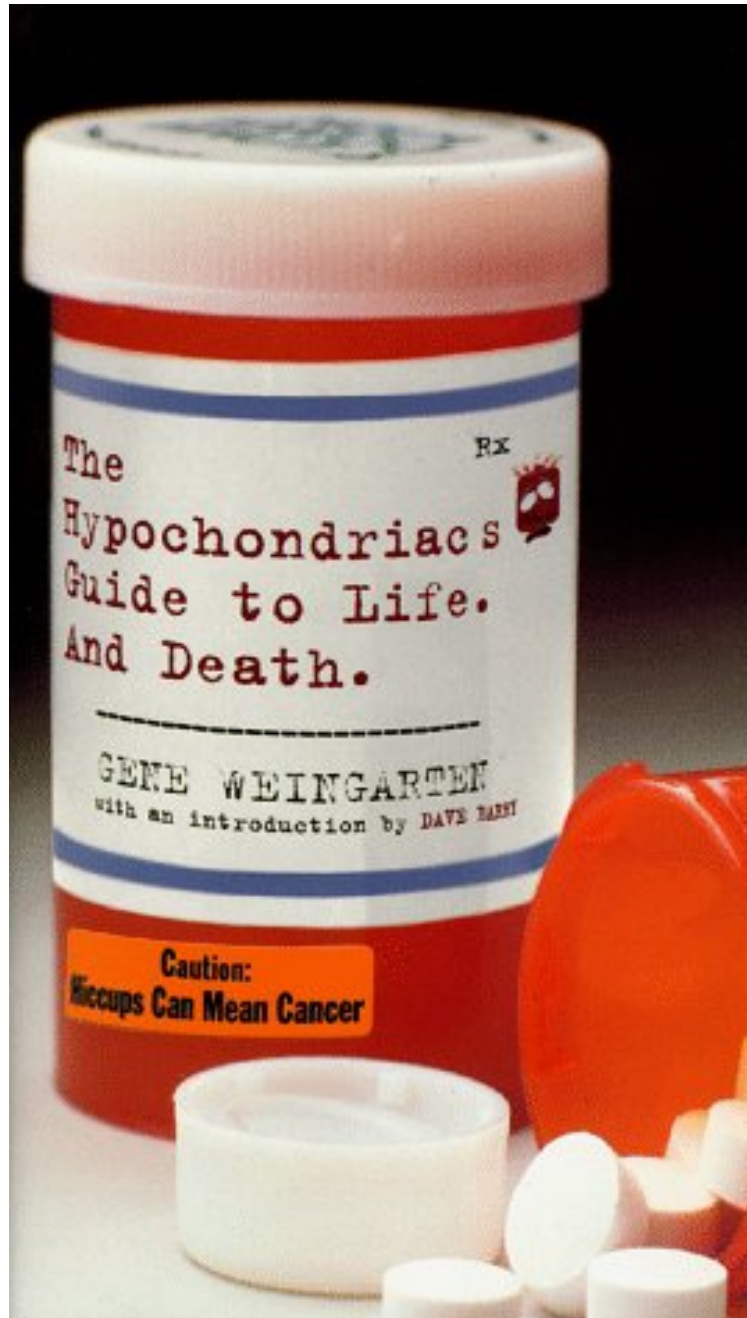


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The Hypochondriac's Guide to Life. And Death.

Gene Weingarten

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Gene Weingarten : The Hypochondriac's Guide to Life. And Death. before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Hypochondriac's Guide to Life. And Death.:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Funny and relativeBy DanA good light read from an author who clearly understands more than he lets on. I won't reveal too much of the book (especially the ending). Suffice to say that it is a candid exploration of something which afflicts all of us contemporary western society at some stage. Highly recommended!0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great entertainment.By Dr.MaxWarning... this is not for the paranoid, for those that read every bad bio-terrorisim book out there then wonder if they've contracted Ebola, or for those who call emergency when they've stubbed their toe thinking it's fleah eating cancer....Great book full of witty looks at all the medical disasters that can kill ya...It is well written, funny, well organised and lends itself to reading to friends and relatives who enjoy combining a lack of medical background with pure paranoia. Keep a copy around for flu season...0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Hilarious bookBy robsbombsJust start reading the book preview to get an idea of how the entire book will read. Humor throughout.

Are you a hypochondriac? Take this simple test. You have a headache. What do you do? Take an aspirin. Take an aspirin, but make sure your will is in order. Swallow any household poison available, Such as Clorox or Liquid-Plumr, in the faint hope that there is still time to kill the worms, since you know that a headache is sometimes a sign of cysticercosis, a parasitic disease in which the brain is invaded by the larva of the intestinal tapeworm, Taenia solium, which can grow to twenty feet long and has teeth. The best reason to get a dog is: A dog is a great friend. A dog is a great source of goofy entertainment when you are not feeling well. A dog is a great food taster. If he doesn't die, you're safe. When you watch ER, you are mostto the fear for one's soul: terrifying, humbling, and, in a strange sort of way, comforting.

From BooklistIf even paranoids have real enemies, Washington Post "Sunday Style" editor Weingarten humorously demands respect for his own minor mental derangement. Before heading to Washington D. C., Weingarten ran the Miami Herald's Sunday magazine. Miami colleague Dave Barry's foreword reveals some stylistic similarities: like Barry, Weingarten takes an ordinary--or only slightly odd--situation and pushes it to its limit. There's a fair amount of true medical information scattered amid satire, sidebars, and tongue-in-cheek charts in chapters on hypochondria, the hypochondriac's relationship with physicians, and a range of behaviors, symptoms, and conditions (e.g., headaches, hiccups, heart disease, tumors, ulcers, obesity, smoking, alcoholism, pregnancy, excretion, and "things that can take out an eye"). Weingarten proudly claims a lifetime of hypochondria, a disease abruptly cured several years ago when he was diagnosed with hepatitis C: what doctors call "the next epidemic." So perhaps Weingarten is a posthypochondriac who recalls the pleasures of imaginary illnesses while coping with all-too-real health problems. Mary Carroll New York Daily News Flat out the funniest book on hypochondria ever written.Alexandra Jacobs Entertainment Weekly Weingarten half-merrily, half-anxiously dispenses with journalistic objectivity...and fleshes out concerns about his own mortality in detail that's not for the squeamish.Allen B. Weisse, M.D. Journal of the American Medical Association If laughter is therapeutic, then this guide is sure to succeed, keeping all of us -- patients and physicians alike -- in stitches.Jackie Jones Bleecker The San Diego Union-Tribune The definitive laugh-out-loud handbook....Hilarious. And Scary.About the AuthorGene Weingarten is a nationally syndicated humor columnist and a Pulitzer Prize-winning staff writer for The Washington Post. He lives in Washington, DC.Dave Barry is the author of many bestsellers including Dave Barry's Complete Guide to Guys, Dave Barry Turns 40 and Dave Barry Is Not Making This Up. A wildly popular syndicated columnist, Barry won the 1988 Pulitzer Prize for commentary. He lives in Miami, FL.