“The intriguing complexities of cancer—how it develops into a deadly disease, its extraordinary resilience against treatment, its attacks on the immune system, and its interplay with aging—are unveiled before the reader’s eyes while being immersed in Dr. Weeraratna’s life stories. She takes us on a captivating journey through what shaped her as a person and as a scientist, revealing how each step in her career added a new piece to the puzzle of her research.”

—Margaret Foti, PhD, MD (hc), CEO, American Association for Cancer Research

“This is storytelling at its best. The journey of the author’s upbringing and how her experience with myriad cultures has informed Dr. Weeraratna’s work in the pursuit of understanding and defeating cancer as we know it is fascinating. Her story is particularly inspiring for anyone who might be interested in pursuing a career in STEM.”

—Sung Poblete, PhD, RN, CEO of Stand Up To Cancer

“Dr. Weeraratna’s amalgam of her personal history, her lab’s cutting-edge research on the increasingly important link between cancer and aging, and the promise, hopes, and limitations of future anti-cancer therapies is a beautifully accessible account for scientific and nonscientific audiences alike.”

—Judith Campisi, PhD, Professor, Buck Institute for Research on Aging; Senior Scientist, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory
“This clear and optimistic insider’s view on how cancers form and become aggressive, and what’s being done to alter their courses toward remissions and recovery, is a captivating read for anyone whose life has been touched by the disease. Dr. Weeraratna—an acclaimed researcher on age-related differences in how people respond to certain cancer treatments as well as a fierce advocate for junior faculty, women, immigrants, and people of color in science—presents the human side of medical lab work and will inspire budding future scientists from underrepresented backgrounds and other countries.”

—James DeGregori, MD, Courtenay C. and Lucy Patten Davis Endowed Chair in Lung Cancer Research, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics, University of Colorado

“Dr. Weeraratna’s research at the vanguard of aging’s impacts on metastases and treatments, and her remarkable journeys as an immigrant scientist and advocate, inform this clear, fascinating narrative of both the nature of cancer and advancements in the campaigns against it, providing us with evidence-informed hope from her own and others’ labs that we’re actually beginning to curb the destruction of this horrible disease.”

—Jeffrey Trent, MD, FACMG, President and Research Director, Translational Genomics Research Institute (TGen)