

***When Breath Becomes Air* by Paul Kalanathi**

This nonfiction eBook is well deserved of its designation as a *New York Times* bestseller, as well as a Pulitzer Prize Finalist. It's a striking book, well-written and poignant. I am not cut out for any medical field, so I found this autobiographical account riveting, opening a window on the life of a medical student as he becomes a neurosurgeon confronting life and death decisions for his patients, a world I will never experience first-hand, except through reading. Then suddenly, he and his young wife are facing hard choices of their own as Kalanathi is diagnosed with advanced cancer. What about his dreams to someday be a writer, a physician helping forge breakthroughs in treatments, and a father? Through the journey of this eventually fatal illness, he managed to take me along, and I emerged wiser for having gone with him.

Debra Blunier