

BREAKING LITTLE BONES

TRIUMPH AND TRAUMA,
THE FIRST CURES OF
CHILDHOOD LEUKEMIA

G. BENNETT HUMPHREY

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Breaking Little Bones: triumph and trauma, the first cures of childhood leukemia



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In this profound, complex story, G. Bennett Humphrey, MD, PhD, chronicles his year on 2 East, a pediatric leukemia floor. Humphrey knew these kids. He produced a brotherly bond along with his team members, and he had to figure out his own unique method to handle the grief. With minimal training in pediatrics and no knowledge with chemotherapy, the author confronts an entirely different world. Right from the start he is amazed by the effectiveness of the mothers, the compassion of the nurses, and the admirable ways the children themselves deal with this devastating illness. *Breaking Small Bones* combines the non-public and the scientific in poignant moments. This transformative consideration probably the most heartbreaking areas of medicine digs deep, revealing what we are able to learn about truly living from those facing an early death. Doctors are fighting a presumed mortality rate of 100 percent, however the cost of finding a cure weighs heavily on their hearts. He understood Todd, who loved terms, and Polly, who kept her bald head proudly. The cure rate for the kids of 2 East in 1964 will turn out to be 15 percent. It is both an overview of the revolutionary medical progress manufactured in treating severe lymphocytic leukemia in 1964 and a genuine narrative of what it was like to be there.



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A Beautiful Look at Humanity in the Face of Adversity *Breaking Small Bones: Triumph and Trauma, the First Remedies of Childhood Leukemia* by G Bennett Humphrey was both a heart-wrenching and endearingly hopeful tale of a young doctor's time on the children's leukemia ward in NIH in 1964. and the rest of us might commence to respect the dedication and sacrifice that doctors, nurses, among others still make for us today. The children and groups of 2 East had been brought to life in stunningly aching details. The narrative deftly movements among these various threads, culminating in a complete portrayal of a physician as he navigates his route in medicine. As a clinical associate without experience in pediatrics of any sort, balancing objectivity and emotion is merely one of many difficulties this provocative memoir illustrates. Dr. Humphrey, as an internist, was unprepared and out of his little league for his year-lengthy stint as a medical associate on 2 East. Amazing, heart felt story I have always had a pastime in childhood cancer and diseases and have go through many books on the subject but *Breaking Small Bones* is among the best I have ever browse. Humphrey and his colleagues survive the year through camaraderie, humor, and, in Humphrey's case, poetry and horses. At times they are angry or indignant, heartbroken or despondent, but mainly kind, caring, and worried, which speaks mountains to the effectiveness of character of every doctor. Humphrey considers the people with whom he interacted, from fellow doctors to the sufferers themselves, thoughtfully and with great humility. Regardless of the subject material, the book is simple to read and Humphrey develops each character with depth, paying lasting tribute to the children, the families and the medical personnel who have been tasked with making terrible and frequently objectionable medical decisions in the name of the higher good. It's not really a medical reserve (well, it really is, but), it's a remarkable and thought-provoking look at humanity in the face of adversity. Moving and Gripping *Breaking the tiny Bones* I didn't want to put this book down. The interwoven stories of the 3 youthful doctors, their young individuals and their parents, mostly the moms, were gripping. What sort of book was organized, by month and week, would seem to become confining, but in fact worked very well.. The kids, the doctors, the moms, the nurses and the doctors in control were all memorable. Humphrey's words in other places. In 1964 childhood leukemia was nearly inevitably fatal, and that attaining a 15% remission was an accomplishment, and that now, mainly due to the work of those researchers at the National Institute of Wellness, and the sacrifices created by those children and their parents, the rate of remission from childhood leukemia can be 85%. The descriptions are vivid, and the posting of the youthful doctors' personal lives adds another dimension with their response to the difficulties of their function. This book gave me a chance to walk in Dr. Enlightenment. Readable but tugs at your heart. What touched me most deeply concerning this reserve was the author's sensitivity and intuitiveness as he wrote about the kids and their parents. I'd compare this reserve to it series MASH, as Dr. Heart. Body. Soul. It is an incredible account of the experts and their patients in the early days of chemotherapy for leukemia. Humphrey. This book is a way to jump start your feelings . But don't anticipate a dull, text-bookky memoir. *Breaking Little Bones* is definitely a lively tale that brought tears to my eye occasionally and produced me pause and re-read to savor Dr. This is a amazing read. This is a roller coaster of emotions, from tears to laughter. It is also a clear background of early cancer research. Medical terms are presented for everyone to comprehend. The exacting information on daily life in research and enough time and areas of the setting are carefully drawn. Every reader will feel as if they are right there on 2 East at NIH and in Montgomery County Maryland in the mid 60s. While the tale can be dark, within the sadness lies wish and love. The conflict between inflexible analysis protocols and compassion of the doctors and nurses who actually worked with the children was heart-rending.. Don't let the name fool you the writer will not sentimentalize his period on a children's leukemia ward in the 1960s, when researchers were only about the brink of developing effective remedies for the condition. Nor does he shy away from emotion, nevertheless, as he describes this pivotal end along his long profession as a child oncologist. Having caused nurses, I was unsurprised, and yet still awed, by the devotion and treatment that the ward nurses experienced for his or her patients and colleagues. The youthful M.D. This reserve gave me

