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PAIN KILLER

A "WONDER"
DRUG'S TRAIL
OF ADDICTION
AND DEATH

BARRY
MEIER

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Barry Meier

Pain Killer: A "Wonder" Drug's Trail of Addiction and Death



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Pain Killer OxyContin, a potent painkiller containing opium-derived oxycodone as its important active ingredient, was initially sold in 1996 as cure for cancer sufferers and other chronic discomfort sufferers. With the fast-rising misuse of prescription medications by teenagers ringing alarm bells within government, the how and just why behind the OxyContin disaster is definitely a gripping read not only for parents, but also for medical professionals, community leaders, business executives, and those worried about this crisis. THE EXTRAORDINARY AND Accurate STORY OF OXYCONTIN EQUAL PARTS crime thriller, medical detective tale, and business exposé, Pain Killer takes a hard-hitting appearance at what sort of powerful drug touted because the salvation for thousands triggered a national tragedy. by simply crushing an "Oxy," these were able to tap into a high so seductive it would come to dominate their lives. Some sufferers, seeking relief from discomfort, also found themselves attracted to the drug's dark side. Pain Killer takes readers on a journey of discovery that starts with the true tale of Lindsay, a high-school cheerleader in Virginia who gets hooked on Oxys, and expands outward to explore the vital issues of legitimate pain management, prescription substance abuse, and the way the misuse of technology by the drug sector threatens the public good. Right away, the drug's producer aggressively marketed its patented time-release formulation as a breakthrough in your time and effort to reduce prescription substance abuse. The risks described in Pain Killer also reverberate much beyond the threat from a single drug at a specific moment in time. As Meier tells the dramatic tale, probably the most deadly substances are produced and sold legally right here in the home. The concentrate of our government's war on medicines has clearly misled a lot of us into convinced that only illegal medications smuggled from beyond our borders can be abused. It wasn't long, however, before thrill-seeking teenagers shattered that illusion of security; Behind it all stood among America's wealthiest households, and a drug business whose relentless advertising helped fuel the problem Written by award-earning journalist Barry Meier, whose special report in the New York Times triggered nationwide interest in OxyContin, Discomfort Killer chronicles the rise of the multibillion dollar discomfort management industry and lays bare its excesses and abuses. It do do that; but it also unleashed a public wellness crisis that cut a swath of despair and crime through unsuspecting small towns, suburbs, and cities across the country. As reports of OxyContin overdoses made front-page and network news, doctors, narcotics agents, regulators, industry executives, and lawmakers raced in, scrambling to slow the damage. At its inception, the legal narcotic OxyContin was seen as a pharmaceutical dream, a "wonder" medication that could herald a sea change in health care while reaping huge profits because of its maker.



