

# WHAT IT IS LIKE



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When people learn that I study medicine,  
I get asked some typical questions.

Oh, that's cool.  
Is medical  
school hard?

Oh, what  
specialty do you  
want to go into?

These Qs are generic & boring. But I think  
it's because medical school is a black box  
to most people on the outside.



What can I even  
say...?

UNDANT NEWS  
DICAL SCHOOL  
IS HARD.

"Sun is Bright"  
reports person with  
eyes.

It really is hard... in all the ways  
you would imagine...



In ways you don't think it  
could be...

Please tell me all  
about your se-se-  
sexual hist... any  
mari ju... drug use?

Uh... can I  
see the actual  
doctor now?

And in ways you couldn't even  
predict.



Really,  
those aren't even the  
hardest parts...

But try telling  
any of this to me when  
I learned I had gotten in.

Life is great. I rock.



In fact, everyone entering with you is smart, accomplished & hard-working.

And you are surrounded by actual doctors to aspire to - brilliant, caring- but that makes it harder to ask.



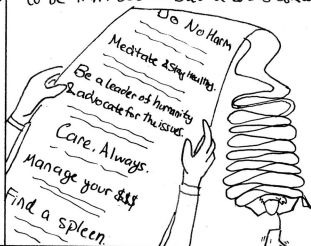
And how did you deal with failure?



Why, I don't know that word.

They sometimes seem to have on fun glasses that tint the past.

And you want to be THAT good, to be THAT doctor. But a lot is asked...



Eventually ... all of your classmates SEEM alright...

And when you struggle all alone, THAT'S the hardest part.



Uh, is anyone in there?

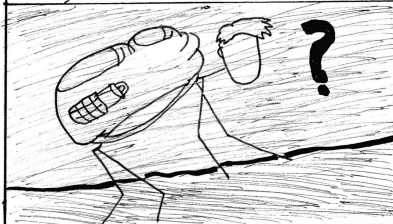
But you feel a part, a drift, alone.



Yeah... me too... I'm fine.



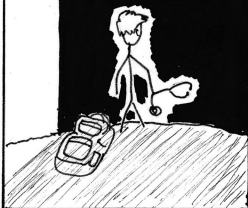
The path ahead seems straightforward...



But so often, it feels like there's a barrier in your way.

And it starts to feel...

INSURMOUNTABLE



It's  
Not.

Jacob Riis, a social reformer, once wrote:

"When nothing seems to help,  
I go & look at the stonecutter  
hammering away at his rock,  
perhaps a hundred times  
without a crack showing.

Yet at the hundred & first blow,  
it split in two,  
& I know it was not  
that last blow that did it,  
but All that had gone  
before."



