

when breath becomes air book

when breath becomes air book is a profoundly moving memoir that delves into the fragile, precious nature of life and the enduring human spirit in the face of terminal illness. Written by Dr. Paul Kalanithi, a gifted neurosurgeon diagnosed with advanced lung cancer, this book offers an intimate reflection on mortality, purpose, and the pursuit of meaning. Its compelling narrative has touched countless readers worldwide, making it a must-read for those interested in medicine, philosophy, and the human condition. This article explores the themes, significance, and impact of *When Breath Becomes Air*, providing a comprehensive overview for those considering reading this remarkable memoir.

Overview of When Breath Becomes Air

Author Background

Paul Kalanithi was a talented neurosurgeon and writer who combined his medical expertise with a philosophical outlook on life. His background in literature and medicine uniquely positioned him to explore the profound questions surrounding death and the meaning of life. Tragically, his career was cut short when he was diagnosed with stage IV lung cancer at the age of 36.

Publication and Reception

When Breath Becomes Air was published posthumously in 2016, shortly after Kalanithi's death. The book received widespread critical acclaim, praised for its honesty, eloquence, and depth. It became a bestseller and was lauded as a modern classic in the genre of memoirs and philosophical literature.

The Core Themes of When Breath Becomes Air

Mortality and the Human Condition

At its heart, the book confronts the inevitability of death. Kalanithi reflects on how facing mortality can reshape our understanding of life, urging readers to cherish every moment and live authentically.

Medicine and Humanity

Drawing from his experiences as a neurosurgeon, Kalanithi emphasizes the importance of empathy, compassion, and the human connection in medical practice. His dual identity as doctor and patient offers a unique perspective on healthcare.

Purpose and Meaning

The memoir explores questions about purpose—what it means to live a meaningful life and how to find fulfillment amid hardship. Kalanithi grapples with balancing professional ambitions with personal relationships and spiritual growth.

Love and Relationships

Throughout his journey, Kalanithi underscores the vital role of love—from his partnership with Lucy to his relationships with family and patients—in providing hope and strength.

Key Highlights and Lessons from When Breath Becomes Air

1. The Intersection of Science and Philosophy

Kalanithi masterfully weaves scientific knowledge with philosophical inquiry, illustrating how understanding the brain and consciousness informs our grasp of life's meaning.

2. Embracing Uncertainty

The memoir teaches the value of accepting life's unpredictability and finding peace amid chaos and suffering.

3. Living Fully in the Face of Death

A core lesson is to prioritize what truly matters, cultivating gratitude and presence even when facing terminal illness.

4. The Power of Hope and Resilience

Despite the bleak prognosis, Kalanithi's resilience inspires readers to find hope and purpose regardless of circumstances.

5. The Importance of Legacy

He reflects on the desire to leave a meaningful impact and how personal stories can inspire future generations.

Why When Breath Becomes Air Continues to Resonate

Emotional Impact

The candid and poetic prose evokes deep emotional responses, prompting self-reflection about mortality and what it means to truly live.

Universal Relevance

Themes of love, loss, purpose, and resilience are universal, making the memoir accessible and relatable across diverse audiences.

Educational Value

For medical professionals, students, and caregivers, the book offers insights into patient care, empathy, and the human side of medicine.

How to Approach Reading When Breath Becomes Air

Preparation Tips

- Be open to emotional engagement; the memoir can evoke powerful feelings.
- Consider reading with a journal or reflection space to process insights.
- Pair the book with discussions on mortality, medicine, or philosophy for a richer experience.

Discussion and Reflection

Many readers find value in discussing the book with others, whether in book clubs or online forums, to explore its themes more deeply.

Impact of When Breath Becomes Air on Readers and Society

Personal Transformation

Readers often report a renewed appreciation for life, a reevaluation of priorities, and a deeper understanding of mortality after reading the memoir.

Cultural and Literary Significance

The book has contributed to ongoing conversations about death, healthcare, and ethics, influencing both literary and medical communities.

Inspirational and Educational Uses

Educators and healthcare providers use the memoir to foster empathy and discussion about end-of-life care.

Where to Find When Breath Becomes Air

Book Formats

- Hardcover and paperback editions
- Audiobook versions narrated by the author and others
- E-book formats compatible with various devices

Availability

The memoir is widely available at bookstores, online retailers, and libraries worldwide. It's also included in many reading lists focused on medicine, philosophy, and personal growth.

