BOOKS & MEDIA

care. These are excellent chapters and will be useful to clinicians evaluating specific syndromes. The lack of color pictures in the dermatologic and oral manifestations sections (even in the online version) is a drawback. The final chapters on drug administration and medications are useful tabulations of drug interactions, dosing, and adverse events.

This is an excellent comprehensive source book for AIDS clinicians, although it should not be considered a rapid guide to treatment options. This is a text that will be useful for understanding the basis of our current drug therapy. In contrast, the chapters discussing specific disease processes or syndromes will be extremely useful for the busy clinician looking for a single source for these conditions.

David Rimland*

*Veterans Administration Medical Center, Decatur, Georgia, USA

Address for correspondence: David Rimland, Veterans Administration Medical Center, 1670 Clairmont Rd, Decatur, GA 30033, USA; email: david.rimland@va.gov

ANOTHER DIMENSION

Bedtime at Nana and Pop's House

Stan Shuman

Requires a hug and a kiss
From the two year old
In Mickey Mouse pajamas,
Climbing on my lap,
Interrupting the crime-news on T.V.,
Smack! a kiss on the left ear,
Smack! a kiss on the right,
"Eye, eye," the imp insists,
(Thank goodness for eyeglasses)
"Nose, nose," comes the next command.

I panic (what to do?!)
This adorable, cute, bright, affectionate kid,
My own grandchild,
Heading for the lips, now!
(What a strange ritual
The young parents have invented)

All I can think of, are GERMS:
Giardia, Hemophilus, E. coli,
Strep, Staph, and Pneumo,
A host of enterorespiratory viruses
Multiplying on this adorable child's pink
Mucous membranes, fingertips,
His droplets and aerosols a sea of microbes.

I suddenly thrust him
At arm's length, crown him
With a kiss on the curls
Of the cranium, blow
A few more long-distance
Kisses as I hand him
To his mother
(Before any more infestation can occur).

I return to the gloomy T.V., Wondering what the incubation Periods are for the most likely Forms of gastroenteritis, hepatitis, Pink eye, U.R.I. and Bronchopneumonia.

How fortunate the non-medical Parents and co-grandparents, Who hug, hug; kiss, kiss Without worry or care!

Stan Schuman is professor emeritus at the Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC, USA, and founding editor of the Journal of Agromedicine (Haworth Medical Press, New York, 1974).