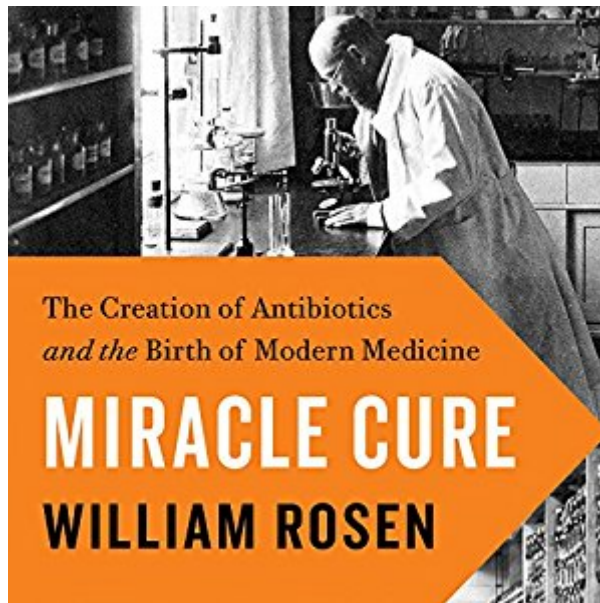




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Miracle Cure: The Creation Of Antibiotics And The Birth Of Modern Medicine



Synopsis

For fans of *Microbe Hunters*: the epic history of how antibiotics were born, saving millions of lives and creating a vast new industry known as Big Pharma. As late as the 1930s, virtually no drug intended for sickness did any good; doctors could set bones, deliver babies, and offer palliative care. That all changed in less than a generation with the discovery and development of a new category of medicine known as antibiotics. By 1955 the age-old evolutionary relationship between humans and microbes had been transformed, trivializing once-deadly infections. William Rosen captures this revolution with all its false starts, lucky surprises, and eccentric characters. He explains why, given the complex nature of bacteria - and their ability to rapidly evolve into new forms - the only way to locate and test potential antibiotic strains is by large-scale, systematic trial-and-error experimentation. Organizing that research needs large, well-funded organizations and businesses, and so our entire scientific-industrial complex, built around the pharmaceutical company, was born. Timely, engrossing, and eye opening, *Miracle Cure* is a must-listen science narrative - a drama of enormous range, combining science, technology, politics, and economics to illuminate the reasons behind one of the most dramatic changes in humanity's relationship with nature since the invention of agriculture 10,000 years ago.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is another wonderful William Rosen book! It is such an exciting story about the biggest triumph in human medical welfare. A great read!

great book,very well written. rosen is a master story teller who has done his research. i think i've read all of his books and can't wait for the next one

This is a clear and compellingly written history of a very timely subject. The information was a true revelation to me and explains the source of antibiotics that we now take for granted and the very real danger of allowing antibiotic resistant strains of bacteria to evolve.

An outstanding, accessible overview of the creation of the first antibiotics and onset of their "golden age" (the late 1940s and the 1950's). It focuses quite a bit on the people involved, pointing out their diligence, persistence, brilliance and luck, while keeping them still quite human. So sad that this gifted writer, Mark Rosen, died shortly after finishing the book...

Good information writing is just ok

Well written. Beautifully conceived. Narrative nonfiction at its best. Loved it. This book is so timely and important as it looks back on the history of the modern pharmaceutical age.

amazing book

Another fabulous book by Bill Rosen! Well written and a great read.

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