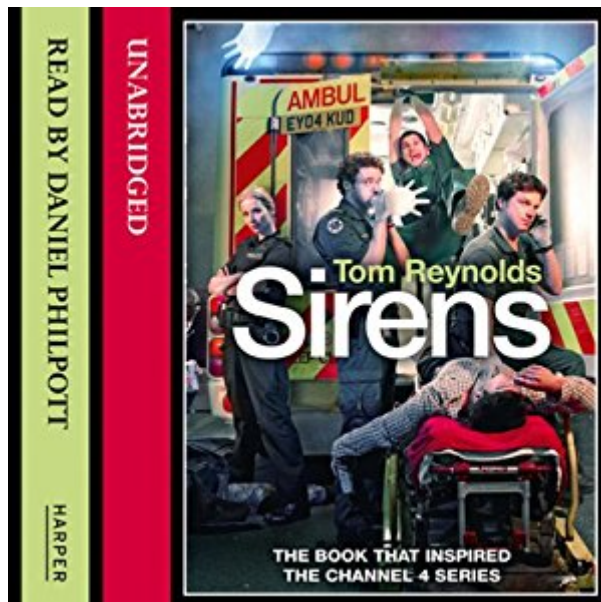


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# Sirens



## Synopsis

A beautifully written insight into the stresses, strains and successes of working for the London Ambulance service. Is there anyone who hasn't wondered about the state of the occupant of an ambulance, screaming along with its sirens on and blue lights flashing? Have you? And have you wondered about the other people inside the ambulance, maybe fighting to save the patient's life? Or have you considered that the ambulance may be another 'maternataxi' ordered by a woman who can't be bothered to book a real cab and who then complains she can't smoke on the way to hospital? And that the medical technician inside might just be desperate to get back home from a busy shift, to have a cup of tea and catch up with his blog? Meet Tom Reynolds. Tom is an Emergency Medical Technician who works for the London Ambulance Service in East London. He has kept a blog of his daily working life since 2003 and his award-winning writing is, by turn, moving, cynical, funny, heart-rending and compassionate. It is never less than compelling. From the tragic to the hilarious, from the heartwarming to the terrifying, the stories Tom tells give a fascinating - and at times alarming - picture of life in inner-city Britain, and the people who are paid to mop up after it.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This was an interesting read. It is missing the soap opera of Grey's Anatomy and the evil trial and error of House, but it is a read that will give you a peek into the life of an ambulance attendant in London. I am sure it isn't too different here in the states. It is based on a blog:[...]I think this would make a great TV series. Now I am off to read the next, More Blood, etc.

This is a true story of an English ambulance worker. It was a quick read. I enjoy medical novels so this was enjoyable to me. It had a little bit of everything. When you are between genres, or need a change of pace---try this.

Blood, Sweat and Tea is a book based on the blog "Random Acts of Reality" by a London, UK, based emergency medical technician (EMT), Tom Reynolds (a pseudonym, Tom has now revealed himself to be Brian Kellett). I'm an occasional visitor to Reynold's blog and always found him to be interesting, honest and well worth reading. This first book (there is now a second book called "More Blood, More Sweat and Another Cup of Tea") is a collection of some of Reynolds favourite posts from his blog, published in 2006. While it is obviously a book of blog postings, it does hang together as a coherent collection and is very readable. I could spend much longer reading his posts in this format than I could spend reading a screen for. His posts are not sugar-coated and show what life is like in the ambulance service. If I was Reynolds I would be very frustrated in having to put up with the non-emergency 999 calls that waste the time of already busy EMTs. He also talks touchingly about some of the tragic calls that he also is involved with. All-in-all a very interesting read - everyone should read a copy, especially those people who call 999 when they should be visiting their GP or taking themselves to A&E!

it's a good book

I enjoyed reading the real life work life of a British EMT. He writes well and has a great sense of humor and compassion. His humor and compassion comes out in his writing yet isn't maudlin or nasty about the people he encounters in his job. I recommend this book.

It was interesting insight to another job that I'll probably never have but I've always wondered about.

I find this book very informative, it is an excellent insight into inner city life. The bonus is that it gives one a good laugh from time to time.

Good one!!

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