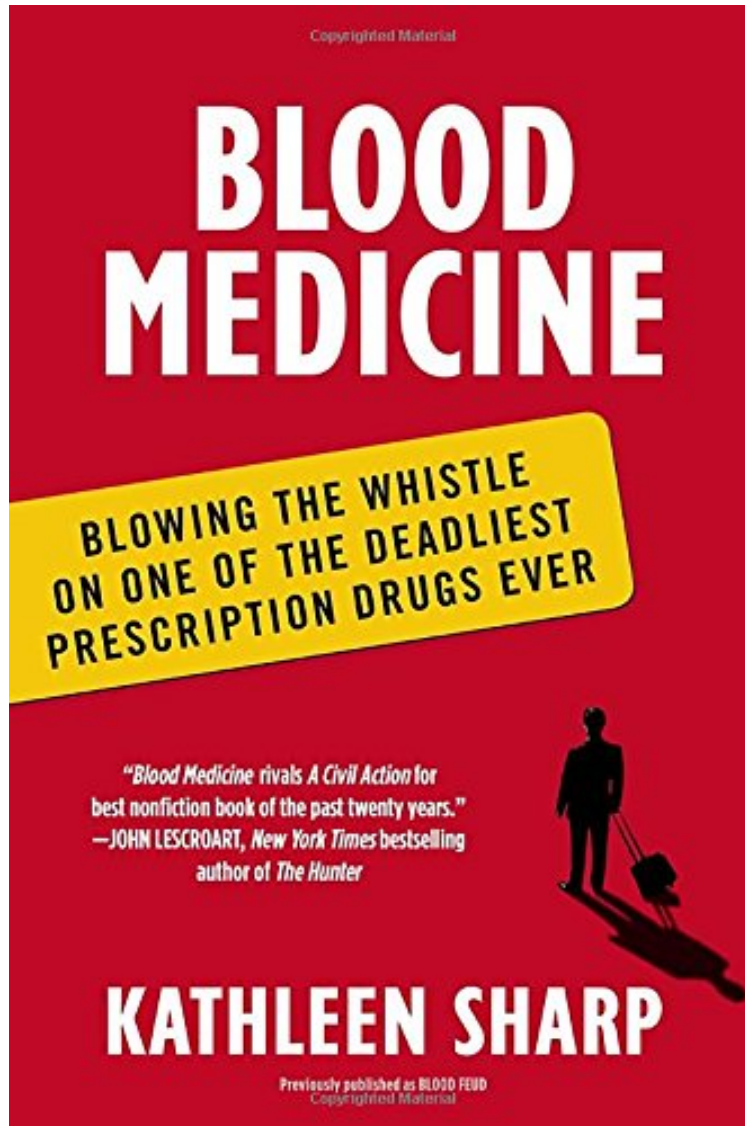


(Free pdf) Blood Medicine: Blowing the Whistle on One of the Deadliest Prescription Drugs Ever

# Blood Medicine: Blowing the Whistle on One of the Deadliest Prescription Drugs Ever

Kathleen Sharp

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**Kathleen Sharp : Blood Medicine: Blowing the Whistle on One of the Deadliest Prescription Drugs Ever** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Blood Medicine: Blowing the Whistle on One of the Deadliest Prescription Drugs Ever:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. I wish the average American would read this. By Doug W. Nothing improves until you admit something is wrong. This book is about what is wrong in healthcare. You will be shocked,

and at the same time, not at all surprised at the levels of deceit, lying, cheating, stealing, law-breaking and murder that people will engage in to make hundreds of billions of dollars. I regularly read this kind of research to keep me fired up and on purpose. I uncovered this ugliness while a pre-med student almost 30 years ago. I chose a different path, so that I could actually help people heal. If you are a real healer, this book will remind you why you are needed. If you are an average American, this book will help you come to the conclusion that your drug prescriptions are not the result of benevolent caregivers, but rather greed-mongers who only care about the sale. In fact, Johnson Johnson (one of the main characters in this book) began as one of the original "snake oil" businesses in America, and grew to become the company it is now by making false claims, throwing money around, breaking rules, and selling an image. They make "gentle" baby shampoo with cheap, toxic, low-quality ingredients while force-feeding Americans Procrit, even though it increased the death rate by 66% in some cases. Use this book to get fired up, focused and motivated, and then find better solutions to your healthcare issues. Here's a hint: the drug companies like to call those solutions "snake oil", "unproven remedies", "alternative medicine", "untested", and a whole host of things that help them push pills on an uncertain public. Here is another hint: your healthcare solutions will not be drugs.