an application for my father, brother, two uncles and grandfather possess undertaken in the medical field. Humphrey did a wonderful job of getting this reader into the lifestyle on .. and he must learn to balance his own all-consuming career with at least some semblance of an individual life, including a few tries at dating, and more lucrative bonds with animals who play a major function in his reflections and overall well-being. As a mom, I needed to cuddle each child and system their courageous moms. It is an amazingly well crafted and balanced publication that may touch your center! The book can be an account of important clinical trials that were essential in treating childhood leukemia, but a lot more than that, it's a story of the human spirit. I felt like I was actually right now there with the youngsters and doctors and couldn't wait to find out what happened next... This book presents a triumph and breakthrough in the treatment of childhood leukemia. Many thanks for sharing your knowledge, Dr. It is of great historical significance in that the methods used result in cures but they cannot be used today due to the restraints of Institutional Review Boards and informed consent. This book is a way to jump start your feelings of humanity. A Poet in the wonderful world of Medicine The writer is a widely recognized poet in addition to a former physician, and in this remarkable memoir of a remarkable year early in his medical career, he makes the moral and ethical questions that face physicians real for a lay reader, and brings the intensity of a young man's quest to learn what it is to become a man to vivid lifestyle. All of this, as additional reviewers have observed, without sentimentality or bombast. Humphrey's powerfully understated design is perhaps greatest exemplified by this paragraph, in which he ruminates on the loss of life of a red squirrel he has befriended: "Death of patients complements your profession, Humphrey." This book will give you much to think about for several years. Death of a friend goes with existence. What I treasured most about Humphrey's account is the honest look he had taken at his own part of the story. It is an amazing account of the experts and their patients in the . I came across myself pulling for the kids as if I actually knew them. This book was well written and readable with sufficient medical terminology to set it apart from additional books. I loved every minute, the happy and the sad, and would recommend this book! I would highly recommend this book to experts and parents of kids with . he must figure out how to communicate with households along with terminally ill children; Humphrey sharing his encounters with children during the early years of trying to cure leukemia. I function in the medical profession and use kids and adults of most ages. I would recommend this book to professionals and parents of children with any disease or disability. The specialized information make it understood even better. I also appreciated his regard for the group he worked with, especially his high esteem for his nurses. Initially, I was worried I would have a difficult time reading this book, as the topic might seem rather heavy as well as perhaps depressing. That is a complicated but worthwhile read. Anyone in the medical field will enjoy the methodical descriptions of the many complex decisions that the medical associates and researchers faced on a day-to-day basis;D must learn to follow research process flawed as it might have already been at the time--while even now humanely treating individual children;. Dr. Humphrey did an excellent job of bringing this reader into the life on 2 East. I gained a new respect for all those doctors and nurses who have been willing to go through this period of time with their individuals and parents to help expand the research. Now the cure price is higher than 90%. I highly recommend it! This is an extraordinary book! Actually, Dr. Humphrey is a remarkable man! From the first page of the gripping tale, I felt taken in by the expertly-written dialogue. It's a genuine story of medical advancements in neuro-scientific childhood leukemia and the part Dr. Humphrey performed in those accomplishments... The deaths of the children were heart-breaking. What lengths it has come! Excellent book that provides insight into medical research I deeply appreciate Dr../Ph. Just what a gift to those who experience the health challenges and understand the caring that the clinicians might not display but must endure. Humphrey blends deadly serious occasions with lighter moments for relief. We value them, along with about the kids. Humphreys sneakers through the first days of research and am grateful for him getting that period of medical analysis to our interest in this well written book. A challenging but

worthwhile go through. This fascinating memoir opens a window to the world of 1964 and 1965, the early days of chemo protocols to take care of childhood leukemia. The author provides us a front row chair and we feel his pain as he treats a series of children suffering through chemo cycles for just one last guarantee of a cure. I had to place this book down numerous instances, but I was usually drawn back into it. Don't let the title fool you the author does not sentimentalize . However the stories of the kids diagnosed with leukemia are interwoven with additional stories that contain humor, wit and sensitivity.



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