Conclusion: Why When Breath Becomes Air Is a Must-Read

When Breath Becomes Air is more than just a memoir; it is a profound meditation on life, death, and the search for meaning. Paul Kalanithi's eloquent narration and deep philosophical insights challenge readers to reflect on their own lives and priorities. Whether you are a medical professional, a student, or someone seeking to understand the human experience, this book offers invaluable lessons on resilience, compassion, and the importance of living authentically. Its enduring relevance and emotional depth ensure that it remains a vital part of contemporary literature and a source of inspiration for generations to come.

Keywords for SEO Optimization:

- when breath becomes air book summary
- Paul Kalanithi memoir review
- themes of when breath becomes air
- best books about mortality
- medical memoirs and philosophy
- how to read when breath becomes air
- impact of when breath becomes air
- why read when breath becomes air
- legacy of Paul Kalanithi
- living meaningfully in the face of death

This comprehensive overview aims to provide insights into the significance of When Breath Becomes Air, encouraging readers to explore its profound messages and life lessons.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the main theme of 'When Breath Becomes Air'?

The book explores themes of mortality, purpose, and the meaning of life through the personal journey of Dr. Paul Kalanithi as he faces terminal illness.

Who is the author of 'When Breath Becomes Air'?

The book was written by Dr. Paul Kalanithi, a neurosurgeon and writer, and was completed with the help of his wife, Lucy Kalanithi.

Is 'When Breath Becomes Air' a memoir or a novel?

'When Breath Becomes Air' is a memoir that reflects on Paul Kalanithi's life, career, and his battle with cancer.

Why has 'When Breath Becomes Air' become a bestseller?

The book's profound insights on life, death, and the human condition resonate deeply with readers, making it a widely acclaimed bestseller.

What impact has 'When Breath Becomes Air' had on readers and the medical community?

It has inspired many with its honest reflection on mortality and has sparked discussions about the ethics of medicine, purpose in life, and the doctor-patient relationship.

Are there any adaptations of 'When Breath Becomes Air'?

Yes, the book has been adapted into a documentary film and has inspired numerous discussions, book clubs, and academic talks on death and medicine.

What is the significance of the title 'When Breath Becomes Air'?

The title symbolizes the transition from life to death, capturing the fleeting nature of existence and the moment of ultimate surrender.

How does 'When Breath Becomes Air' differ from other memoirs on illness?

It uniquely combines medical insight with philosophical reflection, offering a profound exploration of what gives life meaning when faced with mortality.

Additional Resources

When Breath Becomes Air: An Intimate Exploration of Life, Mortality, and the Human Condition

Introduction

In the realm of memoirs that grapple with the profound questions of existence, *When Breath Becomes Air* stands as a towering testament to the human capacity for resilience, reflection, and vulnerability. Authored by Dr. Paul Kalanithi, a neurosurgeon diagnosed with terminal lung cancer, the book intricately weaves together his journey from a driven medical student to a patient confronting mortality, culminating in a poignant meditation on what it means to truly live. This work transcends personal narrative, inviting readers to confront their own perceptions of life, death, and purpose through a lens that is both deeply intimate and intellectually compelling.

The Genesis of the Book: From Doctor to Patient

The Personal and Professional Crossroads

Paul Kalanithi's life was marked by a unique confluence of disciplines—literature and medicine. Before his diagnosis, he was an accomplished neurosurgeon-in-training, passionate about understanding the intricacies of the human brain. His academic pursuits spanned from the classics to cutting-edge neuroscience, embodying a quest to comprehend the mysteries of consciousness and mortality.

The diagnosis of stage IV lung cancer in 2013 abruptly shifted his trajectory. As a physician, Kalanithi had spent years caring for terminally ill patients; as a patient, he faced the terrifying reality of his own mortality. The transition from healer to patient provided a profound narrative arc—one that underscores the universality of suffering and the importance of empathy.

From Pages to Purpose: The Writing Process

Kalanithi began writing *When Breath Becomes Air* during his treatment, initially as a way to process his experiences and fears. The process was both therapeutic and philosophical, leading to a manuscript that balances medical insight with poetic reflection.

His wife, Lucy Kalanithi, served as a vital collaborator and editor, helping shape the narrative into a coherent reflection on life and death. The book was completed shortly before Kalanithi's death in 2015, serving as a final testament to his enduring spirit and quest for meaning.

