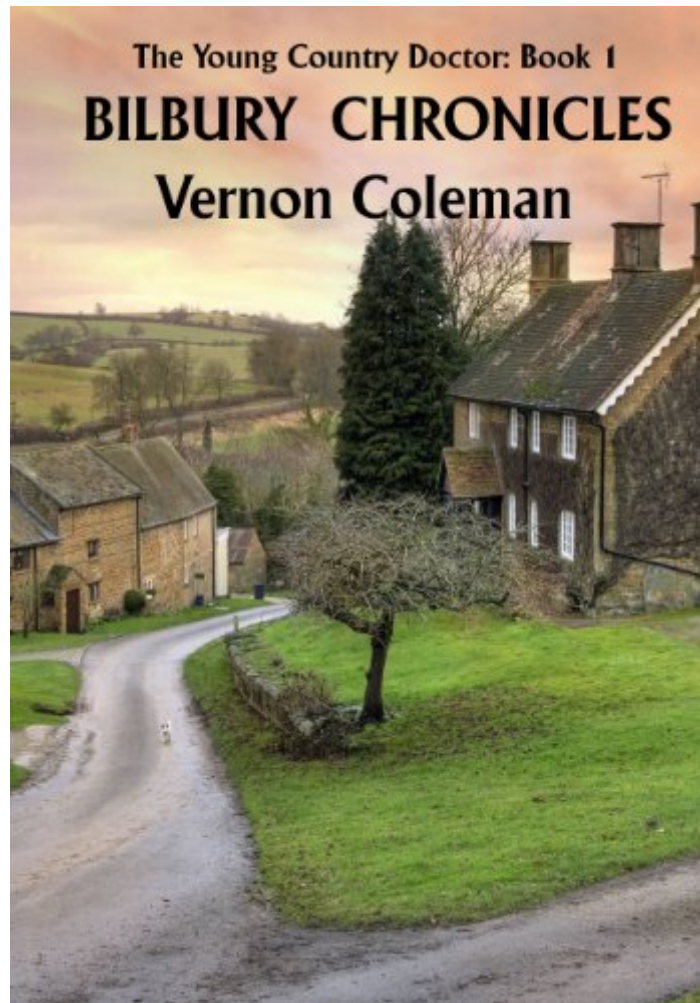




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The Young Country Doctor Book 1: Bilbury Chronicles



Synopsis

Bilbury Chronicles is the first of a series of books (all available on as Ebooks) describing the adventures (and misadventures) of a young doctor who enters general practice as an assistant to an elderly and rather eccentric doctor in Devon, England. When he arrives in Bilbury, a small village on the edge of Exmoor where central heating is a log fire in the middle of the room and where doors are never locked, the young doctor doesn't realise how much he has to learn. But he soon finds the extent of his ignorance when he meets his patients. There is Anne Thwaites who gives birth in the middle of a field and local rogue Thumper Robinson who knows a good many tricks that aren't in any textbooks. And there is Mike Trickle, a TV show host, who causes great excitement when he buys a house in the village. The young doctor's employer is elderly Dr Brownlow who lives in a house that looks like a castle, drives an old Rolls Royce and patches his stethoscope with a bicycle inner tube repair kit. The local pub, the Duck and Puddle, is run by Frank, the inebriate landlord, and the village shop is run by Peter who also drives the local taxi, delivers the mail and acts as the local undertaker. There is Miss Johnson, the receptionist with a look that can curdle milk; Mrs Wilson, the buxom district nurse and Len, her husband who is the local policeman with an embarrassing secret. And there is Patsy. The author of the Bilbury series of books, Dr Vernon Coleman, is a qualified doctor who has written over 100 books which have sold more than two million copies in hardback and paperback in the UK and been translated into 24 languages. Many of his books have been bestsellers. His novel Mrs Caldicot's Cabbage War has been turned into an award winning movie and his medical books include Bodypower and How To Stop Your Doctor Killing You - both of which have been huge international bestsellers. Dr Coleman has written columns for many of the world's leading newspapers and magazines and has presented hundreds of television and radio programmes.

What the papers say about Vernon Coleman and his books:

The tales he tells are truly uplifting and thought-provoking. They are a breath of fresh air in a troubled world and are also very amusing. The tale of the village cricket match in Bilbury Revels is the funniest thing I have ever read. Be warned -don't attempt to read it in a public place. - People's Friend

Vernon Coleman writes brilliant books - The Good Book Guide

Truthful, well observed and consistently readable - Daily Telegraph

His dry humour transforms doctor-patient encounters into hilarious anecdotes - Publishers Weekly

Most of his adventures are funny, some hilarious; but he has the good sense to leaven the comedy with some that are sad, some touching. All are written lightly, easily, entertainingly. We could do with some more. - Oxford Times

He has succeeded in writing a book that will entertain, a book that will entertain and warm the cockles of tired old hearts. - Punch

The funniest book I have read since Three Men in a Boat - Chronicle and Echo

Coleman is a very funny writer - This

EnglandHis powers of observation combine with his penchant for brilliant word pictures to create a most delightful book that will appeal to all those who appreciate humour and sharp characterisation.

