Visceral: Essays on Illness Not as Metaphor

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Published by Punctum Books


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This book was written over several months in 2015 during which I was visiting, calling, or having procedures done at Brigham and Women’s Hospital almost every other week. As stressful as that may have been, I am deeply thankful to Brigham and Women’s for providing an unparalleled level of care, and especially to Dr. Peter Banks—it remains the only hospital I have ever been in without yelling at a single staff member (apologies to Smilow Cancer Care Center at Yale). I am also very thankful to Eileen Joy and Chris Piuma at punctum books for their support of this project, and to Full-Stop and Meagan Day, who first published the essay “Daily Survivor #1.” And as always, none of this could have happened without the unending support, care, and patience of the Dolphins, the Krutes, and the Dolphin-Krutes, and of Jesse Kenas Collins, a daily survivor-caregiver in his own right.