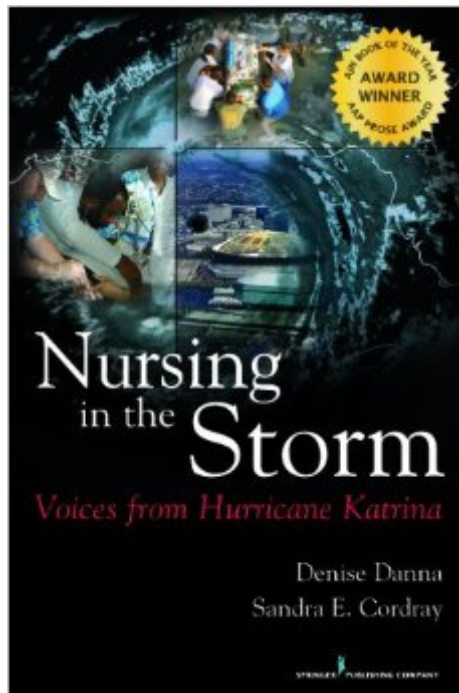


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Nursing In The Storm: Voices From Hurricane Katrina



Synopsis

2010 PROSE Award Winner for Nursing & Allied Health Sciences! 2010 AJN Book of the Year Award Winner in Public Interest and Creative Works! "The accounts are vivid, colorful, descriptive, intense, and often horrific and give cross-sectional views of life in the trenches during this disaster."—This book is a rich primary source for both historians and disaster preparedness planners. It's not only a tribute to the courage of the nurses, but should also serve as a guide for policy planners hoping to avoid less than optimal responses to future crises."--AJN "[T]he book...fascinates simply for its raw documentation of the dreadful events and conditions endured by nurses, doctors, and ancillary staff as they struggled to care for critically ill patients without electricity, running water, air conditioning systems, and other resources. Five years after the levees broke, the horror and chaos of Katrina is still fresh in these accounts. Through the stories, readers are transported into the hospitals as nurses heroically work together to evacuate babies from NICUs and vented patients from ICU, try to calm patients, family members, and coworkers, and make do with the equipment and supplies they've got."--National Nurse "Don't ever think that this can't happen to you. You are going to read this and it's going to sound like we created this scenario, but this is a real scenario that happened." --Pam, Memorial Medical Center "Everything that was battery operated eventually died. There were no monitors...we tried to take care of people in the most humane way possible." --Lois, Lindy Boggs Medical Center *Nursing in the Storm: Voices from Hurricane Katrina* takes you inside six New Orleans hospitals—cut off from help for days by flooding—where nurses cared for patients around the clock. In this book, nurses from Hurricane Katrina share what they did, how they coped, what they lost, and what they are doing now in a city and health care infrastructure still rebuilding, still in jeopardy. In their own words, the nurses tell what happened in each hospital just before, during, and after the storm. Danna and Cordray provide an intimate portrait of the experience of Katrina, which they and their colleagues endured. Just a few of the heroic nurses you'll find inside: Rae Ann and twenty others, including her husband and children, who wait on a hospital roof for help to come; Lisa, in the midst of caring for patients, who has not heard from her husband in 5 days; Roslyn, who has 800 people in her hospital when the power generators shut down; Linda, who uses bed sheets to write out help messages on a hospital roof, hoping someone will see them. The book also discusses how to plan and prepare for future disasters, with a closing chapter documenting the "lessons learned" from Katrina, including day-to-day health care delivery in a city of crisis. This groundbreaking work serves as a testament to nurses' professionalism, perseverance, and unwavering dedication.

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Customer Reviews

I am glad I read this book but parts of it were hard to read because some of these nurses were abandoned by administrators and left the profession altogether. I really did put myself in their shoes and tried to see myself in that situation and it is frightening to even imagine. Kudos to some of the real heroes of Katrina.

I recommend this product to anyone interested in the stories of nurses during Hurricane Katrina; I also recommend this to nurses looking for answers about this storm and how nurses can be prepared for future disasters. Great stories; very informative.

When I was an Emergency Room nurse I was honored to meet a nurse that was practicing in New Orleans during Katrina. I knew her story had to be shared. I am grateful that the nurses stories were compiled and published. I am teaching an RN-BSN Community Nursing course for the first time. I found this book as part of my review of literature for a unit on Emergency Management. I could not put down the book. It directed me to ANA policy and other important references to share with my

students. I will add it to my recommended readings for the the community nursing course.

Being a nurse and seeing how these nurses were treated both during the storm and the "rescue" was appalling. Living in New England with the major snow storms we have, never did I feel abandoned as they were. I applaud your courage and perseverance during your en devour because you epitomize what real nursing is today. We are in it for the patients, to see that we do our all to have an optimum outcome.

Forget what you may have read in "reputable" news media or other books about what happened inside Memorial Medical Center in New Orleans. This well documented book provides first-hand accounts from nurses who lived through the most trying time of their careers, working at Memorial Medical Center and other hospitals in the area during and immediately after Hurricane Katrina, enduring the worst failure of government assistance (federal, state and local) in their lifetimes. Lessons here for everyone who is faced with making difficult decisions and must tap into inner strength and resilience.

The writing and the spelling are so bad. There's no flow to the stories, and the writer just goes all over the place from talking about historical items to anecdotes from the storm. During the personal stories, she makes them all sound exactly the same. It just didn't hold my interest and seemed amateurish.

When we travelled to New Orleans and saw a derelict hospital, it really brought home the horror of Katrina (being a retired nurse.) A great book and thanks to those reliving their experience for the readers.

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