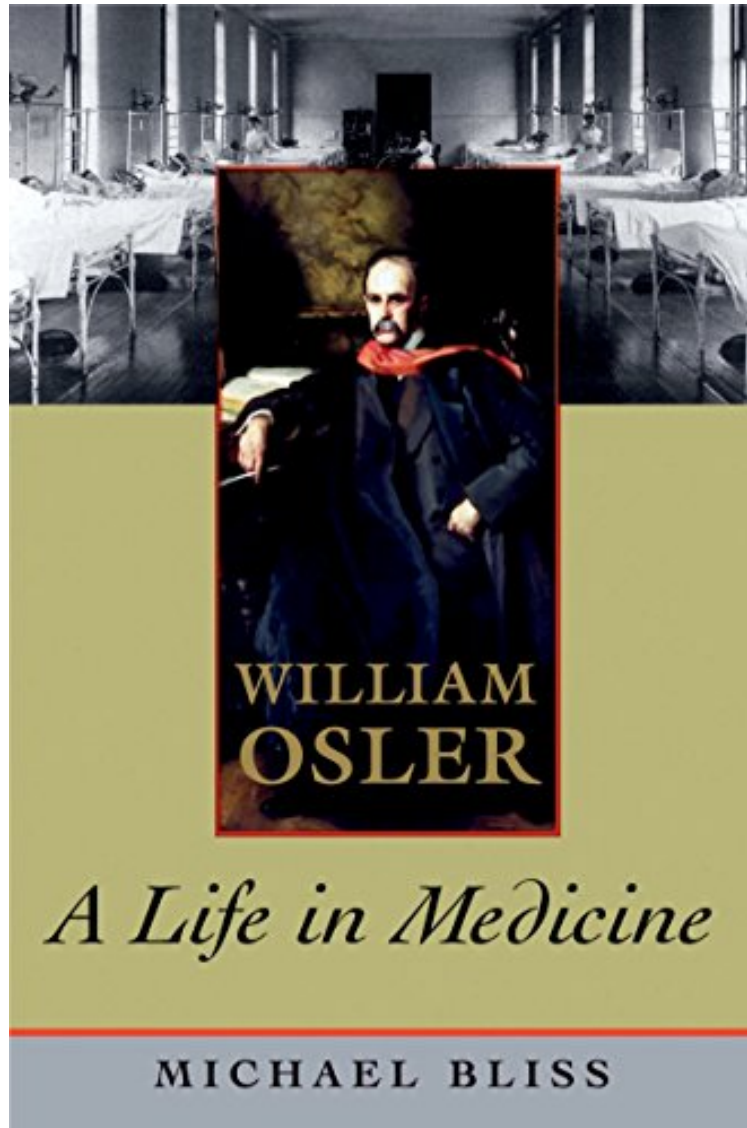


(Download pdf) William Osler: A Life in Medicine

William Osler: A Life in Medicine

Von Michael Bliss

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Von Michael Bliss : William Osler: A Life in Medicine before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised William Osler: A Life in Medicine:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Wonderful book!Von DR P. DashThough I've never personally had much of an interest in the history of medicine, I found this book very enjoyable and inspirational. I think all physicians will similarly feel inspired, as Osler was a shining example of what good bedside manner can accomplish in an age where medicine was relatively impotent, and beyond that, he was also a shining example of a brilliant, decent and caring human being. A wonderful book,

beautifully written...I couldn't put it down, and I hope you will have the same trouble! Paul Dash MD0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. AT THE HEART OF MEDICINE Von Patrick Gunkel One of the most engaging and delightful biographies I have ever read - and whose subject is an absolutely fascinating human being. The interest is everywhere and of every kind: characterological, institutional, international, scientific, medical, historical, social, philosophical, economic, pedagogic, literary, ethical, humorous, tragic, heroic, inspirational. The effect of the book is uplifting, challenging, instructive, buoying, rivetting; it is almost impossible to put it down, and when one does one's mood is deep, absent reflection. There is a profound lesson in "William Osler: A Life in Medicine" for our own era and its bizarre and pitiful oblivion of all that really lies at the heart of medicine: suffering, character, judgment, courage, conscience, compassion, ignorance, and you and I. Not process control, impersonal abstraction, colossalism, profiteering, niggardliness, or cosmetic morality.- Patrick Gunkel0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Thorough, detailed, inspirational easy to read Von J Haggarty As a Canadian trained physician now transplanted to the US, I found the story of Osler inspirational and stirring. It may have helped that I had been to many of the locations in the book making it seem much more 'alive'. The style of writing was easy to follow, yet there was an obvious scholarly detail and depth. It has encouraged me to read more on the history of medicine. Quite engrossing.

