

Literature & Medicine

Readings Available from Mass Humanities

Abse, Dannie *Case History*

Adrian, Chris *A Better Angel*

Adrian, Chris *A Child's Book of Sickness and Death*

Adrian, Chris *The Sum of our Parts*

Aiken, Conrad *Silent Snow, Secret Snow*

Alcott, Louisa *A Night*

Allison, Dorothy *A Question of Class*

Aminpoor, Gheysar *A Poem about War*

Ammons, A.R. *Gravelly Run*

Anderson, Doug *A Bar in Argos*

Anderson, Doug *Bamboo Bridge*

Anderson, Doug *Homecoming*

Anderson, Doug *Homer Does Not Mention Him*

Anderson, Doug *North of Tam Ky*

Anderson, Doug *Something Like a Soul*

Anderson, Doug *War Chatter*

Angell, Roger *This Old Man*

Arnold, Miah *You Owe Me*

Auden, W. H. *Musee Des Beaux Arts*

Baldwin, James *Notes of a Native Son*

Barrett, Andrea *Ship Fever*

Baruch, Jay *A Little Heart*

Beard, Jo Ann *The Fourth State of Matter*

Becker, Suzy *I Had Brain Surgery*

Bell, Elana *Your Village*

Berriault, Gina *The Stone Boy*

Bliss, Eula *The Pain Scale*

Bloom, Amy *Silver Water*

Borges, Jose Luis *Blindness*

Boudreau, Tyler *The Morally Injured*

Bowe, Geoffrey *Male Nurse Washing a Nun*

Bowen, Kevin *Playing Basketball with Vietcong*

Bradbury, Ray *The Leave-Taking*

Brashler, Anne *He Read To Her*

Brown, Jeanette *How to Visit a Healer*

Brown, Rebecca *The Gift of the Body*
Brown, Rebecca *The Gift of Hunger*
Brown, Rebecca *The Gift of Mourning*
Brown, Rebecca *The Gift of Speech*
Brown, Rebecca *The Gift of Sweat*
Brown, Rebecca *The Gift of Wholeness*
Broyard, Alexandra *Epilogue*
Broyard, Anatole *Intoxicated by my Illness*
Broyard, Anatole *The Patient Examines the Doctor*
Bulgakow, Mikhail *The Steel Windpipe*
Burana, Lily *The Quiet Side of Being a Soldier*
Cajal, Santiago *Beginner's Trap*
Campo, Rafael *Like A Prayer*
Campo, Rafael *The Desire To Heal*
Campo, Rafael *VI SW*
Carver, Raymond *A Small Good Thing*
Carver, Raymond *Cathedral*
Carver, Raymond *What the Doctor Said*
Carver, Raymond *Where I'm Calling From*
Chaon, Dan *Stay Awake*
Chekhov *An Awkward Business*
Chekhov, Anton *A Doctor's Visit*
Chekhov, Anton *Enemies*
Chekhov, Anton *Misery*
Chekhov, Anton *Swan Song*
Chekhov *Ward Number Six*
Coetzee, J.M. *The Blow*
Dark, Alice *In the Gloaming*
Dark, Alice *Watch the Animals*
Davis, Cortney *The Body Flute*
Davis, Cortney *The Other Side of Illness*
Davis, Marilyn *Song for my Son*
Deppe, Theodore *Admission Children's Unit*
Davis, Marilyn *Song for my Son*
Deppe, Theodore *Admission Children's Unit*
Diaz, Junot *Nilda*
Dickinson, Emily *After Great Pain, a Formal Feeling Comes*
Dickinson, Emily *Much Madness is Divinest Sense*
Didion, Joan *The After Life*
Didion, Joan *In Bed*

