

# HISTORY



## Roundtable est. 2017

### January's Topic: Medical History

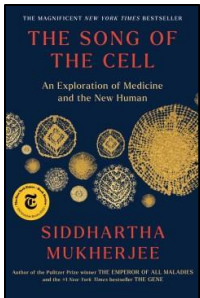
**Meeting Date:** Tuesday, January 28th, 2024 at 6:30pm

Register at [www.greenwoodlibrary.us](http://www.greenwoodlibrary.us) or by calling 317-881-1953.

More info and handout at [www.greenwoodlibrary.us/historyroundtable](http://www.greenwoodlibrary.us/historyroundtable).

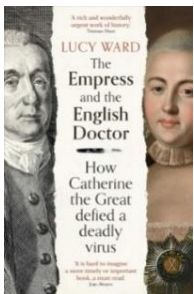
Read. Watch. Listen. Discuss. Read any non-fiction book, watch a documentary, and/or listen to a podcast pertaining to Medical History. Once you've read/watched/listened to the item, come to the roundtable prepared to summarize your book/video/podcast for all the participants. Possible resources include (but are not limited to) –

#### Books:



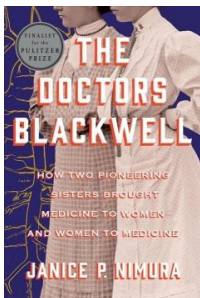
**[The Song of the Cell: An Exploration of Medicine and the New Human](#)** by **Siddhartha Mukherjee** – NONFICTION WELLNESS MEDICAL HISTORY Mukherjee; [eBook](#) and [eAudio](#) via Libby\*

The discovery of cells--and the reframing of the human body as a cellular ecosystem--announced the birth of a new kind of medicine based on the therapeutic manipulations of cells. In *The Song of the Cell*, Mukherjee tells the story of how scientists discovered cells, began to understand them, and are now using that knowledge to create new treatments and new humans.



**[The Empress and the English Doctor: How Catherine the Great Defied a Deadly Virus](#)** by **Lucy Ward** – NONFICTION HISTORY WORLD EUROPE RUSSIA Ward

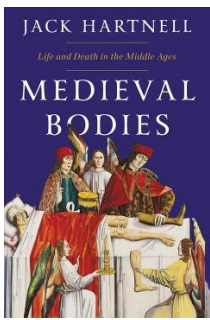
A killer virus ... an all-powerful Empress ... an encounter cloaked in secrecy. As smallpox ravaged her empire and threatened her court, Catherine the Great took the momentous decision to summon the Quaker physician Tomas Dimsdale to St. Petersburg to carry out a secret mission that would transform both their lives. Ward expertly unveils the extraordinary story of Enlightenment ideals, female leadership and the fight to promote science over superstition.



**[The Doctors Blackwell: How Two Pioneering Sisters brought Medicine to Women – and Women to Medicine](#)** by **Janice P. Nimura** – NONFICTION SOCIAL TOPICS WOMEN HISTORICAL Nimura; [eBook](#) and [eAudio](#) via Libby\*

The vivid biography of two pioneering sisters who, together, became America's first female doctors and transformed New York's medical establishment by creating a hospital by and for women. Though the world recoiled at the notion of a woman studying medicine, Elizabeth Blackwell's intelligence and intensity won her the acceptance of the all-male medical establishment and in 1849 she became the first woman in America to receive a medical degree. But Elizabeth's story is incomplete

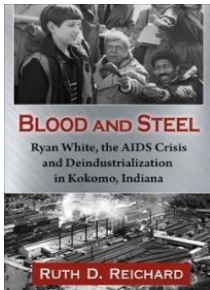
without her often forgotten sister, Emily, the third woman in America to receive a medical degree. Exploring the sisters' allies, enemies and enduring partnership, Nimura presents a story of both trial and triumph.



### **Medieval Bodies: Life and Death in the Middle Ages by Jack Hartnell –**

NONFICTION HISTORY MEDIEVAL Hartnell

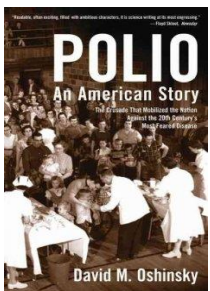
With wit, wisdom, and a sharp scalpel, Jack Hartnell dissects the medieval body and offers a remedy to our preconceptions. But while this medieval medicine now seems archaic, it also made a critical contribution to modern science. *Medieval Bodies* guides us on a head-to-heel journey through this era's revolutionary advancements and disturbing convictions. Encompassing medicine and mysticism, politics and art—and complete with vivid, full-color illustrations—*Medieval Bodies* shows us how it felt to live and die a thousand years ago.



### **Blood and Steel: Ryan White, the AIDS crisis and deindustrialization in Kokomo, Indiana By Ruth D. Reichard – available via Evergreen Indiana\***

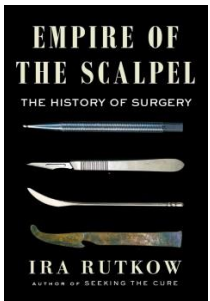
Set in the 1980s against a backdrop of the AIDS crisis, deindustrialization and the Reagan era, this book tells the story of one individual's defiant struggle against his community—the city of Kokomo, Indiana. At the same time as teenage AIDS patient Ryan White bravely fought against the intolerance of his hometown to attend public school, one of Kokomo's largest employers, Continental Steel, filed for bankruptcy, significantly raising the stakes of the fight for the city's livelihood and national image. Now, some 30 years after Ryan White's death, this book offers a fuller accounting of

the challenges that one city reckoned with during this tumultuous period.



### **Polio: An American Story by David M. Oshinsky – NONFICTION WELLNESS**

MEDICAL HISTORY Oshinsky; [eBook](#) and [eAudio](#) via Libby\*; [eAudio via Hoopla](#)\* A history of the 1950s polio epidemic that caused panic in the United States examines the competition between Salk and Sabin to find the first vaccine and its implications for such issues as government testing of new drugs and manufacturers' liability.



### **Empire of the Scalpel: The History of Surgery by Ira M. Rutkow – NONFICTION**

WELLNESS MEDICAL HISTORY Rutkow; [eAudio via Hoopla](#)\*

Both a global history and a uniquely American tale, Rutkow draws on his five-decade career to show us how we got here. Authoritative, captivating, and comprehensive, *Empire of the Scalpel* portrays the evolution of surgery in all its dramatic and life-enhancing complexity and shows that its history is truly one awe-inspiring triumph after another.

### **Video:**



### **Unseen Enemies: The Deadliest Infectious Diseases in Human History via**

Kanopy\*

*Unseen Enemies* examines the top eleven infectious disease killers in human history, as well as the men and women whose dedication and sacrifice helped to expose answers and cures for each of these runaway conditions.

### **Podcasts:**



### **Bedside Rounds**

Sample episodes: [The History](#) (episode 68) and [The White Plague](#) (episode 39)



### **The Poor Historians: Medical History Misadventures**

Sample episodes: [“Milk Sickness: The Story of Anna Pierce and a Uniquely American Deadly Historic Diagnosis”](#) and [“President Cleveland's Secret Surgery \(With Presidencies of the United States Podcast\)”](#)

\*=requires GPL Evergreen Indiana card