

PLB 75

# rats, lice and history



hans zinsser

*Here, in the "biography" of a disease  
which has altered the course of history,  
a unique mind comments wisely and  
wittily on war and civilization. Of  
the author, one reviewer said, "He belongs  
to the school of Dr. Rabelais..."*



complete and unabridged



a bantam classic

Hans Zinsser

## Rats, Lice and History



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This book met all of my expectations, and more ... A Compelling Read I love this publication!! Originally published in 1934, it has withstood the test of period. Dr Zinsser shines through on every web page, rendering it highly readable and also good technology (and sociology) history. Five Stars Fascinating history of critters all of us don't believe about, but should! The first and best My all-time favorite history-and-disease book. I highly recommend it. This book is a pretty short, quick read, therefore if you are interested in the history of rodents, bugs, and disease, take a look. This book is approximately how "vermin" have influenced humans throughout history, and why we have specific perceptions about rodents and insects. The book is fairly comprehensive, covering human history from the birth of agriculture to the industrial age for this day. I believe of rodents as misunderstood, so this actually resonated with me and helped me realize why some people hate them so very much. Required book, good read Despite the fact that this book was required for a class, I found it to be entertaining and informative. A one-of-a-kind book Interesting and witty read. For anybody interested in the annals of Typhus Fever, or simply the transmission of disease generally. And/or for people thinking about history and/or research. Had the author continued to write as he do in the early part of the book, I would have already been delighted. Initial read it as a teen many a long time ago, and it probably played a component in focusing my curiosity in biology. It was interesting to learn the stories of how illnesses and parasites had played major roles in the history of the world. This book met all of my expectations, and more. A remarkable book. Clearly, the writer loves his subject. His writing is definitely sly, witty and beneficial, as he draws the reader directly into a developing appreciation of this unusual subject. Five Stars great Enlightening Not every publication leaves you wiser than when you began. I assumed that I'd truly enjoy reading this classic As an infectious illnesses expert, I assumed that I'd truly enjoy scanning this classic. It makes sense out of the equipment of history which are often neglected by the historians. That one will. A one-of-a-kind reserve. Chapter V, specifically, was a fun read in which Zinsser discusses about "dealing more particularly with so-called new diseases," something that ought to be examine by anyone who is studying or conducting study on what's now referred to as "emerging illnesses." The next chapter can be worthwhile reading. He summarizes the topics covered in Chapter VI as ""Diseases of the ancient world: a consideration of the epidemic illnesses which afflicted the historic world, with efforts at producing diagnoses which, if they are difficult to make at the distance of one thousand years, are equally difficult under the circumstances to disprove. Though this might appear another unnecessary postponement of our biography, it represents our work to look for the antiquity of typhus." But it had not been to be. I dutifully examine chapter after chapter with the entire expectation that classic MUST make contact with the kind of fun, interesting discussions that were to be found in the early portion of the book. Illness isn't a punishment Studying it and taking a class on the Sociology of health insurance and Illness really helped myself understand the nature of disease. Really worth reading. A classic. Really worth reading. A traditional. I wrote a paper for college on this reserve and received a 98!



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