Dostoyevsky, Fyodor *Notes from Underground*
Doty, Mark *Brilliance*
Dubus, Andre *At Night*
Dubus, Andre *Blessings*
Dubus, Andre *The Colonels Wife*
Dubus, Andre *Dancing After Hours*
Dubus, Andre *Out of the Snow*
Eisenberg, Susan *Flu Vaccine*
Eisenberg, Susan *Introduction to Asthma*
Ephron, Nora *What I Won't Miss*
Erdrich, Louise *The Red Convertible*
Euripides *Hekabe*
Bliss, Eula *The Pain Scale*
Faust, Drew *Believing and Doubting*
Faust, Drew *Dying*
Faust, Drew *Preface in The Work of Death*
Fey, Tina *Remembrances of Being Very, Very Skinny and Remembrances of Being a Little Bit Fat* (from *Bossypants*)
Fink, Sheri *Strained by Katrina*
Finkel, David *The Good Soldiers* (excerpt)
Finkel, David *The Return* (excerpt)
Forche, Carolyn *The Colonel*
Franzen, Jonathan *My Fathers Brain*
Frost, Robert *After Apple-Picking*
Frost, Robert *The Oven Bird*
Gawande, Atul *The Case of the Red Leg*
Gawande, Atul *The Doctors of the Death Chamber*
Gawande, Atul *Letting Go*
Gawande, Atul *When Doctors Make Mistakes*
Gilbertson, Ashley *The Life and Lonely Death of Noah Pierce*
Glaspell, Susan *A Jury of Her Peers*
Gordon, Arthur *Old Ironpuss*
Gould, Stephen *The Median Isn't the Message*
Groopman, Jerome *Our Firstborn Son*
Grumbach, Doris *Coming Into the End*
Hall, Donald *Afterword*
Hall, Donald *Air Shatters In The Car's Small Room*
Hall, Donald *The Gallery*
Hall, Donald *Her Long Illness*
Hall, Donald *Last Days*

Hall, Donald *The Ship Pounding*
Hall, Donald *Without*
Harleman, Ann *Thoreau's Laundry*
Haslett, Adam *Notes to My Biographer*
Haslett, Adam *The Good Doctor*
Hawthorne, Nathaniel *Roger Malvin's Burial*
Hecht, Anthony *The Transparent Man*
Hemingway, Ernest *Indian Camp*
Hemingway, Ernest *The Snows of Kilimanjaro*
Hemon, Aleksandar *The Aquarium*
Hempel, Amy *In the Cemetery Where Al Jolson is Buried*
Hikmet, Nazim *On Living*
Hilfiker, David *Taking Sides*
Hitchens, Christopher *The Topic of Cancer*
Hoagland, Tony *Arrows*
Hopkins, Gerard *Sonnet 65*
Howe, Marie *What the Living Do*
Hurston, Zora *My Most Humiliating Jim Crow Experience*
Jamison, Leslie *Empathy Exams*
Jamison, Kay Redfield *An Unquiet Mind*
Jarrell, Randall *Next Day*
Jarrell, Randall *X-Ray Waiting Room*
Judt, Tony *Night*
Kanafani, Ghassan *The Death of Bed Number 12*
Karnezis, Panos *Medical Ethics*
Kenyon, Jane *Chrysanthemums*
Kenyon, Jane *Eating the Cookies*
Kenyon, Jane *Having it Out with Melancholy*
Kenyon, Jane *Let Evening Come and Notes from the Other Side*
Kenyon, Jane *Otherwise*
Kenyon, Jane *Pharaoh*
Kenyon, Jane *The Sick Wife*
Kinh, Bui *Late Moon*
Klass, Perri *Index Case*
Klays, Phil *Redeployment*
Kleinman, Arthur *Winthrop Cohen*
Knighton, Ryan *Cockeyed (pgs 1-44)*
Knighton, Ryan *Cockeyed (pgs 45-58)*
Kono, Juliet *Homeless*
Kono, Juliet *The Struggle*

