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be
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dead

THE FABLE OF
HEALTH CARE IN
NORTH AMERICA

Mama Might Be Better Off Dead

RJ Alexander



Mama Might Be Better Off Dead:

Mama Might Be Better Off Dead Laurie Kaye Abraham, 2019-05-10 A provocative examination of our health care delivery for the poor Such an honest and candid account is essential Alex Kotlowitz national bestselling author of *There Are No Children Here* *Mama Might Be Better Off Dead* immerses readers in the lives of four generations of a poor African American family from North Lawndale Chicago who are beset with the devastating illnesses that are all too common in America's inner cities Headed by Jackie Banes who oversees the care of a diabetic grandmother a husband on kidney dialysis an ailing father and three children the Banes family contends with countless medical crises From visits to emergency rooms and dialysis units to trials with home care to struggles for Medicaid eligibility Laurie Kaye Abraham chronicles their access or lack thereof to medical care Their story reveals an inadequate health care system that is further undermined by the effects of poverty *Mama Might Be Better Off Dead* is an unsettling profound look at the human face of health care in America This new edition includes an incisive foreword by David Ansell a physician who worked at Mt Sinai Hospital where much of the Banes family's narrative unfolds Goes to the heart of today's problem Powerful deeply searching *Washington Post* A powerful indictment of the big business of medicine *Los Angeles Times* Abraham illuminates the problems with passion and skill *Kirkus Reviews* This personally observed lucid chronicle and call for reform of our ailing health system covers all levels of responsibility in the medical establishment *Publishers Weekly* Clearly identifies in human and policy terms how healthcare programs have failed a population desperately in need of help *Library Journal*

Mama Might Be Better Off Dead Laurie Kaye Abraham, 2012-03-28 *Mama Might Be Better Off Dead* is an unsettling profound look at the human face of health care Both disturbing and illuminating it immerses readers in the lives of four generations of a poor African American family beset with the devastating illnesses that are all too common in America's inner cities The story takes place in North Lawndale a neighborhood that lies in the shadows of Chicago's Loop Although surrounded by some of the city's finest medical facilities North Lawndale is one of the sickest most medically underserved communities in the country Headed by Jackie Banes who oversees the care of a diabetic grandmother a husband on kidney dialysis an ailing father and three children the Banes family contends with countless medical crises From visits to emergency rooms and dialysis units to trials with home care to struggles for Medicaid eligibility Abraham chronicles their access or lack of access to medical care Told sympathetically but without sentimentality their story reveals an inadequate health care system that is further undermined by the direct and indirect effects of poverty When people are poor they become sick easily When people are sick their families quickly become poorer Embedded in the family narrative is a lucid analysis of the gaps inconsistencies and inequalities the poor face when they seek health care This book reveals what health care policies crafted in Washington D C or state capitals look like when they hit the street It shows how Medicaid and Medicare work and don't work the Catch 22s of hospital financing in the inner city the racial politics of organ transplants the failure of childhood immunization programs the vexed issues of individual

responsibility and institutional paternalism One observer puts it this way Show me the poor woman who finds a way to get everything she s entitled to in the system and I ll show you a woman who could run General Motors Abraham deftly weaves these themes together to make a persuasive case for health care reform while unflinchingly presenting the complexities that will make true reform as difficult as it is necessary *Mama Might Be Better Off Dead* is a book with the power to change the way health care is understood in America For those seeking to learn what our current system of health care promises and what it delivers it offers a place for the debate to begin *Place Matters* Peter Dreier, John H. Mollenkopf, Todd Swanstrom, 2004 Analyzes the problematic trends facing America s cities and older suburbs and challenges us to put America s urban crisis back on the national agenda **The Utne Reader** ,1993 *Health/PAC Bulletin* ,1993 Approaches to Teaching Health Care in Social Work ,1999 Physician Assistant Edward M. Sullivan, 1999 Here s the 2nd Edition of the popular resource that covers everything from the general history and context of physician assisting to the clinical skills PAs must learn Provides guidance in history taking physical exam techniques and case presentations and also covers professional issues of stress health care financing and more Contains strong coverage of pharmacology including drug selection patient education placebos and prescriptive practice This edition presents extensive updates in the chapters covering the role of the PA in emergency medicine and obstetrics and gynecology Annals of Health Law ,2002 **Feminist Bookstore News** ,1995-02 Illinois Issues ,1994 **Sociological Abstracts** ,1995 "Here for Life" Karen M. Edwards, 1996 *Lingua Franca* ,1996 DePaul Journal of Health Care Law ,2002 *USA Today Index* ,1993 *The Publishers Weekly* ,1994 *Disability Studies Quarterly* ,1994 The WomanSource Catalog & Review Ilene Rosoff, 1995 *Print* Martha T. Mooney, 1995 Excerpts from and citations to reviews of more than 8 000 books each year from 109 publications Electronic version with expanded coverage and retrospective version available see p 5 and p 31 Pricing Service Basis Books Health Affairs ,1994

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