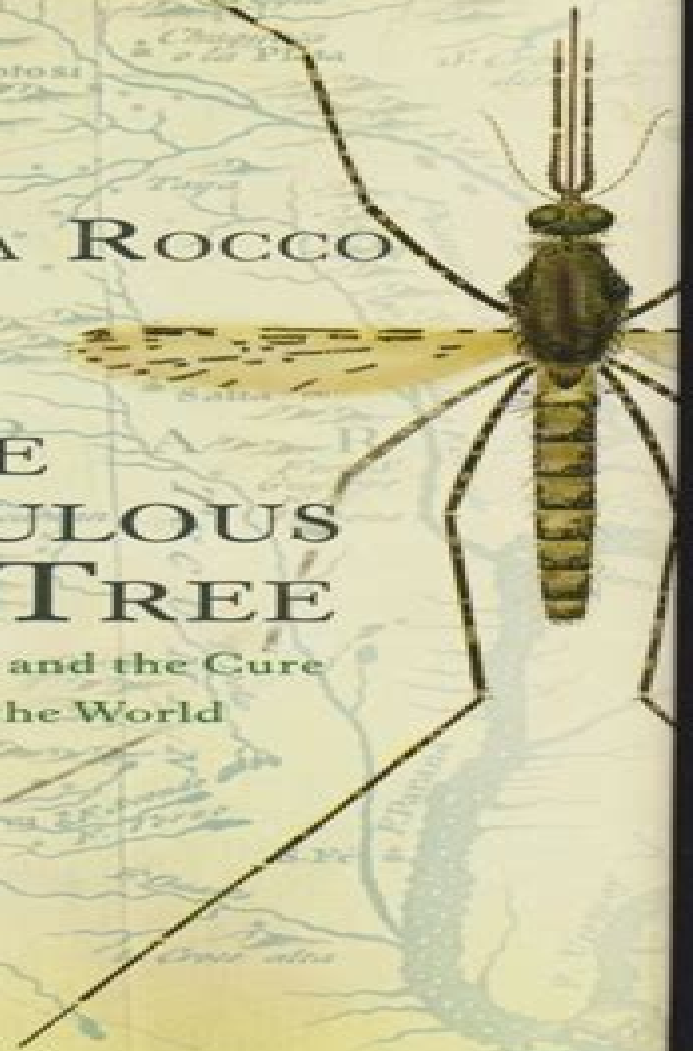


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# THE MIRACULOUS FEVER-TREE

Malaria, Medicine and the Cure  
that Changed the World



# The Miraculous Fever Tree

**Joshua S. Loomis**



## **The Miraculous Fever Tree:**

*The Miraculous Fever-Tree* Fiammetta Rocco, 2003-08-05 Cinchona revolutionized the art of medicine as profoundly as gunpowder had the art of war Bernardino Ramazzini Physician to the Duke of Modena Opera omnia medica et physica 1716 In the summer of 1623 ten cardinals and hundreds of their attendants died in Rome while electing a new pope The Roman marsh fever that felled them was the scourge of the Mediterranean northern Europe and even America Malaria now known as a disease of the tropics badly weakened the Roman Empire It killed thousands of British troops fighting Napoleon in 1809 and many soldiers on both sides of the American Civil War It turned back travelers exploring West Africa in the nineteenth century and brought the building of the Panama Canal to a standstill Even today malaria kills someone every thirty seconds For more than one thousand years there was no cure for it Pope Urban VIII elected during the malarial summer of 1623 was determined that a cure should be found He encouraged Jesuit priests establishing new missions in Asia and in South America to learn everything they could from the peoples they encountered In Peru a young apothecarist named Agostino Salumbrino established an extensive network of pharmacies that kept the Jesuit missions in South America and Europe supplied with medicines In 1631 Salumbrino dispatched a new miracle to Rome The cure was quinine an alkaloid made of the bitter red bark of the cinchona tree Europe's Protestants among them Oliver Cromwell who suffered badly from malaria feared that the new cure was nothing but a Popish poison More than any previous medicine though quinine forced physicians to change their ideas about illness Before long it would change the face of Western medicine Yet how was it that priests in the early seventeenth century who did not know what malaria was or how it was transmitted discovered that the bark of a tree that grew in the foothills of the Andes could cure a disease that occurred only on the other side of the ocean Using fresh research from the Vatican and the Indian archives in Seville as well as documents she discovered in Peru award winning author Fiammetta Rocco chronicles the ravages of the disease the quest of the three Englishmen who smuggled cinchona seeds out of South America the way in which quinine opened the door to Western imperial adventure in Asia Africa and beyond and how even today quinine grown in the eastern Congo still saves the lives of so many suffering from malaria *The Miraculous Fever-Tree: Malaria, Medicine and the Cure that Changed the World (Text Only)* Fiammetta Rocco, 2012-05-31 A rich and wonderful history of quinine the cure for malaria Terms of Use Eva Hemmungs Wirtén, 2008-01-01 Sequel to No Trespassing The Fever Sonia Shah, 2010-06-29 This deep dive into humanity's very long fight against malaria is a vivid and compelling history with a message that's entirely relevant today Elizabeth Kolbert Pulitzer Prize winning author of *The Sixth Extinction* In a time when every emergent disease inspires waves of panic why aren't we doing more to eradicate one of our oldest foes And how does a parasitic disease that we've known how to prevent for more than a century still infect 500 million people every year killing nearly 1 million of them Philanthropists from Laura Bush to Bono to Bill Gates have contributed to the effort to find a cure for malaria but there's much more that can be done to minimize its deadly effects In

