

a history of psychiatry from the era asylum to age prozac edward shorter

****A History of Psychiatry from the Era Asylum to Age Prozac Edward Shorter****

a history of psychiatry from the era asylum to age prozac edward shorter reveals a fascinating journey through time—a saga marked by profound changes in how society understands and treats mental illness. From the grim walls of early asylums to the revolutionary impact of psychiatric medications like Prozac, the evolution of psychiatry is as much a story about shifting cultural values as it is about medical progress. Edward Shorter, a renowned historian of psychiatry, has chronicled this transformation with nuance, highlighting both the breakthroughs and the controversies that have shaped mental health care.

The Era of Asylums: Foundations and Failures

In the early days of psychiatry, roughly spanning the 18th and 19th centuries, mental illness was poorly understood and often feared. Society's response was to isolate those afflicted in asylums—large institutions designed to remove “madness” from public view. These establishments were often overcrowded and underfunded, leading to deplorable conditions. Patients were subjected to harsh treatments, including restraints, forced confinement, and sometimes brutal methods such as bloodletting or ice baths.

The Birth of Institutional Psychiatry

The concept of mental asylums arose from the belief that mental illness was a form of moral or spiritual failing, or even demonic possession. However, by the late 18th century, a more medicalized view began to emerge. Figures like Philippe Pinel in France advocated for “moral treatment,” emphasizing kindness, structured daily routines, and work therapy. This approach represented a radical shift—patients were no longer mere prisoners but individuals whose suffering deserved compassion.

Despite these advances, the asylum system became synonymous with confinement and neglect. By the 19th century, asylums were sprawling, overcrowded, and often ineffective at rehabilitation. The stigma surrounding mental illness persisted, and with limited scientific understanding, treatments were mostly experimental and sometimes harmful.

From Asylum Reform to Psychoanalysis

The turn of the 20th century brought new ideas that challenged the asylum model. Psychiatry began to incorporate psychological theories, especially with the rise of psychoanalysis.

Freud and the Mind's Hidden Depths

Sigmund Freud's development of psychoanalysis in the early 1900s marked a pivotal moment in psychiatric history. Freud proposed that unconscious conflicts, often rooted in childhood experiences, were central to mental disorders. This was a departure from the purely biological or moral explanations of the past.

Psychoanalysis emphasized talking therapies over physical treatments, offering patients a chance to explore their inner worlds. While psychoanalysis was initially met with skepticism, it profoundly influenced psychiatry, psychology, and even culture. However, it was also criticized for lacking empirical rigor and being inaccessible to many.

Early Biological Treatments

Parallel to psychoanalysis, biological psychiatry sought to understand mental illness through the lens of neurology and chemistry. Early 20th-century treatments included electroconvulsive therapy (ECT) and insulin shock therapy, which, while controversial, sometimes helped severe conditions like catatonia or major depression.

These methods reflected the ongoing tension in psychiatry between "talking cures" and somatic treatments—a dynamic that continues to shape the field today.

The Age of Psychopharmacology and the Introduction of Prozac

The mid-20th century heralded a revolution in psychiatric care with the advent of psychopharmacology—the use of drugs to manage mental illness.

From Thorazine to Tranquilizers

In the 1950s, the discovery of chlorpromazine (Thorazine) transformed the treatment of schizophrenia and other psychotic disorders. This antipsychotic medication allowed many patients to leave institutional care and reintegrate into society. Soon after, benzodiazepines offered relief for anxiety, further expanding pharmacological options.

These developments fueled the deinstitutionalization movement, which sought to close large asylums in favor of community-based care. While well-intentioned, this shift sometimes left patients without adequate support, highlighting the complexity of mental health reform.

Prozac and the Rise of SSRIs

The 1980s and 1990s saw another leap forward with the introduction of selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs), most famously Prozac (fluoxetine). Prozac became symbolic of a new era—one where depression and anxiety were increasingly understood as neurochemical imbalances that could be corrected with medication.

Edward Shorter has extensively documented this period, emphasizing how Prozac not only changed treatment but also reshaped public attitudes toward mental illness. Suddenly, psychiatric drugs were seen as safe, effective, and capable of restoring normalcy, challenging earlier fears and stigmas.

