcotic administration. In the event that you thought you could trust your neighborhood hospital to provide you with caring, secure, experts, this read might transformation your brain. So I opted not to read the publication, and then somehow found the book once again, a year after the big publicity press for the discharge of the publication, and decided to give it a go through. Civil action ought to be the least of the facilities and administrators' worries. Among the best parts of the book detail the heroes who emerge as the drama around Cullen's eventual "capture" unfolds. The investigating team and the truly good nurse emerge with techniques that are unforgettable and call upon people to surpass our highest ethical requirements with regards to protecting patients. It really is a reminder to absorb care and attention received in a medical center and not end up being overly trusting of Health Care Management. Riveting - Could Not Put Down As a nurse beginning after this case was concluded, I started reading it with the data of current (2016) criteria of patient privacy, medicine access, and Texas nursing peer review legislation. It really does need appear to be because of compassion, caring, basic safety, ethical practice, and leadership abilities; After that, I remembered that nursing practice laws is certainly dictated by each condition, and actually if the Texas reporting framework was in place at the time, it wouldn't necessarily apply to Pennsylvania and NJ. Good job by Mr..) It requires an "objective" person (usually administrative) to research such deviations in care and keep a record but it takes insight from everyone in every departments. Pyxis stations do not presently behave in the manner that Cullen manipulated them; specific compartments within each drawer are actually electronically locked and just

the compartment for the medicine getting accessed will pop open up. I have to agree with the author right here, and it appears justice has not been served, and the systems and administrators themselves ought to be held liable and accountable for many of Cullen's murderous functions. Unfortunately, hospitals still do not hand out negative referrals in fact it is common practice not to disclose whether an RN is qualified to receive rehire, unless it really is an off-the-record conversation between co-workers at different hospitals. Will make me think a lot more than twice before hiring someone I cannot get a positive referral for and think a bit before hiring somebody with a positive record! I listened to the audio book My goodness, it really is hard to believe that someone could just casually kill people the way Charlie Cullen did in this reserve. And to think this was all true. Will transfer this tale to my coworkers! Graeber was prompt with his in-depth replies and both generous and gracious with his thoughts.) and extremely well written. I finished in 6-7 hours with quick breaks. Much like Erik Larson's writing and research. Will definitely end up being reading Charles Graeber's work to any extent further. This book is a great "lessons learned" resource. And this book does illuminate not only an element of the dark aspect of nursing, but more importantly the health care systems that allowed because of this type of behavior to keep on unchecked for a long time. Even trying to verify who was simply committing the crimes (and even figure out if it was accidental or intentional) is never as easy as it looks retrospectively, with all of the details available. A Nurse's Review As a nurse this tale set me on edge concerning how something like this may continue for YEARS and no one suspected anything. With the amount of malicious and bad-faith reporting that occurs, it's under no circumstances easy to tell the truth from the fiction. From the hospitals that reported to the police and were told they did not have enough to be on, to the authorities force that wished to involve the FBI previously, but was told never to, to the RNs that statement suspicions and so are told not to worry about it. From a nurse's viewpoint nurses are so occupied doing all the things that want to be done I can see them having no time to research discrepancies in drug counts and a rise in codes (we all know there are occasions - especially throughout a complete moon - that it just gets crazy. Hospitals with electronic records will audit who is accessing patient charts, with implications up to termination from the business for accessing a chart of sufferers without established working romantic relationship. Once administration got information and didn't report is certainly unconscionable. Since Cullen constantly worked the night change to avoid all of the normal oversight he was more easily able to escape with what he did. Having experience in using a Pyxis program I'm surprised the counts did not raise a reddish flag when he would cancel therefore many entries. In the event that you enjoy true crime, I suggestion you read this. I can't fathom why anyone would want to do harm significantly less murder under these circumstances but we realize there are people everywhere who are very adept at "looking" regular. As a nursing faculty member myself, I had the concerns whether indicators of Charles Cullen's problems likely began to emerge in nursing school and went undetected as for 16 years he moved out in to the professional world. For those completely horrified of hospitals, several adjustments were made predicated on this case. Graeber for placing this story together in order that we are able to learn the hard method of how this crime went so long undetected and that justice do finally come through - just not as quickly as it should have. This book should especially be a reddish colored flag for administrators of health firms who are tempted to appear the various other way when evidence is obvious that something is amiss. Good Read I enjoyed this book. Excellent product Great tale line. Riveting and retains one's interest..The book clearly details the way the system from starting to end failed to address this man's murderous acts. Good details and insight into how this unravelled.", when obviously the book's topic is far from describing a good, competent, caring, ethical nurse. Reinforced the importance of reporting nurses when terminating them for nursing practice (currently in Texas, the BON requires an automatic report when a nurse is definitely terminated for practice issues). Reinforced for me personally as a nurse the importance of explicit verification and witness of what I am cosigning for. I liked listening to this audio publication that I acquired from the

library and the story kept my interest. I didn't want to provide the book as many stars as I did, because of the fact to be so revolted by this nurse and the items he did, but I had to avoid and take into account the book itself and give my ranking on the merits of the publication. I was horrified at a number of the descriptions in this reserve, not only of things that Charles did, but of the descriptions of individuals and the states these were in before he killed them. Also, the fact that Tylenol was located correct by Digoxin to become easily accessed is strange but death by Digoxin isn't something regular nurses would even suspect. Well written Riveting true story Scary Event I am well acquainted with this event, being from that area, been trained in 1 of the hospitals, and having a relative who may have perhaps been a victim. I really do think that nurses, individuals, and administrators ought to be reading this book, getting light to the darkness of the situation, and that agendas ought to be developed for better protecting the public. TRUE NURSING STORIES Love it because I am a nurse and like reading others stories. True story and incredibly likely happens often in life Good book



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