



A Short History of Medicine (Modern Library Chronicles)

F. González-Crussi

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Insightful, informed, and at times controversial in its conclusions, *A Short History of Medicine* offers an exceptional introduction to the major and many minor facets of its subject.

In this lively, learned, and wholly engrossing volume, F. González-Crussi presents a brief yet authoritative five-hundred-year history of the science, the philosophy, and the controversies of modern medicine. While this illuminating work mainly explores Western medicine over the past five centuries, González-Crussi also describes how modern medicine's roots extend to both Greco-Roman antiquity and Eastern medical traditions.

Covered here in engaging detail are the birth of anatomy and the practice of dissections; the transformation of surgery from a gruesome art to a sophisticated medical specialty; a short history of infectious diseases; the evolution of the diagnostic process; advances in obstetrics and anesthesia; and modern psychiatric therapies and the challenges facing organized medicine today. Written by a renowned author and educator, this book gives us the very essence of our search to mitigate suffering, save lives, and unlock the mysteries of the human animal.

“[González-Crussi fuses] science, literature, and personal history into highly civilized artifacts.”

—*The Washington Post*, on *There Is a World Elsewhere*

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