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# **The American Nurse**





PHOTOGRAPHS AND INTERVIEWS BY CAROLYN JONES



### Synopsis

2012 Nautilus Silver Award, Photography/Art category à Â Ã Â 2012 Indie Book Next Generation Award, Coffee Table Book/PhotographyForeword Reviews 2012 Book of the Year, Social Sciences, FinalistThis extraordinary book of 75 portraits, interviews, and biographies is the result of the American Nurse Project, an endeavor launched by Fresenius Kabi, a worldwide leader in infusion therapy, IV generic drugs, and clinical nutrition. Enlisting the talents of Carolyn Jones, an award-winning filmmaker and creator of numerous photography books, and her producer, Lisa Frank, the project set out to capture and share the images and stories of nurses from all across America and to celebrate the role of the nurse in this country  $\tilde{A}\phi \hat{a} - \hat{a}_{,,\phi}\phi$  health care system. In The American Nurse, readers are invited to think about nurses in a way that they may never have before, unless they have been under a nurse  $\tilde{A}\phi \hat{a} \neg \hat{a}_{,,\phi} \phi$ s care. This body of work will inspire audiences to focus their attention on the nurses who serve as healers in their community, and whose wealth of knowledge needs to be tapped in order to solve today  $\hat{A}$   $\hat{a}_{a}$ ,  $\hat{c}_{a}$  pressing health care issues. The challenge of creating a rich portrait of nursing in America began with a map of the U.S. and a red pen. Carolyn Jones wanted to cover as much territory as possible, with the hope that along the way she would capture stories touching on the kinds of issues that nurses are dealing with in every corner of the country. Some of the issues might be specific to a particular area, like the nurses who were charged with evacuating patients in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Others would be universal no matter where Jones visited, such as nurses providing emotional support to patients and families to help get them through the toughest times in their lives. The journey began in New York City, where Carolyn met nurses working in the district with the highest rate of hunger in the U.S., as well as nurses doing health outreach to at-risk teens. She moved southward, stopping in Baltimore to meet nurses on the cutting edge of healthcare and nurse educators training the next generation, and then travelled to San Diego, where she met nurses at a VA hospital that is home to the largest concentration of veterans from the Irag and Afghanistan conflicts. In Louisiana, she went behind bars and met nurses dealing with prisoners; and in Riverton, Wyoming she learned about the health needs of the Native American population there. Having crisscrossed the country, from rural Eastern Kentucky to Florida to New Orleans to Nebraska to Wisconsin to San Francisco and Chicago, Jones presents a compelling portrait of a key figure on the front lines of health care today: the American nurse.

#### **Book Information**

Hardcover: 180 pages

Publisher: Welcome Books; 1 edition (October 30, 2012) Language: English ISBN-10: 1599621215 ISBN-13: 978-1599621210 Product Dimensions: 12.1 x 0.8 x 12.1 inches Shipping Weight: 4.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies) Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 74 customer reviews Best Sellers Rank: #216,585 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #25 inà Â Books > Arts & Photography > Photography & Video > Business & Careers #192 inà Â Books > Arts & Photography > Photography & Video > Photojournalism & Essays > Photo Essays #271 inà Â Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Visual Arts > Photography

#### Customer Reviews

2012 Nautilus Silver Award, Photography/Art category à Â Ã Â 2012 Indie Book Next Generation Award, Coffee Table Book/PhotographyForeword Reviews 2012 Book of the Year, Social Sciences, Finalist"When a book is heavy with glossy photographs, you seldom expect too much from its words. In "The American Nurse," though, it's the narrative that hits you in the solar plexus...Young people with kind hearts and uncertain futures might just sit themselves down with the book, or wander through the Web site featuring its video interviews, www.americannurseproject.com, and see what happens." â⠬⠕ Abigail Zuger, M.D., Health, New York Times, October 29, 2012. Read the full artilce: http://bit.ly/Vnp1ESIf you were ever hospitalized or spent time around someone who was, you know how important a caring, hardworking nurse can be. Nurses are often lauded as heroic and deserving respect, but not often are these heroes revered for who they are as individuals  $\tilde{A}\phi \hat{a} \neg \hat{a} \phi$  as human beings doing an often rewarding, sometimes impossibly difficult job in service to those who need dare. Photographer and writer Carolyn Jones has taken the acknowledgment of these wonderful souls to the next level, profiling 73 nurses from around the country. Each spread in this hefty volume presents the story and portrait of a single nurse. As one interviewee put it,  $\tilde{A}$ ¢â  $\neg A$ "Every one is special. Everyone has a story. $\tilde{A}$ ¢â  $\neg A$ • Jones understands that each of these caregivers is unique and humble, honoring them with eloguent interviews and honest portraits. â⠬⠜ Amanda Quintenz-Fiedler, Photographer's Forum, Spring 2013The American Nurse was the AJN Magazine (American Journal of Nursing) September 2012 issue cover story. Read the full feature here: http://bit.ly/Uca7vh"Carolyn Jones's The American Nurse is a beautiful and moving testament to the soulful, selfless caregiving that nurses work hard to provide. A book filled with love,

