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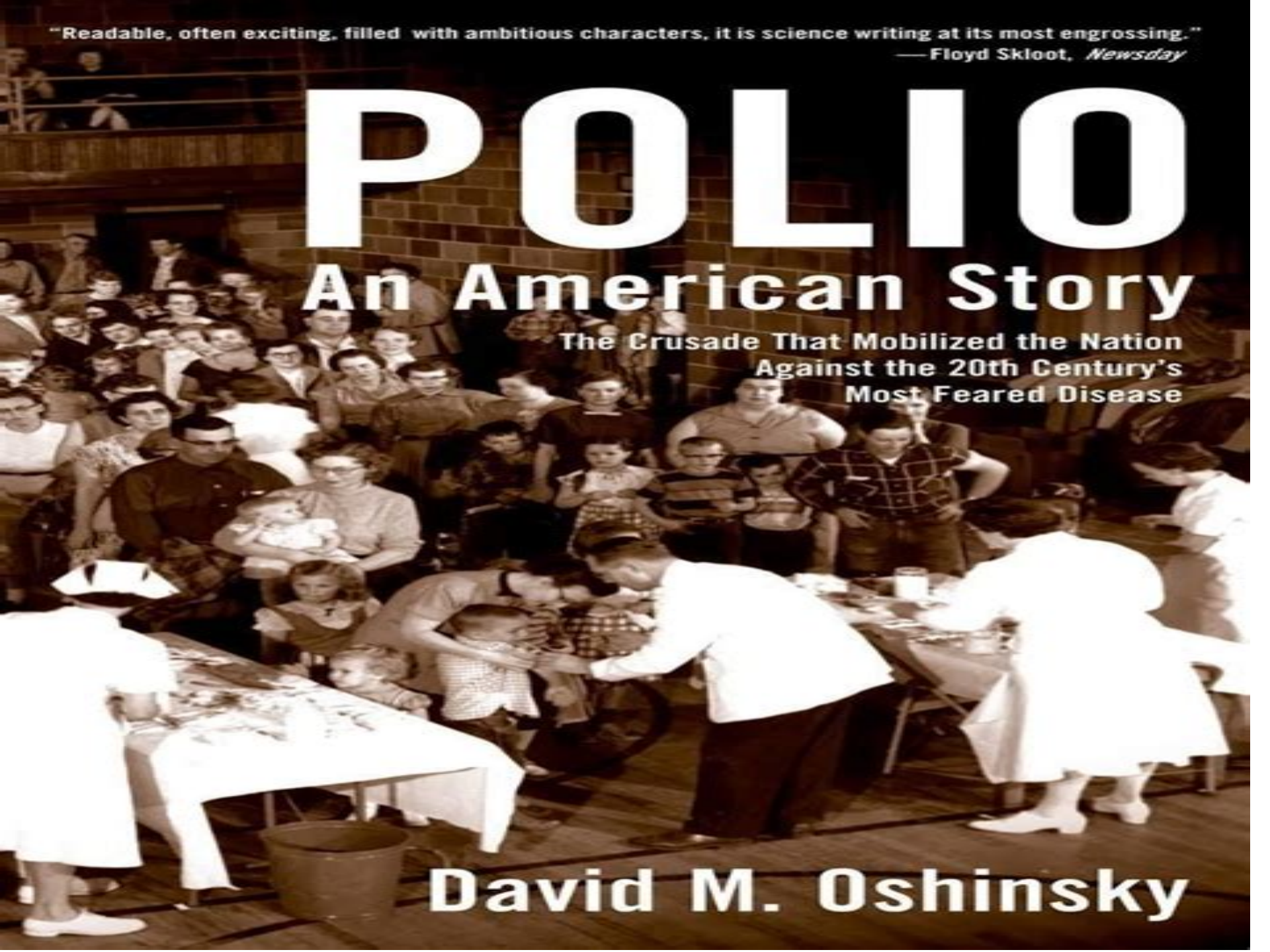
—Floyd Skloot, *Newsday*

POLIO

An American Story

The Crusade That Mobilized the Nation
Against the 20th Century's
Most Feared Disease

David M. Oshinsky



Polio An American Story

Thomas Abraham



Polio An American Story:

Polio David M. Oshinsky, 2005-04-12 Here David Oshinsky tells the gripping story of the polio terror and of the intense effort to find a cure from the March of Dimes to the discovery of the Salk and Sabin vaccines and beyond Drawing on newly available papers of Jonas Salk Albert Sabin and other key players Oshinsky paints a suspenseful portrait of the race for the cure weaving a dramatic tale centered on the furious rivalry between Salk and Sabin He also tells the story of Isabel Morgan perhaps the most talented of all polio researchers who might have beaten Salk to the prize if she had not retired to raise a family Oshinsky offers an insightful look at the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis which was founded in the 1930s by FDR and Basil O Connor it revolutionized fundraising and the perception of disease in America Oshinsky also shows how the polio experience revolutionized the way in which the government licensed and tested new drugs before allowing them on the market and the way in which the legal system dealt with manufacturers liability for unsafe products Finally and perhaps most tellingly Oshinsky reveals that polio was never the raging epidemic portrayed by the media but in truth a relatively uncommon disease But in baby booming America increasingly suburban family oriented and hygiene obsessed the specter of polio like the specter of the atomic bomb soon became a cloud of terror over daily life Both a gripping scientific suspense story and a provocative social and cultural history *Polio* opens a fresh window onto postwar America *Polio* Thomas

Abraham, 2018-09-01 In 1988 the World Health Organization launched a twelve year campaign to wipe out polio Thirty years and several billion dollars over budget later the campaign grinds on vaccinating millions of children and hoping that each new year might see an end to the disease But success remains elusive against a surprisingly resilient virus an unexpectedly weak vaccine and the vagaries of global politics meeting with indifference from governments and populations alike How did an innocuous campaign to rid the world of a crippling disease become a hostage of geopolitics Why do parents refuse to vaccinate their children against polio And why have poorly paid door to door healthworkers been assassinated Thomas Abraham reports on the ground in search of answers *Polio Across the Iron Curtain* Dóra Vargha, 2018-11-01 By the end of

the 1950s Hungary became an unlikely leader in what we now call global health Only three years after Soviet tanks crushed the revolution of 1956 Hungary became one of the first countries to introduce the Sabin vaccine into its national vaccination programme This immunization campaign was built on years of scientific collaboration between East and West in which scientists specimens vaccines and iron lungs crossed over the Iron Curtain Dóra Vargha uses a series of polio epidemics in communist Hungary to understand the response to a global public health emergency in the midst of the Cold War She argues that despite the antagonistic international atmosphere of the 1950s spaces of transnational corporation between blocs emerged to tackle a common health crisis At the same time she shows that epidemic concepts and policies were influenced by the very Cold War rhetoric that medical and political cooperation transcended This title is also available as Open Access

The Alcalde , 2006-07 As the magazine of the Texas Exes The Alcalde has united alumni and friends of The University of

Texas at Austin for nearly 100 years The Alcalde serves as an intellectual crossroads where UT's luminaries artists engineers executives musicians attorneys journalists lawmakers and professors among them meet bimonthly to exchange ideas Its pages also offer a place for Texas Exes to swap stories and share memories of Austin and their alma mater The magazine's unique name is Spanish for mayor or chief magistrate the nickname of the governor who signed UT into existence was The Old Alcalde

Shapers of American Childhood Kathy Merlock Jackson, Mark I. West, 2018-10-08 The experience of growing up in the U S is shaped by many forces Relationships with parents and teachers are deeply personal and definitive Social and economic contexts are broader and harder to quantify Key individuals in public life have also had a marked impact on American childhood These 18 new essays examine the influence of pivotal figures in the culture of 20th and 21st century childhood and child rearing from Benjamin Spock and Walt Disney to Ruth Handler Barbie's inventor and Ernest Thompson Seton founder of the Boy Scouts of America

Paralysed with Fear Gareth Williams, 2013-06-27 The story of mankind's struggle against polio is compelling exciting and full of twists and paradoxes One of the grand challenges of modern medicine it was a battleground between good and bad science Gareth Williams takes an original view of the journey to understanding and defeating polio

Rotary International and the Selling of American Capitalism Brendan Goff, 2021-07-06 A new history of Rotary International shows how the organization reinforced capitalist values and cultural practices at home and tried to remake the world in the idealized image of Main Street America Rotary International was born in Chicago in 1905 By the time World War II was over the organization had made good on its promise to girdle the globe Rotary International and the Selling of American Capitalism explores the meteoric rise of a local service club that brought missionary zeal to the spread of American style economics and civic ideals Brendan Goff traces Rotary's ideological roots to the business progressivism and cultural internationalism of the United States in the early twentieth century The key idea was that community service was intrinsic to a capitalist way of life The tone of service above self was often religious but as Rotary looked abroad it embraced Woodrow Wilson's secular message of collective security and international cooperation civic internationalism was the businessman's version of the Christian imperial civilizing mission performed outside the state apparatus The target of this mission was both domestic and global The Rotarian the organization's publication encouraged Americans to see the world as friendly to Main Street values and Rotary worked with US corporations to export those values Case studies of Rotary activities in Tokyo and Havana show the group paving the way for encroachments of US power economic political and cultural during the interwar years Rotary's evangelism on behalf of market friendly philanthropy and volunteerism reflected a genuine belief in peacemaking through the world's parliament of businessmen But as Goff makes clear Rotary also reinforced American power and interests demonstrating the tension at the core of US led internationalism

