



The Chemical Tree: A History of Chemistry (Norton History of Science)

By William H. Brock

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From alchemy to industry, a synthetic history of chemistry through the ages.

In this authoritative volume, a *New York Times* Notable Book of 1993, scientific researcher and historian William Brock recounts the astonishing rise of a sophisticated science. Tracing the roots of chemistry back to the alchemists' futile attempts to turn lead into gold, he follows the emergence of the modern study of chemistry through the works of Boyle, Lavoisier, and Dalton, and the twentieth-century breakthroughs of Linus Pauling and others. This timely, comprehensive history examines the shifting conceptions of chemistry over the past centuries--from its development as a scientific philosophy to, more recently, its practical applications in the commercial, industrial arena. Originally published under the title *The Norton History of Chemistry*. Illustrated

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Review

A book to be read and re-read, and an excellent addition to the literature of the subject. -- *Choice*

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Timely . . . an astonishing tour de force. . . . [Dr. Brock] has mastered an enormous amount of material, and worked it into an accessible form. -- *The Times [London] Literary Supplement*

About the Author

William H. Brock is Reader in the History of Science at the University of Leicester.

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