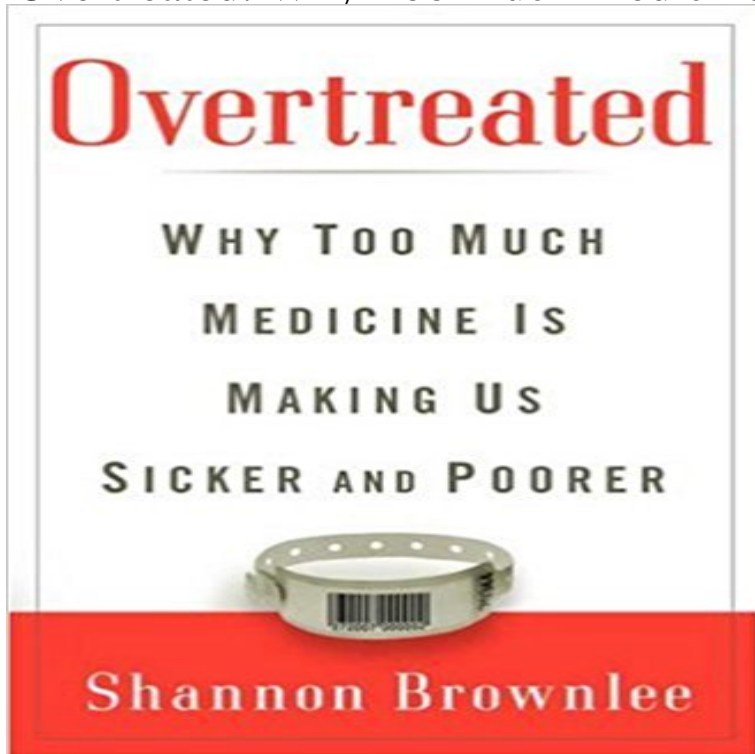


Overtreated: Why Too Much Medicine Is Making Us Sicker and Poorer



Though touted as perhaps the best in the world, the American medical system is filled with hypocrisies. Our health care is staggeringly expensive, yet one in six Americans has no health insurance. We have some of the most skilled physicians in the world, yet one hundred thousand patients die each year from medical errors. In this gripping, eye-opening book, award-winning journalist Shannon Brownlee takes readers inside the hospital to dismantle some of our most venerated myths about American medicine. Using vivid examples of real patients and physicians, *Overtreated* debunks the idea that most of medicine is based in sound science, and shows how our health care system delivers huge amounts of unnecessary care that is not only expensive and wasteful but can actually imperil the health of patients. The interests of politicians and the medical-industrial complex continually trump those of patients, seducing the wealthy with unnecessary procedures and leaving the poor with haphazard access to treatment. Backward economic incentives allow patients with chronic conditions to receive ineffective care, and roll after roll of red tape undermines even the best-intentioned doctors. Tens of thousands of patients die each year from overtreatment. American medicine is in desperate need of fixing. Nevertheless, *Overtreated* ultimately conveys a message of hope by reframing the debate over health care reform. Americans worry about rationing that any effort to rein in the high cost of health care will result in limited access to life-saving treatments. Covering the uninsured seems like an insurmountable problem because it will drive up costs even more. *Overtreated* offers a way to control costs and cover the uninsured, while simultaneously improving the quality of American medicine. Shannon Brownlee's humane, intelligent, and penetrating analysis empowers readers to

avoid the perils of overtreatment, as well as pointing the way to better health care for everyone.

We've started our countdown to National Handbag Day on October 10, and that means we'll have special features for you every day, right up to the big event! Today, we're here to talk about the intersection of celebrity and accessories, and more specifically, how the two can become intertwined in public consciousness for years. The kinds of stars who carry a particular bag do a lot to shape the market's perception of it and the designer who created it, which is why so many brands give out free bags to stars now: they're hoping to create positive associations. In the cases you see below, though, things came along a little bit more naturally. You can't rush love, after all. Think of a bag-celeb duo we missed? Let us know in the comments!

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