Themes and Philosophical Underpinnings

Mortality as a Catalyst for Reflection

At its core, the book grapples with mortality—not as an abstract concept, but as an immediate, visceral reality. Kalanithi explores how confronting death can sharpen our understanding of what it means to truly live. He posits that mortality is not merely an endpoint but a lens through which we can reevaluate our priorities and values.

The Search for Meaning

Throughout his narrative, Kalanithi wrestles with questions such as:

- What constitutes a meaningful life?
- How should one reconcile professional ambition with personal fulfillment?
- Can suffering serve as a pathway to deeper understanding?

He suggests that meaning is not a static achievement but an ongoing process—an active construction that requires intentionality and honesty.

Medicine, Humanity, and the Limits of Science

Kalanithi's dual identity as a doctor and patient illuminates the boundaries of scientific knowledge. While medicine can prolong life and alleviate suffering, it cannot fully address existential questions or eliminate the inevitability of death.

He emphasizes that medicine's greatest gift is its capacity to serve as a bridge—connecting patients to dignity, compassion, and hope—even in the face of terminal illness.

Structural and Literary Characteristics

Narrative Style and Literary Devices

Kalanithi's writing is characterized by lyrical prose, vivid imagery, and a contemplative tone. His background in literature enriches the narrative, allowing him to employ literary devices such as metaphor, allegory, and parallelism.

For example, the title itself—When Breath Becomes Air—evokes a poetic image of life's transient nature and the moment of transition from breath to silence. The book's structure alternates between memoir, philosophical essay, and medical case studies, creating a layered and nuanced reading experience.

Use of Anecdotes and Personal Reflections

Personal stories—ranging from his childhood love of literature to his experiences in the operating room—serve to humanize complex philosophical ideas. These anecdotes serve as anchors, grounding abstract reflections in real-life moments.

Impact and Reception

Critical Acclaim and Cultural Significance

When Breath Becomes Air received widespread acclaim for its honesty, depth, and lyrical style. Critics lauded Kalanithi's ability to articulate the profound tension between science and spirituality, life and death.

The book became a bestseller and was included in numerous "must-read" lists, resonating with a broad audience beyond the medical community. Its influence extended into discussions about palliative care, the importance of meaning in life, and the humanization of illness narratives.

Personal and Societal Impact

Readers have reported that the memoir offers comfort, perspective, and a renewed appreciation for life's fleeting moments. It has also sparked conversations about how society approaches terminal illness, the importance of doctor-patient relationships, and the ethical complexities of end-of-life care.

Analytical Perspectives

Philosophy and Existentialism in the Narrative

Kalanithi's reflections draw upon existentialist themes—particularly the ideas of authenticity, mortality, and the search for purpose. His acknowledgment of death as an ultimate equalizer compels both himself and the reader to consider the authenticity of their pursuits.

His engagement with philosophical thinkers such as Søren Kierkegaard and Albert Camus underscores the book's intellectual depth. The narrative becomes a dialogue not only with personal experience but also with enduring philosophical debates about the nature of existence.

Medical Ethics and the Human Condition

The memoir also prompts ethical considerations:

- How should physicians approach terminal diagnoses?
- What is the role of hope and honesty in patient care?
- How do cultural attitudes toward death influence individual experiences?

Kalanithi's candid portrayal of his own illness exemplifies a compassionate approach that emphasizes dignity, honesty, and the importance of understanding the patient's perspective.

Conclusion

When Breath Becomes Air is more than a memoir; it is a philosophical meditation on mortality, purpose, and the human spirit. Kalanithi's eloquent narrative challenges readers to confront their own mortality with honesty and courage, urging a reevaluation of what it means to live authentically. Its enduring legacy lies in its capacity to inspire reflection on the fragility of life and the profound beauty inherent in our shared mortality. As a literary and philosophical masterpiece, the book continues to resonate across disciplines—medicine, literature, philosophy—and with anyone who seeks to understand the depths of human experience.