Edward Shorter's Contributions to Psychiatric History

Edward Shorter, a prominent historian and psychiatrist, has played a crucial role in tracing the arc of psychiatric history. His work provides essential context for understanding how psychiatry evolved from its asylum origins to today's pharmaceutical-oriented practice.

Highlighting the Human Side of Psychiatry

Shorter's scholarship often focuses on the lived experiences of patients and practitioners, reminding us that psychiatry is not just a science but a deeply human endeavor. He explores how social attitudes, medical technologies, and cultural shifts intertwine to shape mental health care.

Bridging Past and Present

By examining periods like the asylum era alongside the age of Prozac, Shorter offers a balanced view that acknowledges both progress and pitfalls. His insights encourage ongoing reflection on how best to treat mental illness—beyond just medications, incorporating social, psychological, and biological perspectives.

The Ongoing Evolution of Psychiatry

Today, psychiatry continues to evolve, informed by advances in neuroscience, genetics, and psychotherapy. The legacy of the asylum era and the breakthrough of Prozac remind us that mental health care is never static.

Integrating Treatments for Holistic Care

Modern psychiatry increasingly emphasizes personalized treatment plans combining medication, therapy, and social support. Understanding the history behind these practices helps clinicians and patients appreciate the complexities of mental illness and the importance of compassionate care.

Challenges and Future Directions

Despite progress, challenges remain: stigma persists, access to care is uneven, and some medications carry side effects or limited efficacy. Researchers continue to explore novel treatments, including digital therapeutics and precision medicine, striving to improve outcomes.

Reflecting on a history of psychiatry from the era asylum to age prozac edward shorter reminds us that mental health care is a dynamic field, shaped by our evolving understanding of the mind and society's values. This historical perspective enriches our appreciation for the strides made and the work still ahead.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the main focus of Edward Shorter's book 'A History of Psychiatry from the Era Asylum to Age Prozac'?

Edward Shorter's book explores the historical development of psychiatry, tracing its evolution from the era of asylums in the 19th century to the introduction of modern psychopharmacology, exemplified by drugs like Prozac in the late 20th century.

How did the role of asylums influence the treatment of mental illness in the early history of psychiatry?

Asylums in the 19th century were initially intended as places for humane treatment and containment of the mentally ill, but they often became overcrowded and custodial, reflecting societal attitudes toward mental illness and shaping early psychiatric practices.

What significant changes in psychiatric treatment are highlighted in the transition from the era of asylums to the age of Prozac?

The transition marks a shift from institutionalization and psychoanalytic approaches to a focus on biological psychiatry and the use of psychotropic medications, such as antidepressants like Prozac, which revolutionized the management of mental disorders.

How does Edward Shorter critique the development of psychiatric diagnoses in his book?

Shorter critiques the historical overemphasis on categorizing mental illnesses through rigid diagnostic systems, arguing that this often led to oversimplification and neglect of the complex, evolving nature of psychiatric conditions.

Why is 'A History of Psychiatry from the Era Asylum to Age Prozac' considered important for understanding modern mental health care?

The book provides a comprehensive overview of psychiatry's past, helping readers understand how historical practices, societal attitudes, and scientific advances have shaped current mental health care, including both its achievements and ongoing challenges.

Additional Resources

****A History of Psychiatry from the Era Asylum to Age Prozac Edward Shorter****

a history of psychiatry from the era asylum to age prozac edward shorter offers a profound exploration into the evolution of mental health care, tracing the discipline's trajectory from its early institutional roots to the pharmaceutical revolution and beyond. This journey, chronicled extensively by historian Edward Shorter, reveals not only the shifting paradigms of treatment but also the changing societal attitudes toward mental illness. Understanding this progression is essential to grasp the complexities and ongoing challenges in contemporary psychiatric practice.

The Asylum Era: Origins and Institutionalization

The formalization of psychiatry as a medical specialty coincided with the rise of the asylum in the 18th and 19th centuries. During this period, mental illness was predominantly managed through confinement rather than cure, with asylums serving as segregated spaces designed to isolate those deemed "insane" from society. These institutions varied widely, from humane retreats advocating moral treatment to overcrowded and often brutal warehouses.

