some chapters they show extensive shadowing, are too dark, or are out of focus. This is especially true of the photomicrographs in the chapters on the liver and the placenta.

In general, the references in each of the chapters include the major papers on the entities discussed. Many of the references are from the late 1980s or early 1990s, with a few from 1994 and 1995.

There are many good points to this book, and the individual chapters noted earlier make it a worthwhile addition to a pathology library. The book will not, however, replace the textbooks on general surgical pathology often found in the personal libraries of pathologists.

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**CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY: AN INTERACTIVE DRUG REFERENCE AND TEACHING GUIDE**


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**EXPERIENCES NEAR DEATH: BEYOND MEDICINE AND RELIGION**


I was sitting around minding my own business when Death — in the form of Allan Kellehear's new book — tapped me on the shoulder. Thinking of my own near miss (1991, back seat of a runaway Checker taxi), I picked up Experiences near Death for more clues to the meaning of life.

Kellehear is an Australian sociologist specializing in health, death, and dying. He considers not just garden-variety near-death experiences (like those associated with cardiopulmonary resuscitation) but also other near misses. Shipwrecks, mining disasters, and mountaineering mishaps are all touched on in his attempt to get “beyond medicine and religion.”

Most people are aware of the classic descriptions of near-death: people have an out-of-body experience in which they are tunneling toward the light and reviewing their lives; there is an angelic presence and a feeling of bliss; then they return to the living with a newfound attitude toward life. Kellehear adds to these some curious examples.