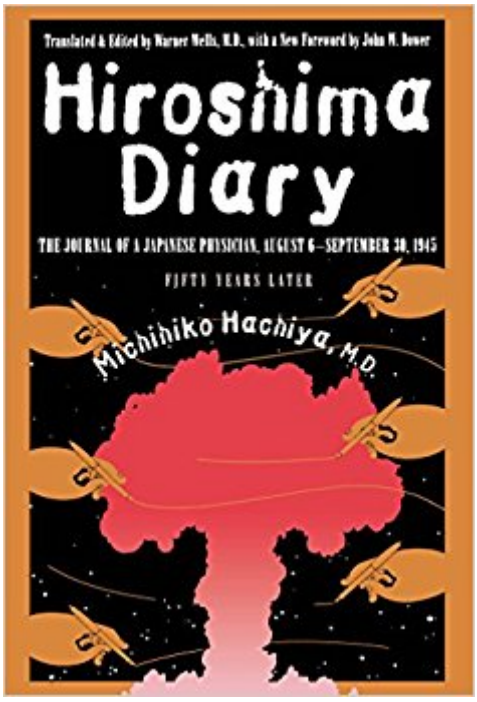
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Hiroshima Diary: The Journal Of A Japanese Physician, August 6-September 30, 1945



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Synopsis

The late Dr. Michihiko Hachiya was director of the Hiroshima Communications Hospital when the world's first atomic bomb was dropped on the city. Though his responsibilities in the appalling chaos of a devastated city were awesome, he found time to record the story daily, with compassion and tenderness. His compelling diary was originally published by the UNC Press in 1955, with the help of Dr. Warner Wells of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, who was a surgical consultant to the Atomic Bomb Casualty Commission and who became a friend of Dr. Hachiya. In a new foreword, John Dower reflects on the enduring importance of the diary fifty years after the bombing.

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Customer Reviews

I have read it through at a sitting. . . . It is a simple and unpretentious account of compassion, sorrow, and great courage.--Robert OppenheimerComes closer to telling the real story than anything I have seen outside Japan.--Norman CousinsAlthough Hiroshima Diary is necessarily full of horrors, it is not a depressing book. Frightening certainly; but the courage, patience, unselfishness, and resourcefulness it records would make the grimmest misanthrope proud of the human race.--Atlantic MonthlyOne of the most extraordinary records of human calamity and courage in the history of letters.--NewsweekA book that we all ought to read in order that we may know what we have done and what will happen in the future if the atomic weapons continue to be used.--Pearl BuckAn extraordinary literary event.--New York Times

Text: English (translation) Original Language: Japanese

Quite remarkable. Hopefully a once in a lifetime event. This is a great read. The author's description of the events immediately after the US dropped the atomic bomb was chilling. Also interesting were comments of the Japanese regarding the war and Americans. The book is short but there is not a wasted page. Everyone should read this account. Highly recommended.

First read this book in high school world history in the 70's. Opened my eyes to the world.

This book shows a unbiased story from the Japanese point of view. I found this book interesting, sad and very believable. I had previously read the Enola Gay and wanted to read this book to put world war II in perspective. The two book versions of the war shows how two countries are such polar opposites. The books were very disturbing, its shows we have not learned from our conflicts and continue to go to war. I can understand why we dropped the bombs and why today nuclear power keeps this from happening again (hopefully). This book showed how being isolated, poor and indoctrinated keeps people oppressed generation after generation.

Dr. Hachiya's account of post a-bomb Hiroshima is particularly interesting in that he plays dual role of victim and doctor. Through his portrayal of many caring interactions, the reader can infer that Dr. Hachiya is a well-liked and respected man; it is these relationships/interactions that make his story that-much-more powerful.I would've liked to known what future research, if any, Dr. Hachiya did on the subject of radiation sickness. I've got to imagine that, with his first-hand exposure to the illness and his natural curiosity as a doctor, he continued to passionately study the subject.

What can I say? It was fascinating reading a diary of someone who was actually there. I had never been able to think about it from this perspective before. It's the difference between, well, second hand reporting and first hand. For me, there is a world of difference.

This eyewitness explanation of the people's behavior during this forever singular period in world history was a professional's service to mankind.

It is an eye opening diary AS TO WHAT THE SURVIVORS HAD TO ENDURE AFTER THE BLAST...It should also serve as a warning to all nations that have nuclear capability..... In a total

nuclear war there can be no winner ,there may be no survivors...Those that survive may not be recognizable...I support our use of the bombs to end WWII but nuclear war is not the answer to man'sinability to coexist on this planet.....

I saw an obituary that prompted me to look for this book, and was surprised that I could find it. Thank you, , you have not disappointed me. Time and time again you are able to provide me with the most obscure books I'm looking for. I received it promptly, in good condition, for a fair price. I recommend this book to WWII history buffs, for a factual account of personal experiences on the Japanese side of the bombing of Hiroshima.

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