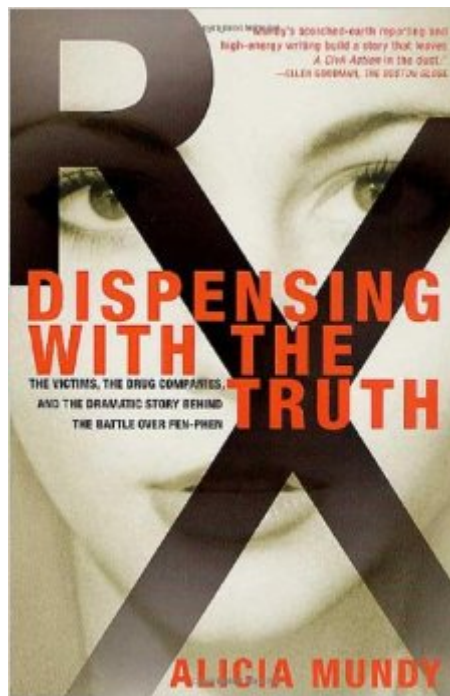


The book was found

Dispensing With The Truth: The Victims, The Drug Companies, And The Dramatic Story Behind The Battle Over Fen-Phen



Synopsis

Semi-finalist for the Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Book Award
In 1996, a terrible epidemic began killing young American women. Some died quickly, literally dropping in their steps. Others took more time, from a few months to a few years. Those who weren't killed suffered damage to their lungs and hearts, much of it permanent and reparable only with major surgery. Doctors suspected what the killer was. So did the Food and Drug Administration. The culprits were the two most popular diet drugs in the United States, Pondimin, one-half of the popular drug combination Fen-Phen, and Redux, a stronger version of Pondimin. They were also two of the most profitable drugs on the market, and both were produced and sold by a powerful pharmaceutical company, Wyeth-Ayerst, a division of American Home Products. *Dispensing the Truth* is the gripping story of what the drug really knew about its drugs, the ways it kept this information from the public, doctors, and FDA, and the massive legal battles that ensued as victims and their attorneys searched for the truth behind the debacle. It tells the story of a healthy young woman, Mary Linnen, who took the drugs for only twenty-three days to lose weight before her wedding, and then died in the arms of her fiancé a few months later. Hers was the first wrongful-death suit filed and would become the most important single suit the company would ever face. Alicia Mundy provides a shocking and thoroughly riveting narrative. It is a stark look at the consequences of greed and a cautionary tale for the future.

Book Information

Hardcover: 400 pages

Publisher: St. Martin's Press; 1st edition (May 11, 2001)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0312253249

ISBN-13: 978-0312253240

Product Dimensions: 6.3 x 1.4 x 9.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (25 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #254,035 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #11 in [Books > Law > Specialties > Personal Injury](#) #38 in [Books > Law > Rules & Procedures > Trial Practice](#) #273 in [Books > Textbooks > Law > Criminal Law](#)

Customer Reviews

This is a good read, especially in the beginning, but if you want to go beyond the courtroom drama and the legal aspects of the case, you have to read carefully. (Taking notes wouldn't hurt.) This is a

complex story, and one has to admire Alicia Mundy's skill in managing it while spinning out an engaging narrative. She succeeds by concentrating on one case, that of 29-year-old Mary Linnen, an Orchard Park, New York woman, who developed primary pulmonary hypertension (PPH) after using the Fen-Phen drug combination for a mere 23 days. There is no cure for PPH, and the treatments amount to something like sustained torture. Tragically, less than a year after diagnosis, Mary Linnen was dead. Within her story, Mundy focuses on two main characters. One is the engaging and colorful Alex MacDonald, the lead attorney representing Mary Linnen's estate, who along with many others sued American Home Products, the parent company of Wyeth-Ayerst, the distributors of Pondimin and Redux (one half of the deadly Fen-Phen diet cocktail), for wrongful death; and the other is Leo Lutwak, a well-meaning but ineffectual administrator at the Food and Drug Administration. But I think the real story here is the corporate mentality inside the drug companies that led to the tragedy, and the incompetence at the FDA that allowed it. Although I think Mundy concentrates too much on the lawyers in her narrative (she indicates in the "Acknowledgments" that she was inspired by Jonathan Harr's lawyer-centered *A Civil Action*), she is still able to give a complete story, but it takes some real effort on the part of the reader to get it all.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Dispensing with the Truth: The Victims, the Drug Companies, and the Dramatic Story Behind the Battle over Fen-Phen Multinational Drug Companies: Issues in Drug Discovery and Development Urgent Fury: The Battle for Grenada: The Truth Behind the Largest U.S. Military Operation Since Vietnam The Truth About Caffeine : How Companies That Promote It Deceive Us and What We Can Do About It Cholesterol:The Great Cholesterol Hoax: Why Cholesterol Lowering Drugs Won't Help You Live One Day Longer And Drug Companies Know It (Cholesterol diet, ... Cholesterol lowering foods,heart disease) The Battle for Leyte Gulf: The Incredible Story of World War II's Largest Naval Battle Holocaust: Surviving the Holocaust: The Tales of Survivors and Victims (Auschwitz, Holocaust, Survivor story, Jewish, Concentration Camps, Eyewitness account, Nazi Book 1) The Great Beanie Baby Bubble: The Amazing Story of How America Lost Its Mind Over a Plush Toy--and the Eccentric Genius Behind It The Great Escape: The Full Dramatic Story with Contributions from Survivors and Their Families First, Do No Harm: The Dramatic Story of Real Doctors and Patients Making Impossible Choices at a Big-City Hospital The Architecture of Story: A Technical Guide for the Dramatic Writer (Chicago Guides to Writing, Editing, and Publishing) Medical school: The dramatic true story of how four years turned a class of raw students into qualified physicians Story Drama in the Special Needs Classroom: Step-by-Step Lesson Plans for Teaching Through Dramatic Play Lost at Thaxton: The Dramatic True Story of Virginia's Forgotten

Train Wreck Unplanned: The Dramatic True Story of a Former Planned Parenthood Leader's
Eye-Opening Journey across the Life Line Thirteen Days in September: The Dramatic Story of the
Struggle for Peace Behind the Secrets (Behind the Lives Book 4) Fact, Fiction, and Flying Saucers:
The Truth Behind the Misinformation, Distortion, and Derision by Debunkers, Government Agencies,
and Conspiracy Conmen Hormone Lies and Thyroid Misunderstandings: A Medical Intuitive
Reveals the Truth Behind the World's Hormone and Thyroid Crisis Gambling:Just Stop Pressing
The Button: The Truth Behind our Gambling Addiction - What Most People Do Not Understand And
How You Stop Gambling Away Your Life

[Dmca](#)