

GT Grand Rounds
Clinical Center NIH
September 12, 2007

The Vocation of Medicine: Lessons from Real and Imagined Physicians
Paul Plotz, M.D.

Read aloud in the lecture

The Physician Himself and What He Should Add To His Scientific Acquirements
D. W. Cathell, M.D. Second Edition - Carefully Revised 1882

The Doctor Despite Himself (translated by J. Wood & D. Coward)
Molière 1666

Middlemarch - Book II, Chapter XV
George Eliot (pen name of Mary Ann Evans) 1875

A Fortunate Man
John Berger 1967

"The Patient Examines the Doctor" from "Intoxicated by My Illness"
Anatole Broyard 1990

"The Practice" from "The Autobiography" in The Doctor Stories
William Carlos Williams 1962

Ward Six - (translated by Ann Dunnigan, Signet 1965)
Anton Chekhov 1892

Cancer Ward - Part II, Chapter 9 (translated by N. Bethell & D. Burg)
Alexander Solzhenitsyn 1968

Fathers and Sons - Chapter XXVII (translated by Ralph Matlaw)
Ivan Turgenev 1861

An earlier version of this lecture was given to AΩA at Downstate Medical Center in April 2003

Some other readings

Ruth Abram	<i>"Send us a Lady Physician" - Women Doctors in America</i>
Thomas Browne	<i>Religio Medici</i>
Albert Camus	<i>The Plague</i>
Anton Chekhov	<i>Three Sisters</i>
A.J.Cronin	<i>The Citadel</i>
Charles Dickens	<i>Bleak House</i>
Anne Fadiman	<i>The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down</i>
F. Scott Fitzgerald	<i>Tender is the Night</i>
Gustave Flaubert	<i>Madame Bovary</i>
E. M. Forster	<i>A Passage to India</i>
Nathaniel Hawthorne	<i>The Scarlet Letter</i>
Henrik Ibsen	<i>An Enemy of the People</i>
Sarah Orne Jewett	<i>A Country Doctor</i>
Sinclair Lewis	<i>Arrowsmith</i>
Alan Lightman	<i>The Diagnosis</i>
W. Somerset Maugham	<i>Of Human Bondage</i>
William Osler	<i>Aequanimitas</i>
Richard Powers	<i>Operation Wandering Star</i>
Mary Shelley	<i>Frankenstein</i>
Susan Sontag	<i>Illness as Metaphor</i>
Robert Louis Stevenson	<i>Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde</i>
Morton Thompson	<i>Not as a Stranger</i>
Leo Tolstoy	<i>The Death of Ivan Illych</i>
Anthony Trollope	<i>Dr. Thorne</i>
Ivan Turgenev	<i>A Month in the Country</i>
Joseph Turow	<i>Playing Doctor - Television, Storytelling, and Medical Power</i>
Martin Winckler	<i>The Case of Doctor Sachs</i>

Also, works by Walker Percy, Oliver Sacks, Richard Seltzer, Sherwin Nuland,
Abraham Verghese, Jerome Groopman, Atal Gowande