The Fever journalist Sonia Shah sets out to answer these questions delivering a timely inquisitive chronicle of the illness and its influence on human lives Through the centuries she finds we've invested our hopes in a panoply of drugs and technologies and invariably those hopes have been dashed From the settling of the New World to the construction of the Panama Canal through wars and the advances of the Industrial Revolution Shah tracks malaria's jagged ascent and the tragedies in its wake revealing a parasite every bit as persistent as the insects that carry it With distinguished prose and original reporting from Panama Malawi Cameroon India and elsewhere The Fever captures the curiously fascinating devastating history of this long standing thorn in the side of humanity Fascinating an absorbing account of human ingenuity and progress and of their heartbreaking limitations Publishers Weekly A thrilling detective story spanning centuries about our erratic pursuit of a villain still at large rich in colorful detail Malcolm Molyneux Professor Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine

**The Andean Wonder Drug** Matthew James Crawford, 2016-09-07 In the eighteenth century malaria was a prevalent and deadly disease and the only effective treatment was found in the Andean forests of Spanish America a medicinal bark harvested from cinchona trees that would later give rise to the antimalarial drug quinine In 1751 the Spanish Crown asserted control over the production and distribution of this medicament by establishing a royal reserve of fever trees in Quito Through this pilot project the Crown pursued a new vision of imperialism informed by science and invigorated through commerce But ultimately this project failed much like the broader imperial reforms that it represented Drawing on extensive archival research Matthew Crawford explains why showing how indigenous healers laborers merchants colonial officials and creole elites contested European science and thwarted imperial reform by asserting their authority to speak for the natural world The Andean Wonder Drug uses the story of cinchona bark to demonstrate how the imperial politics of knowledge in the Spanish Atlantic ultimately undermined efforts to transform European science into a tool of empire

Tree of Rivers: The Story of the Amazon John Hemming, 2009-11-30 In his long career of exploration and scholarship Hemming has become a powerful advocate for the Amazon The New York Times Amazonia is one of the most magnificent habitats on earth Containing the world's largest river with more water and a broader basin than any other it hosts a great expanse of tropical rain forest home to the planet's most luxuriant biological diversity The human beings who settled in the region 10 000 years ago learned to live well with its bounty of fish game and vegetation It was not until 1500 that Europeans first saw the Amazon and unsurprisingly the rain forest's unique environment has attracted larger than life personalities through the centuries John Hemming recalls the adventures and misadventures of intrepid explorers fervent Jesuit ecclesiastics and greedy rubber barons who enslaved thousands of Indians in the relentless quest for profit He also tells of nineteenth century botanists fearless advocates for Indian rights and the archaeologists and anthropologists who have uncovered the secrets of the Amazon's earliest settlers Hemming discusses the current threat to Amazonia as forests are destroyed to feed the world's appetite for timber beef and soybeans and he vividly describes the passionate struggles taking place in order to utilize

