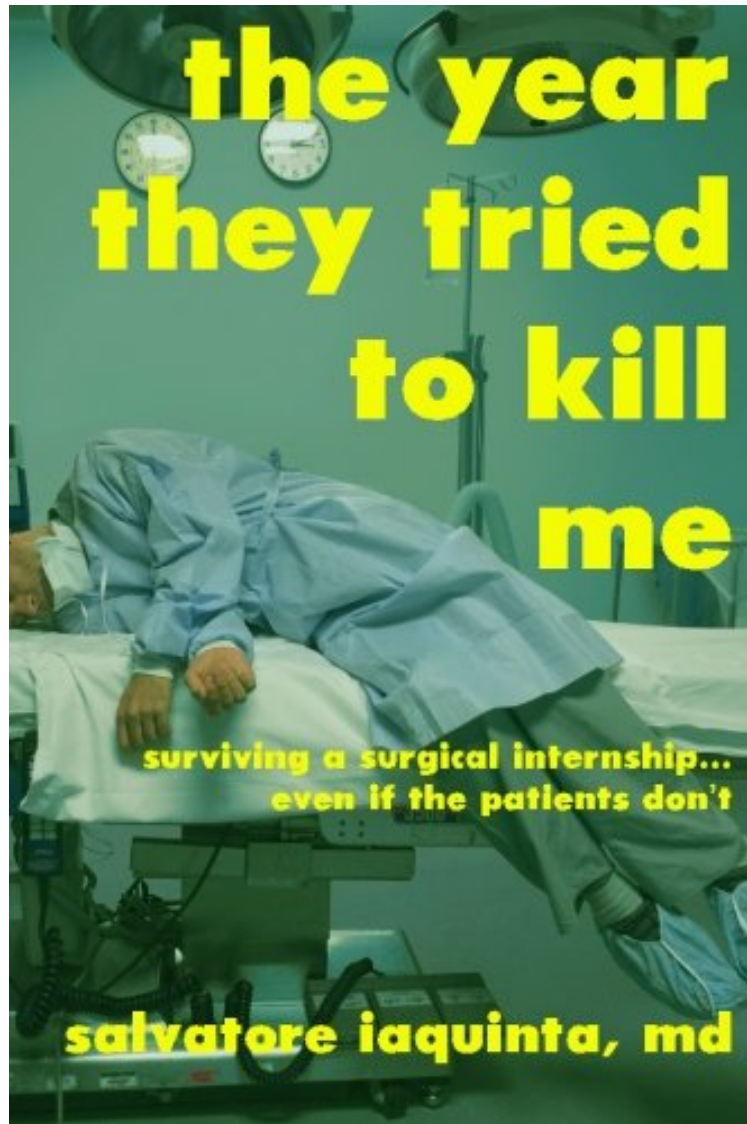


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## The Year They Tried to Kill Me: Surviving a surgical internship...even if the patients don't

*Salvatore Iaquina MD*

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**Salvatore Iaquina MD : The Year They Tried to Kill Me: Surviving a surgical internship...even if the patients don't** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Year They Tried to Kill Me: Surviving a surgical internship...even if the patients don't:

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read a LOT of books--both for work and for pleasure. I had the honor of doing a final proofread on Sal's book, and in hindsight, I had no idea what I was in for. "The Year They Tried to Kill Me" has it all: humor, sadness, a bit of romance, and complete honesty--the best part. It's nice hearing a doctor's opinion and the "behind the scene" stories through an entirely truthful testimony peppered with humor. Once I completed the book I realized it was one of the best books I've ever read. Beautifully organized, sensitive, and comprising a perfect balance of humor and medical drama, "The Year They Tried to Kill Me" is on my bookshelf to stay. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Loved it! By Maevis This book was such a great read! Being an ICU nurse and having done a few travel contracts at Highland, I wasn't crazy about the descriptions of the nurses. However, there are pickles everywhere and that place, while fun and interesting, is no exception. I had thought I wanted to do Music/Pre Med in college, but Physics (a class I probably wouldn't have used again anyways) cleansed me of that dream rather expediently. Reading this, along with the tales from my friends who COULD pass Physics, however, make me glad I didn't make it because of the hours. I'm no stranger to 16 hour shifts, but the 120 hour a week nonsense would have probably gotten me dropped for behavioral reasons pretty quickly. This was one of the most enjoyable books I've read in a long time! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Funnier than expected and resonant By JRDallas This was really funny and I had some of the same experiences in training. In fact I wish I had read it beforehand so I could have kept more humor and perspective: "they" really do try to kill you! Also, families of residents would benefit from hearing some of the stories. Then they might understand why their resident is so stressed out and has a different outlook than every other person on the planet. It's because you aren't allowed to be human or a person when you are a resident. Good insight too on how the new generations do not want to be like the old surgeons. I hear the old guys talk with just the same machismo as frat boys who not only endure but inflict hazing rituals; they all swear it's necessary to doing the job, no matter how dehumanizing and abusive it is. I don't have a great plan for changing this, but as the theme of the book says, "you can't stop the clock". Eventually those surgeons will pass on...

"Jaquinta's book helped me relive my own surgical residency from 30 years ago, but this time I could laugh and smile about it because of the humorous self-deprecation he eloquently injects into the raw reality of universally intense, serious episodes of real-life surgical events. One need not be a physician or surgeon to enjoy his book. In fact, everyone can be thoroughly entertained by his true-life diary, in which he shares his experiences with circumspection and sensitivity, not typical of the public's perception of surgeons." Peter Bretan, MD, FACS - Marin Medicine (Spring 2013) About the Author