

Dana Ullman

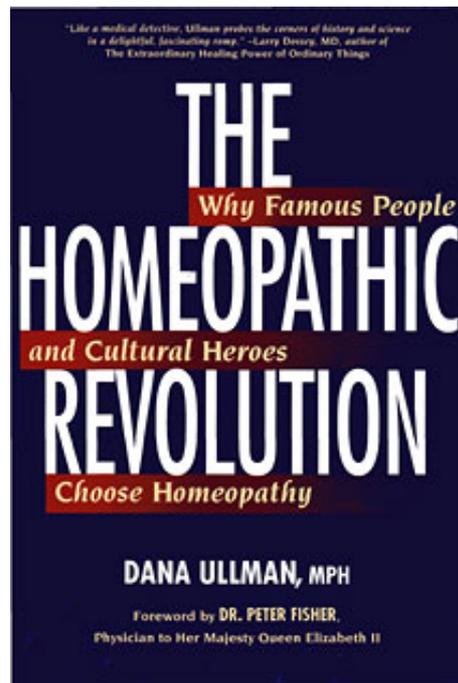
The Homeopathic Revolution

Reading excerpt

[The Homeopathic Revolution](#)

of [Dana Ullman](#)

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Narayana Verlag GmbH, Blumenplatz 2, D-79400 Kandern, Germany

Tel. +49 7626 9749 700

Email info@narayana-verlag.com

<http://www.narayana-verlag.com>



age. I venture to stake whatever reputation I ever hope to have that he has discovered the great secret of the diagnosis and cure of all major diseases." Further, Sinclair claimed that Abrams had treated "over fifteen thousand people, and my investigation convinces me he has cured over ninety-five percent."

European Literary Greats

The primary principle of homeopathy, called the law or principle of similars ("treating like with like"), is actually an ancient understanding that great thinkers and healers have acknowledged and utilized since early written history. Chapter 13, Clergy and Spiritual Leaders, highlights the use of the homeopathic principle by Moses. Even the Greeks' Oracle at Delphi was known to have said, "That which makes sick shall heal," and one of the famous stories from Greek mythology is the tale of Telephus, a Trojan hero who was speared and then healed when pieces of the spear were scraped off and placed on the wound. Hippocrates, the father of medicine and an early medical historian, once asserted, "Through the like, disease is produced, and through the application of the like it is cured." Even Shakespeare wrote about treating "like with like" in his famed play *Romeo and Juliet* (Act I, scene ii), when Benvolio gives comfort and advice to lovesick Romeo, saying:

Tut, man, one fire burns out another's burning;
One pain is lessened by another's anguish, Turn
giddy and be holp by backward turning; One
desperate grief cures with another's languish. Take
thou some new infection to the eye, And the rank
poison of the old will die.

The eminent British poet, John Milton (1608-1674), made direct reference to the concept of the treatment of "similars" in the preface to *Samson Agonistes* (1671): "Things of melancholic hue and quality are used against melancholy, sour against sour, salt to remove salt humors."

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832) is considered one of the greatest Western literary figures of all time. A German poet, novelist, playwright, courtier, and natural philosopher, Goethe was a contemporary of homeopathy's founder, Samuel Hahnemann, MD (1755-1843), and they both were Freemasons. When Goethe was given an amulet containing a very small gold ornament (September 2, 1820), he wrote: "The jewelers of Frankfort must have heard of the Leipsig Dr. Hahnemann's theory—now, certainly a world-famous physician—... and taken the best of it from their own purposes ... now I believe more than ever in this wonderful doctor's theory as I have experienced ... and continue to experience so clearly the efficacy of a very small administration." And in another letter he strongly proclaimed himself a "Hahnemannian disciple" (Haehl, 1922,1,113).

Goethe not only espoused the virtues of homeopathy in his letters to friends and colleagues, but even in his most famous play, *Faust*, in which his lead character, Mephistopheles, asserts the homeopathic credo, making specific reference to the homeopathic principle of similars: "To like things like, whatever one may ail; there's certain help."

Goethe was also a close friend with Karl Wesselhoeft, the owner of a large German Publishing Company of literary works, and Goethe was a frequent visitor in the Wesselhoeft home. Wesselhoeft's son, William, became Goethe's protege. As a result of Goethe's influence and due to later correspondence with German doctors who had become homeopaths, the younger Wesselhoeft became a serious Student and then practitioner and teacher of homeopathy in America.