[When Breath Becomes Air Book](#)

when breath becomes air book: *When Breath Becomes Air* Paul Kalanithi, 2016-01-12 #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • PULITZER PRIZE FINALIST • This inspiring, exquisitely observed memoir finds hope and beauty in the face of insurmountable odds as an idealistic young neurosurgeon attempts to answer the question, What makes a life worth living? "Unmissable . . . Finishing this book and then forgetting about it is simply not an option."—Janet Maslin, *The New*

York Times ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR: The New York Times Book Review, People, NPR, The Washington Post, Slate, Harper's Bazaar, Time Out New York, Publishers Weekly, BookPage At the age of thirty-six, on the verge of completing a decade's worth of training as a neurosurgeon, Paul Kalanithi was diagnosed with stage IV lung cancer. One day he was a doctor treating the dying, and the next he was a patient struggling to live. And just like that, the future he and his wife had imagined evaporated. When *Breath Becomes Air* chronicles Kalanithi's transformation from a naïve medical student "possessed," as he wrote, "by the question of what, given that all organisms die, makes a virtuous and meaningful life" into a neurosurgeon at Stanford working in the brain, the most critical place for human identity, and finally into a patient and new father confronting his own mortality. What makes life worth living in the face of death? What do you do when the future, no longer a ladder toward your goals in life, flattens out into a perpetual present? What does it mean to have a child, to nurture a new life as another fades away? These are some of the questions Kalanithi wrestles with in this profoundly moving, exquisitely observed memoir. Paul Kalanithi died in March 2015, while working on this book, yet his words live on as a guide and a gift to us all. "I began to realize that coming face to face with my own mortality, in a sense, had changed nothing and everything," he wrote. "Seven words from Samuel Beckett began to repeat in my head: 'I can't go on. I'll go on.'" When *Breath Becomes Air* is an unforgettable, life-affirming reflection on the challenge of facing death and on the relationship between doctor and patient, from a brilliant writer who became both. Finalist for the PEN Center USA Literary Award in Creative Nonfiction and the Books for a Better Life Award in Inspirational Memoir

when breath becomes air book: When Breath Becomes Air (Indonesian Edition) Paul Kalanithi, 2016-10-06 Pada usia ketiga puluh enam, Paul Kalanithi merasa suratan nasibnya berjalan dengan begitu sempurna. Paul hampir saja menyelesaikan masa pelatihan luar biasa panjangnya sebagai ahli bedah saraf selama sepuluh tahun. Beberapa rumah sakit dan universitas ternama telah menawari posisi penting yang diimpikannya selama ini. Penghargaan nasional pun telah diraihnya. Dan kini, Paul hendak kembali menata ikatan pernikahannya yang merenggang, memenuhi peran sebagai sosok suami yang ia janjikan. Akan tetapi, secara tiba-tiba, kanker mencengkeram paru-parunya, melumpuhkan organ-organ penting dalam tubuhnya. Seluruh masa depan yang direncanakan Paul seketika menguap. Pada satu hari ia adalah seorang dokter yang menangani orang-orang yang sekarat, tetapi pada hari berikutnya, ia adalah pasien yang mencoba bertahan hidup. Apa yang membuat hidup berharga dan bermakna, mengingat semua akan sirna pada akhirnya? Apa yang Anda lakukan saat masa depan tak lagi menuntun pada cita-cita yang diidamkan, melainkan pada masa kini yang tanpa akhir? Apa artinya memiliki anak, merawat kehidupan baru saat kehidupan lain meredup? *When Breath Becomes Air* akan membawa kita bergelut pada pertanyaan-pertanyaan penting tentang hidup dan seberapa layak kita diberi pilihan untuk menjalani kehidupan. [Mizan, Bentang Pustaka, Memoar, Biografi, Kisah, Medis, Terjemahan, Indonesia]

when breath becomes air book: Summary of When Breath Becomes Air by Paul Kalanithi Readtrepreneur Publishing, 2019-05-24 *When Breath Becomes Air* by Paul Kalanithi - Book Summary - Readtrepreneur (Disclaimer: This is NOT the original book, but an unofficial summary.) What makes life worth living? Paul has always strove to understand the meaning of life - first through literature, then through medicine. This book *When Breath Becomes Air* tells us the true story of Paul Kalanithi, who always wondered about the meaning of life and death. Paul brings us through his journey as a surgeon and a patient, as we understand more about the struggles of their battles with cancer. (Note: This summary is wholly written and published by Readtrepreneur. It is not affiliated with the original author in any way) Human knowledge is never contained in one person. It grows from the relationships we create between each other and the world, and still it is never complete. - Paul Kalanithi As a neurosurgeon, Paul has always come face to face with life and death of his patients. He had guided many families through the deaths of his many patients but when Paul became a patient of cancer himself, he was clueless. From a neurosurgeon with a bright future to a man facing death, Paul debated on his next course of action and still strove to make the most

