

Slaying the Dragon

The History of Addiction Treatment and Recovery in America

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Chestnut Health Systems. *Slaying the Dragon: The History of Addiction Treatment and Recovery in America* (Second Edition) Author: William L. White The product of more than 35 years of research, the Second Edition of *Slaying the Dragon* is the remarkable story of America's personal and institutional responses to alcoholism and other addictions. It is the story of mutual aid societies spanning Native American recovery circles, the Washingtonians, the Ribbon Reform Clubs, Twelve Step Fellowships and more recent secular and religious mutual aid alternatives. It is also the story of the rise of a new addiction recovery advocacy movement that promises to transform the future of addiction treatment and recovery in the United States and beyond.

I. THE RISE OF ADDICTION AND PERSONAL RECOVERY MOVEMENTS IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY -- THE SEEDS OF ADDICTION MEDICINE AND PERSONAL RECOVERY MOVEMENTS -- Early American drinking -- Benjamin Rush and the birth of the American disease concept of alcoholism -- A new republic on a binge -- The rise and evolution of the American temperance movement -- The birth of addiction treatment in America -- the rise of the American temperance movement -- It is the story of evolving treatment interventions that range from water cures and mandatory sterilization to aversion therapies and methadone maintenance.