Kurzbeschreibung William Osler was born in a parsonage in backwoods Canada on July 12, 1849. In a life lasting seventy years, he practiced, taught, and wrote about medicine at Canada's McGill University, America's Johns Hopkins University, and finally as Regius Professor at Oxford. At the time of his death in England in 1919, many considered him to be the greatest doctor in the world. Osler, who was a brilliant, innovative teacher and a scholar of the natural history of disease, revolutionized the art of practicing medicine at the bedside of his patients. He was idolized by two generations of medical students and practitioners for whom he came to personify the ideal doctor. But much more than a physician, Osler was a supremely intelligent humanist. In both his writings and his personal life, and through the prism of the tragedy of the Great War, he embodied the art of living. It was perhaps his legendary compassion that elevated his healing talents to an art form and attracted to his private practice students, colleagues, poets (Walt Whitman for example) politicians, royalty, and nameless ordinary people with extraordinary conditions. William Osler's life lucidly illuminates the times in which he lived. Indeed, this is a book not only about the evolution of modern medicine, the training of doctors, holism in medical thought, and the doctor-patient relationship, but also about humanism, Victorianism, the Great War, and much else. Meticulously researched, drawing on many new sources and offering new interpretations, William Osler: A Life in Medicine brings to life both a fascinating man and the formative age of twentieth-century medicine. It is a classic biography of a classic life, both authoritative and highly readable. From Booklist Osler, a Canadian, became famous in the nineteenth century and the early years of the twentieth century, first in Canada, then in the U.S., and finally in England. In 1926, seven years after his death, neurosurgeon Harvey Cushing wrote a two-volume biography of him that won a Pulitzer Prize. Why, then, is another biography needed? First, Osler was a major player in the history of medicine as clinician, teacher, and literary and scientific author. Second, much new material has become available since the 1920s. Finally, Bliss proved himself with his biography of Frederick Banting, the discoverer of insulin, as well as other scholarly and readable books. He individuates Osler and his family members, colleagues, and patients, setting them all in enough, but not too much, social, medical, and political historical context. Thoroughly documented, this is a biography that is pleasurable to read and deserving of a place in virtually every public, college, and medical library. William Beatty From Kirkus sA well-told, enjoyable, enlightening and much needed biography of a giant of medical practice and education. William Osler (1849-1919) was a pastor's son from rural Canada, the 8th of 9 children, who began his professional career as a pathologist; his career in medical teaching and clinical practice was eventually framed by stints at McGill, Johns Hopkins, and finally Oxford. By the time of his death, Osler was considered by colleagues and patients alike to be the greatest physician in the world; while at Hopkins he had revolutionized the clinical education of medical students; he wrote the groundbreaking text *The Principles and Practice of Medicine*, which finally went out of print in 1947, 16 editions later (and marked the last time such a wide-ranging tome had a single author), and was generally revered as the first great medical humanist. Osler's previous biographer, the great neurosurgeon (and Osler contemporary) Cushing, delivered a plodding, admiring and until now authoritative account of Osler's life and work in 1925. Medical historian Bliss (*The Discovery of Insulin*) here is able to sort through the mountains of material penned by Osler and his contemporaries to present a much more complete, clear-eyed, and ultimately admiring portrait of Osler, his work, and the times in which he lived. Bliss is able to sort out the cult-like devotion to Osler: In 1999, we can rightly dismiss most of his medical writing as dated, of only historic or very specialized interest. And yes, Bliss agrees, Osler can be viewed as a great medical humanist so long as it was remembered that the real Osler was also a rigorous disciple of science and the scientific method. A clear picture of an extraordinarily curious, intelligent, kind, and humorous man emerges. Osler reportedly regretted that he wouldn't be able to conduct his own post-mortem exam, having taken such

a lifelong interest in the case. And along the way, readers will gain a clear picture of the Osler landscape: the coming of modern medicine, the training of doctors . . . localism and holism in medical thought . . . feminism, humanism, science and the humanities, Victorianism, the rise of the United States, the North Atlantic cultural triangle all come under Bliss's lens. A first-rate biography of a towering medical influence. -- Copyright 1999, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.