- Sunday IndependentNo thinking person can ignore him - The EcologistSuperstar - Independent on SundayBrilliant - The PeopleThe calmest voice of reason - The ObserverCompulsive reading - The GuardianHis message is important - The EconomistThe man is a national treasure - What doctors don't tell youHis advice is optimistic and enthusiastic - British Medical JournalRevered guru of medicine - Nursing TimesMarvellously succinct, refreshingly sensible - The SpectatorProbably one of the most brilliant alive today - Irish TimesHe writes lucidly and wittily - Good HousekeepingBritain's leading health care campaigner - The Sun

Book Information

File Size: 2766 KB

Print Length: 480 pages

Publication Date: April 15, 2014

Sold by:Â Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B00JQLB940

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #24,896 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #22 inÂ Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Biographies & Memoirs > Professionals & Academics > Medical #69 inÂ Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Professionals & Academics > Medical #883 inÂ Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Health, Fitness & Dieting

Customer Reviews

For its genre, this was a well-written novel about the trials, tribulations and joys of becoming a country doctor. Set in the mid-20th century in Devon, a newly qualified physician lands in a far-flung, rural English village full of quirky but lovable folks. His slightly sterile, London training in an equally well-managed teaching hospital has not prepared him for the demands and generosityies of the people who will wreak havoc with all the myths about becoming a gentleman country doctor.Many of

the scenarios are comical, sad, absurd and often just plain mundane. But the young doctor jumps into his new apprenticeship with verve, fear, doubt and love. All the while, the reader has to appreciate the doctor's desire to please and learn, as he gradually sloughs off his past, city chic and becomes very comfortable living above the pub; at the bedside of a dying hobo; in cahoots with the local gofer; getting to know the transvestite local cop; solving mysterious health issues; and gaining the respect of the townspeople and his mentor, who bestows on him the means and ways to survive and come to love country doctoring. This book, the first in a series, will pull the reader into the fast-paced plots and entertaining lifestyle of a wee town, where everyone knows everyone else's business and comes to the aid of one another, in times of crisis and joy. For example, what could be more entertaining than delivering a baby in an open field, as the skies pour down and as sheep and cows become part of the birthing procedure, much to the delight and carefreeness of the new mother and her neighbors, who are there to assist in the arrival of the wee child. For a entertaining but earthy read, this first book in a series is for you.

This is very enjoyable reading and I think it covers the first 4 months of Dr. Coleman's medical career, in 1970 when he moved to a charming tiny village in the English countryside. A LOT happens in this book from humorous to his medical license coming under attack to worrisome incidents and a potential love interest is there too. I plan to read the second book, there are seven in the series.

What a fun daily chronicle of daily life in Bilbury, a small town In The country in England. He is a young brand new Doctor learning about medicine and life in a small village day by day. I can't wait to start the next book! One of seven.

I love quaint British villages and stories of eccentric traditional villages. Well written. I can't wait to read the other books in the series.

I never thought starting a family practice just after getting your diploma as a doctor would be so much challenge... This story, happening in 1970, is a reminder of the "good old days", in the words of this young doctor: "It is one of the paradoxes of modern living that the larger a community is the fewer friends and acquaintances each individual will have." The story is told with much humanity and wisdom. How can I not want to read the 6 books thereafter and learn how this young country doctor is faring over the years? Remember this is countryside England, but may be America used to

be the same. I am lucky to live now on a small island in the Caribbean where much has kept the same: no appointment, first arrived first served basis, homeopathy before harsh drugs, contacts in the street and at the supermarket, everything relevant in a small village where everyone knows everyone (and where there is no secret)... The Bilbury Chronicles were worth my time, maybe it will be worth yours?

I thoroughly love this book, though I am an American :) I didn't need any explanations of the humor in it. I have bought Books 1 to 4 so far, and have read 1 2 and 3. I buy the next one when I am perilously close to the end of the last one. These books are treasures. I wish a TV show (that Americans can watch) would be made of these Young Country Doctor Books. I have made a Vernon Coleman collection on my Kindle and I will read these again. Over and over I would imagine. Fun, witty, surprising...and heart warming when he describes Bilbury Grange and the town, and also the animals who make their home at Bilbury Grange. Oh and the gardens..yes. I hope Mr. Coleman continues the series.

A wonderful, fun read from start to finish! I was finishing nursing school about the time this story begins and it was fun remembering my fresh new energetic mind getting started about the same time this story takes off. There is laughter and tears and in that way is an honest portrayal of life! I will continue the series as a nice "walk back in time".

This is a nice series. It follows the life of a newly minted MD in the 1970's as he grows into the profession and himself in a small village in England. It is refreshing to read a book that has no profanity. Very relaxing, quick read.

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