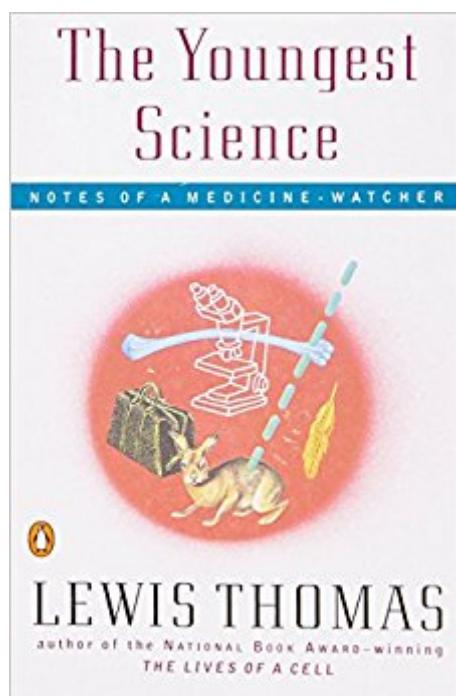


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The Youngest Science: Notes Of A Medicine-Watcher (Alfred P. Sloan Foundation Series)



Synopsis

From the 1920s when he watched his father, a general practitioner who made housecalls and wrote his prescriptions in Latin, to his days in medical school and beyond, Lewis Thomas saw medicine evolve from an art into a sophisticated science. The Youngest Science is Dr. Thomas's account of his life in the medical profession and an inquiry into what medicine is all about--the youngest science, but one rich in possibility and promise. He chronicles his training in Boston and New York, his war career in the South Pacific, his most impassioned research projects, his work as an administrator in hospitals and medical schools, and even his experiences as a patient. Along the way, Thomas explores the complex relationships between research and practice, between words and meanings, between human error and human accomplishment. More than a magnificent autobiography, The Youngest Science is also a celebration and a warning--about the nature of medicine and about the future life of our planet.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

To my mind, this is the quintessential account of what it means to be a physician, and how to lead a life to the fullest extent. Thomas has held just about every category of responsible and prestigious medical position anyone could hold in many lifetimes, let alone one, and throughout it all he has kept the humility of a country doctor and the wide-eyed wonder of a first year medical student. I can think of no better book to give anyone thinking of becoming a doctor, graduating from medical

school, or wanting to reconnect with why they became a doctor after an exhausting day than The Youngest Science. As I write this, I'm ordering a copy for a niece graduating from Cornell Medical School. Like another reviewer, I'm sorry it's no longer available in hard cover.

What a fabulous, incisive and humorous intellect this man has brought to us in his six or seven books as a doctor/scientist. Everyone on earth needs to have all of his books where he has shared the miracles of medicine and just about all the sciences in a beautifully readable prose. I read them over and over each decade to measure how much smarter and compassionate and entertaining I've become. It's hard to rate which one is best because they all are. (He even has a chapter on philology that deals with this impossibility being possible). You might start with his LIVES OF A CELL and then go on to this one. Wow, what a gift the Creator has given us all to better understand his magic.

Can't get anywhere unless we know where we've been ...

Fascinating. A great read

I bought this book as a tool to use to study medicine during the 1930's and 1940's. Other than those few chapters, I found myself struggling to finish this book. I understand that it is essentially a memoir of Dr. Thomas, and he was an interesting man, yet I was hoping for more information of medical techniques during WWII years. It is well-written and does give one the sense that medicine did in fact evolve from an art to a science. Overall, I finished the book with many of the questions I was hoping it would answer. I think the reader's expectations prior to opening the book will dictate her opinion of the work when done.

This book is Lewis Thomas' biography and his life is an interesting tale in its own right, but it also includes a great history of modern medicine. A really worthwhile read.

From the content, book condition to delivery time, item price, I feel that all as good as or even better than i expected

I struggled to get through this book and ended up putting it down for a while, maybe I'll finish it eventually. While I loved the descriptions of how medicine changed with the advent of antibiotics,

the author spends too much time ruminating off-topic. There was an entire chapter devoted to worshipping nurses, with no real connection to the rest of the book. Very interesting memoirs but poorly written and edited.

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