Doom Niall Ferguson, 2021-05-04 All disasters are in some sense man made Setting the annus horribilis of 2020 in historical perspective Niall Ferguson explains why we are getting worse not better at handling disasters Disasters are inherently hard to predict

Pandemics like earthquakes wildfires financial crises and wars are not normally distributed there is no cycle of history to help us anticipate the next catastrophe But when disaster strikes we ought to be better prepared than the Romans were when Vesuvius erupted or medieval Italians when the Black Death struck We have science on our side after all Yet in 2020 the responses of many developed countries including the United States to a new virus from China were badly bungled Why Why did only a few Asian countries learn the right lessons from SARS and MERS While populist leaders certainly performed poorly in the face of the COVID 19 pandemic Niall Ferguson argues that more profound pathologies were at work pathologies already visible in our responses to earlier disasters In books going back nearly twenty years including *Colossus The Great Degeneration* and *The Square and the Tower* Ferguson has studied the foibles of modern America from imperial hubris to bureaucratic sclerosis and online fragmentation Drawing from multiple disciplines including economics cliodynamics and network science *Doom* offers not just a history but a general theory of disasters showing why our ever more bureaucratic and complex systems are getting worse at handling them *Doom* is the lesson of history that this country indeed the West as a whole urgently needs to learn if we want to handle the next crisis better and to avoid the ultimate doom of irreversible decline

The Story of a Heart Rachel Clarke, 2024-09-10 Winner of the Women's Prize for Nonfiction Shortlisted for the Baillie Gifford Prize An unforgettable and inspiring true story of how one family's grief transformed into a lifesaving gift written by a bestselling author and palliative care doctor The first of our organs to form and the last to die the heart is both a simple pump and the symbol of what makes us human as long as it continues to beat there is hope In *The Story of a Heart* Dr Rachel Clarke blends the history of medical innovations behind transplant surgery with the story of two children one of whom desperately needs a new heart One summer day nine year old Keira Ball was in a terrible car accident and suffered catastrophic brain injuries As the rest of her body began to shut down her heart continued to beat In an act of extraordinary generosity Keira's parents and siblings immediately agreed that she would have wanted to be an organ donor Meanwhile nine year old Max Johnson had been in a hospital for nearly a year valiantly fighting the virus that was causing his young heart to fail When Max's parents received the call they had been hoping for they knew it came at a terrible cost to another family in what Clarke calls the brutal arithmetic of transplant surgery The act of Keira's heart resuming its rhythm inside Max's body was a medical miracle But this was only part of the story While waiting on the transplant list Max had become the hopeful face of a campaign to change the UK's laws around organ donation Following his successful surgery Keira's mother saw the little boy beaming on the front page of the newspaper and knew it was the same boy whose parents had recently sent her an anonymous letter overflowing with gratitude for her daughter's heart The two mothers began to exchange messages and eventually decided to meet In this profoundly moving and beautiful humane book Rob Delaney Clarke relates the urgent journey of Keira's heart and explores the history of the remarkable surgery that made it possible stretching back over a century and involving the knowledge and dedication of surgeons nurses and technicians immunologists and paramedics A

powerful tale of two families linked by one heart The Story of a Heart is a testament to compassion for the dying the many ways we honor our loved ones and the tenacity of love The Polio Years in Texas Heather Green Wooten,2009 From the 1930s to the 1950s in response to the rising epidemic of paralytic poliomyelitis polio Texas researchers led a wave of discoveries in virology rehabilitative therapies and the modern intensive care unit that transformed the field nationally The disease threatened the lives of children and adults in the United States especially in the South arousing the same kind of fear more recently associated with AIDS and other dread diseases Houston and Harris County Texas had the second highest rate of infection in the nation and the rest of the Texas Gulf Coast was particularly hard hit by this debilitating illness At the time little was known but eventually the medical responses to polio changed the medical landscape forever Polio also had a sweeping cultural and societal effect It engendered fearful responses from parents trying to keep children safe from its ravages and an all out public information blitz aimed at helping a frightened population protect itself The disease exacted a very real toll on the families friends healthcare resources and social fabric of those who contracted the disease and endured its acute convalescent and rehabilitation phases In The Polio Years in Texas Heather Green Wooten draws on extensive archival research as well as interviews conducted over a five year period with Texas polio survivors and their families This is a detailed and intensely human account of not only the epidemics that swept Texas during the polio years but also of the continuing aftermath of the disease for those who are still living with its effects Public health and medical professionals historians and interested general readers will derive deep and lasting benefits from reading The Polio Years in Texas

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