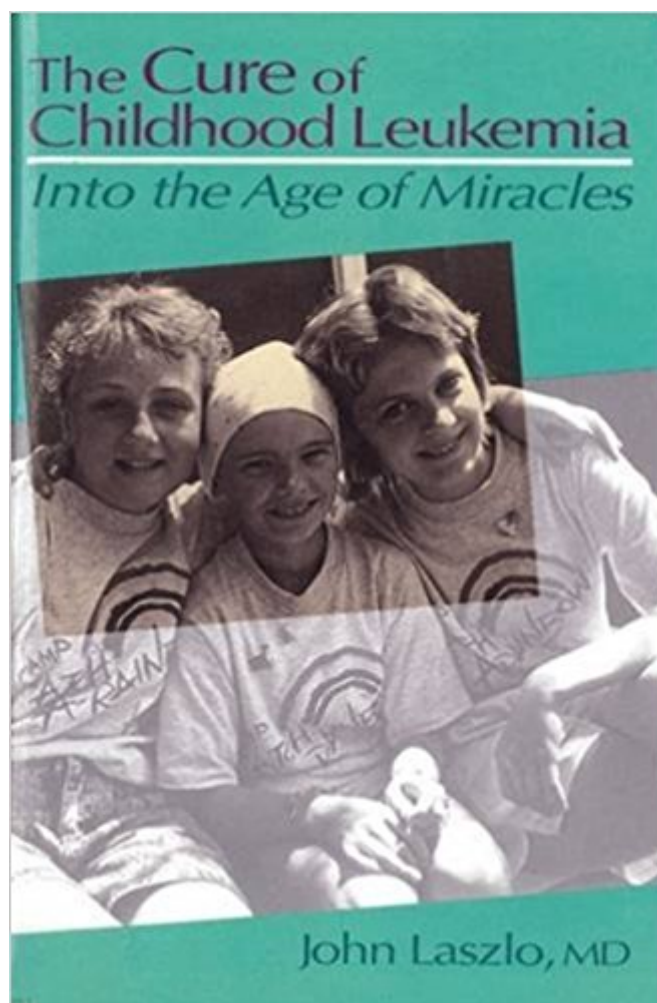


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The Cure Of Childhood Leukemia: Into The Age Of Miracles



Synopsis

Book Information

Paperback: 304 pages

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Customer Reviews

Well Written Book, Growing up, I heard about far too many youngsters who died from childhood leukemia. I followed the research done on this killer as much as I could. I remember going door to door in my neighborhood asking for funds for the Leukemia Society right after football star Ernie Davis succumbed to this disease. His story and how he helped researchers was written up in this book. The cases of the early leukemia survivors and the profiles of the doctors involved is well told. Do read this book.

111%

A fascinating and well written accounting of the incredible story behind the conquering of much of childhood leukemia. These are real hero's stories.

This is primarily a collection of interviews with scientists who, in the course of their careers, moved childhood leukemia from an inevitable death sentence to usually curable. The book is heartwarming and wonderful, because the interviewees are wonderful. Dr. Laszlo, a cancer researcher himself -- as was his father -- has great rapport with his colleagues, eliciting loads of intriguing, and even

outrageous, statements. The Cure of Childhood Leukemia is not academic history. Laszlo does not have an agenda, beyond that he values his late father, his professional friends, and their patients. Based on the information given, you can draw your own conclusions as to whether the relative cowboy style of cancer research in the 1940's and 1950's was better than the increasingly rule-bound systems for obtaining permission to do research, and obtain drug approvals, seen today. The real subject of the book, to me, is human nature under extreme stress. Don't worry about it being dated. Just read it. It's good for any adult, and a precocious child with leukemia won't be harmed. Now, the Kindle aspect. As I write this, in August 2013, the Kindle edition sells for US\$35.40. Because of that price, I borrowed from the public library. On the dust jacket, it says the author is "donating all royalties to the American Cancer Society." And, on page 4: "The American Cancer Society gave me the freedom to write the book; the Society is not responsible for its content but will receive its proceeds." So, -- how much of that \$35.40 is going to the American Cancer Society? If most, it should be noted on this web page, and I then would probably have bought the eBook. If, eighteen years after publication, proceeds are no longer going to battle cancer, shame on whomever is getting the revenue.

I came across this book while sitting in my daughter's hospital room still inundated with the news that she had childhood leukemia. It was there amid the pamphlets and literature that symbolized the "dump" our lives had just taken. I picked it up one sleepless night and, by the time I finished, I knew that my daughter had every chance of surviving. We faced her two and a half year treatment with a new understanding that we were members of a group of children, families, medical practitioners and researchers who make a difference. That was five years ago. This book set the tone for our struggles and victories large and small. It gave us perspective. It gave us hope and it gave us gratitude for all of the efforts that, ultimately, gave my daughter back to me -- healthy and strong.

Childhood leukemia survival rates have increased dramatically in the last 20 years and this book gives historical perspective of significant treatment breakthroughs and scientific developments through the stories of several doctors and researchers. Excellent reference book for students and researchers, less applicable for medical consumers who may find current treatment-oriented books more useful.

As a mother of 3, one of which has ALL Acute Lymphoblastic leukaemia, and a researcher, I want parents to know that there is more out there than this author offers. The tragedy is a moral one,

while they have been using our children as guinea pigs for 30 years they have also shut out all other promising research of less harmful treatments that have shown good results. Only "inefficient" cytotoxics have been promoted and invested in. Fishbowl mentality not serving humanity but serving Big Pharma profits. My 3yr old has nearly died from cytotoxic chemo and this treatment predisposes patients to multiple other cancers in future. Cytotoxics may be an appropriate first aid but as a prolonged treatment they are harmful in hidden and devastating ways. Hippocrates said "first thou should do no harm", perhaps looking outside the square as they did to find quantum physics, would be more successful and less devastating to families. We have lost everything due to the treatment alone. Alternatives provide more promise and better results but people are frightened and guilted into taking chemo, by MDs, when there are more efficient treatments for the long term with less harmful side effects. This publication is good for the historical point, showing the investment since the great wars in cytotoxics. But many competing and more successful treatments have been suppressed due to this treatment. Interestingly chemo has extremely poor results with any other cancer and yet it is used universally in all cancers. Not exactly commonsense. Multinationals suppress our technology to enable continued profit from fossil fuels and the same authorities suppress competing research in this industry because they don't want to lose market share or admit the limitations of the cytotoxic industry. Parents are not given choice in this treatment and the population based statistics used do not cater for individual needs. It has surprised me how little medical professionals know about cutting edge research and how quickly new breakthroughs get lost or disappear. MD's are only as good as the information provided to them and can the source of information be trusted given the cold war approach to cytotoxic alternatives. The fishy smell is the economics. Ignorance and economics are putting our children at risk in prevention and cure. A Fact. Cytotoxics cannot purport to be a cure or miracle, too many children have died from cytotoxic effects and experimentation that continues today. The crime is in not looking beyond the first aid approach, beyond cytotoxics, to focus on harm minimisation and treatments that are more efficient than current drugs. This book is written by someone that is entrenched in the fishbowl mentality and has only painted part of the historical picture. Again he is only as good as the information provided to him. I am a researcher, I know what I am speaking of. Bring parents choice and harm minimisation or get off the podium. It took Medical professionals 200 years before they allowed Vitamin c to become a mainstream treatment of scurvy, shunning the proponent as a quack. Our children are still dying from ignorance in 2005.

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