Edward Shorter's work highlights that the asylum era was characterized by a paradox: while it marked the beginning of organized psychiatric care, it also entrenched stigma and neglect. Treatments like bloodletting, purging, and restraints were commonplace, reflecting limited understanding of mental disorders. However, the moral treatment movement, spearheaded by figures like Philippe Pinel and William Tuke, introduced more compassionate care approaches emphasizing routine, work, and kindness.

Impact of Asylums on Psychiatric Theory and Practice

Asylums became laboratories for developing early psychiatric theories. The classification of mental disorders began taking shape, influenced by medical models that sought biological explanations. Yet, the institution's focus on containment often overshadowed therapeutic innovation, and patients frequently endured long-term institutionalization.

The Turn of the Century: Psychoanalysis and Biological Psychiatry

The late 19th and early 20th centuries witnessed a pivotal shift with the emergence of psychoanalysis, introduced by Sigmund Freud. This period marked a departure from purely biological explanations toward exploring the unconscious mind's role in mental illness. Freud's theories on repression, trauma, and the psyche's structure profoundly influenced psychiatric thought and practice.

Concurrently, biological psychiatry pursued advances in neuropathology and psychopharmacology. Electroconvulsive therapy (ECT) and insulin coma therapy were among the somatic treatments developed during this era, reflecting a persistent quest for medicalized interventions.

Contrasts and Controversies

The psychoanalytic and biological schools often stood in tension, embodying a broader debate about the mind-body relationship in psychiatry. Psychoanalysis emphasized talk therapy and introspection, while biological psychiatry sought physiological cures. This dichotomy shaped clinical approaches and influenced public perceptions of mental illness for decades.

The Mid-20th Century: The Dawn of Psychopharmacology

Perhaps the most transformative chapter in the history of psychiatry unfolded in the mid-20th century with the introduction of psychotropic medications. The discovery of chlorpromazine in the 1950s revolutionized treatment, providing effective symptom relief for schizophrenia and other severe mental illnesses. This breakthrough ushered in the age of psychopharmacology, drastically reducing reliance on institutionalization.

Edward Shorter's seminal work, including his book *A History of Psychiatry: From the Era of the Asylum to the Age of Prozac*, meticulously documents this transition. The rise of medications like lithium, tricyclic antidepressants, and benzodiazepines expanded therapeutic options and reshaped psychiatric practice.

Deinstitutionalization and Its Consequences

The efficacy of new drugs contributed to deinstitutionalization—a mass movement to close asylums and integrate patients back into communities. While this shift aimed at improving quality of life and human rights, it also revealed gaps in community mental health services. Many former patients faced homelessness or incarceration, highlighting systemic shortcomings.

The Age of Prozac: Psychiatry in the Late 20th Century and Beyond

The launch of fluoxetine (Prozac) in the late 1980s symbolizes a new era in psychiatry, characterized by widespread use of selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs) and a focus on chemical imbalances as central to mental disorders. Prozac's popularity extended beyond clinical settings, influencing culture and public discourse about depression and anxiety.

Edward Shorter's analysis situates Prozac as both a medical advance and a cultural phenomenon. The medication's relative safety and tolerability compared to earlier antidepressants contributed to its rapid adoption, but it also sparked debates about overdiagnosis, medicalization of normal mood variations, and pharmaceutical industry influence.

Advances and Critiques in Modern Psychiatry

The proliferation of SSRIs and other psychotropics has undeniably improved many patients' lives. However, challenges persist:

- **Biological Reductionism:** Critics argue that an overemphasis on neurotransmitters overlooks psychological, social, and environmental factors.
- **Side Effects and Treatment Resistance:** Not all patients respond to medications, and side effects can be significant.
- **Pharmaceutical Influence:** The role of drug companies in shaping diagnostic criteria and prescribing practices has raised ethical concerns.

These issues have fueled ongoing research into personalized medicine, psychotherapy integration, and alternative treatments.

