



# The Deadly Dinner Party: and Other Medical Detective Stories

By Jonathan A. Edlow

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**The Deadly Dinner Party: and Other Medical Detective Stories** By Jonathan A. Edlow

Picking up where Berton Roueché's *The Medical Detectives* left off, *The Deadly Dinner Party* presents fifteen edge-of-your-seat, real-life medical detective stories written by a practicing physician. Award-winning author Jonathan Edlow, M.D., shows the doctor as detective and the epidemiologist as elite sleuth in stories that are as gripping as the best thrillers.

In these stories a notorious stomach bug turns a suburban dinner party into a disaster that almost claims its host; a diminutive woman routinely eats more than her football-playing boyfriend but continually loses weight; a young executive is diagnosed with lung cancer, yet the tumors seem to wax and wane inexplicably. Written for the lay person who wishes to better grasp how doctors decipher the myriad clues and puzzling symptoms they often encounter, each story presents a very different case where doctors must work to find the accurate diagnosis before it is too late. Edlow uses his unique ability to relate complex medical concepts in a writing style that is clear, engaging and easily understandable. The resulting stories both entertain us and teach us much about medicine, its history and the subtle interactions among pathogens, humans, and the environment.

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## **The Deadly Dinner Party: and Other Medical Detective Stories By Jonathan A. Edlow Bibliography**

- Rank: #1408155 in Books
- Published on: 2009-09-22
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: .90" h x 6.46" w x 9.42" l, 1.15 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 264 pages

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## **Editorial Review**

From Publishers Weekly

Mimicking the style of his favorite genre, the detective story, author and doctor Edlow (*Bull's Eye: Unraveling the Medical Mystery of Lyme Disease*) retells 15 stories of "shoe-leather epidemiology" that delve into the complex world of diagnostic medicine. In the title story, three cases of botulism are traced, with the work of physicians, local health department officials, and CDC representatives, to a jar of oil-packed garlic. Other chapters cover typhoid fever in restaurant orange juice, gastrointestinal infestation via fish tank water, and illnesses caused by excess vitamins A and D. Readers, especially those already alarmed over everyday pathogens, will find plenty to worry about, including herbal teas grandfathered out of FDA regulations; sudden changes in diets that may, literally, plug up your pipes; and all-natural, fresh-pressed cider that may harbor dangerous *e. coli*. Readers will also find that every medical diagnosis is a puzzle to be solved, often by gathering and analyzing data with the help of a team. Much like a true-life version of television's *House M.D.*, these fast-paced, detail-heavy stories will prove compelling for fans of mystery and medicine.

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### **Review**

"Offers mystery stories in the tradition of Berton Roueché that are every bit as exciting and illuminating as the originals. Edlow's stories are replete with information about strange medical adventures and treatments that any of us might experience one day."—Philip A. Mackowiak, M.D., University of Maryland School of Medicine

(Philip A. Mackowiak)

"An intriguing collection of medical 'detective' stories, this book both entertains and meets the general need for medical knowledge."—Stephen H. Zinner, M.D., Harvard Medical School, Mount Auburn Hospital  
(Stephen H. Zinner)

"Drama, intrigue, solid detective work are the fabric on which Edlow weaves a bountiful collection of fascinating stories. It will inform and keep you spellbound. The pulse is exciting, the thrill of discovery palpable. Masterfully written."—Sanjiv Chopra, M.D., Harvard Medical School, author of *Dr. Sanjiv Chopra's Liver Book*

(Sanjiv Chopra)

"These interesting medical tales educate as well as entertain."—Sandeep Jauhar, M.D., author of *Intern: A Doctor's Initiation*  
(Sandeep Jauhar)

"... the book flows well and is easy to read. . . . I wholeheartedly recommend this book and hope that it inspires the hidden detective in all of us."—Emma Hill, *Lancet*

(Emma Hill *Lancet* 2010-03-20)

"With Atul Gawande and Jerome Groopman, Edlow is one of a distinguished group of literary Harvard

medical professors who write lucidly about complex medical issues. . . . Edlow's stories are told with the easy grace of an accomplished writer who builds on, then hides, the depth of his research."--Hugh Dillon,  
*Sydney Morning Herald*  
(Hugh Dillon *Sydney Morning Herald*)

"If you watch House for the medical mysteries, this is for you. Edlow tracks a series of unusual diseases or conditions from the initial illness, though the clues, dead ends and inspired deductions that littered the path to effective treatment.--*Herald Sun*  
(*Herald Sun* 2010-03-27)

"Anyone with a penchant for the TV show House, or even a general interest in the more puzzling illnesses, will be engaged by the entertaining case studies. Edlow explores the history of disease through individual cases, without too much scientific jargon."--*Sunday Mail*  
(*Sunday Mail* 2010-02-28)

#### About the Author

**Jonathan A. Edlow**, M.D., F.A.C.P., is vice chair of emergency medicine, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, and associate professor of medicine, Harvard Medical School. He is the author of the award-winning *Bull's Eye: Unraveling the Medical Mystery of Lyme Disease and Stroke*. He lives in Newtonville, MA.

#### Users Review

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##### Christine Frazier:

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##### Helen Henson:

Spent a free the perfect time to be fun activity to do! A lot of people spent their down time with their family, or their own friends. Usually they doing activity like watching television, going to beach, or picnic inside the park. They actually doing same every week. Do you feel it? Will you something different to fill your free time/ holiday? Could be reading a book can be option to fill your no cost time/ holiday. The first thing you ask may be what kinds of e-book that you should read. If you want to attempt look for book, may be the book untitled The Deadly Dinner Party: and Other Medical Detective Stories can be good book to read. May be it is usually best activity to you.

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**Joel Padilla:**

In this period of time globalization it is important to someone to obtain information. The information will make you to definitely understand the condition of the world. The condition of the world makes the information much easier to share. You can find a lot of recommendations to get information example: internet, newspapers, book, and soon. You can view that now, a lot of publisher this print many kinds of book. Often the book that recommended to you personally is The Deadly Dinner Party: and Other Medical Detective Stories this guide consist a lot of the information on the condition of this world now. That book was represented how does the world has grown up. The terminology styles that writer use for explain it is easy to understand. Often the writer made some exploration when he makes this book. This is why this book acceptable all of you.

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