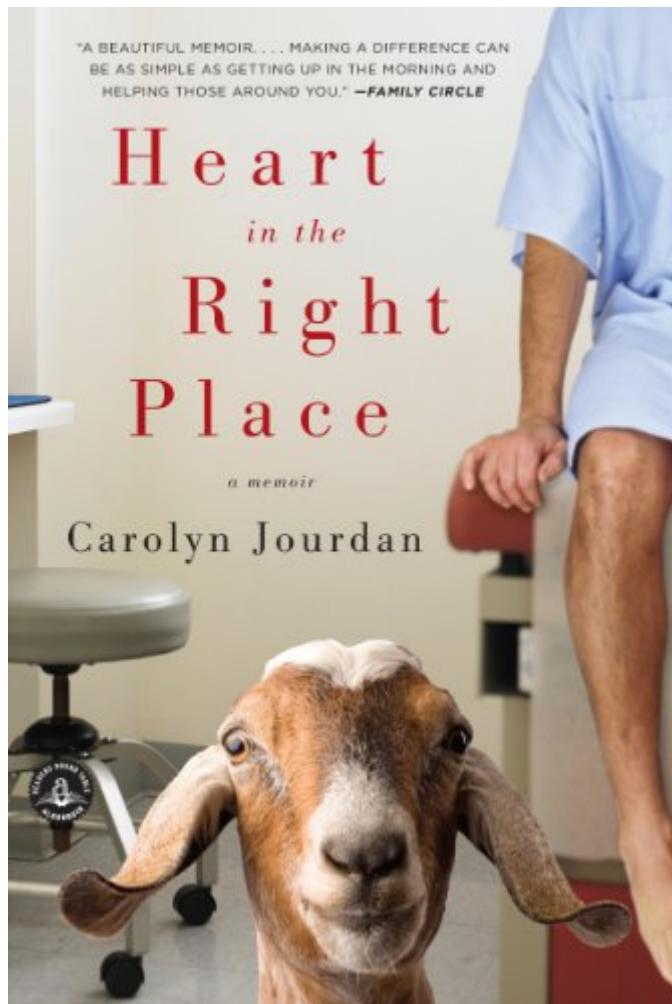


The book was found

Heart In The Right Place: A Memoir



Synopsis

Carolyn Jourdan, an attorney on Capitol Hill, thought she had it made. But when her mother has a heart attack, she returns homeâ "to the Tennessee mountains, where her father is a country doctor and her mother works as his receptionist. Jourdan offers to fill in for her mother until she gets better. But days turn into weeks as she trades her suits for scrubs and finds herself following hazmat regulations for cleaning up bodily fluids; maintaining composure when confronted with a splinter the size of a steak knife; and tending to the loquacious Miss Hiawatha, whose daily doctor visits are never billed. Most important, though, she comes to understand what her caring and patient father means to her close-knit community. With great humor and great tenderness, *Heart in the Right Place* shows that some of our biggest heroes are the ones living right beside us.

Book Information

File Size: 700 KB

Print Length: 321 pages

Publisher: Algonquin Books; Reprint edition (August 19, 2008)

Publication Date: May 17, 2013

Sold by:Â Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B001FA0G9E

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #73,490 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #26 inÂ Books > Medical Books > Allied Health Professions > Physician Assistants #31 inÂ Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Regional U.S. > South #90 inÂ Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Biographies & Memoirs > Professionals & Academics > Medical

Customer Reviews

I can't say how much I love this book. My family is from upper East Tennessee; and although I grew up in Chattanooga, which is closer to Atlanta, as a child I spent so much time visiting this area between Knoxville and the Virginia border. The author has done the most fantastic job of creating

the people of this area, their eccentricities, they wonderful hearts, and their view of the outside world. Through them, Ms. Jourdan makes you cry, makes you laugh, and makes you think about what really matters in life. Compassion and respect for others are the hallmarks of Ms. Jourdan's memoir. She leaves the compassionless legal-political world of Washington, D.C. for her father's rural medical practice where patients, even those who can't pay, are never turned away yet are never deprived of their dignity. What begins as a three-day temp job to cover for her seriously ill mother becomes a much longer opportunity for the author to reconnect with her roots and to reexamine the meaning of her own life. Her account is always honest and never sentimental; and Ms. Jourdan makes the reader feel, along with her, the strength of the competing forces in her life. Does she go back to D.C. or does she stay in Tennessee? The resolution of her dilemma is heroic and authentic. This book is funny, sad, tender, and compassionate. There are so few books that I know I will read again, but *Heart in the Right Place* is at the head of my list. You will love every minute you spend with this book.