Edward Shorter's Contribution to Understanding Psychiatry's Evolution

Edward Shorter's historical scholarship provides invaluable context for understanding psychiatry's complex journey. By chronicling developments from the asylum era through the pharmaceutical revolution, Shorter reveals patterns of hope, innovation, and recurring challenges. His work underscores that psychiatry's progress is neither linear nor unproblematic but marked by shifts in theory, practice, and societal values.

Shorter also emphasizes the importance of historical awareness for clinicians and policymakers. Recognizing past mistakes—such as the overreliance on institutions or simplistic biological models—can guide more nuanced and humane approaches to mental health care.

The Future Trajectory of Psychiatry

Building on the foundations charted by Edward Shorter, the future of psychiatry appears poised to embrace integrative models that combine biological insights with psychosocial understanding. Advances in genetics, neuroimaging, and digital health tools promise to refine diagnosis and treatment. Simultaneously, growing attention to patient-centered care and destigmatization reflects a broader cultural shift.

As psychiatry continues evolving, its history—from asylums to Prozac—serves as a reminder of the discipline's enduring quest to balance scientific rigor with compassion.

The expansive narrative of psychiatry's development, illuminated by Edward Shorter's scholarship, reveals a field deeply intertwined with societal attitudes, medical innovation, and cultural change. From the confinement and moral reform of the asylum era to the pharmacological breakthroughs epitomized by Prozac, this history charts both triumphs and pitfalls in understanding and treating mental illness. Such a comprehensive perspective remains crucial as psychiatry navigates the complexities of the 21st century.

[A History Of Psychiatry From The Era Asylum To Age Prozac](#) [Edward Shorter](#)

a history of psychiatry from the era asylum to age prozac edward shorter: A History of Psychiatry Edward Shorter, 1998-03-03 PPPP . . . To compress 200 years of psychiatric theory and practice into a compelling and coherent narrative is a fine achievement What strikes the reader [most] are Shorter's storytelling skills, his ability to conjure up the personalities of the psychiatrists who shaped the discipline and the conditions under which they and their patients lived.--Ray Monk The Mail on Sunday magazine, U.K. An opinionated, anecdote-rich history. . . . While psychiatrists may quibble, and Freudians and other psychoanalysts will surely squawk, those without a vested

interest will be thoroughly entertained and certainly enlightened.--Kirkus Reviews. Shorter tells his story with immense panache, narrative clarity, and genuinely deep erudition.--Roy Porter Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine. In *A History of Psychiatry*, Edward Shorter shows us the harsh, farcical, and inspiring realities of society's changing attitudes toward and attempts to deal with its mentally ill and the efforts of generations of scientists and physicians to ease their suffering. He paints vivid portraits of psychiatry's leading historical figures and pulls no punches in assessing their roles in advancing or sidetracking our understanding of the origins of mental illness. Shorter also identifies the scientific and cultural factors that shaped the development of psychiatry. He reveals the forces behind the unparalleled sophistication of psychiatry in Germany during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries as well as the emergence of the United States as the world capital of psychoanalysis. This engagingly written, thoroughly researched, and fiercely partisan account is compelling reading for anyone with a personal, intellectual, or professional interest in psychiatry.

a history of psychiatry from the era asylum to age prozac edward shorter: Portrait of the Psychiatrist as a Young Man Allan Beveridge, 2011-08-25 RD Laing remains one of the most famous psychiatrists of the last 50 years. In the 1960s he enjoyed enormous popularity and received much publicity for his controversial views challenging the psychiatric orthodoxy. He championed the rights of the patient, and challenged the often inhumane methods of treating the mentally ill. Based on a wealth of previously unexamined archives relating to his private papers and clinical notes, *Portrait of the Psychiatrist as a Young Man* sheds new light on RD Laing, and in particular his early formative years - a crucial but largely overlooked period in his life. The first half of the book considers Laing's intellectual journey through the world of ideas and his development as a psychiatric theorist. An analysis of his notebooks and personal library reveals Laing's engagement not only with psychiatric theory, but also with a wide range of other disciplines, such as philosophy, literature, and religion. This part of the book considers how this shaped Laing's writing about madness and his evolution as a clinician. The second half draws on a rich and completely unexplored collection of Laing's clinical notes, which detail his encounters with patients in his early years as a psychiatrist, firstly in the British Army, subsequently in the psychiatric hospitals of Glasgow, and finally in the Tavistock Clinic in London. These notes reveal what Laing was actually doing in clinical practice, and how theory interacted with therapy. The majority of patients who were to appear in Laing's first two books, *The Divided Self* and *The Self and Others* have been identified from these records, and this volume provides a fascinating account of how the published case histories compare to the original notes. There is a considerable mythology surrounding Laing, partly created by himself and partly by subsequent commentators. By a careful examination of primary sources, Allan Beveridge, both a psychiatrist and an historian, examines the many mythological narratives about Laing and provide a critical but not unsympathetic account of this colourful and contradictory thinker, who addressed questions about the nature of madness which are still being asked today. This book will be of interest to mental health workers and social historians alike as well as anybody interested in the philosophy of psychiatry.