One of the other truly great Western literary figures was Fyodor Dostoevsky (1821-1888). Dostoevsky suffered from epilepsy which seemed to begin around 1850 while he was imprisoned for his political beliefs. After this time, his father, a conventional physician, treated Dostoevsky for a severe throat affliction, but his conventional treatment didn't provide benefit and even led to a permanent impairment of his voice (Rice, 1983). Dr. Dostoevsky then resorted to prescribing homeopathic medicines for his son, though there isn't evidence that his father was trained

in homeopathy and the results were unclear. Later in life, Dostoevsky included in his classic novel, *The Brothers Karamazov* (1880), a dialogue in which one of the brothers tells the other: "Homeopathic doses perhaps are the strongest" (Chapter 9).

Another of the truly great Russian authors was Anton Chekhov (1860-1904), playwright and short story writer. Few people know that Chekhov was also a physician. We must be thankful that he wasn't a homeopath because the joys and the benefits from homeopathic practice might have led him to forego his magnificent contributions to literature.

Three of Chekhov's stories make reference to homeopathy. In "Ariadne" (1895), he spoke of a neighbor, a former landowner who was a homeopathic doctor and interested in spiritualism. Chekhov describes him as "a man of great delicacy and mildness, and by no means a fool." In "The Betrothed" (1903), he wrote of a woman betrothed to the son of a priest. Chekhov described the mother of the woman: "She went in for homeopathy and spiritualism, read a great deal, and was fond of talking about her religious doubts."

Chekhov's short story "The Malingerers" (1885) has as its lead character a homeopathic doctor—the widow of a Russian general who has practiced as a homeopathic physician for ten years.³⁹ She has an extremely busy practice and is especially popular among the poor peasants. The story focuses on one landowner who has sunk into poverty. He expresses extreme gratitude for her prescribing three doses of a homeopathic medicine to him. He falls to his knees to thank her, telling her that his eight years of suffering from rheumatism are over thanks to her medicines. He tells her that he was initially skeptical of these tiny doses, but his skepticism is over. He also tells her how greedy the regular doctors are and how they never really cure people. He asserts: "The doctors did me nothing but harm. They drove the disease inwards. Drive in, that they did, but to drive out was beyond their science." He refers to doctors as "assassins." He cries because he cannot even provide wood to keep his family warm. The doctor shows sympathy for him and gives him wood. The patient then tells her he needs a cow, and the doctor provides that too. As the patient leaves the doctor, three pieces of paper fall out of his pockets, and

she discovers that these are the homeopathic medicines she had previously given him, left untouched.

Chekhov closes the story with the homeopathic doctor experiencing doubt for the first time in ten years of practice. The story ends with the words "The deceitfulness of man!"

George Bernard Shaw (1856-1950) was one of Ireland's most respected playwrights. Shaw is the only person ever to have won both a Nobel Prize (Literature in 1925) and an Academy Award (Best Screenplay for *Pygmalion* in 1938). In his play *The Doctor's Dilemma* (1906), Shaw showed the dilemma that doctors inevitably face between their need to care for their patients and their need to practice, often using dangerous drugs and performing unnecessary operations in order to earn a livelihood.

In the play's preface, Shaw wrote:

The test to which all methods of treatment are finally brought is whether they are lucrative to doctors or not. It would be difficult to cite any proposition less obnoxious to science than that advanced by Hahnemann, to wit, that drugs which in large doses produced certain Symptoms, counteract them in very small doses, just as in modern practice it is found that a sufficiently small inoculation with typhoid rallies our powers to resist the disease instead of prostrating us with it. But Hahnemann and his followers were frantically persecuted for a Century by generations of apothecary-doctors whose incomes depended on the quantity of drugs they could induce their patients to swallow. These two cases of ordinary vaccination and homeopathy are typical of all the rest.

He continued: "Here we have the explanation of the savage rancor that so amazes people who imagine that the controversy concerning vaccination is a scientific one. It has really nothing to do with science. Under such circumstances vaccination would be defended desperately were it twice as dirty, dangerous and unscientific in method as it really is."

major figure in the development of bebop and modern jazz, and played a major role in defining Afro-Cuban jazz. Ultimately, Gillespie was a trumpet virtuoso and gifted improviser who added layers of harmonic complexity previously not heard in jazz. His unique style and look included a beret, horn-rimmed spectacles, scat singing, a bent horn, and pooched cheeks, matched by a wonderfully lighthearted personality that endeared many people to him and his music.