out of the limited time he had. P.S. This is a truly heart-warming, page-turning book that gives readers a deeper insight of life and death which will make you laugh and cry as late Paul Kalanithi tells his story. The Time for Thinking is Over! Time for Action! Scroll Up Now and Click on the Buy now with 1-Click Button to Grab your Copy Right Away! Why Choose Us, Readtrepreneur? □ Highest Quality Summaries □ Delivers Amazing Knowledge □ Awesome Refresher □ Clear And Concise Disclaimer Once Again: This book is meant for a great companionship of the original book or to simply get the gist of the original book.

when breath becomes air book: [Summary of When Breath Becomes Air](#) Ez-reader, 2016-05-26 This is a SHORTENED VERSION of the original book, not the original book itself; the purpose here is to help you understand the original book faster and better! When Breath Becomes Air: Book Shortened into 35 pages or less! 'When Breath Becomes Air' is a bestselling book written by Paul Kalanithi. The book is actually a memoir, which embodies both the life and death of one man. 'When Breath Becomes Air' is Amazon's Best Book of 2016, which only emphasize the overall quality of the book. But before we say something about the book, let's say something about the author. Paul Kalanithi, besides being a great writer, is also an excellent neurosurgeon. He studied English literature and human biology, which earned him two B.A. degrees and also an M.A. at the University of Stanford. Kalanithi also went to Cambridge in order to study medicine there. There he managed to earn an M. Phil both in philosophy and in the history of medicine. But that was not all. He also managed to graduate cum laude from Yale School of Medicine and after his residency and post-doctoral study back at Stanford, Kalanithi received highest possible honors for his research and studies. Unfortunately, Paul Kalanithi died in 2015, while working on his book 'When Breath Becomes Air. In the book, the author starts by writing about his coming of age both as a writer and medical professional. Later in the book we read about author's chronicles and his battle with stage IV lung cancer. The best thing about this book that it offers almost perfect insight on the meaning of life and also on the ultimate significance of something that death is. Even though death is something most people fears of, it is something that is inevitable and something that waits for every one of us. Here Is A Preview Of What You Will Get: In When Breath Becomes Air, you will get a shortened version of the story In When Breath Becomes Air, you will find the book analyzed to further strengthen your knowledge. In When Breath Becomes Air, you will get some fun multiple choice quizzes, along with answers to help you learn about the book. Click the Buy Now With One Click Button, and learn everything about When Breath Becomes Air .

when breath becomes air book: [Full Summary of When Breath Becomes Air - By Paul Kalanithi](#) Sapiens Editorial, 2018-07-24 How can we find the meaning of life? Where do we look for it? You will be surprised to discover that the meaning of your existence is everywhere. Even if a person's life is short, we can all find a purpose, even in death. Paul Kalanithi shows us that life does not end with our last breath. ABOUT THE ORIGINAL BOOK This book, published in 2016, tells the story of a huge journey to find the meaning of life when death is already at the door. When Breathing Becomes Air is the autobiography of Paul Kalanithi, a neuroscientist and neurosurgeon who was diagnosed with cancer, a disease that eventually took his life of 37 years.

when breath becomes air book: Summary of When Breath Becomes Air A Book a Day, 2016-09-29 Warning: This is an independent addition to When Breath Becomes Air, meant to enhance your experience of the original book. If you have not yet bought the original copy, make sure to purchase it before buying this unofficial summary from aBookaDay. When Breath Becomes Air by Paul Kalanithi is an exquisitely profound memoir chronicling his transformation from a naive medical student, to a neurosurgeon and then into a man, a new father, face with his mortality. He has to face the fears and emotions that are associated with being a patient rather than the doctor. He spends his education and career searching for the answer to what brings life meaning or what makes life meaningful. With his diagnosis, the author now faces the need to find a new identity and discover a new sense of self. He struggles to answer questions like how do you plan a future when you know the outcome? How do you nurture a young growing life when you are faced with your own life slowly fading away? When Breathe Becomes Air is one of those books that is a life changing and

unforgettable account of a man dealing with the challenges of facing his own illness and the interpersonal relationship that develops between doctor and patient. Paul Kalanithi takes his readers on a journey through his own self discovery of what it means to be an effective doctor, and how as a doctor he could help his patients discover what gives their lives meaning. Available on PC, Mac, iphone, android, tablet or Kindle device. (c) 2016 All Rights Reserved

