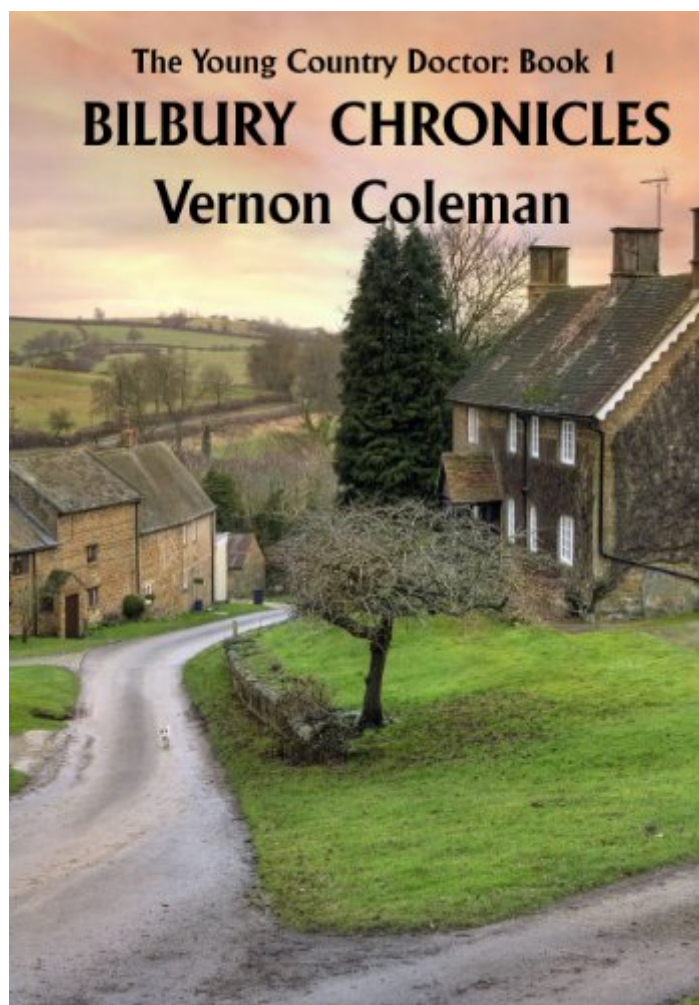


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The Young Country Doctor Book 1: Bilbury Chronicles



Synopsis

Bilbury Chronicles is the first of a series of nine books (all available on as Ebooks) describing the adventures (and misadventures) of a young doctor who enters general practice as an assistant to an elderly and rather eccentric doctor in Devon, England. When he arrives in Bilbury, a small village on the edge of Exmoor where central heating is a log fire in the middle of the room and where doors are never locked, the young doctor doesn't realise how much he has to learn. But he soon finds the extent of his ignorance when he meets his patients. There is Anne Thwaites who gives birth in the middle of a field and local rogue Thumper Robinson who knows a good many tricks that aren't in any textbooks. And there is Mike Trickle, a TV show host, who causes great excitement when he buys a house in the village. The young doctor's employer is elderly Dr Brownlow who lives in a house that looks like a castle, drives an old Rolls Royce and patches his stethoscope with a bicycle inner tube repair kit. The local pub, the Duck and Puddle, is run by Frank, the inebriate landlord, and the village shop is run by Peter who also drives the local taxi, delivers the mail and acts as the local undertaker. There is Miss Johnson, the receptionist with a look that can curdle milk; Mrs Wilson, the buxom district nurse and Len, her husband who is the local policeman with an embarrassing secret. And there is Patsy.

The author of the Bilbury series of books, Dr Vernon Coleman, is a qualified doctor who has written over 100 books which have sold more than two million copies in hardback and paperback in the UK and been translated into 24 languages. Many of his books have been bestsellers. His novel Mrs Caldicot's Cabbage War has been turned into an award winning movie and his medical books include Bodypower and How To Stop Your Doctor Killing You - both of which have been huge international bestsellers. Dr Coleman has written columns for many of the world's leading newspapers and magazines and has presented hundreds of television and radio programmes.

What the papers say about Vernon Coleman and his books:

The tales he tells are truly uplifting and thought-provoking. They are a breath of fresh air in a troubled world and are also very amusing. The tale of the village cricket match in Bilbury Revels is the funniest thing I have ever read. Be warned -don't attempt to read it in a public place. - People's Friend

Vernon Coleman writes brilliant books - The Good Book Guide

Truthful, well observed and consistently readable - Daily Telegraph

His dry humour transforms doctor-patient encounters into hilarious anecdotes - Publishers Weekly

Most of his adventures are funny, some hilarious; but he has the good sense to leaven the comedy with some that are sad, some touching. All are written lightly, easily, entertainingly. We could do with some more. - Oxford Times

He has succeeded in writing a book that will entertain, a book that will entertain and warm the cockles of tired old hearts. - Punch

The funniest book I have read since Three Men in a Boat - Chronicle and Echo

Coleman is a very funny writer - This

EnglandHis powers of observation combine with his penchant for brilliant word pictures to create a most delightful book that will appeal to all those who appreciate humour and sharp characterisation.