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Interesting but Painful My son died from an accidental overdose of OxyContin and alcohol 8 weeks ago (March 17, 2012) in New Berlin, Wisconsin. But simultaneously, this review practically ignores the countless numbers of patients whose intractable suffering has been eased by proper use of Oxycontin. It had been a relatively confusing read. However, I understand that it's a wonder drug for folks in end-stage tumor, and other very unpleasant conditions, and I don't think it should be taken off the market. Well crafted and intensely unfortunate in parts..]Blog page entries/articles #4-6 and 8-11 contain excerpts from the publication and "annotations" or responses by me in response to those excerpts. OK BOOK, VERY REPETITIVE Myself as an abuser of OxyContin back 2001, which eventually led to heroin addiction because of many pharmacy burglaries and stick-ups, the drug began to get a bad rap, and doctors took people off of it and the price became insane, up to \$0.75 a mg. I could truthfully say that about 95% of the addicts I've encountered during my addiction began w/ OxyContin, then moved on to very much cheaper, and more readily available, heroin. Rather than do not delay - on here about it, I will point you to the blog I've created about this issue:[. I'd bet if you talked to them, Purdue and its own employees are heroes, not really villains.] When I go through this book, I was shocked to observe how much cash Purdue Pharma put into marketing this drug. Offering free cruises and cash incentives to MD's who wrote lots of prescriptions, and touting it as a 'wonder drug' for moderate to serious pain individuals. The only difference between it and Percocets is that Percocets need to be taken every 4 hours or so, Oxycontin every 12. Also, you can find no additives to OxyContin apart from the wax filler, the supplements are natural Oxycodone, no Acetaminophen or Aspirin (that is good for people who have allergies or sensitive stomachs, or chronic discomfort patients who are prescribed to take 3-4 Percocets every 4-6 hours, eventually the high level of APAP will probably wreak havoc on your own liver.) But as you do in every job, shady doctors over-recommended the drug (I had a pal who broke her tailbone, a doctor prescribed her 240 40mg Oxys. It arrived promptly and in great form. She was not addicted beforehand, but she quickly became addicted) Doctors also prescribed for sexual favors, a particular doctor was about to be indicted recently, and he fled to the Dominican Republic, leaving his wife and kids behind. Real nice guy. Luckily, I acquired clean May 10th of 2003, and also have been clean since. Medical Read This book is a great summary of the brief history of the US Pain market during the last twenty years and the contributions of one company called Purdue Pharma in their mis-managed marketing attempts to mislead the FDA and American public about addiction and risk whenever a Pain drug becomes popularized for recreational use. Although I obviously wish I had by no means acquired this interest in the topic, I came across the book extremely enlightening. Great book Great book, We are a pharmacology connoisseur and this was a fascinating look at the background of Pfizer, among additional issues related to the Oxycontin craze. Some of it had been so repetitive, the publication could have been condensed to 1/3 of the size. When scanning this book, I recommend trying to complete it within a few days, if you leave it lying around for some time, you'll forget what's happening, because you merely get bombarded with information and study specifics and numbers. All in all, it's an OK publication, but my mother and I would do not have read it acquired I not gotten addicted to them. Their stories aren't told, their voices are silent, their suffering is definitely unacknowledged. If you are interested in this subject, also browse Dreamland, by Sam Quinones, another well researched and well written review about the opiate addiction epidemic occurring affecting a lot of people NICE READ This book was informative and interesting. The normal amount would be 60. I discovered a lot from reading it. There exists a lot of repetitive details in here, and many moments, the chronology of occasions gets a little bit confusing. Gift I acquired

this book as gift for somebody who is struggling with addiction to pain medication. And Purdue probably did emphasize too much its make use of for the treating moderate pain that would be equally well treated by various other drugs with less prospect of abuse. Happy with purchase. Meier jumped around from the girl Lindsay's story of OC addiction in Western VA, to how PP marketed the medication to doctors, also to other things. Read it in one day. Anyway, back again to the book.. One-sided, at best... Pain Killer is an interesting book in that it describes the situations encircling the rise in Oxycontin abuse, particularly among America's rural poor, but it tends to be a bit one-sided and large handed in casting Purdue and its workers as heartless villians in this story. There can be without doubt that Oxy misuse has resulted in heartbreak for addicts and their own families all across this nation. Shipping was extremely prompt.I then discovered this book, curious about more about OxyContin and who was simply behind it (the "back again story"). A sad but true story of well-intentioned medicine gone wrong Well written reserve detailing how opiate medication became a problem for so many people and their own families. As much sympathy as I've for the addicts in this book, I would venture to say that the large majority of them under no circumstances had to find yourself in snorting or shooting up Oxy. But chronic pain suffers and those ultimately stages of terminal illnesses don't have the option of stating no to discomfort. However, when my friends and I raided my parents medication cabinet (my father was recommended 40mg of OxyContin for laparoscopic surgery treatment on his knee, which is the equivalent of EIGHT Percocets. I'd have liked to have heard some of their tales.My additional dissatisfaction with this publication is that basically it is little better than an Atlantic or Harper's magazine content padded out to book length (with a more substantial font and a lot of white space to increase the web page count). I reccomed it to all who are taking RX pain relievers. Occasionally, I had the feeling I was just re-reading the same 40 or so pages over and over. At some points, I just skimmed.The story of Oxycontin and its own abuse is definitely a cautionary tale, but I'd have liked to have had both sides of the story. Four Stars Informative Three Stars Ok. This should be required reading Anyone having required pain medications should browse this book. You realize how easy addiction becomes and the damage it can cause.



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