a history of psychiatry from the era asylum to age prozac edward shorter: The Invention of Madness Emily Baum, 2018-11-05 Throughout most of history, in China the insane were kept within the home and treated by healers who claimed no specialized knowledge of their condition. In the first decade of the twentieth century, however, psychiatric ideas and institutions began to influence longstanding beliefs about the proper treatment for the mentally ill. In *The Invention of Madness*, Emily Baum traces a genealogy of insanity from the turn of the century to the onset of war with Japan in 1937, revealing the complex and convoluted ways in which "madness" was transformed in the Chinese imagination into "mental illness." ? Focusing on typically marginalized historical actors, including municipal functionaries and the urban poor, *The Invention of Madness* shifts our attention from the elite desire for modern medical care to the ways in which psychiatric discourses were implemented and redeployed in the midst of everyday life. New meanings and practices of madness, Baum argues, were not just imposed on the Beijing public but continuously invented by a range of people in ways that reflected their own needs and interests. Exhaustively

researched and theoretically informed, *The Invention of Madness* is an innovative contribution to medical history, urban studies, and the social history of twentieth-century China.

a history of psychiatry from the era asylum to age prozac edward shorter: Mind Fixers
Anne Harrington, 2019-04-16 "Superb... a nuanced account of biological psychiatry." —Richard J. McNally In *Mind Fixers*, "the preeminent historian of neuroscience" (Science magazine) Anne Harrington explores psychiatry's repeatedly frustrated efforts to understand mental disorder. She shows that psychiatry's waxing and waning theories have been shaped not just by developments in the clinic and lab, but also by a surprising range of social factors. *Mind Fixers* recounts the past and present struggle to make mental illness a biological problem in order to lay the groundwork for creating a better future.

a history of psychiatry from the era asylum to age prozac edward shorter: Better Than Well: American Medicine Meets the American Dream Carl Elliott, 2004-06-17 Elliott's absorbing account will make readers think again about the ways that science shapes our personal identities.—American Scientist Americans have always been the world's most anxiously enthusiastic consumers of enhancement technologies. Prozac, Viagra, and Botox injections are only the latest manifestations of a familiar pattern: enthusiastic adoption, public hand-wringing, an occasional congressional hearing, and calls for self-reliance. In a brilliant diagnosis of our reactions to self-improvement technologies, Carl Elliott asks questions that illuminate deep currents in the American character: Why do we feel uneasy about these drugs, procedures, and therapies even while we embrace them? Where do we draw the line between self and society? Why do we seek self-realization in ways so heavily influenced by cultural conformity?