- Sunday IndependentNo thinking person can ignore him - The EcologistSuperstar - Independent on SundayBrilliant - The PeopleThe calmest voice of reason - The ObserverCompulsive reading - The GuardianHis message is important - The EconomistThe man is a national treasure - What doctors don't tell youHis advice is optimistic and enthusiastic - British Medical JournalRevered guru of medicine - Nursing TimesMarvellously succinct, refreshingly sensible - The SpectatorProbably one of the most brilliant alive today - Irish TimesHe writes lucidly and wittily - Good HousekeepingBritain's leading health care campaigner - The Sun

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Customer Reviews

â œThe young Country Doctorâ • by Vernon Coleman, M.D. is book one in the Bilbury Chronicles describing the adventures of a young physician who enters general practice as an assistant to an elderly, eccentric physician in Devon, England. The author is a prolific and well known author in the United Kingdom. His book â œMrs. Caldicotâ TMs Cabbage Warâ • was turned into an award winning movie in the U.K. The book sort of reminds me of the James Herriot books about a country veterinarian in Northern England. The book follows the daily happenings of a newly minted young

physician in his first position after completing his hospital residency. The story takes place in 1970 in Devonshire. It has a simple, pleasant story with twists, turns, tears and laughs. The characters are unique and intriguing and just plain delightful. The village is small where everyone knows everyone and there are no secrets. The stories are moving, funny and heartwarming. The book is well written and an easy delightful read. I cannot wait to start reading the next book in the series and drop by for a look into the life of the village. The book is 480 pages. I read this on my Kindle app for my iPad. This was a book on Kindle unlimited.

I never thought starting a family practice just after getting your diploma as a doctor would be so much challenge... This story, happening in 1970, is a reminder of the "good old days", in the words of this young doctor: "It is one of the paradoxes of modern living that the larger a community is the fewer friends and acquaintances each individual will have." The story is told with much humanity and wisdom. How can I not want to read the 6 books thereafter and learn how this young country doctor is faring over the years? Remember this is countryside England, but may be America used to be the same. I am lucky to live now on a small island in the Caribbean where much has kept the same: no appointment, first arrived first served basis, homeopathy before harsh drugs, contacts in the street and at the supermarket, everything relevant in a small village where everyone knows everyone (and where there is no secret)... The Bilbury Chronicles were worth my time, maybe it will be worth yours?

I loved this first book in the Bilbury series. It's a fictional telling of the first year of a doctor who arrives fresh from medical school to a small village in Devon to take over the practice of the aging Dr. Brownlow. The stories of the villagers and the patients are delightful -- funny and warm and engaging. If you're a fan of James Herriot, Gervase Phinn or Lillian Beckwith, you'll love this book. Having said that, I stopped reading after the third book in the series. By the second book, the doctor has been forced to close his practice, but he and his new wife remain in the village and he becomes an author. I have to say I lost interest, because the stories about the villagers started to become long and tedious (cricket matches and village talent shows) and lacked the warmth of the stories between doctor and patient. In addition, the characters and settings became too one-note: country folk, good; city folk, bad. Countryside, delightful; city, dirty. When the doctor and his wife go to London for a day, they're bored and can't wait to get home. What?!? That was pretty much the end for me. Imagine... being bored in London.

This is a wonderful story of a new doctor in a small village in England. It is a fine well written story. I really enjoyed the characters and their lives. The main characters are alive and endearing. The situations are real and entertaining. Well done.

This is a nice series. It follows the life of a newly minted MD in the 1970's as he grows into the profession and himself in a small village in England. It is refreshing to read a book that has no profanity. Very relaxing, quick read.

This is not a memoir. It is fiction which disappointed me when I realized it. It's my fault that I didn't read the descriptions and reviews more carefully. The characters are, for the most part, terrific and the story is nice. But things happen a little too conveniently and smoothly for my liking. It compares favorably with Patrick Taylor's Irish Country Doctor series which is also fiction. It's not at all like the All Creatures Great and Small series which is based on fact and written with humor. And, about animals. This is a good book if you want to read something easy and comfortable which is what everybody needs sometimes. I will read the second book because I have it, but may not read further books unless I get hooked.

I purchased this book as I have a background in medicine and it sounded entertaining and relaxing to read. I loved this book. I wish I could visit the Devon England area and the people. I went on to purchase book 2 and book 3. I was disappointed that he decided to end his medical career because I first bought the book because I thought it was about a England country doctor, and it was at first, but now it has turned into a novel about the town, its people, and his new life as a writer in the England countryside. It is still a great story, but I wanted to read more about his patients.

Unfortunately, The National Health System in England disappointed him in their treatment of doctors and the low pay that they are forced to receive. I got the feeling that he was a better writer than physician, although I originally purchased the first book to read about his medical practice in the english countryside and its variety of inhabitants.

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