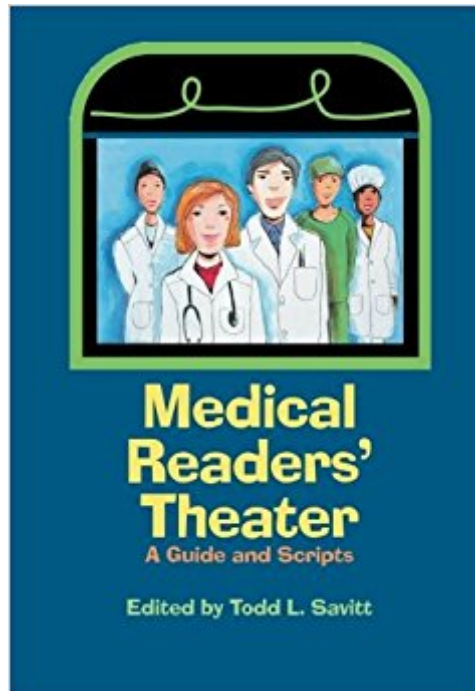




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# Medical Readers' Theater: A Guide And Scripts



## Synopsis

We have all had experiences with sickness, care giving, physicians, medical emergencies, hospitals, and doctors' offices. Health concerns are not solely the domain of medical students, physicians, or nurses - we all deal with our personal well-being and the health of our loved ones on a daily basis. Sometimes these health problems cause us to consider larger social and ethical issues. How do we respond and relate to such matters? In order to help both lay people and medical professionals consider various health care issues, East Carolina University's Brody School of Medicine developed a medical readers' theatre programme. Compiled for the first time in a single text, this book provides a vehicle for those who wish to engage in discussions among citizens and professionals about important, topical issues in contemporary medicine.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Medical Readers' Theater is a collection of skillfully rendered, easy-to-perform dramatizations of citizens' encounters with health professionals. Savitt's generosity in making his work available to us, with guides for production and discussion, is a gift that will educate and move all those who experience these plays-as audience or participant." -Suzanne Poirier, Ph.D., director of Medical Humanities, University of Illinois College of Medicine

Todd Savitt teaches the history of medicine and medical ethics in the Department of Medical Humanities at East Carolina University's Brody School of Medicine and coordinates ECU's Medical

Readers' Theater program. He is the author of *Medicine and Slavery: The Diseases and Health Care of Blacks in Antebellum Virginia*.

I presented Ann Bean's adaptation of Richard Selzer's "Follow Your Heart" at the Medical University of South Carolina-Charleston in 2014. Because of her artful pacing of the narrative, especially the letter exchange between the donor's widow and the heart recipient, the six volunteer readers kept the subject matter of a heart transplantation both riveting and humorous. I highly recommend it. To see a photograph of this theater event, go here (scroll down):[...]

This book includes a series of well written, emotionally evocative play scripts that stimulate discussion on the complexities of being or becoming a doctor. I have used several of them to good effect with medical students at various levels. The method described also lends itself to other fields, including the training of lawyers, other medical professionals, business people, clergy or counsellors of many stripes. In this modest volume, Dr. Todd has made a valuable contribution to allying humanities with professional education.

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