Kooser, Ted *At the Cancer Clinic*
Koven, Suzanne *Empathy Examined*
Koven, Suzanne *Uncomfort of Prescribing Painkillers*
Koven, Suzanne *Using Humor in the Doctor's Office*
Kunitz, Stanley *The Portrait*
Lam, Andrew *Show and Tell*
Lam, Vincent *Winston*
Lamb, Wally *She's Come Undone* (excerpt)
Lan, Ly *Singing Grass*
Larkin, Philip *The Old Fools*
Lasdun, James *The Incalculable Life*
LaValle, Victor *Long Distance*
Levertov, Denise *The 90th Year*
Levine, Philip *Listen Carefully*
Lorde, Audre *The Electric Slide Boogie* and *Today Is Not the Day*
MacCurdy, Marian *Sacred Justice* – Introduction (excerpt)
MacCurdy, Marian *Sacred Justice* – Chapter 5 (excerpt)
Mairs, Nancy *On Being Cripple*
Marin, Peter *Living in Moral Pain*
Marlantes, Karl *What is it Like to Go to War* “Temple” excerpt
Masson, Veneta *Guilt*
Masson, Veneta *Maggie Jones, Ticket to Christmas, and Another Case of Chronic Pelvic Pain*
Masson, Veneta *Passages*
Mates, Susan *Laundry*
McCarriston, Linda *Hotel Nights with my Mother*
McMahon, Marilyn *Wounds of War*
Meagher, Robert *Killing from the Inside Out* (excerpt)
Melville, Herman *Bartleby*
Miles, Josephine *Doll*
Millas, Juan *Aceite de Ricino y Mistica*
Millas, Juan *El Tio Emilio*
Millas, Juan *La Mejor Tarde de Mi Vida*
Miller, Allen *All the Voices*
Miller, Sue *Appropriate Affect*
Milton, John *On His Blindness*
Mitchell, Joseph *Joe Goulds Secret*
Moore, Judith *Fat Girl*
Moore, Lorrie *People Like That Are The Only People Here*
Mueller, Lisel *Monet Refuses Operation*
Munro, Alice *The Bear Came Over The Mountain*

Munro, Alice *Dear Life*
Nealon, Mary Jane *Wanting to Save Everyone*
Neher, Jon *Time and Tide*
Ninh, Bao *Shadow of War: A Novel of North Vietnam* (excerpt)
Nyman, Leslie *Wisteria*
O'Brien, Tim *The Lives of the Dead*
O'Brien, Tim *The Things They Carried*
O'Connor, Flannery *Everything That Rises Must Converge*
Oates, Joyce *A Widow's Story*
Ofri, Danielle *Tools of the Trade*
Ofri, Danielle *Torment*
Ofri, Danielle *Vision*
Olds, Sharon *The Death of Marilyn Monroe*
Olds, Sharon *The Promise*
Oliver, Mary *When Death Comes*
Owen, Wilfred *Sonnet*
Owen, Wilfred *Arms and the Boy*
Owen, Wilfred *Anthem for Doomed Youth*
Owen, Wilfred *Dulce Et Decorum Est*
Owen, Wilfred *Insensibility*
Owen, Wilfred *Mental Cases*
Owen, Wilfred *Parable of the Old Mand and the Young*
Owen, Wilfred *S.I.W.*
Owen, Wilfred *Soldier's Dream*
Ozick, Cynthia *The Shawl*
Paley, Grace *A Conversation with My Father*
Pearlman, Edith *Castle 4* (from *Honeydew*)
Perillo, Lucia *Poem without Breasts..*
Perillo, Lucia *Poem Without Breasts and Second Poem Without Breasts*
Plath, Sylvia *Lady Lazarus*
Phillips, Chester *Charging Lions*
Poe, Edgar *The Tell Tale Heart*
Poe, Edgar Allen *The Tell Tale Heart*
Porter, Katherine *The Jilting of Granny Weatherall*
Price, John *Night Rhythms*
Riederer, Rachel *Patient*
Rilke, Ranier *Sonnets to Orpheus II 13*
Rivers, W. *The Repression of War Experience*
Robinson, Roxana *Paralyzed*
Rosenbaum, Lisa *Transitional Chaos or Enduring Harm: The EHR and the Disruption of Medicine*

