

## With the End in Mind

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'Deathwife'

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#### How many deaths have you been involved with?

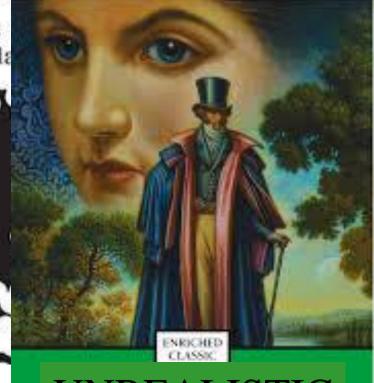
- Recognising the approach of death
- Involvement in end-of-life care
- Present as breathing stopped

How do those deaths compare with media deaths?

- Newspapers
- Soap operas
- Films







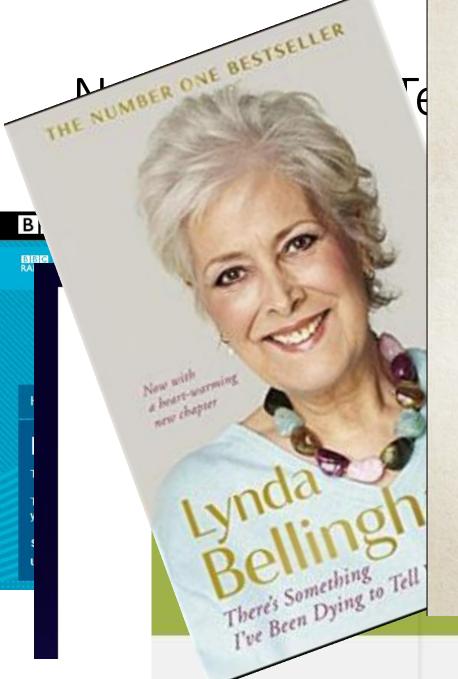
UNREALISTIC EXPECTATIONS

CHARLES DICKENS

Includes detailed explanatory notes, an overview of leay themas, and more

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## Not that Kind I Love

A sister, a brother, some tumours and a cat



#### Clare & Greg Wise

'A beautiful, honest and funny book' Cathy Rentzenbrink



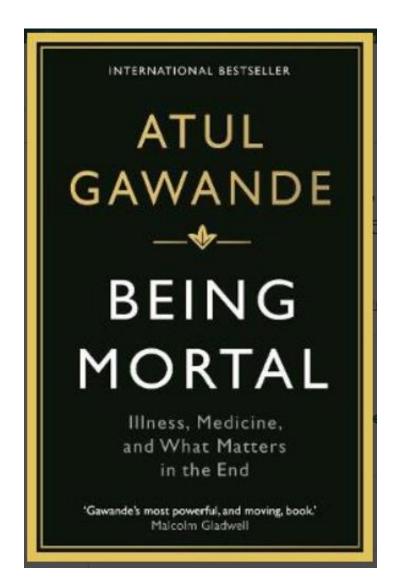
#### What about our stories?

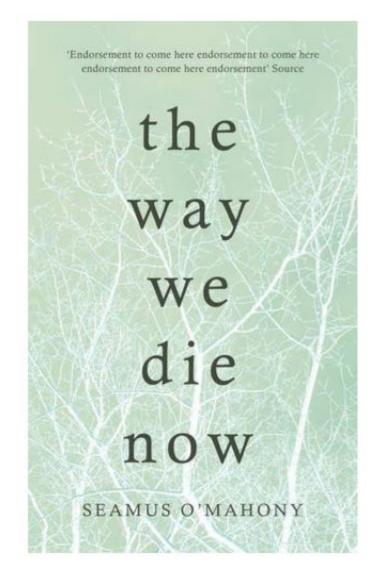
#### As death approaches

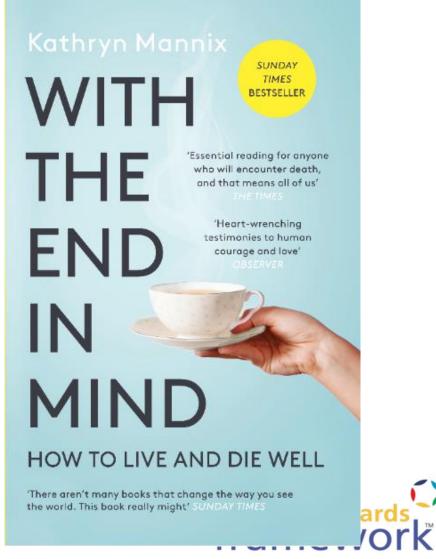
- What are the patterns you recognise?
- How do you know when to advise families to send for significant others?
- How do you advise families to behave at the bedside?
- How do you narrate the deathbed?



### Telling our stories







#### Everyone needs to know this...

What is dying like?

Can I bear it?

Will it frighten my family?



#### Sabine



#### What can we learn from Sabine's story?

Did anything surprise you?

Did anything shock you?

Did you recognise anything?



### Sabine – retelling the story

Being 'Midwives' of dying:

Preparation

'Antenatal care'

D-day(s)



#### Changing the Public Understanding of Dying

- Every patient offers us a new opportunity to change understanding of a whole 'Village.'
- Every death is individual, yet the patterns are familiar.
- It's time to re-claim the D-words.
- It's time to talk about dying.
- It's time to narrate every death-bed.
- It's time to change the public understanding of dying.



Does our work always allow the collaborative creativity that keeps the end in mind?

Doing Death Differently



# Thank you

Thanks to GSF team for inviting me to contribute.

Thanks to the families and teams who taught me.

Thanks to William Collins Publishers for daring to back a book about dying.

