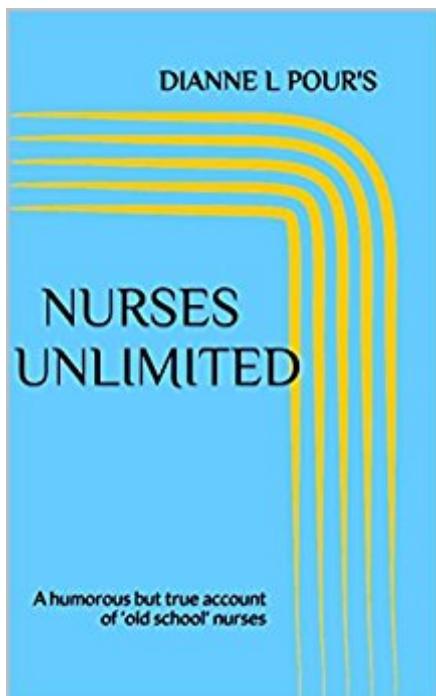


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# Nurses Unlimited: A Humorous But True Account Of 'old School' Nurses



## **Synopsis**

Read stories from the 'old school' nurses, much different from today's nursing brigade and I am sure we had many more fun times with the comradeship we nurtured with our nursing family. Many of these true stories are from 'behind the scenes', so not only nurses can get a laugh at these (and relate to them), but if you have been a patient, you can learn a little more about your stay in hospital. Times were hard, sure, but not many of us can say we didn't love every minute of it or would have had it any different. We chose nursing as our profession because that is what we wanted to do - BE a nurse

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

I spent a lot of time in the hospital a couple of years ago, so I got pretty familiar with the nurses and what their duties were. Nowadays nursing is very different than how it is depicted in this book. It seems that, back then, hospitals were more or less looking for cooks and housekeepers instead of nurses. Now, there is an actual housekeeping department (populated by many males, I have

noticed). Nurses are freed up to be the true professionals they are. The author mentions how the nurses cleaned every surface, and took real pride when everything gleamed. That does not happen now. Housekeeping picks up a little bit, changes the trash bags, then swabs the floors. Many surfaces are not touched. Doorknobs or door handles, light switches, thermostats, bed railings, wands for opening the blinds, drawer handles, all surfaces. How often do we hear about hospital-acquired infections (HAI), otherwise known as nosocomial infections. We hear that EVERY surface is covered with antibiotic-resistant infectious organisms in a hospital. It would sure be nice if SOMEONE swabbed down those surfaces. I personally bring cleaning wipes to the hospital with me, and either wipe everything down myself, or get someone to do it for me. Every day. But then I already have been infected with VRE (Vancomycin-resistant Enterococcus). Guess how I acquired it? You got it in one, a nosocomial infection. They have to put me in isolation now every time I go into the hospital. They have to put on special caps, gowns and gloves just to enter my room (the little cabinet with these supplies is rolled over and placed right outside my door). It is not to protect them from infectious little me. Nope. It's to protect ME from infectious little THEM. One point this author makes (oh yeah, sorry, back to the book I was talking about so long ago), is that things aren't necessarily progressing. They used to have very LOW rates of nosocomial infections. And that is just one small point she makes in this book. There's ever so much more. This book is an eye-opener. I don't agree with all of her points, but she makes a good case for a healthy debate. I hope the medical profession is listening. One more point I would like to make. This is something I heard somewhere, and it certainly bears repeating. (Every patient in the hospital needs to keep this in mind). Nurses are there to save your #%^, not kiss it. Think about that before you turn on that call light. By the way, only use your call light once every four hours. And quit complaining, you are not at home. And read this book. Now. Do it. I'm watching so hit that button! |

A fascinating read of how nurses trained, and worked, in Australia from the 1940s to more recent times. Most nurses received their training in the hospitals they worked at, instead of schools with clinical experience like today. The author shares her, and her friends, ups and downs with the patients and doctors. The stories are well written with compassion and wry wit, often illustrated by cute drawings. It was easy to 'see' through the windows that Ms. Pour opened. Even though I trained at a different, more modern, time, I could relate to her stories of the "Dragon" (someone who is cruel for the sake of meanness, today often called "nurses eating their young") instructors and supervisors. I enjoyed this book, and the glimpse into a time and place I had wondered about. The reason I am giving it four instead of five stars was the final chapter, where Ms. Pour states that the

old way is the better way, and a trashing of ideas from America. I think both have their time, place, and purpose, and we nurses tend to bicker and compete enough. It was a little jarring as it felt like a different tempo than the rest of the book. I wish she had summed up the book with her upbeat manner instead.

Thanks for your memories, my dear -- funny and poignant and sad. Made excellent bed-time reading. I laughed out loud.

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