Funny You Should Ask

...How Graphic Medicine Found Me

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Where we are
Goal:
A Graphic Medicine Collection

- Campus Demographics
  - 24,000 undergraduates and growing
  - Large diverse, first gen population

- SofM “created to address the shortfall of healthcare professionals in the Inland Southern California region”
  - 2013
  - Community based

- Local
Can't We Talk about Something More Pleasant? by Roz Chast
Call Number: Reserve - Orbach NC1429.C525 A2 2014
ISBN: 9781608198061
Publication Date: 2014-05-06
#1 New York Times Bestseller
In her first memoir, Roz Chast brings her signature wit to the topic of aging parents. Spanning the last several years of their lives and told through four-color cartoons, family photos, and documents, and a narrative as rife with laughs as it is with tears, Chast's memoir is both comfort and comic relief for anyone experiencing the life-altering loss of elderly parents. When it came to her elderly mother and father, Roz held to the practices of denial, avoidance, and distraction. But when Elizabeth Chast climbed a ladder to locate an old souvenir from the "crazy closet"—with predictable results—the tools that had served Roz well through her parents' seventies, eighties, and into their early nineties could no longer be deployed. While the particulars are Chest-ian in their idiosyncrasies—an anxious father who had relied heavily on his wife for stability as he slipped into dementia and a former assistant principal mother whose changing personality had sidelined Roz for decades—the themes are universal: adult children accepting a parental role; suffering an aging parent; finding oneself a caretaker for an institution, dealing with uncomfortable physical intimacies; managing a will that seems to shift at the drop of a hat; offering false hope to family members who hope against all odds that a parent might recover; the parallel of two lives at their end and an only child who must learn to let go.
Opportunities
- Course Readings
- Clerkship
- Interest Groups / Book Club
- Selectives

Connecting with Curriculum