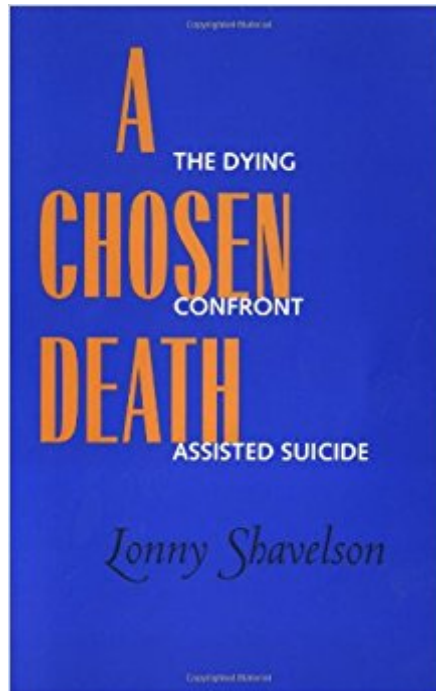




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# A Chosen Death: The Dying Confront Assisted Suicide



## Synopsis

In a moving examination of one of the most troubling issues of our time, Lonny Shavelson puts a human face on the legal and ethical discussions that surround assisted suicide. By recounting with great intimacy and compassion the personal histories of five terminally ill people, he exposes the depth and complexity of this explosive issue.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Shavelson, an emergency-room physician and photojournalist in Berkeley, Calif., advocates physician-assisted suicide as an option for people who want to end the agony of a prolonged illness-but only after all other options, including hospice care, have been explored. He describes how he helped a friend commit suicide to shorten her struggle with terminal brain cancer. He also tells of his involvement in other cases of euthanasia, either as passive observer or as adviser to people who chose to end their lives and to their troubled families. These include a gay circus trapeze performer afflicted with AIDS; a quadriplegic frustrated in his quest for romantic love; and mystery writer Mary Bowen Hall, a victim of metastatic breast cancer. Shavelson's graphic photographs of his subjects at various stages of their ordeals add an unusually immediate dimension to this sensitive, helpful guide. Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

"The personality and varied talents of the author as journalist, photographer, and physician (are evident in this remarkable book, which presents moving and thought-provoking accounts of assisted

death. . . . Shavelson challenges the simplistic thinking characteristic of much of the debate on this subject."

This is a great book on a difficult subject. The author covers the topic from about every conceivable perspective, having sat bedside with people as a friend, relative, physician, and ethics consultant. It is written with great sensitivity, caring, and knowledge, and provides a full background of the history and the progress of death-with-dignity movements and laws. Long before California finally made physician aid-in-dying legislation a reality (June 2016), he outlined exactly how the law should and does work.

Sensitive, timely

This is one of the finest books in this genre. Stories about real people and the caring doctor who befriended them, tended them and saw to their final wishes. Highly recommended! Betsy S.

delivery on time receive it next day . very good . send it to my grandson, OK. This product is sleek, light, and extremely sharp! For what I paid, I thought this was going to be a Walt-Mart knock off quality bread product, but this thing has sliced through every bread I've thrown at it like butter! The handle is also really well designed and easy to get a good grip on, so getting nice, even, straight slices is really easy.

The author is a physician who followed several cases of dying persons who from the onset of their terminal illnesses expressed a desire to commit suicide towards the end. Dr. Shavelson tracked these cases over 3-4 years and records the medical and emotional roller-coaster the patients went through. The best examination on a personal basis of assisted suicide so far published.

Dr. Lonny Shavelson offers a powerful, wonderful, and rare insight into the medicalization of death in America. He chronicles several terminally ill individuals and their attempts to die with dignity. I couldn't put the book down. Courbet Anderson, Gerontologist

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