



The Healing Arts: An Oxford Illustrated Anthology

By -

Oxford University Press. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 352 pages. Dimensions: 9.7in. x 7.5in. x 0.8in. From birth and adolescence through maturity and old age, our lives are punctuated by sudden medical emergencies and by chronic illnesses, and by encounters with doctors, nurses, and other care-givers. Physicians and patients, operations and cures, suffering and compassion--all are part of the reality of human existence. Now, in a beautifully illustrated volume, R. S. Downie offers a vibrant, kaleidoscopic look at the healing arts, bringing together eclectic and engaging excerpts from fiction, poetry, drama, and letters, and by writers as diverse as Paracelsus, Francis Bacon, and Joseph Heller. Here are celebrations and laments, such as in Sylvia Plaths Morning Song (Love set you going like a fat gold watch, The midwife slapped your footsoles, and your bald cry Took its place among the elements); in Hippocrates From Epidemics; in Franz Schuberts eloquent last letter to Franz von Schober, telling of his illness; in Susan Sontags Illness as Metaphor discussing TB and cancer as diseases of passion; or in Philip Larkins acerbic verses on birth, aging, and mourning. Caretakers and caregivers share their thoughts, as in Walt Whitmans From the Wound-Dresser, Florence Nightingales Notes on...



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