

Contents

Notes on Contributors *vii*

Acknowledgments *ix*

Preface *xi*

- 1 “Can’t You Do Anything Right?”: The Shocking Realization That I Was Not Perfect 1
- 2 Beastly Bellies 5
- 3 The Friday Night Special: Or Why Do Patients Become Critical Just Before the Weekend? 15
- 4 Between a Rock and a Hard Place: When to Refer and What Do You Do
When Referral Is Not an Option? 27
- 5 Courage, Mystery, and Awe: The Intangibles of Being a Veterinary Doctor 39
Julie M. Meadows
- 6 Placed on Earth to Test Us: The Not-So-Humble Spay 43
Catherine F. Le Bars
- 7 “Oops!”: Not a Good Word to Hear During Surgery 47
- 8 Learning the Hard Way: Student, Resident, Teacher 57
- 9 “But I Don’t Want to Look Stupid ...”: How to Let Others Help You 65
- 10 “It Didn’t Look Like That on Paper!”: When Textbooks Let Us Down 73
- 11 “It Will Be Interesting to See Whether That Works”: How to Be a Creative Surgeon 83
- 12 When the Unthinkable Happens: Mishaps, Mis-steps, and Medical Errors 95
- 13 Things Went South – Now What? 103

14	"There's Got to Be a Morning After": Things Went Wrong – Now Live With It	111
15	One Leg Too Many: Patients Who Lost Limbs	121
16	Reconstruction Rescue: When the Hole Just Keeps Getting Bigger and Bigger	133
17	"Why Is Sam Straining?": Iatrogenic Strictures and Stray Oddities	143
18	"An Alien in My Waiting Room": Everyday Occurences of the Unexpected and Unbelievable	155
19	Rewind: What Would I Do Differently If I Had the Chance?	167
	Index	171