



Symptoms of Unknown Origin: A Medical Odyssey (Paperback)

By Clifton K. Meador

Vanderbilt University Press, United States, 2005. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. For years after graduating from medical school, Dr. Clifton K. Meador assumed that symptoms of the body, when obviously not imaginary, indicate a disease of the body - something to be treated with drugs, surgery, or other traditional means. But, over several decades, as he saw patients with clear symptoms but no discernable disease, he concluded that his own assumptions were too narrow and, indeed, that the underlying basis for much of clinical medicine was severely limited. Recounting a series of fascinating case studies, Meador shows in this book how he came to reject a strict adherence to the prevailing biomolecular model of disease and its separation of mind and body. He studied other theories and approaches - George Engel's biopsychosocial model of disease, Michael Balint's study of physicians as pharmacological agents - and adjusted his practice accordingly to treat what he called nondisease. He had to retool, learn new and more in-depth interviewing and listening techniques, and undergo what Balint termed a slight but significant change in personality. In chapters like The Woman Who Believed She Was a Man and The Diarrhea...

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