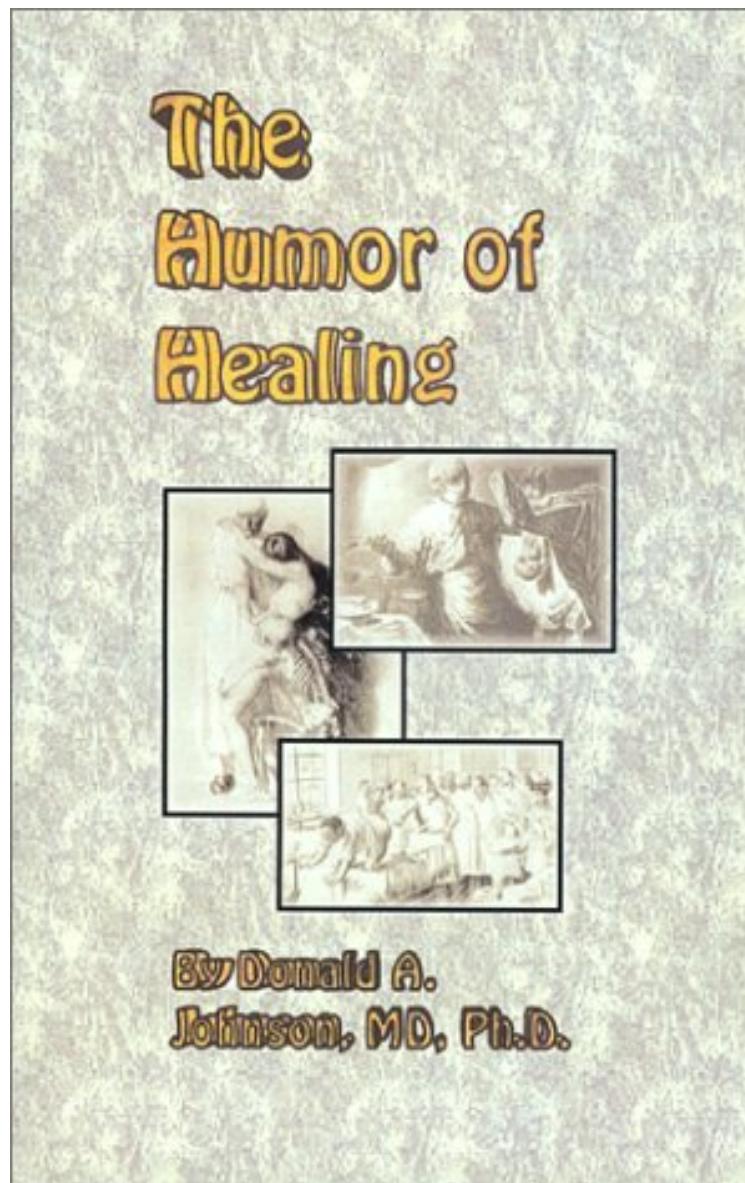


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The Humor of Healing: A Physician's Look at the Lighter Side of Medicine

Donald A. Johnson

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#15744808 in Books 2002-03-30 Original language: English 8.00 x 5.50 x .50l, #File Name: 1883477409176 pages | File size: 22.Mb

Donald A. Johnson : The Humor of Healing: A Physician's Look at the Lighter Side of Medicine before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Humor of Healing: A

Physician's Look at the Lighter Side of Medicine:

In *The Humor of Healing* Dr. Johnson surveys Western medicine for the oddities, quackeries, idiocies, faux pas, gaffes, stumbles, tongue slips, no-noes, blunders, lapses, misfires, and plain old stupidities that appear from time to time in the practice of a science that has to be conducted as an art. Over a half a century's personal observation and an encyclopedic familiarity with the literature from the 17th century forward informs Dr. Johnson's work. Throughout the text he reveals the comforting and often self-deprecating humor of physicians of grand stature like Will Mayo as contrasted to the fear-fueled superstition of grim "healers." You'll be startled as he dissects Cotton Mather's apothecary horrors, fundamentalists grappling with sickness as sin, the sometimes diabolically clever folkway cures of the not-recently-enough-past to misogynist medical schools of forty or fifty years ago up to the psychobabble "healing" of our time with deft humor and compassion for practitioners who are, like most of us, doing the best they can within the limits imposed on us all by human frailty.

About the Author Born in Spooner, Wisconsin, Dr. Johnson did undergraduate studies at the University of Wisconsin, medical school at George Washington University School of Medicine in Washington, D.C. and became a resident at St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Washington, D.C. As a Research Fellow in Neurophysiology at the University of Minnesota he received an MS degree there in 1949 and then became a Fellow in Neurosurgery at the Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN from 1949 to 1952 and was awarded a Ph. D. from University of Minnesota-Mayo Clinic in 1952. Certified by the American Board of Neurology Psychiatry and the American Board of Neurological Surgery (both in 1956) he became an instructor at the University of Tennessee School of Medicine, 1956-57, and went into the practice of Neurology and Neurological Surgery in Washington, D.C. from 1957 until 1982.