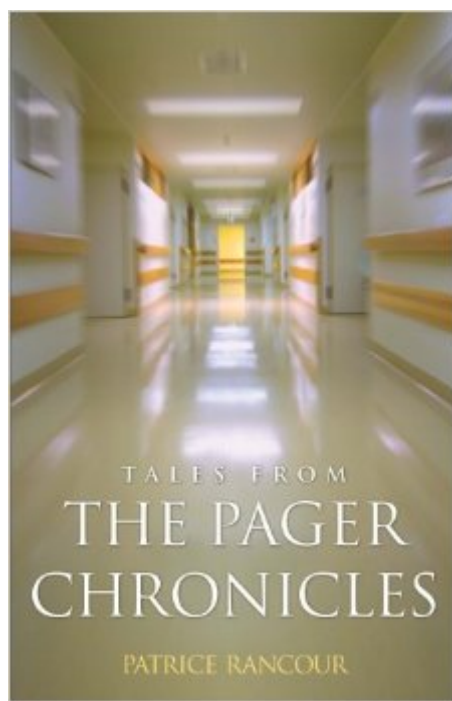


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Tales From The Pager Chronicles



Synopsis

I think courage isn't about looking like Grace Kelly as we walk into the lion's den. It's about being stinking afraid and walking in anyway. So says Patrice Rancour, a strikingly humane, honest, funny, and poetic new voice, as she ushers readers through the 32 encounters in this day-in-the-life at a modern-day cancer hospital, her pager serving as her link from one human in need to the next, while she tends and ministers to both the living and the dead.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Patrice Rancour's *Tales From the Pager Chronicles* reads like a literary/medical version of the hit television show "24." Each chapter is a vignette which starts and ends with Rancour's pager sounding an alert, all occurring as part of a typical day for this dedicated professional nurse. Each story is different, as are Rancour's approaches to dealing with each patient as the unique individual that he/she is. And yet, there is one common thread that binds them all together--each patient trusts her and she in turn does not betray that trust. In each room, at every bedside, she is--in that moment--there for that one patient and his/her needs. Until her pager sounds off yet again. Each vignette is introduced by the phone call to answer a page and Rancour learning of the challenge that lies ahead. Likewise, most end with one simple line: "And that's when the pager goes off." Just as she must turn her attention to another person in need, with that simple line, she draws her readers gently away from the patient in the present story and moves them into the next. With compassion and insight, Rancour takes her reader into the most intimate of all exchanges between

nurse, patient and family. Hers is a daunting task--to help guide patients and their families through the stages of life-threatening illness and end-of-life situations. As a nurse, she realizes that the well-being of the staff nurses is an important element to a good patient experience. As she responds to staff's calls for help with individual patients and situations, she is unwavering in her care for the staff as well. In her introduction, Rancour lists her targeted readers: patients, caregivers, healthcare providers, and students of healthcare professions.

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