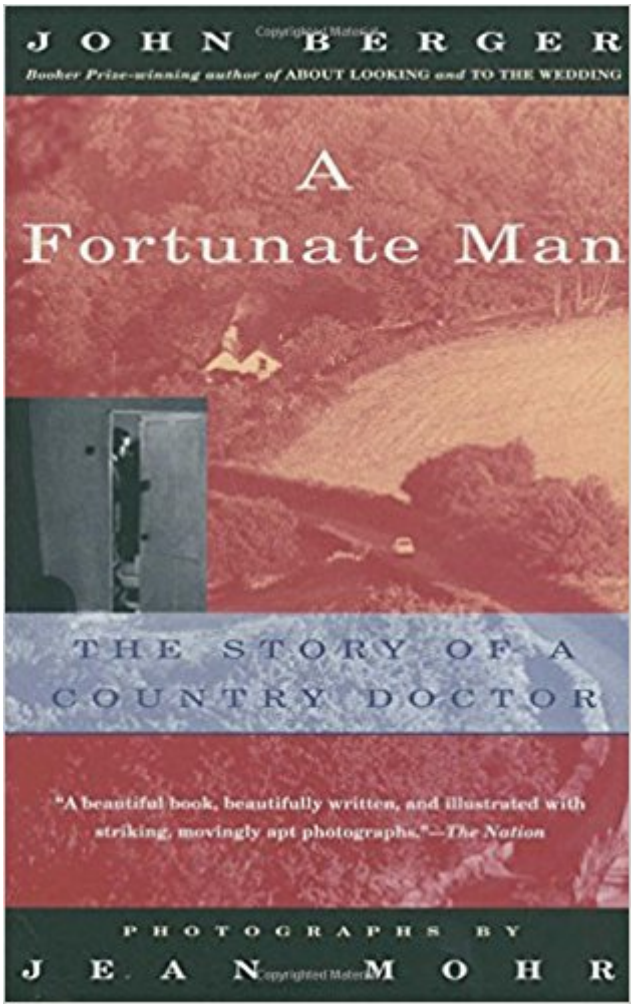
Ebook Directory
the best source of ebook

The book was found

A Fortunate Man: The Story Of A Country Doctor



PDF
Adobe
DOWNLOAD EBOOK

Synopsis

In this quietly revolutionary work of social observation and medical philosophy, Booker Prize-winning writer John Berger and the photographer Jean Mohr train their gaze on an English country doctor and find a universal man--one who has taken it upon himself to recognize his patient’s humanity when illness and the fear of death have made them unrecognizable to themselves. In the impoverished rural community in which he works, John Sassall tend the maimed, the dying, and the lonely. He is not only the dispenser of cures but the repository of memories. And as Berger and Mohr follow Sassall about his rounds, they produce a book whose careful detail broadens into a meditation on the value we assign a human life. First published thirty years ago, A Fortunate Man remains moving and deeply relevant--no other book has offered such a close and passionate investigation of the roles doctors play in their society."In contemporary letters John Berger seems to me peerless; not since Lawrence has there been a writer who offers such attentiveness to the sensual world with responsiveness to the imperatives of conscience." --Susan Sontag

Book Information

Paperback: 168 pages

Publisher: Vintage; 1 edition (March 25, 1997)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 9780679737261

ISBN-13: 978-0679737261

ASIN: 067973726X

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.5 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 22 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #77,333 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #35 inÃ Â Books > Medical Books > Medicine > Doctor-Patient Relations #46 inÃ Â Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Sociology > Rural #47 inÃ Â Books > Medical Books > Administration & Medicine Economics > Medical History & Records

Customer Reviews

A genuine tour de force . . .The intimate portrait of one man and his microscopic world reveals the faults and strains of a whole society (OBSERVER)This extraordinary book unravels the tangled branches of the everyday to reveal the brightness within. It inspires me to think more slowly, more

deeply, to wear acquired knowledge lightly, to open my senses more fully to the wonders in the plain and close-at-hand (JAMES MEEK)It's one of my favourite books in the world, an ongoing inspiration as to how books should be written (and photography used) (ALAIN de BOTTON)This disturbingly beautiful book will continue to haunt you long after you have set it aside (RICHARD HOLLOWAY)In 1967 A Fortunate Man marked the most significant step forward in the collaboration of a writer and photographer since Let us Now Praise Famous Men by Walker Evans and James Agee. Incredibly, it still does . . . A masterpiece (GEOFF DYER)I only wish I could do justice in a few words to the richness that makes this book so compelling (GUARDIAN)John Berger seems to me peerless; not since Lawrence has there been a writer who offers such attentiveness to the sensual world with responsiveness to the imperatives of conscience (SUSAN SONTAG)A masterpiece of witness; a three-way meditation on humanity, society and the value of healing (GAVIN FRANCIS)A book about caring that will make you care, and a book about deep healing that may heal your soul. It is also, almost 50 years on, uncannily timely (SIMON GARFIELD) --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Berger's exploration of what it means to heal, now inducted into the Canons series nearly fifty years after its first publication --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

A Fortunate Man, first published in the late1960's has remained an enduring book which not only captures a time and place - a small village in the border country between England and Wales in the 1960's, but has become a book which in many ways is an archetypal essay about the relationship of the physician to himself, to the community and to the ideals and realities of practice. I have taught this book in medical school for almost 20 years, using it as a stimulus for young physicians to think about themselves and how they view their careers, looking forward. The photographs by Jean Mohr are among the most striking and emotional depictions of medicine in the late 20th century and the book has become a widely referenced example of combining narrative and photographs in the documentary style.Anyone who wishes to understand the essence of the doctor patient relationship or the doctor community relationship should own this book and read it. It is a classic.