a history of psychiatry from the era asylum to age prozac edward shorter: On Speed
Nicolas Rasmussen, 2008-03-01 An extensively researched account of the ups and downs in the history of uppers Uppers. Crank. Bennies. Dexies. Greenies. Black Beauties. Purple Hearts. Crystal. Ice. And, of course, Speed. Whatever their street names at the moment, amphetamines have been an insistent force in American life since they were marketed as the original antidepressants in the 1930s. *On Speed* tells the remarkable story of their rise, their fall, and their surprising resurgence. Along the way, it discusses the influence of pharmaceutical marketing on medicine, the evolving scientific understanding of how the human brain works, the role of drugs in maintaining the social order, and the centrality of pills in American life. Above all, however, this is a highly readable biography of a very popular drug. And it is a riveting story. Incorporating extensive new research, *On Speed* describes the ups and downs (fittingly, there are mostly ups) in the history of amphetamines, and their remarkable pervasiveness. For example, at the same time that amphetamines were becoming part of the diet of many GIs in World War II, an amphetamine-abusing counterculture began to flourish among civilians. In the 1950s, psychiatrists and family doctors alike prescribed amphetamines for a wide variety of ailments, from mental disorders to obesity to emotional distress. By the late 1960s, speed had become a fixture in everyday life: up to ten percent of Americans were thought to be using amphetamines at least occasionally. Although their use was regulated in the 1970s, it didn't take long for amphetamines to make a major comeback, with the discovery of Attention Deficit Disorder and the role that one drug in the amphetamine family—Ritalin—could play in treating it. Today's most popular diet-assistance drugs differ little from the diet pills of years gone by, still speed at their core. And some of our most popular recreational drugs—including the mellow drug, Ecstasy—are also amphetamines. Whether we want to admit it or not, writes Rasmussen, we're still a nation on speed.

a history of psychiatry from the era asylum to age prozac edward shorter: It's Madness
Theodore Jun Yoo, 2016-02-16 *It's Madness* examines Korea's critical years under Japanese colonialism when mental health first became defined as a medical and social problem. As in most Asian countries, severe social ostracism, shame, and fear of jeopardizing marriage prospects drove most Korean families to conceal the mentally ill behind closed doors. This book explores the impact of Chinese traditional medicine and its holistic approach to treating mental disorders, the resilience of folk illnesses as explanations for inappropriate and dangerous behaviors, the emergence of

clinical psychiatry as a discipline, and the competing models of care under the Japanese colonial authorities and Western missionary doctors. It also analyzes interpretations of culture-bound emotional states that Koreans have viewed as specific to their interpersonal relationships, social experiences, local contexts, and the new medical discourses that the Korean press adopted to reshape social understandings of mental illness. Drawing upon unpublished archival as well as printed sources, this is the first study to examine the ways in which madness has been understood, classified, and treated in traditional Korea and the role of science in pathologizing and redefining mental illness under Japanese colonial rule--Provided by publisher.

a history of psychiatry from the era asylum to age prozac edward shorter: Medicine in the Twentieth Century Roger Cooter, John Pickstone, 2020-08-26 During the twentieth century, medicine has been radically transformed and powerfully transformative. In 1900, western medicine was important to philanthropy and public health, but it was marginal to the state, the industrial economy and the welfare of most individuals. It is now central to these aspects of life. Our prospects seem increasingly dependent on the progress of bio-medical sciences and genetic technologies which promise to reshape future generations. The editors of *Medicine in the Twentieth Century* have commissioned over forty authoritative essays, written by historical specialists but intended for general audiences. Some concentrate on the political economy of medicine and health as it changed from period to period and varied between countries, others focus on understandings of the body, and a third set of essays explores transformations in some of the theatres of medicine and the changing experiences of different categories of practitioners and patients.

a history of psychiatry from the era asylum to age prozac edward shorter: Companion to Medicine in the Twentieth Century Roger Cooter, John Pickstone, 2016-02-01 During the twentieth century, medicine has been radically transformed and powerfully transformative. In 1900, western medicine was important to philanthropy and public health, but it was marginal to the state, the industrial economy and the welfare of most individuals. It is now central to these aspects of life. Our prospects seem increasingly depe

