



Life on the Ground Floor

Dr. James Maskalyk

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Life on the Ground Floor

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Life on the Ground Floor Dr. James Maskalyk

A celebrated humanitarian doctor's unique perspective on sickness, health and what it is to be alive.

In this deeply personal book, humanitarian doctor and activist James Maskalyk, author of the highly acclaimed *Six Months in Sudan*, draws upon his experience treating patients in the world's emergency rooms. From Toronto to Addis Ababa, Cambodia to Bolivia, he discovers that although the cultures, resources and medical challenges of each hospital may differ, they are linked indelibly by the ground floor: the location of their emergency rooms. Here, on the ground floor, is where Dr. Maskalyk witnesses the story of "human aliveness"--our mourning and laughter, tragedies and hopes, the frailty of being and the resilience of the human spirit. And it's here too that he is swept into the story, confronting his fears and doubts and questioning what it is to be a doctor.

Masterfully written and artfully structured, *Life on the Ground Floor* is more than just an emergency doctor's memoir or travelogue--it's a meditation on health, sickness and the wonder of human life.

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