protect and understand the Amazon     Battling Malaria Connie Goldsmith,2010-08-01 In North America mosquito bites are usually only a nuisance But in areas such as Africa and Southeast Asia the bite can be deadly There many mosquitoes transmit a disease called malaria and malaria can be a killer In Africa one child dies from malaria every thirty seconds Worldwide more than one million people die from malaria each year What can be done to stop this global killer This book examines how public health organizations work to protect people from malaria carrying mosquitoes how doctors care for people who do get malaria and how researchers try to better understand and fight malaria But malaria presents a complex puzzle for researchers The parasite that causes malaria takes several different forms and can damage the body in many ways Malaria does its worst damage among people in poor nations These countries often have inadequate public health and medical systems making prevention and treatment difficult In addition children who are sick with malaria cannot go to school Adults with malaria cannot work Thus malaria often pushes poor people deeper into poverty Author Connie Goldsmith is a nurse and a medical writer In *Battling Malaria* Goldsmith tackles the topic with an expert s eye She describes cutting edge research medications and public health measures that might someday defeat malaria for good     **Green Health** Oladele Ogunseitan,2011-06-28 Colorful bracelets funky brooches and beautiful handmade beads young crafters learn to make all these and much more with this fantastic step by step guide In 12 exciting projects with simple steps and detailed instructions budding fashionistas create their own stylish accessories to give as gifts or add a touch of personal flair to any ensemble Following the successful Art Smart series Craft Smart presents a fresh fun approach to four creative skills knitting jewelry making papercrafting and crafting with recycled objects Each book contains 12 original projects to make using a range of readily available materials There are projects for boys and girls carefully chosen to appeal to readers of all abilities A special techniques and materials section encourages young crafters to try out their own ideas while learning valuable practical skills

*Lifeblood* Alex Perry,2011-09-06 In 2006 the Wall Street pioneer and philanthropist Ray Chambers flicked through some holiday snapshots taken by his friend development economist Jeff Sachs and remarked on the placid beauty of a group of sleeping Malawian children They re not sleeping Sachs told him They re in malarial comas A few days later they were all dead Chambers had long avoided the public eye but this moment sparked his determination to coordinate an unprecedented worldwide effort to eradicate a disease that has haunted humanity since before the advent of medicine Award winning journalist Alex Perry obtained unique access to Chambers now the UN Special Envoy for Malaria In this book Perry weaves together science and history with on the ground reporting and a riveting expos of the workings of humanitarian aid to document Chambers campaign By replacing traditional ideas of assistance with business acumen and hustle Chambers saved millions of lives and upturned current notions of aid forging a new path not just for the developing world but for global business and philanthropy     **Epidemics** Joshua S. Loomis,2018-01-18 This book comprehensively reviews the 10 most influential epidemics in history going beyond morbid accounts of symptoms and statistics to tell the often forgotten stories of

what made these epidemics so calamitous Unlike other books on epidemics which either focus on the science behind how microbes cause disease or tell first person accounts of one particular disease *Epidemics The Impact of Germs and Their Power over Humanity* takes a holistic approach to explaining how these diseases have shaped who we are as a society Each of the worst epidemic diseases is discussed from the perspective of how it has been a causative agent of change with respect to our history religious traditions social interactions and technology In looking at world history through the lens of epidemic diseases readers will come to appreciate how much we owe to the oldest and smallest parasites Adults and students interested in science and history and especially anyone who appreciates a good story and has a healthy curiosity for the lesser known facts of life will find this book of interest Health care workers will also benefit greatly from this text as will college students majoring in biology or a pre health field

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### **The Miraculous Fever Tree Introduction**

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