

# Midrash & Medicine: Healing Body and Soul in the Jewish Interpretive Tradition

William Cutter



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Midrash & Medicine: Healing Body and Soul in the Jewish Interpretive Tradition William Cutter Midrash provides a revolutionary guide through the most difficult passages of our life stories.

"While healing often seems out of reach and achieving wholeness seems impossible, our midrashic texts teach that hope is always there.... Biblical characters, especially as enhanced through midrashic interpretation, are like relatives and old friends.... We cannot escape seeing [them] as human beings standing at the crossroads of their lives in situations that are very much our own."

—from Chapter 2

This groundbreaking volume examines the spiritual shortfalls of our current healing environment and explores how midrash can help you see beyond the physical aspects of healing to tune in to your spiritual source.

Pushing the boundaries of Jewish knowledge, physicians, rabbis, social workers, psychologists and philosophers investigate the role of midrashic thinking in addressing seemingly intractable social and personal issues. Topics discussed include:

- \* How metaphors and parables can aid healing
- \* How Jewish tradition can inform and enrich health, hospice and nursing-home care
- \* New ways of reading Jewish texts in the discussion of medical ethics
- \* The role of community in addressing aging, loss and suffering.



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