

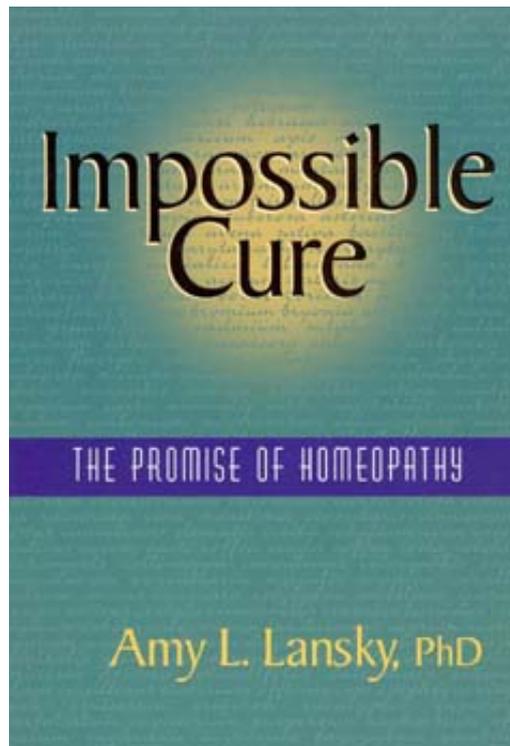
Amy L. Lansky Impossible Cure

Reading excerpt

[Impossible Cure](#)

of [Amy L. Lansky](#)

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FOREWORD

HOMEOPATHY IS ONE OF THE MOST ENIGMATIC OF MEDICAL ARTS.

Born out of 18th-century medical and scientific thinking, steeped in a tradition of empirical rationalism, and coming to light at a crucial crossroads in Western thought, homeopathy has never been widely accepted within mainstream medicine. Even though it achieved remarkable popularity in the 19th century, both in Europe and the United States, its very existence challenged the established Newtonian view of the world, one defined by a mechanistic view of the human body.

The founder of homeopathy Samuel Hahnemann — a chemist, scholar, and physician — was influenced not only by the "new" way of thinking about the body entailed by enlightenment philosophy, but also by a more alchemical view of the world, where the mystery of the hidden meanings, functions, and interconnections of all things needed to be acknowledged. These influences led to the development of his concept of *vital force*, a quality of energy that is both immaterial (cannot be seen) and also all encompassing in its influence over biological function. By no means the first to speak of such phenomena, *qi* being understood by the Chinese for three thousand years and *prana* being recognized by the Indian philosophers for a similar time, Hahnemann integrated this concept into a rational system of medical healing, which was unique in the West. The 15th-century alchemist/physician Paracelsus attempted a similar synthesis, but he never got far beyond the empirical drawing board.

Therefore, even if thinkers could accept the apparent contradictions of the homeopathic law of cure, "Let Likes Be Cured by Likes," when it came to the concept of a vital force permeating and influencing the anatomy and physiology of human organisms, this was too much for most to bear. Two hundred years later, we are faced with the same dilemma, although cracks are continually appearing in the dam of scientific materialism. Homeopathy is but one of the wedges forcing these cracks, its philosophy and position as a legitimate medical art practiced by

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physicians being a recurring irritation in the attempts to constrain medical doctrine to only that which we can see and control.

There is now a tidal wave of change occurring within the fields of medicine, psychology, physics, and the panoply of healing modalities available, with ample evidence suggesting that people are looking for alternative models of healing, even if they don't know how they work. In many ways, science and medicine are now catching up with what many people already know and have experienced. These things do work. Also, faced with the exploding costs and health complications of conventional medicine, new models of healing are coming to the forefront of people's attention. Homeopathy is one of them.

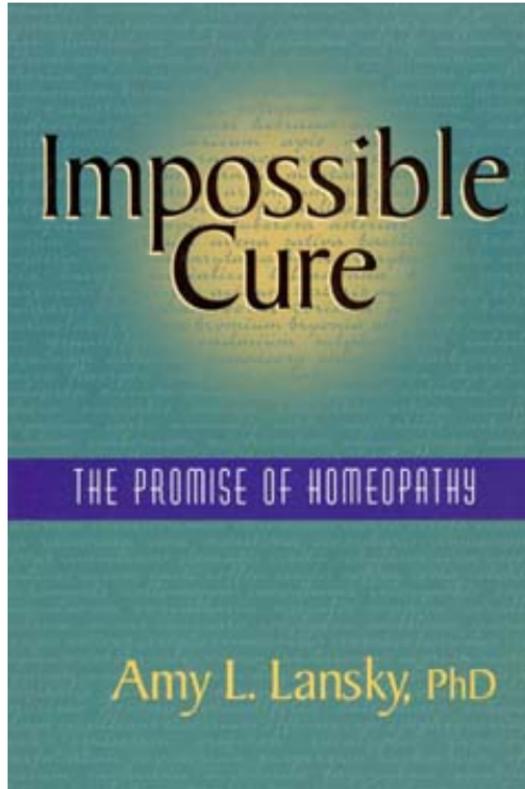
However, the challenge that homeopaths have always grappled with is how to demystify its approach to healing and help people understand what embarking into homeopathic treatment is all about. While on the surface it seems like Western medicine, with tablets being given as the remedy, the process of homeopathic treatment is a mix of visiting your doctor, psychiatrist, therapist, and a private detective. Part of the confusion seems to be that it is all of these things at the same time. It is hard to categorize into convenient boxes. It is medicine and healing, incorporating mind, body, and soul, physical disease and mental conditioning, fusing energy and matter into an inseparable whole.

How to communicate this amazing science and art? Many books have been written on homeopathy, some good and others not, often attempting to cross the bridge between the esoteric workings of the profession and a more mainstream understanding of its process. However, homeopathy is still not understood by most people, even two hundred years later. Even in more enlightened spheres, anything more than a superficial understanding of homeopathy is hard to find.

In *Impossible Cure*, Amy Lansky is going one step further in enlightening us to the potential of homeopathy and its fascinating history. Her personal experience of finding a homeopathic cure for her son's autism is extraordinary enough. However, she has laid out one of the most complete pictures of homeopathy ever written. The book is extremely well

researched, and Lansky has managed to make it accessible to an average reader in a way that will open people's minds about homeopathy. It will also help others already in the health-care field to learn about the potential of homeopathic treatment and to recognize that, in homeopathy, we have one of the most unique and complete systems of medicine available. Like a hidden treasure sitting in a basement for two hundred years, the jewels of homeopathy need to see the light of day. *Impossible Cure* will help do this. It is a superb document, and for those of us who practice and teach homeopathy, it is an exciting development — one that will help homeopathy take its appropriate place in medicine today.

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Amy L. Lansky

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