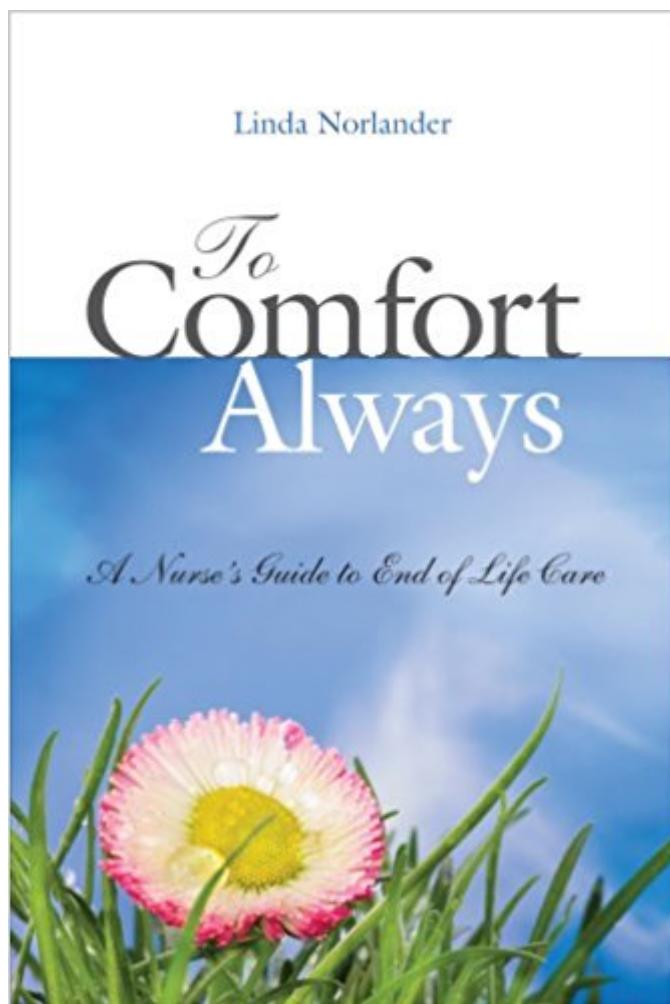


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# To Comfort Always: A Nurse's Guide To End-of-Life Care



## **Synopsis**

Caring for patients at the end of life's journey is challenging, but rewarding. *To Comfort Always: A Nurse's Guide to End-of-Life Care* prepares nurses to care for dying patients and their families by providing a primer that is both practical and insightful. From emotional needs such as relief of suffering to physical needs such as relief of pain, *To Comfort Always* supplies nurses what they need to know to deliver holistic, effective care. Linda Norlander brings her expertise in end-of-life care to this book that will serve as a valuable resource for nurses committed to comforting patients and families at one of life's most moving passages.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

I thought this would be another textbook that would be incredibly dry and boring. But it was actually really informative, functioning as a reference book rather than strictly a textbook. The downside? The price. Too pricy for a book that's about as thin as my kindle.

not a good read. Did not provide up to date or accurate information. Very disappointing

This book on the nurse's role in caring for the dying is a distinctive, if not unique, work: it is informed throughout by the nurse's roles as clinician, advocate, and guide for their patients and families. As well, it is clearly written, covering all the major aspects of the subject in a relatively small package while still being packed with resources (print and online) on its topics. A friend who has been a

longtime hospice volunteer (who avoids the online world) also gives this book high marks both as an easy-to-read guide to the subject and for the currency and thoroughness of its resources: this gives the book a reference value that should last for awhile. As such, he thinks it would be well-suited for nursing students as well as for practicing nurses who need a compact practice-oriented reference guide but who don't have the time or need for the larger books on the market. ... I have come to appreciate the nurse's vital role on the health-care team at the end of life, and so find many of the insights of this book all the more illuminating and valuable.

Nurses, no matter what setting they work in, will at some time have the occasion to work with people who are terminally ill or dying. Ms. Norlander's book is a wonderful primer on how nurses can care for and advocate for dying patients and their families. Written in an easy, concise, and conversational style, Ms. Norlander guides the reader through the process of caring for those at the end of life. Recognizing that dying is more than a physical phenomenon, she also addresses the, perhaps, more challenging aspects of caring for the person's psychosocial, emotional and spiritual needs, such as discussing advance care planning, assessing suffering, and supporting the needs of the family during the dying process and after the death. Equally important, Ms. Norlander has excellent words of advice on how sustain one's self in the midst of sadness and stress. To Comfort Always should be required reading for all nurses and nursing students who are inexperienced or uncomfortable in working with terminally ill patients and their families.

Norlander provides a comprehensive text which focuses on the guiding principles involved in end of life care. Multiple real-life examples bring the easy-to-read material to life. Basic principles of care are highlighted in boxes making this a quick reference guide for the busy caregiver, professional or lay. This slim volume will help make caregiving more satisfying, knowing that "all bases" (physical, psychological, spiritual) have been considered. End of chapter references and resources provide a means for further exploration and help in this area. I highly recommend this book to practicing nurses, nursing educators, nursing students, lay caregivers, and other health-care professionals.

I was attracted to this book since just over one year after my mother died, I was a "hit and run" victim and thrown from my scooter and run over by a Toyota 4-Runner. An ICU nurse since 1983, I was unable to work for over a year but returned to an "office" position and am employed full-time. I have my life back. The book's layout is very attractive, the content easy to assimilate. I shared this book with our nurses who specialize in Pain Management and Oncology. Where I don't have direct

contact with patients and their families in my current job, they are at the bedside daily. I enjoyed this book. Thank you.

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