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Narrative science writing at its best  
By Ricki Lewis  
I agree with the others who loved the tragic and true story of two drug reps trying to expose the unethical and illegal practices of a pharmaceutical giant in marketing a dangerous biotech-based drug. I'd like to add another factor that makes this book stand out -- the pacing. I ordered it at the same time that I ordered Jeffrey Eugenides' new book, *The Marriage Plot*. Usually I race through fiction and leave nonfiction for weeks on end, reading a bit at a time. I started both books and quickly put the novel aside. That's never happened before. At first I was a little disbelieving of the astonishing attention to detail, and the precisely remembered conversations. I'm a narrative nonfiction writer myself, and for my last book lawyers carefully removed any remnants of conversation I could not directly back up. But *Blood Feud* is different. The author did indeed have access to detailed, riveting information, thanks to the careful record keeping of the two protagonists. It all rings true in a way that other books in the genre do not (i.e. how, exactly, could a different present-day writer have known what an illiterate woman thought in a bathtub half a century ago at the moment she somehow discovered her cervical cancer???)  
Blood Feud was one of the best reads I've had in years.  
1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Be aware of what goes on behind drugs you are supposed to take !!  
By A. K. Cox  
Excellent non fiction that shows you the inside ,behind the medical care you receive from your doctors and medical centers,even from a reputable large hospitals in your community you trust. Pharmaceutical company's aim is to make more from sales ,period.Doctors and hospitals often fall into so called incentive programs companies offer .This book exposes partnerships between doctors and pharmaceutical companies,historical development of a well known drug under different names with clarity and shocking details.Patients who pressure doctors afar TV commercials are putting others in risk ! Sad story of one man who tried in vein to reform ,expose , and go broke never reformed any system in a meaningful way .Politicians can be bought easily by big firms and their own standing in political games.You must be vigilant in knowing what medication you are offer to take!

*Blood Feud* rivals *A Civil Action* for best non-fiction book of the past twenty years. John Lescroart, New York Times bestselling author of *Damage* Procrit seemed like a biotech miracle, promising a golden age in medical care. Developed in the 1980s by Amgen and licensed to the pharmaceutical giant, Johnson Johnson, the drug (AKA Epogen and Aranesp) soon generated billions in annual revenue and still does. In 2012, world famous cyclist, Olympian, and Tour de France champion Lance Armstrong was banned from professional cycling on doping charges for using EPO (the blanket name for the drugs Procrit and Epogen), resulting in a global controversy about abuse, big pharmaceutical companies, and the lies and inaccuracies concerning performance-enhancing drugs. Mark Duxbury was a JJ salesman who once believed in the blood-booster, setting record sales and winning company awards. Then Duxbury started to learn unsavory truths about Procrit and JJs business practices. He was fired and filed a whistleblower suit to warn the public. When Jan Schlichtman (*A Civil Action*) learned of Duxburys crusade, he signed on. Now, hes fighting on behalf of cancer patients and for every American who trusts Big Pharma with his life.

A page-turner, this alarming chronicle of profit seeking in American medicine will appeal to all who are invested in the health care they receive or the drugs theyre prescribed. Library Journal  
About the Author  
Kathleen Sharp is a journalist whose work has appeared in *The New York Times Magazine*, *Parade*, *Elle*, and *Fortune*, among many other publications; she has won six awards from the Society of Professional Journalists, among other honors. She lives in Santa Barbara, California.