I recently re-read this book for an online book club and was reminded of just how wonderful it was. Anyone who likes *Call The Midwife* will love this memoir full of stories of the hard and the beautiful stuff of life. (But the writing is much, much better than the *Midwife* books.) I grew up in East Tennessee, the daughter of a small-town doctor, and I left to fulfill my dream of living overseas. Carolyn's story of coming home to East TN to help out in her doctor father's office were so personal for me. She gets it exactly right, what it's like to come home to a small town where everyone knows your business, what it's like to live in a community of colorful characters who take care of each other, what it's like to struggle with your identity when your roots are so deep in one place yet you have traveled and become so much more than your small town can offer. She writes with honesty and love about a people who are often maligned or treated as ignorant, and you will leave this book knowing so much more about Southern Appalachian culture than you ever could learn from TV or movies. But you don't have to be from East Tennessee, or even a small town, to enjoy this book. The characters will make you laugh out loud (and sob out loud, too). Carolyn's honest self-disclosure will be sure to resonate with some part of your own story, and you will be all the better for having read this book and thought about what it means to truly serve people and do something meaningful with your life. I highly recommend this book for anyone looking for an entertaining, thoughtful, and poignant read. You will get an intimate look into a community, a family, and your own heart. Also, you will probably have to explain to anyone in the same room with you what on earth is funny enough to make you laugh out loud in the middle of reading it!

When life happens and you must revamp all you know to the unfamiliar, that's when you find out who you really are. The change from Washington DC to the small doctor's office where you don't understand all that is happening right in front of your eyes can be a huge change in your life perspectives. A good dose of reality can happen to you in these circumstances. I loved the heart surgery! What a way to gain real understanding of life in an unusual way. I loved all the character descriptions and the detail used to describe her perceptions of situations as they happened. A wonderful read!

It really makes you think about what is important in life and how to set your priorities straight. And how to look at life right in the eye and decide what is important in life for you and reinvent your life to reflect what you believe in and set your course with the right star so you don't get lost. Enjoy !

I know Carolyn from facebook, a friend of friends, and her posts have been so enlightening and entertaining that I had to buy her book, and I haven't been able to put it down. I want the story to continue forever because it is so engaging and fun to read. I have teared up (so many heartwarming moments), chuckled, laughed out loud. Each sentence is filled with such rich language and imagery that I feel like I'm there and I know the characters intimately, a range from poor Tennessee rural patients in a modest hometown doctor's office that will treat all who need treatment, to a wealthy Harvard graduate Washington DC attorney working in the world of politics and lawmaking, absolutely beautiful. I'm buying one for my uncle, a retired pediatrician, and I'm confident he will love it.

I thought I had already read all of Carolyn Jourdan's books, but was tickled to find out that there was one I had missed. Such a story of angst and resolve. She is torn between the stellar legal/political career she has spent her life building and the selfless character instilled by her hardworking parents. Through it all she mixes in a healthy dose of humor. She manages to illustrate the craziness of human nature, especially evident in a backwoods little town. Think Sweet Home Alabama meets James Harriott with a little Marcus Welby mixed in for good measure. Hated to come to the last page!

So glad I found this book. Not exactly what I expected. It was even better! If you have an interest in old-fashioned country values, this book won't disappoint. A very pleasant journey with bits of humor

& honest reality. A nice confirmation of down home American values at their best! So refreshing especially in today's high-tech world. Loved it!

I was surprised by the quality of readability the author built into this book. I was very entertained. Some of the local characters are worthy of having a book written solely about their exploits. I admire the author in that she came back home to do her family duty and discovered her roots and a new occupation. ...

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Heart in the Right Place: A Memoir Right Plant, Right Place: Over 1400 Plants for Every Situation in the Garden Heart in the Right Place Your Spiritual Heart: Access the wisdom that manifests your heart's desire the right job, flow of wealth, loving relationships even enlightenment REVERSE HEART DISEASE - HEART ATTACK CURE & STROKE CURE - LOWER HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE TO NORMAL & RESTORE YOUTHFUL CARDIAC HEALTH WITH NO SURGERY OR DRUGS ... Pressure Cure, The End Of Heart Disease) The South Beach Heart Health Revolution: Cardiac Prevention That Can Reverse Heart Disease and Stop Heart Attacks and Strokes (The South Beach Diet) Mudras for a Strong Heart: 21 Simple Hand Gestures for Preventing, Curing & Reversing Heart Disease: [A Holistic Approach to Preventing & Curing Heart Disease] (Mudra Healing Book 8) The Patient's Guide To Heart Valve Surgery (Heart Valve Replacement And Heart Valve Repair) The Cardiac Recovery Cookbook: Heart Healthy Recipes for Life After Heart Attack or Heart Surgery Home Rules: Transform the Place You Live into a Place You'll Love Tahiti Beyond the Postcard: Power, Place, and Everyday Life (Culture, Place, and Nature) In the Kitchen with the Pike Place Fish Guys: 100 Recipes and Tips from the World-Famous Crew of Pike Place Fish Scavenger Hunt (Book 4 Aylesford Place Series) (Aylesford Place Humorous Christian Romance Series) Dancing Standing Still: Healing the World from a Place of Prayer; A New Edition of A Lever and a Place to Stand Literary Market Place 2017: The Directory of the American Book Publishing Industry with Industry Indexes (Literary Market Place (Lmp)) Long Island Gazetteer a Guide to Current and Historical Place Names: A Guide to Current and Historical Place Names Cafe Society: The wrong place for the Right people (Music in American Life) Atomic Farmgirl: Growing Up Right in the Wrong Place Aging in the Right Place Sketching User Experiences: Getting the Design Right and the Right Design (Interactive Technologies)

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