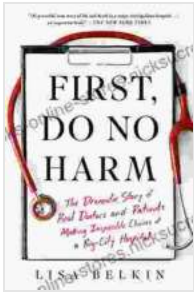


# The Dramatic Story of Real Doctors and Patients Making Impossible Choices at End of Life



Death is a part of life, but it's never easy to say goodbye to someone we love. When someone we care about is facing a terminal illness, it can be especially difficult to know what to do. Do we try to prolong their life, even if it means they will suffer? Or do we let them go in peace, even if it means we will miss them terribly?



## First, Do No Harm: The Dramatic Story of Real Doctors and Patients Making Impossible Choices at a Big-City Hospital by Lisa Belkin

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 2036 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
X-Ray : Enabled  
Print length : 269 pages



These are the kinds of difficult questions that doctors and patients face every day. In this article, we will share the stories of real doctors and patients who have made impossible choices at the end of life. We will hear from patients who have chosen to fight until the end, and from patients who have chosen to let go. We will also hear from doctors who have helped patients make these difficult decisions.

### The Story of John

John was a 65-year-old man who was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. The cancer was aggressive, and John was given only a few months to live. John was a fighter, and he was determined to beat the cancer. He underwent surgery, chemotherapy, and radiation therapy. But despite his best efforts, the cancer continued to grow.

As John's health declined, he began to think about his own mortality. He knew that he didn't have much time left, and he wanted to make the most of it. He spent time with his family and friends, and he traveled to some of

his favorite places. He also made arrangements for his own death. He chose to have a DNR (do not resuscitate) order in place, and he made plans for his funeral.

John's death was peaceful. He was surrounded by his family and friends, and he died in his own home. John's story is a reminder that even in the face of death, we can find peace and comfort.

### **The Story of Mary**

Mary was a 45-year-old woman who was diagnosed with breast cancer. The cancer was aggressive, and Mary was given only a few months to live. Mary was a single mother with two young children. She was determined to fight the cancer, but she also knew that she needed to make arrangements for her children.

Mary underwent surgery, chemotherapy, and radiation therapy. But despite her best efforts, the cancer continued to grow. As Mary's health declined, she began to think about her own mortality. She knew that she didn't have much time left, and she wanted to make the most of it. She spent time with her children, and she made plans for their future. She also made arrangements for her own death. She chose to have a DNR (do not resuscitate) order in place, and she made plans for her funeral.

Mary's death was peaceful. She was surrounded by her children and friends, and she died in her own home. Mary's story is a reminder that even in the face of death, we can find peace and comfort.

### **The Story of Dr. Smith**

Dr. Smith is a palliative care physician. He works with patients who are facing a terminal illness. Dr. Smith helps patients make decisions about their care, and he provides support to patients and their families.

Dr. Smith has seen many patients make difficult decisions at the end of life. He has seen patients who have chosen to fight until the end, and he has seen patients who have chosen to let go. Dr. Smith knows that there is no right or wrong answer. The best decision for one patient may not be the best decision for another patient.

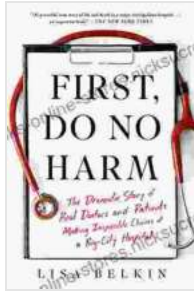
Dr. Smith's goal is to help patients make decisions that are right for them. He wants patients to be able to live their lives to the fullest, even in the face of death.

The stories of John, Mary, and Dr. Smith are just a few examples of the many difficult choices that doctors and patients face at the end of life. These stories are a reminder that death is a part of life, and that we should all be prepared for it.

If you are facing a terminal illness, it is important to talk to your doctor about your options. There are many different ways to approach end-of-life care, and the best option for you will depend on your individual circumstances.

No matter what decision you make, know that you are not alone. There are people who care about you and who want to help you through this difficult time.

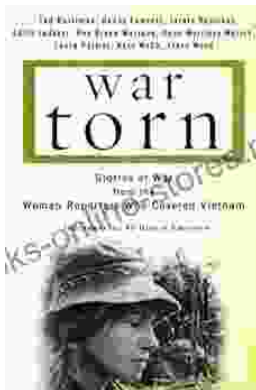
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## Hospital by Lisa Belkin

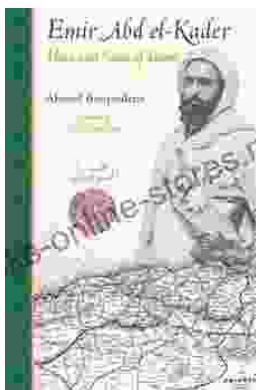
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