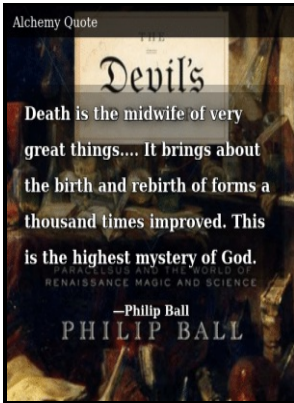


Devils doctor - Paracelsus and the world of Renaissance magic and science

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Description: -

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 Arab countries -- Politics and government.
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 Notes: Includes bibliographical references and index.
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The Devil's Doctor: Paracelsus and the World of Renaissance Magic and Science by Philip Ball

Dec 2015 A very thorough review of a somewhat obscure story about a Renaissance physician and scientist far better known than understood. I would like to include a few quotes from the author that appear to sum up the book pretty well.

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But he made some interesting observations about about theology and alchemy that made me startle and take a step back. He believed that chemical processes, not demons, were responsible for madnesses of different kinds.

The Devil's Doctor: Paracelsus and the World of Renaissance Magic and Science By: Philip Ball

When reporters, university professors and others write about the Catholic Church, their IQ seems to drop 20 or 30 points.

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By putting Paracelsus in his time and many places the man traveled a get deal for the times , Ball has made him real and his significance to European, and so world, history understandable. He was an intellectual vagabond; a pacifist who always carried a great broadsword by his side, even in bed, and a footloose intellectual who travelled from Ireland to Moscow, and from Algiers to Uppsala. Ball is clearly knowledgeable, his writing is fine, and it's certainly a compelling read, even if depth is often sacrificed for breadth.

The Devil's Doctor: Paracelsus and the World of Renaissance Magic and Science.

He grew up in the Roman church, but thought, wrote, and preached independently his own brand of spirituality barely escaping condemnation for heresy.

Renaissance magic and mysticism

This all sounds revolutionary and far-sighted even for Renaissance Europe. If they scoff, Ball will give them a better understanding of its significance to the period. Philippus Aureolus Theophrastus Bombast von Hohenheim, who called himself Paracelsus, stands at the cusp of medieval and modern times.

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