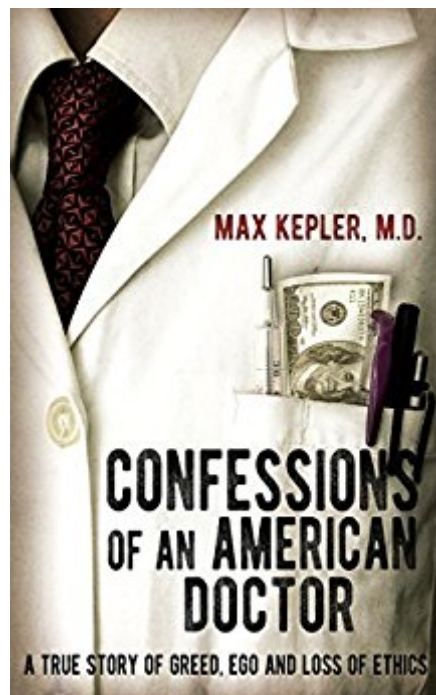




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Confessions Of An American Doctor: A True Story Of Greed, Ego And Loss Of Ethics



Synopsis

In 2005, I was arrested by agents from both the US Postal Service and the Food and Drug Administration for the importation of illegal human growth hormone and botulinum toxin (Botox) from China. At the time of my arrest, I was a thirty-seven year old Harvard graduate with medical and post-doctoral degrees. I attended one of the finest residency and fellowship training programs in the world at the University of California, San Francisco. I played two sports in college, earned awards at every level of education and training, had wonderful friends and a beautiful three-year-old daughter. Having grown up the son of a restaurant manager and a housewife, I had transcended the humble beginnings of a small Midwestern town to become the quintessential American Dream. Or so I thought. But with my arrest on felony importation charges, everything I had worked so hard for was swept away and the entire trajectory of my life was indelibly altered. I would embark on a three year battle not only for my medical license, but also for my freedom. This journey would lead to intense personal introspection, and in that process, I would discover with ugliness, there was also beauty, and with punishment, mercy. There are many reasons I have written this manuscript, with one of the most important being that I hoped my story would resonate with others who have gone through difficult circumstances as a consequence of a dark side of their personality. With this book, I hope to inspire others to accept and embrace the good and bad, while continually striving for improved self-understanding and acceptance. I have changed names primarily for legal purposes, but the facts are unchanged. Although the events described in the book occurred more than ten years ago, I think about them nearly every day. The shame and humiliation are ever-present. Any simple Google search of my name reveals the truth, and that truth has affected me over and over, despite the years, as it probably should. As the judge told me that day in a federal courtroom, "You have betrayed the public's trust." This is my confessional.

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Customer Reviews

The author, who masks his identity, attended the finest schools on scholarships and quickly landed a position that paid over 200K annually. It wasn't enough. He wanted fame and millions more. Partnering with a chiropractor who had his license revoked for fraud, "Kepler" tried to market a cure for baldness, claiming it worked for him and the partner, a sample size of two greedy bald guys. The venture failed when savvy potential investors did five minutes of research on the pair. Undeterred, Kepler resorted to importing HGH and botox from China, requesting that manufacturers not attach labels so he could better defraud his patients. He was caught when customs intercepted his shipments and sent an undercover DEA agent to his office, posing as a patient. Kepler promised her eternal youth in exchange for cold cash. He then hired a slick lawyer for 125K, who kept him out of jail. Kepler did serve some time in a halfway house and under house arrest. He remains unrepentant throughout, despite his allegations of enlightenment. A more arrogant individual would be a rare find indeed. I highly suspect a more cautious Kepler is up to his old tricks this very moment and undoubtedly very rich. The writing is not good. Very slow pacing, terrible dialogue. Difficult to believe this guy is a physician with an Ivy League education.

At first I found it difficult to "like" this doctor. (I work in the medical field, BTW, and my husband was a long time hospital administrator and was heavily involved in credentialing.) But it was well written and the more I read, the more I couldn't stop. Yes, he did some wrong things and was a poor judge of character in many cases. "Max" learned his lesson and important priorities in life, although it took a long time. Yes, he made silly excuses for himself and was a little too hard on his mother. But I think the most interesting thing about this is the inefficiency of our Federal Government! We need to be able to look at the "big picture" here--how can we best help society? I ended up being convinced he should be allowed to continue practicing medicine. Everyone deserves a chance at rehabilitation,

and we need doctors!

The doctor has a great story of coming from a life of so little, accomplishes a great deal and falls hard only to rise from the ashes of the barren landscape he has left. The start of the author's journey comes with what is obviously after much self-reflection, and ends with you really cheering him on. BUT, Max Keplar was very poorly served by his editor. The grammatical, spelling and the repeating of entire paragraphs on several occasions was annoying. I actually started highlighting the errors after about six chapters.

This true life story was engaging from the very first page. The story was recounted in painstaking detail. It was hard to put it down as the outcome was so uncertain at every turn. I felt a deep appreciation for this doctor's plight. The ending of this chapter wasn't perfect for him but gave him hope and new beginning.

The book was well written and drawn out. I often found it difficult to get back into the story. I am one that can't start something and not finish especially books. To be honest this book left me feeling rather angered by his punishment. Without giving the book away I'll leave it at that. I just feel this "doctor" receive a seat on the hand not even a slap. I don't feel he is in the least sorry for what he has done. I didn't find him to be sincere in the least.

Wonderful story, incredible fleshing out of all of the characters, and kept me interested. My only qualm was that it seemed a little lengthy to me, I expected it to be over and yet I was surprised to see that I had a bit less than half the book left! Maybe should have been edited more. Apart from that, fantastic autobiography and I really liked Max, both as a physician and as a person. Thanks for the respiratory therapist shout out!!

This was quite the story of a doctor who decides to start prescribing high on the side and gets caught. As he battles with both the courts and his ego, the ups and downs never seem to end. He's not always the most sympathetic of characters as he berates his long suffering lawyer and struggles to accept his fate, but the writing seems honest and will hold your attention to the very end.

I found this book to be intriguing. The author not only told his story with humility, insight, and complete remorse, but he also told it in such a suspenseful way that it was hard to put the book

down because I wanted to find out what happened next. I would like to see the author write other books, maybe about his patients or perhaps even a fictional mystery. I enjoyed the book immensely!

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