

Literature and Medicine Readings, Mass General, 2009-2017
Selected by Suzanne Koven MD, MFA

Fiction

Adrian, Chris "The Sum of Our Parts"
Atwood, Margaret "Death By Landscape"
Barrett, Andrea "Ship Fever"
Bloom, Amy "Silver Water"
Carver, Raymond "Cathedral"
Chekhov, Anton "A Doctor's Visit"
"An Awkward Business"
"Ward Six"
Coetzee, J.M. *Disgrace*
Slow Man
Dark, Alice Elliott "In The Gloaming"
Dubus, Andre "The Colonel's Wife"
Eugenides, Jeffrey *Middlesex*
Greene, Graham *A Burnt-Out Case*
Haddon, Mark *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time*
Harleman, Ann "Thoreau's Laundry"
Hawthorne, Nathaniel "Roger Malvin's Burial"
Hempel, Amy "In The Cemetery Where Al Jolson Is Buried"
Hemingway, Ernest "The Snows of Kilimanjaro"
Ishiguro, Kazuo *Never Let Me Go*
Joyce, James "An Encounter"
Kafka, Franz *The Metamorphosis*
King, Lily *Euphoria*
Lahiri, Jhumpa "The Treatment of Bibi Haldar"
Lam, Vincent "Winston"
Lianke, Yan *Dream of Ding Village*
Mates, Susan Onthank "Laundry"
Maugham, Somerset *Of Human Bondage*
Maxwell, William *So Long, See You Tomorrow*
McCorkle, Jill "Intervention"
McEwan, Ian *The Children Act*
Melville, Herman "Bartleby The Scrivener"
Munro, Alice "The Bear Came Over The Mountain"
O'Brien, Tim "The Things They Carried"
O'Connor, Flannery
Pearlman, Edith "Castle 4"
Proulx, Annie "The Half-Skinned Steer"
Roth, Philip "Defender of the Faith"
Everyman
Nemesis

Tolstoy, Leo "The Death of Ivan Ilyich"
Wharton, Edith *Ethan Frome*

Nonfiction

Alcott, Louisa May *Hospital Sketches*
Angell, Roger "This Old Man"
Arnold, Miah "You Owe Me"
Athill, Diana *Somewhere Towards The End*
Baldwin, James
Biss, Eula *On Immunity*
"The Pain Scale"
Borges, Jose Luis "On Blindness"
Broyard, Anatole *Intoxicated By My Illness*
Camus, Albert *The Plague*
De Beavoir, Simone *A Very Easy Death*
Didion, Joan "In Bed"
The Year of Magical Thinking
Fink, Sheri "Strained By Katrina, A Hospital Faced Deadly Choices"
Franzen, Jonathan "My Father's Brain"
Gawande, Atul "Letting Go"
Grealy, Lucy *Autobiography of a Face*
Hall, Donald "Between Loneliness and Solitude"
Hemon, Aleksandr "The Aquarium"
Hersey, John *Hiroshima*
Hitchens, Christopher "The Topic of Cancer"
Jamison, Kay Redfield *An Unquiet Mind*
Jamison, Leslie "The Empathy Exams"
Kalanithi, Paul *When Breath Becomes Air*
Kidder, Tracey *Strength In What Remains*
Knighton, Ryan *Cockeyed*
Lewis, C.S. *A Grief Observed*
Lorde, Audre *The Cancer Journals*
Mairs, Nancy "On Being A Cripple"
Mitchell, Joseph "Joe Gould's Secret"
Moore, Judith *Fat Girl*
Munro, Alice "Night"
Nasar, Sylvia *A Beautiful Mind*
Nealon, Mary Jane *Beautiful Unbroken*
Oates, Joyce Carol "The Widow's Walk"
Patchett, Ann *Truth and Beauty*
Rakoff, David
Riederer, Rachel "Patient"
Rieff, David *Swimming in a Sea of Death*
Robinson, Roxana "Paralyzed: Learning To Live In Polio's Shadow"

Rosenbaum, Lisa "Transitional Chaos or Enduring Harm: The EHR and the Disruption of Medicine"
Scialabba, George "The Endlessly Examined Life"
Sedaris, David "Now We Are Five"
Skloot, Rebecca *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*
Smith, Patti *Just Kids*
Solomon, Andrew *Far From The Tree*
Sweet, Victoria *God's Hotel*
Thernstrom, Melanie *The Pain Chronicles*
Tisdale, Sallie "Chemo World"
Verghese, Abraham *The Tennis Partner*
Wachter, Robert *The Digital Doctor*
Weinberg, Richard B. "Communion"
Williams, William Carlos "The Girl With The Pimple Face"
Zarin, Cynthia "An Enlarged Heart"

Poetry

Bishop, Elizabeth "In The Waiting Room"
Bowe, Geoffrey "Male Nurse Washing a Nun"
Brashler, Anne "He Read To Her"
Carver, Raymond "What The Doctor Said"
Davis, Cortney "The Body Flute"
Davis, Marilyn "Song For My Son"
Dickinson, Emily "After Great Pain, A Formal Feeling Comes"
Frost, Robert "After Apple Picking"
Hall, Donald "The Ship Pounding"
Jarrell, Randall "The X-Ray Waiting Room In The Hospital"
Kaur, Rupri *Milk and Honey*
Kenyon, Jane "Let Evening Come"
"Notes From The Other Side"
Levertov, Denise "The 90th Year"
Masson, Venetta "Guilt"
"Passages"
Olds, Sharon "The Death Of Marilyn Monroe"
Perillo, Lucia "Poem Without Breasts"
"Second Poem Without Breasts"
Plath, Sylvia "Lady Lazarus"
Rankine, Claudia *Citizen*

Ritvo, Max "Poem To My Litter"
Shakespeare, William "Sonnet #60"
Thomas, Dylan "Do Not Go Gentle Into That Good Night"
Turner, Brian "AB Positive"
Updike, John "Hospital"

Viramontes, Helena Maria "The Moths"
Voigt, Ellen Bryant *Kyrie*
Yeats, W.B. "When You Are Old"
Young, Kevin "Ode To The Hotel Near The Children's Hospital"

Graphic Memoirs

Chast, Roz *Can't We Talk About Something More Pleasant?*
Pekar, Harvey and Brabner, Joyce *Our Cancer Year*
Small, David *Stitches*

Plays

Heaney, Seamus *The Cure At Troy*
Miller, Arthur *Death of a Salesman*
O'Neill, Eugene *Long Day's Journey Into Night*
Shakespeare, William *King Lear*
Williams, Tennessee *The Glass Menagerie*

Films

A Beautiful Mind
Angels in America
Brazil
Modern Times
Never Let Me Go
Shadowlands