Contents

Notes on Contributors vii
Acknowledgments ix
Preface xi

1 “Can’t You Do Anything Right?“: The Shocking Realization That I Was Not Perfect 1
2 Beastly Bellies 5
3 The Friday Night Special: Or Why Do Patients Become Critical Just Before the Weekend? 15
4 Between a Rock and a Hard Place: When to Refer and What Do You Do When Referral Is Not an Option? 27
5 Courage, Mystery, and Awe: The Intangibles of Being a Veterinary Doctor 39
   Julie M. Meadows
6 Placed on Earth to Test Us: The Not-So-Humble Spay 43
   Catherine F. Le Bars
7 “Oops!”: Not a Good Word to Hear During Surgery 47
8 Learning the Hard Way: Student, Resident, Teacher 57
9 “But I Don’t Want to Look Stupid …“: How to Let Others Help You 65
10 “It Didn’t Look Like That on Paper!“: When Textbooks Let Us Down 73
11 “It Will Be Interesting to See Whether That Works“: How to Be a Creative Surgeon 83
12 When the Unthinkable Happens: Mishaps, Mis-steps, and Medical Errors 95
13 Things Went South – Now What? 103
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>“There’s Got to Be a Morning After”: Things Went Wrong – Now Live With It</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>One Leg Too Many: Patients Who Lost Limbs</td>
<td>121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Reconstruction Rescue: When the Hole Just Keeps Getting Bigger and Bigger</td>
<td>133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>“Why Is Sam Straining?”: iatrogenic Strictures and Stray Oddities</td>
<td>143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>“An Alien in My Waiting Room”: Everyday Occurences of the Unexpected and Unbelievable</td>
<td>155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Rewind: What Would I Do Differently If I Had the Chance?</td>
<td>167</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Index | 171