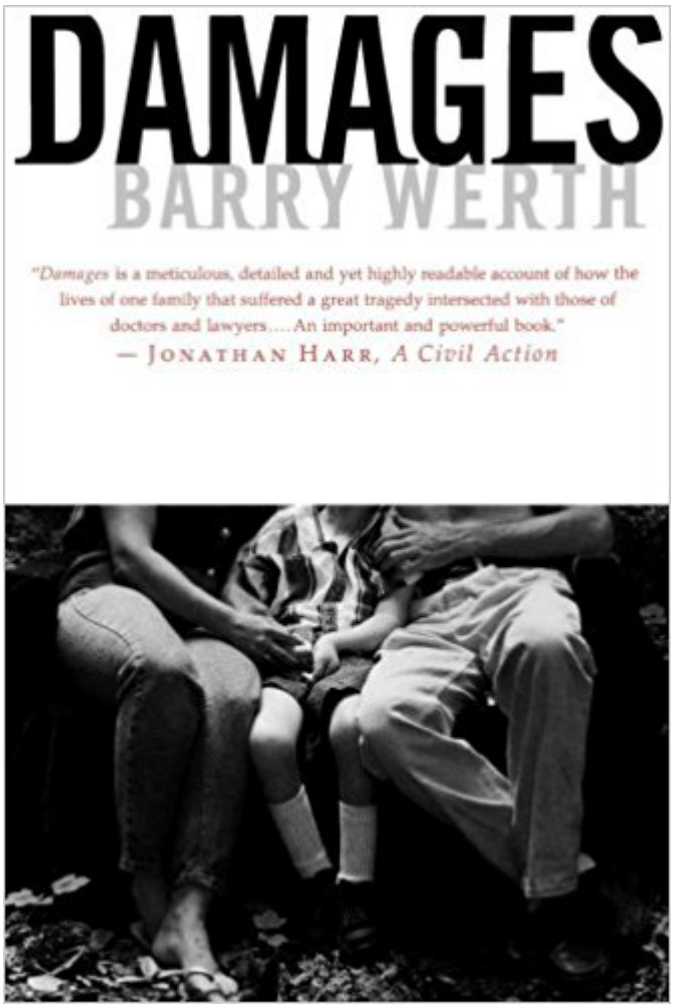
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# DAMAGES




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## Synopsis

DAMAGES is the riveting true story of one family's legal struggles in the world of medicine. At the urging of a friend, the Sabias filed a medical malpractice lawsuit against Dr. Humes and Norwalk Hospital. Barry Werth takes us through the seven-year lawsuit, allowing us to see the legal strategy plotted by the Sabias' attorneys, Connecticut's premier medical malpractice law firm.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

On April 1, 1984, Donna Sabia went into labor expecting twins. But one of the babies arrived stillborn, while the other--Anthony Jr.--was barely alive, with an Apgar score (rating newborn vitality on a scale of 0 to 10) of 1. In the following years, he suffered from spastic quadriplegia, cerebral palsy, and cortical blindness, and would require lifelong medical attention costing millions of dollars just to survive. The Sabias' lawyers faulted Donna's maternity clinic and the delivering physician for her son's condition, initiating a 7-year lawsuit on the claim that a simple $40 ultrasound could have eliminated incalculable suffering and catastrophic expense. Damages is a careful analysis of how the fields of law and medicine intersect in the realm of medical malpractice, where lawyers sue not only to redress suffering but to make sure that doctors and hospitals are more vigilant in the future, if only to avoid being sued again. Werth leads readers carefully through the litigation, from the deposing of expert witnesses, through the preparation for trial, to the posturing of settlement negotiations. Always firmly aware that lawyers sue doctors on behalf of human beings, however, he reveals the emotional and psychological consequences of a civil justice system that is often neither civil nor just. Werth explains esoteric legal and medical procedures in understandable terms that

laypeople will not find condescending, while describing the human side of the Sabias' case without patronizing attorneys and physicians. Ultimately, Damages is the chronicle of a devoted family braving a medical malpractice industry in which the decision-making process on both sides is governed by a cost-benefit analysis that leads, perhaps inevitably, to the commodification of human life. "Even after a big verdict," Werth quotes one malpractice lawyer, "I'm suffering because all I could get my clients, who've been brutalized by the most appalling malpractice, was money." --Tim Hogan --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Werth (The Billion Dollar Molecule, LJ 2/1/94) integrates the story of one family's travails after the birth of a profoundly disabled son with an unbiased view of medical and legal issues. Werth reviewed files and interviewed most of the people involved in the medical malpractice case brought by the parents of Tony John Sabio. This meticulous, even-handed approach results in a book that is both an engrossing look at the experiences of one family and a serious glimpse into the American medical malpractice industry. It also touches on the serious question of whether, given the competing interests involved, a medical malpractice suit can be an effective tool to discover the truth or achieve justice. This is the book that Jonathan Harr's A Civil Action (LJ 9/15/95) aspired to be but was not because Harr did not put that particular lawsuit into the larger context. Recommended for any library where medical and/or legal true stories are in demand.?Suzanne Pierce Dyer, Alameda Cty. Law Lib., Oakland, Cal.Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This is a thoughtfully-written, highly detailed account of the legal maneuvering that goes on for years, following a disastrousoutcome in a hospital's delivery room. The author spent time with the parties involved on both sides of the lawsuit.The reader gets to know the various lawyers as people who had lives prior to going into law.Whether a person works in medicine or not, "Damages" illustrates how a clinician's culpability is not always the most importantfactor in determining who the plaintiff's lawyers will "go after." Many strategic considerations come into play. We get a behind the scenes look at the experts hired to testify and what the limits of their usefulness are.I highly recommend this book.

For those of you who are interested in medical malpracticeÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â  this is the book for you! Detailed legal reading thriller.

This is a great book. I have read it before; have it in PB. The seller did what was promised and on time. 5 Starts. If you have an interest in medical malpractice you do not need to read fiction.

I read this book because it took place close to my hometown of Stamford, CT. I just... WOW. I feel terrible that things like this happen, and I am glad this book is out there to give people more knowledge. I can't get over this book.

This is a wonderful book for anyone involved in the litigation process or anyone involved in the health care field.I am a structured settlement consultant who works with personal injury attorneys and some insurance companies. This is the best book I have ever seen about the process. I have purchased over 200 copies of the book to give to trial attorneys, claims professionals and other structured settlement professionals. All love the book. It reads like a novel.Don McNay...

As a labor and delivery nurse, my eyes were opened to a world I never knew existed. It will certainly direct how I conduct my pactice

I bought this to read the summer before I started law school. It was a fun (depressing) read. I don't think I'll go into medmal but I did like the book.

Incredible book!

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