This strikes me as a book to be read for people reckoning with career and life choices. It is a rich and complex look at a country doctor who has made a life of helping others, but not in some glorified Ghandi-like way-- this man is down to earth and the descriptions of his life are wonderfully down to earth too.

The story and characters had a powerful, positive effect on me. Even weeks later, I think about some of the insights and actions.

From our privileged perspective, we can recognize this as a book attempting to articulate the peculiar, flawed genius that sometimes is manifest in (by?) mentally illness.

as a physician and surgeon, I felt deeply moved by John Berger's words and Jean Mohr's pictures... despite the awesome advancements in both medicine & surgery, the essence of physician-hood lies within those finely distilled moments between physician and patient. The relationship between physician and patient has slowly eroded since Berger's extended essay. Yet as I intermittently re-read the text and stare at the all-too-familiar scenes of suffering and personal anguish, I experience a sense of hope and become acutely aware of the necessity of remaining a staunch advocate for my patients.

An inspiring story of an extraordinary man.

I am required to read this book for Clinical Skills class, but I just quit reading it when I got to part in the middle when the author talks about how ignorant the villagers are: "There are large sections of the English working and middle class who are INARTICULATE as a result of wholesale cultural deprivation. THEY ARE DEPRIVED OF THE MEANS OF TRANSLATING WHAT THEY KNOW INTO THOUGHTS THEY CAN THINK." WHAT?!?!?!?!?! I am sure there are lessons to be learned from this book, but between the marginal-quality, occasionally cryptic writing and the scorn the author shows in passages like this, they're lost. Forget selling this book back to the bookstore... I'm taking it straight to the recycling bin. If there are good lessons in the end, I don't have the patience to read all the way through to get to them. And Lord help me if I ever become the kind of doctor this book describes.

This book is an extended essay on the work of Dr. John Sassall, a country General Practicioner (GP), in a poor area of Britain. Integrated into this book are a series of often striking photographs taken by Berger's collaborator Jean Mohr. The photos complement Berger's insightful comments on Sassall's work. Berger and Mohr appear to have spent a good deal of time with Sassall and his patients and must have earned the trust, not only of Sassall, but of his patients. Berger terms

Sassall "A Fortunate Man" not because of good luck or unusual talent but because Sassall is a person whose work is directly connected with basic existential questions and meaning. The portrait of Sassall is unsentimental, clear, and admiring. Sassall is not just a highly competent and dedicated physician, he is a man who feels compelled to use his occupational life in a quest to explore basic questions about the nature of human relationships and community. This need drives him to be an exceptionally good physician and to involve himself deeply in the life of his rather insular community. While Sassall is an unusual man and physician, many aspects of his experiences in dealing with patients cast light on doctor-patient relationships in general. As a physician, I found Berger's analysis of many of these issues insightful and useful. Berger proceeds to larger issues of how society values life and work. Berger's writing is unambiguous, direct, and informed by a considerable critical intelligence. The real measure of this book is that readers will find themselves drawn back to thinking about the questions that Berger raises.

Download to continue reading...

A Fortunate Man: The Story of a Country Doctor The Third Doctor Adventures - Volume 3 (Doctor Who - The Third Doctor Adventures) The Fourth Doctor Adventures 5.1: Wave of Destruction (Doctor Who: The Fourth Doctor Adventures) The Fourth Doctor Adventures - The Eternal Battle (Doctor Who: The Fourth Doctor Adventures) A Fortunate Life (Puffin story books) Country Guitar Heroes - 100 Country Licks for Guitar: Master 100 Country Guitar Licks In The Style of The WorldÃ¢â ¬â„¢s 20 Greatest Players (Play Country Guitar Licks) Country Guitar Heroes - 100 Country Licks for Guitar: Master 100 Country Guitar Licks In The Style of The 20 Greatest Players (Play Country Guitar Licks) Delbert McClinton: One of the Fortunate Few (John and Robin Dickson Series in Texas Music, sponsored by the Center for Texas) Fortunate Son: The Unlikely Rise of Keith Urban A Fortunate Life The Fortunate Pilgrim The Fortunate Ones: A Novel The Fortunate Son: Top, Through the Eyes of Others The Iron Man Collection: Marvel's Iron Man, Marvel's Iron Man 2, and Marvel's Iron Man 3 My Own Country: A Doctor's Story of a Town and its People in the Age of AIDS My Own Country: A Doctor's Story Appointments with Heaven: The True Story of a Country Doctor's Healing Encounters with the Hereafter Santo remedio / Doctor Juan's Top Home Remedies: Cientos de remedios caseros llenos de sabidurÃƒÂ- a y ciencia / Hundreds of home remedies full of wisdom ... (Consulta con Doctor Juan) (Spanish Edition) What Your Doctor May Not Tell You About(TM): Premenopause: Balance Your Hormones and Your Life from Thirty to Fifty (What Your Doctor May Not Tell You About...(Ebooks)) What Your Doctor May Not Tell You About(TM): Breast Cancer: How Hormone Balance Can Help Save Your Life (What Your Doctor May Not Tell You About...(Paperback))