Roth, Philip *Defender of the Faith*
Rozga, Margaret *Though I Haven't Been to Baghdad*
Rukeyser, Muriel *Resurrection of the Right Side*
Ryan, Kay *Patience*
Salemi, Joseph *Sicilian Beachhead*
Sassoon, Siegfried *Attack*
Sassoon, Siegfried *Their Frailty*
Sassoon, Siegfried *"Blighters"*
Sassoon, Siegfried *Memorial Tablet*
Sassoon, Siegfried *Joy-Bells*
Sassoon, Siegfried *Does it Matter?*
Sassoon, Siegfried *Glory of Women*
Sassoon, Siegfried *How to Die*
Sassoon, Siegfried *Reconciliation*
Sassoon, Siegfried *Suicide in the Trenches*
Sassoon, Siegfried *Survivors*
Sassoon, Siegfried *They*
Schaefer, Judy *Who Owns The Libretto*
Schwartz, Kenneth A *A Patient's Story*
Scialabba, George *The Endlessly Examined Life*
Sedaris, David *The Happy Place* (from *Let's Explore Diabetes with Owls*)
Sedaris, David *Now We Are Five*
Selgin, Peter *Restaurant*
Selzer, Richard *Atrium: October 2001*
Selzer, Richard *Discus Thrower*
Selzer, Richard *Fetishes*
Selzer, Richard *Four Appointments*
Sexton, Anne *Doctors*
Sexton, Anne *You Doctor Martin*
Shae, Suzanne *Songs from a Lead-lined Room*
Shakespeare, William *Sonnet 22*
Shakespeare, William *Sonnet 60*
Shepard, Jim *Sans Farine*
Sittenfeld, Curtis *American Wife* (excerpt)
Solomon, Andrew *Far from the Tree*
Staten, Pat *The Day My Father Tried To Kill Us*
Stone, John *Gaudeamus Igitur*
Stone, John *He Makes a House Call*
Stone, Robert *Helping*
Stone, Robert *Honeymoon*

Strout, Elizabeth *Incoming Tide*
Studer, Constance *Mercy*
Swenson, May *Question*
Taylor, Anita *By My Own Hand*
Terr, Lenore *Denial and Numbing*
Thernstrom, Melanie *Part 1: The Vale of Pain, The Veil of Pain*
Thomas, Dylan *Do Not Go Gentle*
Thucydides *Corcyra*
Turner, Brian *AB Negative*
Turner, Brian *Eulogy*
Turner, Brian *The Hurt Locker*
Turner, Brian *Sadiq*
Updike, John *Endpoint*
Updike, John *Hospital*
Valinoti, Eileen *First Day on the Ward*
Viramontes, Helena *The Moths*
Wagner, Pamela *Poem in which Paranoia Strikes at the Grocery Store*
Wagner, Pamela *Too Much*
Weigel, Bruce *Song of Napalm*
Weinberg, Richard *Communion*
Weinberg, Richard *First Love*
Weinberg, Richard *The Laying on of Hands*
Wharton, Edith *Diagnosis*
Whitman, Walt *various poems*
Williams, Marjorie *Hit By Lightning*
Williams, Marjorie *The Halloween of My Dreams*
Williams, William *The Girl with a Pimple Face*
Williams, William *Jean Beicke*
Williams, William *Old Doc Rivers*
Williams, William *The Practice*
Williams, William *The Use of Force*
Williams, William *The Use of Force (Readers Theater Version)*
Woolf, Virginia *On Being Ill*
Woolf, Virginia *From Mrs Dalloway*
Yalom, Irwin *Fat Lady*
Yeats, William *When You Are Old*
Young, Kevin *Ode to the Hotel Near the Children's Hospital*
Zarin, Cynthia *An Enlarged Heart*