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On Call In Hell: A Doctor's Iraq War Story





Synopsis

At age thirty-eight, Navy Dr. Richard Jadick was too old to be called up to the front lines-but not too old to volunteer. This is the inspiring story of one man's decision to enter into the fray-and a compelling account of courage under fire. Both wrenching and uplifting, On Call in Hell is a portrayal of brothers-in-arms that few will be able to forget. Awarded a Bronze Star with a Combat V for valor, Jadick has become a modern American legend-and a true American hero.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I decided to read this book when the author came to my MBA class to speak about his experiences in December 2016. I could not help but notice that even 12 years after the events in the book, Mr. Jadick could recall his memories like they were yesterday. Some of the stories were quite heart-wrenching. He discussed the Navy's battlefield medicine doctrine at the time and how he changed it to be able to save Marines' lives quicker during the Battle of Fallujah by operating closer to the front lines.Jadick's book went through a synopsis of his life leading up to being a doctor in the streets of Fallujah in 2004 from his years growing up, to being a Marine officer, and finally as a doctor. He did an amazing job touching my emotions as I read about his experiences in saving Marines. I was able to gain a newfound respect for all men who fought during the war. The sacrifice these men gave for our freedom is absolutely humbling and I was clearly reminded of that from the book. Jadick's single focus was to help Marines come home and unlike other military doctors, he committed to doing everything he could by practically embedding with the assaulting forces and setting up forward aid stations in the midst of fighting. What was interesting to me was that there was actually a lot of practical leadership insight in the book. As an MBA candidate, I really appreciated this, and instead of reading about theory, it was actual practical and executable stuff. Some of these techniques included continually improving your position and doing everything possible within your sphere of influence to get the job done. In summary, a great read for many types: Interested in how combat really is, interested in becoming a military doctor, interested in real-world management techniques, interested in a narrative on the Battle of Fallujah and the front lines.

I found this book hard to put down. It is well written and tells the story from the POV of the author. Dr. Jadick does not hold much back; the details are sometimes gory, sometimes emotional and always detailed but relatable. I was a patient of Dr. Jadick before reading the book and found him to be very likable, humble as doctors go, but still with some of that cocky Marine attitude. His skill and competence as a urologist and surgeon are impressive and always on display. He doesn't beat around the bush in a clinical setting; he explains what's going on and puts it in understandable terms. He is also a very compassionate doctor. If you've ever enjoyed the TV program MASH, get this book to see what it's really like for a surgeon in a war setting. I highly recommend it.

Dr. Jadick's account of his military service is an amazing first person view of a terrible war. The improvements they made in troops emergency care by moving the medical facility to the battlefield made a big difference in survival rates.

There is much to respect about CDR. Jadick $\tilde{A}f\hat{A}\phi\tilde{A} \ \hat{a} \neg \tilde{A} \ \hat{a}_{,\phi}$ s calling to practice medicine $\tilde{A}f\hat{A}\phi\tilde{A} \ \hat{a} \neg \tilde{A} \ \hat{A}$ |from the moment he realized his calling, to his commitment to enhance the survival prospects for wounded soldiers. In general war stories are challenging to read, however Jadick $\tilde{A}f\hat{A}\phi\tilde{A} \ \hat{a} \neg \tilde{A} \ \hat{a}_{,\phi}$ s genuine writing voice and passion for service made the reading easier. The appropriate balances of humor $\tilde{A}f\hat{A}\phi\tilde{A} \ \hat{a} \neg \tilde{A} \ \hat{A}$ |Joe Langholtz with the feet up on his desk $\tilde{A}f\hat{A}\phi\tilde{A} \ \hat{a} \neg \tilde{A} \ \hat{A}$ |the $\tilde{A}f\hat{A}\phi\tilde{A} \ \hat{a} \neg \tilde{A} \ \dot{E}$ cereal gumshoe stuff $\tilde{A}f\hat{A}\phi\tilde{A} \ \hat{a} \neg \tilde{A} \ \hat{a}_{,\phi}$ leading to the big $\tilde{A}f\hat{A}\phi\tilde{A} = \Lambda \ddot{E}$ cole meetings in Washington $\tilde{A}f\hat{A}\phi\tilde{A} = \Lambda \ddot{A}|$ and that $\tilde{A}f\hat{A}\phi\tilde{A} = \Lambda \ddot{E}$ constrained well me funkify things for ya $\tilde{A}f\hat{A}\phi\tilde{A} = \Lambda a_{,,\phi}\tilde{A}f\hat{A}\phi\tilde{A} = \Lambda A|$ were doses of humor that meshed well with providing a sobering picture of what he encountered On Call in Hell.Highly recommended reading, particularly for men and women contemplating a military career.

Interesting story. Must read if you love the military and wonder what it's like to be a military physician in a combat field.

This was a heart-wrenching memoir, which could only be written by a combat veteran, whom actually originally deployed as a healer. CDR Jadick instead found himself by sheer circumstance on the front lines in the Battle for Fallujah, forced to make life and death medical decisions, while taking enemy fire. I could not put this book down, and found myself back in Iraq. This is a story which didn't get communicated to the American people. It's about a medical professional whom earned the fourth-highest US medal for valor, for performing a role which has been "traditionally" classified as non-combatant. It needed to be told.

It's been a while since I read this book but I just can't imagine why after thousands of years we are still fighting one another. It's totally insane. This is well written and it nothing less than one miracle after another for these doctors to work on these patients who should be dead. You are right in the middle of the battle. A must read!

Well, I bought the book with the expectation that it would reveal the military medical side of things in a combat arena. The book totally delivers on that. You get a real blow-by-blow account of both the combat, and the resulting trauma, that a surgeon and his team have to deal with, simply to save the life of the soldiers. Along with new methods and techniques that are employed, that save lives that in the past would have been untreatable. I was hoping the book would have some dramatic scenes in it, but the combat speaks for itself, and Cdr. Richard Jadick writes, as if he is writing for other military personnel. Justifying his plan to put the aid stations as close to the action as he dared. This results in a somewhat serious book that some might find a bit dry, but it is the target audience he has aimed it at, the soldiers and his peers. It is not written with dramatics in mind and re-living the losses. He speaks about some of the fun times, and some of the not-so-fun times, and of the incident that prompted him to want to go to Iraq. All in all a really great book that will last through time, and about a surgeon who would do anything for the soldiers under his care, but consider the

audience it has been written for.

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