

The Truth About Nursing announces the publication of its leaders' new book *Saving Lives: Why the Media's Portrayal of Nurses Puts Us All at Risk* by Kaplan Publishing. With striking examples and an irreverent style, the book explores nursing stereotypes from TV shows to the news media, and it explains how these images affect real-life decisions about nursing. The book also offers a comprehensive plan to help everyone improve nurses' image—and public health.

**Newsweek Review** — "Over the years we saw firsthand the truth behind a new book, *Saving Lives*, by Sandy Summers and Harry Jacobs Summers: that nurses, in fact, perform much of the direct patient care that the media, especially hospital shows on television, routinely attribute to the much more glamorous profession of doctor. ... *Saving Lives* has a serious point, that the devaluation of nursing—both by overlooking nurses' contributions to positive outcomes for patients, and more subtly by emphasizing their devotion, compassion and self-sacrifice over their lifesaving skills—discourages students from the field and contributes to a critical nursing shortage." --Senior Health Editor **Jerry Adler**, *Newsweek*, March 9, 2009.

### **Advance praise for *Saving Lives***

"*Saving Lives* is a fascinating look at how Hollywood and other media undermine nursing by feeding the public damning myths. The book instills an awareness that will forever change the way the reader views nurses. Reader take warning: you may be left with a strong desire to change the system. Luckily, the authors tell you how." — **Echo Heron**, RN, author of *Intensive Care: The Story of a Nurse* and *Tending Lives*

"*Saving Lives* provides a stunning exposé of the media's inaccurate portrayals of nurses, and documents the impact this has on public health. It should be mandatory reading for media creators, physicians, policy-makers, and the public. There's no longer any excuse for media creators to fail to speak truth about the essential contributions of nurses." — **Diana J. Mason**, RN, PhD, FAAN, Editor-in-Chief, *American Journal of Nursing*

"This wonderful book hits the reader in the heart and the mind. But the book is not only evocative and educational; with a strong sense of hope, it points the way forward." — **Claire M. Fagin**, PhD, RN, FAAN, Dean Emerita and Interim President Emerita, University of Pennsylvania

"Why is watching *Grey's Anatomy* bad for you? Why is *House* a public health problem? Read this book and find out. Sandy and Harry Summers provide an insightful and often witty guide to the media's 'nursing problem.' This book is an important contribution to the study of nursing and health care." — **Suzanne Gordon**, author of *Nursing Against the Odds*, co-author of *From Silence to Voice*.

"In this irreverent tour of the popular health media, Sandy and Harry Summers lift the cloak of invisibility from the health care professionals who are the front line of healing." — **Andrew Holtz**, MPH, former CNN Medical Correspondent and author of *The Medical Science of House, M.D.*

"I did not just 'read' *Saving Lives*; I could not put it down. With compelling prose and examples, the book reveals how the media has failed at portraying the profession of nursing. — **Richard Kahn**, Independent Filmmaker and Producer, *Lifeline: The Nursing Diaries*

"Nurses are health scientists who save our lives every day, in countless ways...This important, long-overdue book vividly illustrates the dynamism and rigor of the nursing profession, and explains in sobering detail how flawed media images of nursing affect the health of us all." — **Ronnie Polaneczky**, Columnist, *Philadelphia Daily News*

"*Saving Lives* is a powerful indictment of how the media portrays nursing today. With astute yet playful analyses, this book shows why the media has contributed to poor understanding. But the authors also offer a compelling vision for the future, showing how everyone can help nurses lead the way to a new world of health. The change starts here." — **Nancy King Reame**, RN, PhD, FAAN, co-author, *Our Bodies, Ourselves*