# The Science and the Story of the Drugs That Changed Our Minds



X-Ray : Enabled Word Wise : Enabled Print length : 417 pages



From the ancient use of opium to the modern-day development of antidepressants, psychoactive drugs have played a profound role in human history. In this fascinating book, author Michael Pollan explores the science, history, and cultural impact of these powerful substances.

Pollan begins by tracing the history of drug use, from the earliest evidence of opium use in ancient Mesopotamia to the development of modern pharmaceuticals. He then examines the science of drug addiction, explaining how drugs work on the brain and why some people are more likely to become addicted than others.

Pollan also explores the cultural impact of drugs, discussing how they have been used in religious rituals, as tools of war, and as sources of inspiration for artists and writers. He argues that drugs have played a complex and often contradictory role in human society, both helping and harming individuals and communities.

The Science and the Story of the Drugs That Changed Our Minds is a must-read for anyone interested in the complex relationship between drugs and the human mind. Pollan's writing is clear and engaging, and he provides a wealth of fascinating information on the history, science, and cultural impact of psychoactive drugs.

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- Chapter 2: The Science of Drug Addiction
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### Reviews

"A fascinating and thought-provoking exploration of the complex relationship between drugs and the human mind." - The New York Times

"Pollan's writing is clear, engaging, and full of fascinating information." -The Washington Post

"A must-read for anyone interested in the history, science, or cultural impact of drugs." - The Guardian

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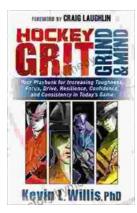
Print length

Blue Dreams: The Science and the Story of the Drugs	
that Changed Our Minds by Lauren Slater	
Language	: English
File size	: 2891 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
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