After being introduced to homeopathic medicine by his protege, Jon Faddis, Dizzy had such remarkable experiences that he once told Faddis: "I've had two revelations in my life. The first was bebop; the second was homeopathy."

Ravi Shankar (1920-) is a Bengali-Indian master musician of the sitar. He played a seminal role in the introduction of classical Indian music to Western culture. Initially, Shankar became famous due to being Beatle George Harrison's sitar teacher.

Ravi Shankar was another appreciator of homeopathy who not only sought homeopathic treatment wherever he lived but also on the road doing concerts. One Boston homeopath who treated him after a concert remarked how open he was with all around him about his strong preference for homeopathic treatment over all other forms of medicine.

Tina Turner (1939-), often called the queen of rock and roll, is an American pop, rock, and soul singer who has won seven Grammys. She has a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame and was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

It is hard to imagine, but during the early 1970s this powerful woman was literally brought to her knees by a diagnosis of tuberculosis. She initially sought conventional medical treatment, but continued to suffer, until she sought care from Chandra Sharma, MD, a homeopathic doctor in England. Tina considered him her doctor and her friend. He passed away in 1986, and she wrote in her autobiography: "I miss him more than I can say." Tina also noted: "Fortunately, his son, Rajandra, was his protege and is carrying on his work" (Turner, 1986, 156).

In 1985, *Vogue* magazine reported on Tina's longtime interest in

homeopathy and Buddhism: "Tina Turner looks about thirty-six, and her skin is flawless. She does not deprive herself. She sips wine at dinner, does not diet, does not take vitamins. If she's feeling particularly stressed, she consults a homeopathic doctor" (Orth, 1985).

In her autobiography, she wrote: "Life in the fast lane wore me down, changes in my diet and homeopathy saved me. Thanks to my homeopathic physician, for bringing me back to health and always being available for me" (Turner, 1986).

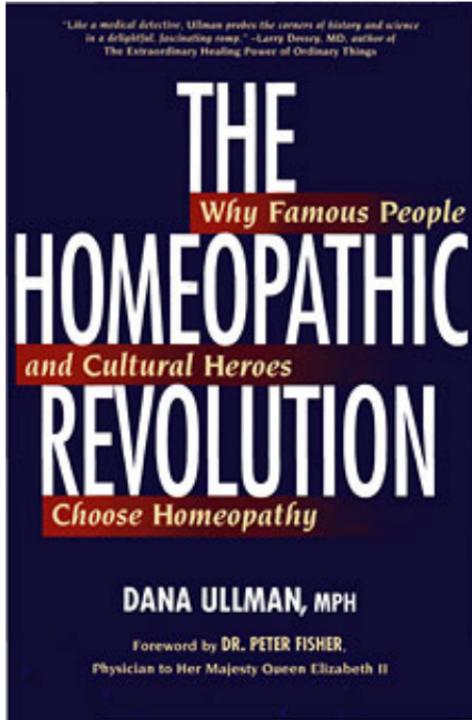
Paul McCartney (1942-), formally known as Sir James Paul McCartney, MBE, is best known as a member of the Beatles, and later, as leader of Wings. He is a British singer, musician, and songwriter who the *Guinness Book of World Records* lists as the most successful composer in popular music history. He has written or co-written more than fifty top-ten hits, and innumerable other music artists and orchestras have recorded his songs.

Paul's second wife, Linda Eastman (1941-1998), introduced her husband to vegetarianism in 1975, and she authored several best-selling vegetarian cookbooks. In a 1992 interview, Linda McCartney asserted: "We never go anywhere without our homeopathic remedies. We often make use of them—and that goes for Paul too" (Glew, 1992).

Linda's interest in homeopathy began when a friend broke her arm, and Linda was duly impressed at how fast the injury healed with homeopathic treatment. But it wasn't until she had her own case of tonsillitis that she actually tried homeopathy herself. She was prescribed a round of antibiotics that worked but only temporarily. She then went to a homeopathic doctor. Not only did her Symptoms go away rapidly, they never returned. She said, "We couldn't cope without homeopathy."

Sadly, Linda McCartney died in 1998 due to breast cancer.

George Harrison (1943-2001), also best known for being a member of the Beatles, was a British lead guitarist, singer, songwriter, record producer, and film producer. The Beatles songs that Harrison wrote and sang lead on include "If I Needed Someone," "Taxman," "While My Guitar Gently Weeps," "Here Comes the Sun," and "Something." After the



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