a history of psychiatry from the era asylum to age prozac edward shorter: **Tackling Mental Illness Together** Alan Thomas, 2017-11-16 A biblical framework for understanding mental illness and helping the mentally ill. Synthesises the relevant biblical material with our scientific understanding of mental illness. Equips the reader to deal wisely, intelligently and compassionately with issues of mental health in churches and the community. Helps us discern between bad behaviour which is a result of illness and that which results from sin - How do we deal wisely, intelligently and compassionately with those who suffer from mental illness? - Can we really make a difference if we aren't professionals? - Is it possible to discern between bad behaviour due to illness and that caused by sin Discover how your church can become a safe, encouraging and healing place. 'The next-best thing to spending a week shadowing Professor Thomas.' Sinclair Ferguson 'Rational, readable and relevant, this book confirms that all involved in pastoral work can help tackle mental illness.' Andrew Fergusson 'The go-to resource for those who want to know more: the wisdom of reliable clinical experience laced with academic rigour and good common sense, all grounded in God's word. I recommend it highly.' Glynn Harrison 'Empowers us all to play our part.' Debbie Hawker 'An accessible, practical, sensible and biblically grounded resource to help us navigate this challenging terrain.' Sharon James 'Presented in a way that will instil confidence that we can work with mental health professionals.' Nick Pollard 'Alan Thomas has shared his own important insights in what will become a standard book on the subject, accessible and wise.' Geoff Thomas

a history of psychiatry from the era asylum to age prozac edward shorter: Against Freud Todd Dufresne, 2007 *Against Freud* is a highly accessible, informative, and entertaining examination of Freud's controversial ideas and legacy by the world's most knowledgeable critics of psychoanalysis.

a history of psychiatry from the era asylum to age prozac edward shorter: *Break On Through* Lucas Richert, 2019-10-08 "Antipsychiatry," Esalen, psychedelics, and DSM III: Radical challenges to psychiatry and the conventional treatment of mental health in the 1970s. The

upheavals of the 1960s gave way to a decade of disruptions in the 1970s, and among the rattled fixtures of American society was mainstream psychiatry. A “Radical Caucus” formed within the psychiatric profession and the “antipsychiatry” movement arose. Critics charged that the mental health establishment was complicit with the military-industrial complex, patients were released from mental institutions, and powerful antipsychotic drugs became available. Meanwhile, practitioners and patients experimented with new approaches to mental health, from primal screaming and the therapeutic use of psychedelics to a new reliance on quantification. In *Break on Through*, Lucas Richert investigates the radical challenges to psychiatry and to the conventional treatment of mental health that emerged in the 1970s and the lessons they offer for current debates. Drawing on archives and government documents, medical journals, and interviews, and interweaving references to pop (counter)culture into his account, Richert offers fascinating stories of the decade's radical mental health practices. He discusses anti-Vietnam War activism and the new diagnosis of post-traumatic stress disorder given to some veterans; the radical psychiatrists who fought the system (and each other); the entry of New Age-style therapies, including Esalen's Human Potential Movement, into the laissez-faire therapeutic marketplace of the 1970s; the development of DSM III; and the use of LSD, cannabis, and MDMA. Many of these issues have resonance today. Debates over medical marijuana and microdoses of psychedelics echo debates of the 1970s. With rising rates of such disorders as anxiety and depression, practitioners and patients continue to search for therapeutic breakthroughs.

a history of psychiatry from the era asylum to age prozac edward shorter: *Against the Draft* Peter Brock, 2006-01-01 Around the world and for hundreds of years, men and women have refused to be drafted into bearing arms for their nations' wars. These conscientious objectors to the draft are the subject of Peter Brock's latest collection, *Against the Draft*. Brock, the world's leading historian on pacifism, has assembled twenty-five of his essays on conscientious objection to the draft from the beginning of the Radical Reformation in 1525 to the end of the Second World War. Included in the collection are essays on little known facets of the anti-draft movement including the Anabaptist-Mennonite tradition of military exemption that started with the outset of the Radical Reformation in 1525 and has continued, with variations, until the present. Further articles deal with the Quakers in a number of countries, Civil-war America, Leo Tolstoy (who became a convinced pacifist in the later part of his life,) British conscientious objectors in the Non-Combatant Corps, the emergence of conscientious objection in Japan, and the fate of conscientious objectors in the psychiatric clinics of Germany and in interwar Poland. Essays on the Central European Nazarenes and on Jehovah's Witnesses in Nazi Germany highlight the exceptionally harsh treatment meted out to conscientious objectors belonging to these two sects, and their steadfast resistance to the state's demand to bear arms. *Against the Draft* makes an important contribution to the growing study of pacifism and conscientious objection, and represents a key work in the career of the field's foremost scholar.