determination, and hope, it showcases the rewards that come from dedicating oneself to the needs of others." 碉 ¬â • Theresa Brown, New York Times columnist "Bedside" and author of Critical Care. "...a coffee table book filled with exquisite black-and-white portraits accompanied by at times dramatic, and at other times slice-of-life, stories, told by the nurses themselves. They are stories worth reading ¢â ¬â •and sharing." ¢â ¬â •Susan Trossman, RN, The American Nurse Magazine, January/February 2013 "The American Nurse" is an extraordinary book and journey through the expansiveness of nursing and nurses themselves. The stories and images are inspiring and very real, and we believe the book has an important role to play in capturing what we call in our mission, 'the power of nursing.'"  $\tilde{A}\phi\hat{a} \neg \hat{a}$  •American Nurse Foundation Executive Director Kate Judge, as guoted in The American Nurse Magazine, January/February 2013 "Anyone lucky enough to be photographed by Carolyn Jones knows what I know: her profound empathy draws the story forth. I can't imagine a more perfect union than Carolyn Jones and these heroic nurses."  $\hat{A}\phi\hat{a} - \hat{a} \cdot$ Geraldine Laybourne, founder Oxygen Media. "Nurses are the hands, feet, and face of care in the healthcare industry. Carolyn Jones honors not only their actions but their hearts and minds in The American Nurse...Their tender stories and faces will stick with readers."  $\tilde{A}c\hat{a} - \hat{a} \cdot Melissa Anne$ Wuske, ForeWord Reviews, Winter 2012. "You don't have to be a nurse to enjoy reading this book. Anyone who knows a nurse, has been cared for by a nurse, or is a nurse will love these nurses telling their stories of why they do what they do. I laughed and cried and wanted to read more. I am a nurse and have read many books and seen many tv shows and movies portraying nurses in many ways. This book finally captures the nurse as who they are and what they do everyday. It's just an uplifting and validating read. I can't recommend it highly enough."  $\tilde{A}c\hat{a} - \hat{a} \cdot Michelle08$ , Nurse, .com reviewThank you for bringing this project and book to our attention. The book is the perfect gift for my daughter who is receiving her MSN from SF state in December. She is fully aware of the competition for new grads in the Bay Area and has interviews in Idaho and Utah. Being a nurse working with children and babies is a life long dream and we know she is entering this rewarding profession for the "right reasons". Ac $\hat{a} \neg \hat{a} \propto Sally Drummond, comment posted by listener on$ Forum with Micheal Krasny website after Carolyn Jones and Rhonda Collins appearance on the show. Hear the show here: http://bit.ly/TydnCZ

Known internationally for her socially proactive medium- format photographic portraiture, Carolyn Jones is also an award-winning filmmaker, having worked in a wide variety of film and video formats, primarily in documentary pro- duction. Her most widely acclaimed book, Living Proof: Courage in the Face of AIDS, was published by Abbeville Press and was accompanied by shows in

Tokyo, Berlin, the U.S. and the United Nations World AIDS Conference. In addition to her multiple exhibitions, book and magazine publications, Carolyn has collaborated on projects with Oxygen Media, PBS, the Girl Scouts of the USA, and an ex- tensive list of corporate clients. She founded the non-profit 100 People Foundation for which she travels the world tell- ing stories that celebrate our global neighbors.

I saw an article about this book in USA Today and ordered it for my wife for Christmas. It is a wonderful commemorative because it honors my wife's career and her profession. She is now retired. During her nursing career, she was a Navy Nurse, a teacher of nursing at a university, a psychiatric nurse, a head nurse on an orthopedic ward and on a post-partum OBGYN ward. She was a float nurse, taking calls for nursing care anywhere in a large metropolitan area. She ran a pain control program. She was a hospice nurse, and ran a hospice program. She worked all shifts. She cared for the rich and famous as well as the poor and forgotten. If you think she flitted around, she did, because she followed me all over the world as I pursued a military career. Her nursing was rich in loving care, human experience, and sacrifice. Except for the details, you can read about her career and her experiences in 'The American Nurse'.

My friend and I were nursing students when "The American Nurse" was showing in Kansas Cityabout 9 hours away. We decided that we needed to see this movie. It changed our lives! We were so inspired that we decided to hold a fundraising showing in Fort Worth where we live. All proceeds were donated to a local charity for grieving children and families. Now we are both nurses working in local hospitals. Carolyn captured the very essence of what the spirit of nursing is all about. Everyday time I work I think of the nurses featured and how I want to be like them. To impact a patient's life and to help make them better than when they first became ill. Inspiring!

The American Nurse is a special portrayal of the Nursing profession in America. The photographs and stories give a unique perspective of the varying roles of Nurses across the country. Their stories are heart warming and the photographs are beautiful. The book is a great gift whether you are a nurse or not. It's a must have!

I purchased this book as a gift to my clinical rotation instructor at the end of my final semester in nursing school. She absolutely loved this book and I was impressed with the quality of the pages and photos. I would highly recommend this book to anyone who is or knows a nurse.

This is a wonderful tribute to the nursing professional. Many times on television the nurse is not depicted as essential or smart. This book should be read by not only those interested in nursing or have experience as a patient; it should be read by medical professionals to get an idea of how much nurses are needed. Without nurses, physicians and healthcare facilities cannot provide quality health services. Thanks Ms. Jones.

Such a great insight into the cross section of nurses across this country. Beautifully illustrated with fabulous photography. I look forward to finishing all the different stories in this volume.

Interesting interviews that truly demonstrate both the essence and diversity of the profession of nursing. Every nurse has a fascinating story about their career path and is articulate about the contributions of nursing to the health and welfare of our community. This book is recommended for individuals interested in exploring the profession, as a gift for nurses in your life and just to have. See comments at [...]Purchases contribute to a nursing scholarship.

I am a nurse manager and have this displayed on a table in my office. Every person who enters comments how great this book is. It displays so much compassion and caring...the essence of nursing.

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