when breath becomes air book: Full Summary Of "When Breath Becomes Air - By Paul Kalanithi" Sapiens Editorial, 2018

when breath becomes air book: When Breath Becomes Air Abraham Verghese, Paul Kalanithi, 2017-07 At the age of thirty-six, on the verge of completing a decade's worth of training as a neurosurgeon, Paul Kalanithi was diagnosed with stage IV lung cancer. One day he was a doctor treating the dying, and the next he was a patient struggling to live. And just like that, the future he and his wife had imagined evaporated. *When Breath Becomes Air* chronicles Kalanithi's transformation from a naive medical student possessed, as he wrote, by the question of what, given that all organisms die, makes a virtuous and meaningful life into a neurosurgeon at Stanford working in the brain, the most critical place for human identity, and finally into a patient and new father confronting his own mortality. What makes life worth living in the face of death? What do you do when the future, no longer a ladder toward your goals in life, flattens out into a perpetual present? What does it mean to have a child, to nurture a new life as another fades away? These are some of the questions Kalanithi wrestles with in this profoundly moving, exquisitely observed memoir. Paul Kalanithi died in March 2015, while working on this book, yet his words live on as a guide and a gift to us all. I began to realize that coming face to face with my own mortality, in a sense, had changed nothing and everything, he wrote. Seven words from Samuel Beckett began to repeat in my head: 'I can't go on. I'll go on.' *When Breath Becomes Air* is an unforgettable, life-affirming reflection on the challenge of facing death and on the relationship between doctor and patient, from a brilliant writer who became both.

when breath becomes air book: *When Breath Becomes Air* Instaread, 2016-02-28 *When Breath Becomes Air* by Paul Kalanithi | Summary & Analysis Preview: *When Breath Becomes Air* is a memoir about Paul Kalanithi's experiences as a doctor and as a terminally ill patient. The book discusses Kalanithi's lifelong fascination with questions of human biology, mortality, and meaning. It then examines how these questions are intensified by the author's own confrontation with lung cancer, sickness, and death. Kalanithi's father was a doctor from New York City; his mother was from India. The family moved to Kingman, Arizona, so that his father could pursue his medical career when Paul was young. His father worked long hours and was rarely home, which convinced young Paul that the last thing he wanted to do was to become a doctor himself. Paul's mother was concerned about the weak school system in Kingman, and so crafted a lengthy list of literary classics which she made Paul and his brothers read. As a result, Paul became enthralled with literature. He planned to become a writer... PLEASE NOTE: This is summary and analysis of the book and NOT the original book. Inside this Instaread Summary of *When Breath Becomes Air*: · Summary of the book · Important People · Character Analysis · Analysis of the Themes and Author's Style

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CTPrint, 2019-09-25 :::::::::: Disclaimer :::::::::: This book is not meant to replace the original book but to serve as a companion to it. :::::::::: About the Original Book :::::::::: When Breath Becomes Air (2016) tells the incredible story of Paul Kalanithi, a neurosurgeon and neuroscientist who was diagnosed with and died from cancer in his mid-thirties. These blinks detail his extraordinary journey in search of the meaning of life in the face of death. :::::::::: About the Author :::::::::: Paul Kalanithi was an Indian-American writer and award-winning surgeon. He attended the Yale School of Medicine and completed his residency at Stanford University.

when breath becomes air book: When Breath Becomes Air - Summarized for Busy People Goldmine Reads, 2017-11-07 This book summary and analysis was created for individuals who want to extract the essential contents and are too busy to go through the full version. This book is not intended to replace the original book. Instead, we highly encourage you to buy the full version. Paul Kalanithi was diagnosed with stage IV metastatic lung cancer at the age of thirty-six, just nearing his ten-year mark as a neurosurgeon in training. At one moment, he was a doctor treating patients and the next, he was a patient needing doctors. His diagnosis changed everything, including the future that he and his wife, Lucy, had envisioned. When Breath Becomes Air is Kalanithi's account of his transition from being a young medical student fixated on answering the profound question about what makes one's life meaningful in spite of the certainty of death, to a trained neurosurgeon in charge of one's source of identity-the human brain, and ultimately to a man welcomed to fatherhood as well as to the realization of his mortality. What makes life worthwhile when death is but an inevitability? How will you move forward when the future you have imagined crumbles into an impasse? Why bring new life into the world when your own is slipping right between your fingers? These are only some of the thought-provoking questions Kalanithi presents in this masterfully written memoir. Paul Kalanithi passed away on March 9, 2015. Though unfinished, When Breath Becomes Air continues to serve as a guide to those who have lost their way. It is the reflection of a brave and dignified man-once a doctor, then a patient-who continued to affirm life even in the face of death. Wait no more, take action and get this book now!

