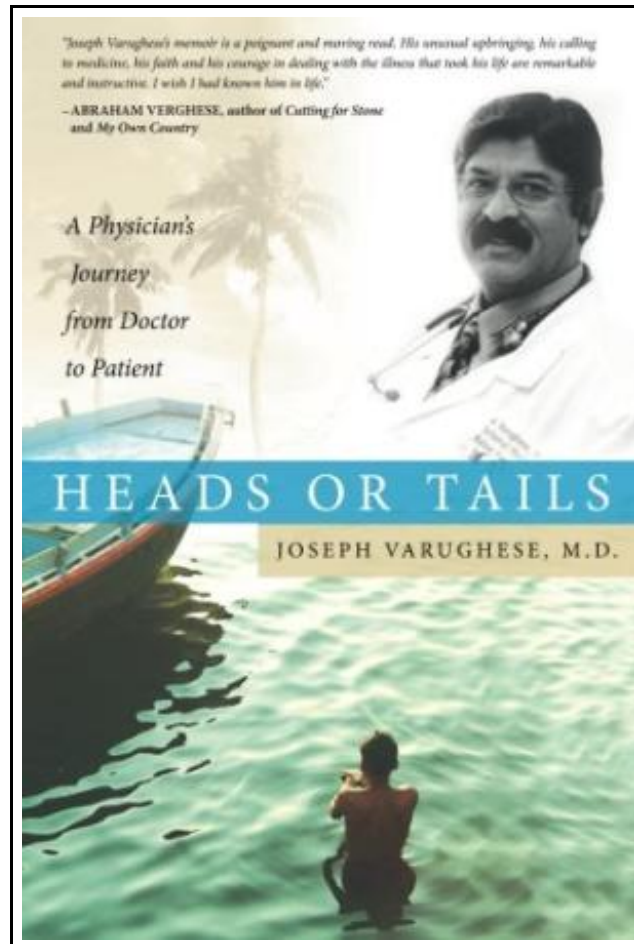


HEADS OR TAILS A Physicians Journey from Doctor to Patient



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HEADS OR TAILS A PHYSICIANS JOURNEY FROM DOCTOR TO PATIENT



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Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 226 pages. Joseph Varugheses memoir is a poignant and moving read. His unusual upbringing, his calling to medicine, his faith and his courage in dealing with the illness that took his life are remarkable and instructive. I wish I had known him in life. -ABRAHAM VERGHESE, author of Cutting for Stone and My Own Country AS A CHILD IN RURAL KERALA, SOUTH INDIA Joseph Varughese slept on a dirt floor. He had no running water till he was 13 or television till 26. In this autobiography he traces his journey from a youngster in a lonely village to a respected physician in glittering Los Angeles. He tells how he went from learning to write in grains of rice to mastering a rigorous medical curriculum in a near-foreign language. In the greatest twist, he changed from a doctor striding confidently down the hospital corridors to a patient covering his face as others wheeled him on a gurney. When diagnosed with non-Hodgkins lymphoma at the height of his career, Joseph leaned on his profound faith in God, and he learned that the greatest asset one can have in such an extremity is the loving care of family and friends. His wife, son, and daughter were always there for him, around the clock, and he describes their devoted attention to him. A bone marrow transplant is a harrowing experience, and he went through two. His fortitude in dealing with the grueling treatments is heart-rending and inspirational. From watching leeches suck blood from his mothers veins as a child, he gazed mesmerized as stem cells were infused into him five decades later. From the most primitive form of treatment, he became the recipient of the greatest gifts of modern medicine. And after years of treating very sick people, he entered...



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