a history of psychiatry from the era asylum to age prozac edward shorter: American Madness Richard Noll, 2011-11-28 The world of the American alienist, 1896 -- Adolf Meyer brings dementia praecox to America -- Emil Kraepelin -- The American reception of dementia praecox and manic depressive insanity, 1896-1905 -- The lost biological psychiatry -- The rise of the mind-twist men, 1903-1913 -- Bayard Taylor Holmes and radically rational treatments -- The rise of schizophrenia in America, 1912-1927.

a history of psychiatry from the era asylum to age prozac edward shorter: *Malady of the Mind* Jeffrey A. Lieberman, 2024-04-23 This brilliant portrait of schizophrenia--the most malignant and least understood mental illness--by renowned psychiatrist Jeffrey Lieberman, Chair of Columbia's legendary Psychiatry department, interweaves cultural and scientific history with dramatic patient portraits and clinical experiences to impart a revolutionary message of hope: that for the first time in human history, schizophrenia can not just be effectively treated, but even prevented. Of the many myths and misconceptions that have historically obscured our understanding of schizophrenia, the most pernicious is that there is no effective treatment or cure. The reality

couldn't be more different: the truth is that today's treatments have the potential to be game-changing--and often lifesaving. In this rigorously researched, deeply compelling biography of schizophrenia, Dr. Jeffrey Lieberman draws on his four-decade career to tell the story of the past, present, and future of this historically dreaded, often disabling illness. From his vantage point at the pinnacle of academic psychiatry, informed by extensive research experience and clinical care of thousands of patients, Dr. Lieberman describes how the complexity of the brain, the checkered history of psychiatric medicine, and centuries of stigma combined with misguided legislation and health care policies have impeded scientific and clinical progress. And yet, there is hope: by offering evidence-based treatments that combine medication with psychosocial services, doctors are now able to effectively treat schizophrenia. Even more auspiciously, early detection and intervention before the onset of psychotic symptoms can--thanks to decades of scientific work--not only suppress symptoms but also effectively prevent the outbreak of this disorder. A must-read for fans of psychological histories and anyone whose life has been affected by schizophrenia, this revelatory work offers a comprehensive scientific portrait, crucial insights, and, most importantly, hope for those afflicted--

a history of psychiatry from the era asylum to age prozac edward shorter: Black Skin, White Coats Matthew M. Heaton, 2013-10-15 *Black Skin, White Coats* is a history of psychiatry in Nigeria from the 1950s to the 1980s. Working in the contexts of decolonization and anticolonial nationalism, Nigerian psychiatrists sought to replace racist colonial psychiatric theories about the psychological inferiority of Africans with a universal and egalitarian model focusing on broad psychological similarities across cultural and racial boundaries. Particular emphasis is placed on Dr. T. Adeoye Lambo, the first indigenous Nigerian to earn a specialty degree in psychiatry in the United Kingdom in 1954. Lambo returned to Nigeria to become the medical superintendent of the newly founded Aro Mental Hospital in Abeokuta, Nigeria's first "modern" mental hospital. At Aro, Lambo began to revolutionize psychiatric research and clinical practice in Nigeria, working to integrate "modern" western medical theory and technologies with "traditional" cultural understandings of mental illness. Lambo's research focused on deracializing psychiatric thinking and redefining mental illness in terms of a model of universal human similarities that crossed racial and cultural divides. *Black Skin, White Coats* is the first work to focus primarily on black Africans as producers of psychiatric knowledge and as definers of mental illness in their own right. By examining the ways that Nigerian psychiatrists worked to integrate their psychiatric training with their indigenous backgrounds and cultural and civic nationalisms, *Black Skin, White Coats* provides a foil to Frantz Fanon's widely publicized reactionary articulations of the relationship between colonialism and psychiatry. *Black Skin, White Coats* is also on the cutting edge of histories of psychiatry that are increasingly drawing connections between local and national developments in late-colonial and postcolonial settings and international scientific networks. Heaton argues that Nigerian psychiatrists were intimately aware of the need to engage in international discourses as part and parcel of the transformation of psychiatry at home.

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