

# ABOVE THE DIN: Diary of the HepC Wonder Drugs

by Labar Laskie

In 1999, a 49-year-old woman tended her garden outside of the Chicago suburban home she shared with her husband, daughter and pet dogs. Extended family lived close by. She had a job that she loved. Life didn't get any better than this. One phone call changed everything.

A random blood test had just revealed that she had hepatitis C. She'd never heard of it before. Not only did she have it, but it had been swimming in her bloodstream for 30 years, contracted from a blood transfusion in 1969. Tests would reveal that her liver was engulfed in chronic active liver disease – almost cirrhotic. Hepatitis C in 1999 was a degenerative, often incurable and deadly disease. Something had to be done.

The only treatment at the time offered less than a 50% chance for cure and came with a plethora of nasty side effects. It was a yearlong regimen of chemotherapy that could trigger flu-like symptoms. And those patients who didn't respond to this difficult protocol frequently found themselves immunocompromised when it was over and sicker than before. The “wonder drugs” were still a long way off.

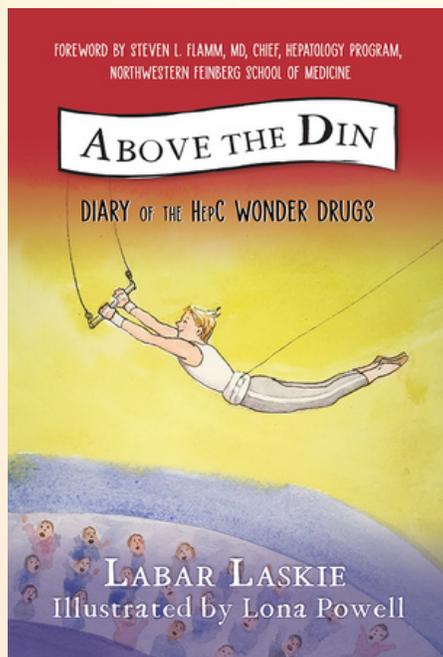
While waiting 15 years for a cure, Labar Laskie took extraordinary measures – except the chemotherapy – to keep her symptoms at bay, calm her fears, and lift her spirits. *Above the Din* is her story.

## Praise for the book . . .

*A unique combination of memoir, diary, advice column, textbook, and somehow, a comic novel... should be required reading by both patients and clinicians.* --Dean Raffaelli, D.C., D.O.

*Labar Laskie offers the reader a ring-side seat through the long years of her eventual triumph over Hepatitis C. Her record portrays the full spectrum of human experience - physical, emotional, spiritual - with extraordinary honesty, courage and indomitability of spirit and will. Perhaps her greatest attribute is an unabating sense of humor. . . Whether or not we are confronting an illness, we all face times when our best resource may be learning to fly "above the din." Laskie serves as an exceptional guide.* -- Barbara Verkuilen, MS, author

*. . . a breathtaking achievement.* -- Julie Stern, author



**PUBLISHER:** [HenschelHAUS Publishing](#)

**CATEGORIES:** Health & Fitness/Alternative Therapies

**ISBNs:**

Paperback: 9781595988485

eBook: 9781595988492

**FORMATS:**

Paperback & Kindle ebook

**PUBLICATION DATE:** 5/23/2021

**PURCHASE PAPERBACK:**

Amazon & HenschelHAUS

**PURCHASE eBook:**

Amazon/Kindle



Labar Laskie is an admitted Jill-of-all-trades. She has earned her living as a professional singer and songwriter, postal worker, human resource specialist, graphic artist, photographer, street artist, administrative assistant, personal assistant, bookkeeper, dog walker, and café barista. To name a few. She is relieved to be retired from all of it now and lives with her husband in Chicago. *Above the Din* is her first book. In it, she chronicles her 15-year journey from hepatitis C diagnosis to cure in 2014. Laskie did extensive research on the disease that almost claimed her – its causes, symptoms, treatments, and financial repercussions. Humor, illustrations, and personal anecdotes aside, if she was pursuing an advanced degree in hepC, *Above the Din* would be her thesis on the subject. Learn more at: [abovethedinbook.com](http://abovethedinbook.com)