when breath becomes air book: Summary of When Breath Becomes Air Readtrepreneur Publishing, 2017-08-20 When Breath Becomes Air by Paul Kalanithi | Book Summary | Readtrepreneur (Disclaimer: This is NOT the original book. If you're looking for the original book, search this link <http://amzn.to/2vO4H8a>) What makes life worth living? Paul has always strove to understand the meaning of life - first through literature, then through medicine. This book When Breath Becomes Air tells us the true story of Paul Kalanithi, who always wondered about the meaning of life and death. Paul brings us through his journey as a surgeon and a patient, as we understand more about the struggles of their battles with cancer. (Note: This summary is wholly written and published by readtrepreneur.com It is not affiliated with the original author in any way) Human knowledge is never contained in one person. It grows from the relationships we create between each other and the world, and still it is never complete. - Paul Kalanithi As a neurosurgeon, Paul has always come face to face with life and death of his patients. He had guided many families through the deaths of his many patients but when Paul became a patient of cancer himself, he was clueless. From a neurosurgeon with a bright future to a man facing death, Paul debated on his next course of action and still strove to make the most out of the limited time he had. P.S. This is a truly heart-warming, page-turning book that gives readers a deeper insight of life and death which will make you laugh and cry as late Paul Kalanithi tells his story. The Time for Thinking is Over! Time for Action! Scroll Up Now and Click on the Buy now with 1-Click Button to Get Your Copy Sent to Your Doorstep As soon as possible! Why Choose Us, Readtrepreneur? Highest Quality Summaries Delivers Amazing Knowledge Awesome Refresher Clear And Concise Disclaimer Once Again: This book is meant for a great companionship of the original book or to simply get the gist of the original book. If you're looking for the original book, search for this link: <http://amzn.to/2vO4H8a>

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transformation from a naïve medical student “possessed,” as he wrote, “by the question of what, given that all organisms die, makes a virtuous and meaningful life” into a neurosurgeon at Stanford working in the brain, the most critical place for human identity, and finally into a patient and new father confronting his own mortality. What makes life worth living in the face of death? What do you do when the future, no longer a ladder toward your goals in life, flattens out into a perpetual present? What does it mean to have a child, to nurture a new life as another fades away? These are some of the questions Kalanithi wrestles with in this profoundly moving, exquisitely observed memoir. Paul Kalanithi died in March 2015, while working on this book, yet his words live on as a guide and a gift to us all. “I began to realize that coming face to face with my own mortality, in a sense, had changed nothing and everything,” he wrote. “Seven words from Samuel Beckett began to repeat in my head: ‘I can’t go on. I’ll go on.’” When Breath Becomes Air is an unforgettable, life-affirming reflection on the challenge of facing death and on the relationship between doctor and patient, from a brilliant writer who became both. Finalist for the PEN Center USA Literary Award in Creative Nonfiction and the Books for a Better Life Award in Inspirational Memoir

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when breath becomes air book: Daniel Paul Kalanith's When Breath Becomes Air Summary Ant Hive Media, 2016-03-14 This is a summary about When Breath Becomes Air, written by Paul Kalanithi with regards to his life. It serves to give certain concepts and details from each chapter. It is a condensed version that serves those who are new to book clubs or who enjoy biographies. It is, essentially, a memoir about the life as well as death of a well-known neurosurgeon, and was termed the Best Book of January 2016 on Amazon. The first section deals with his earlier life and how a doctor became both a writer and medical professional, while the second section gives insights into the meaning of life as well as death. This summary is aimed for those who want to capture the gist of the book but don't have the current time to devour all 256 pages. You get the main summary along with all of the benefits and lessons the actual book has to offer. Ant Hive Media reads every chapter, extracts the understanding and leaves you with a new perspective and time to spare. We do the work so you can understand the book in minutes, not hours.

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