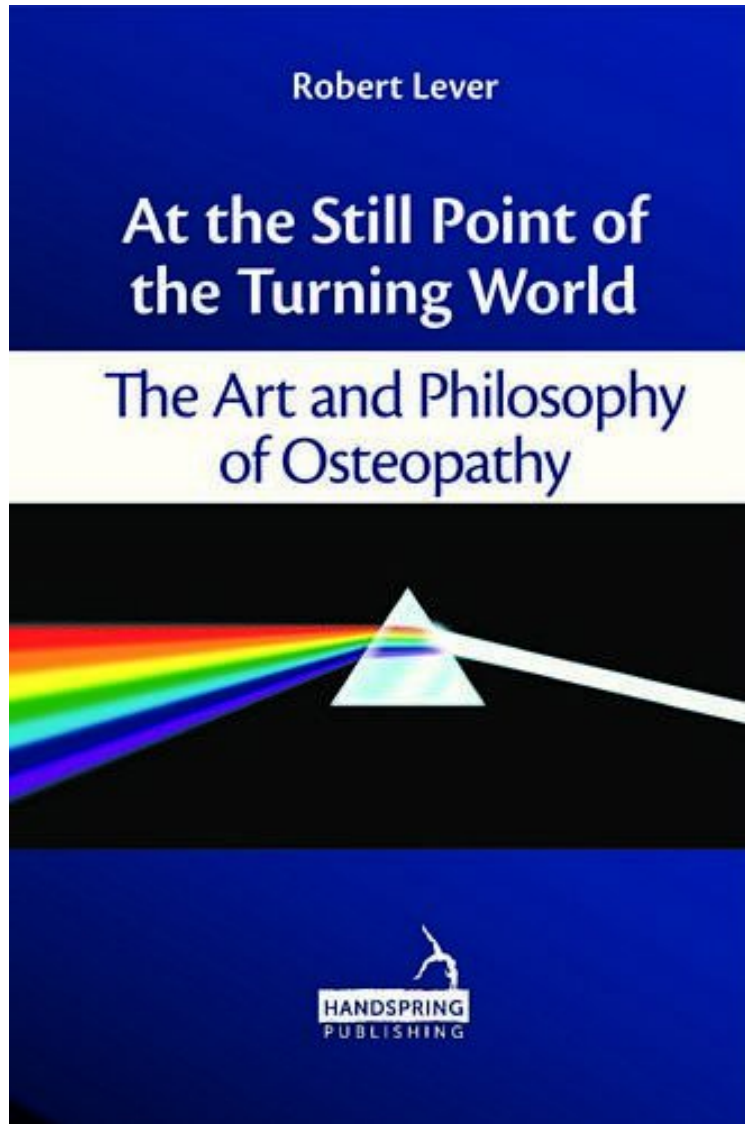


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At the Still Point of the Turning World: The Art and Philosophy of Osteopathy

Robert Lever

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Robert Lever : At the Still Point of the Turning World: The Art and Philosophy of Osteopathy before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised At the Still Point of the Turning World: The Art and Philosophy of Osteopathy:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Osteopathic Philosophy ExplicationBy Hollis H. King, D.O., Ph.D.At the Still Point of the Turning World: The Art and Philosophy of OsteopathyBy Robert LeverNo matter where

you are in the world, if you are an osteopath, osteopathic physician, a patient of one of the foregoing, or a faculty member of an osteopathic training institution, the philosophy of osteopathy has confronted you at some point. For those involved in some way with the professions of osteopathic medicine or osteopathy, the Lever book is most helpful in refining and developing ones own thoughts about osteopathic philosophy. As one who has taken a crack at writing about osteopathic philosophy myself, certain thoughts came to my mind as I read along, I couldnt have said it better myself, and My-my, I never looked at that idea in quite that way before. The reader will be rewarded with an enriched data base and perspective on osteopathic philosophy. In the Foreword it is suggested that Robert Lever writes from a British perspective, but his is a truly universal osteopathic perspective. Regardless of the degree or initials one has after their name, or on which side of the Atlantic Ocean one resides, a critical contribution to osteopathic philosophy and to the understanding of the cranial concept in osteopathic medicine is made in this book. It is not a fast read as the integration of relevant philosophical ideas such as from Quantum Physics is placed alongside and melded into Sutherlands formulation of the Five Phenomena of the Primary Respiratory Mechanism. Thought provoking discussions are had throughout the various chapters. One of my favorites is in the chapter titled Reciprocity, Relationship, Spaces. Lever states, the concept of interconnectedness, or reciprocity of function, is not anathema to conventional medical theorists. It is simply that so often, the therapeutic approach that is implemented is extremely targeted and linear, and in this sense, the body is not always treated with respect to its unity. Lever holds that osteopathy, and I also maintain osteopathic medicine, contributes the necessary professional service to better healthcare delivery in any context and should be allowed, yes even encouraged, to be more widely taught in all venues or professions which purport to treat the human condition. I recommend the book to any physician or healthcare practitioner anywhere in the world, especially if that practitioner uses their hands in delivery of healthcare.

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. A considered view from an experienced osteopath

By gezlamb
Book Review by Gerald (Gez) Lamb DO, London
At the Still Point of the Turning World: The Art and Philosophy of Osteopathy
Author: Robert Lever (Publisher: Handspring Publishing 2013)
This book is long overdue and is written by a practitioner who has had over 40 years experience in practice and as a teacher of osteopathic principle. It is in a field of its own because it is about the essence of osteopathy; the principles, the art and the philosophy. Organised into three parts it is required reading for every osteopath; for those who truly already know, but have never been able to put it into words, for those who think they know but are willing to keep an open mind and for those who don't know that they don't know but are open to a challenge.

In Part 1 on 'Principles' Robert lever presents an overview of osteopathy; its history, its models, its scope and its potential, starting with the way in which osteopathy is perceived and taught, from A.T. Still through to the present encompassing every concept, model and technique approach from gross structure through fascia to the cellular level to include quantum physics, coherence and entrainment. The reader is left with a sense of the whole field of osteopathy and the principles that support the practice of it.

In Part 2, the art of the practitioner and the therapeutic effect are brought to light. Here the author puts the ineffable into words. The reader is left with a sense of how it is that treatment really works.

In Part 3 the author shares his personal philosophy about how healing works as a reflection of the state of 'being' of both practitioner and patient and the relationship between them. This book covers everything you always wanted to know about osteopathy but just couldn't find the words to ask the question. Be prepared to read it more than once.

Gez Lamb, July 2013

Provides an important contribution to the ongoing debate about the scope and approach of osteopathy (mechanistic vs psychological/spiritual). Looks at the dichotomy between the spirit and the science within osteopathy. Argues that the most effective care is given when a skilled practitioner combines technical skill with empathy, compassion and a still, listening attitude. Suggests that while hard research and clinical evidence provide important underpinning it is the human qualities of wisdom and compassion which can develop osteopathy into an art. Based on over 40 years' experience as a dedicated practitioner and a gifted teacher. At a time when the debate is more open and lively than ever this book is very timely.

What the ers Say "This is a unique text. It contains a remarkable mix. The scientific perspectives have probably never [before] been gathered together in one place. This is priceless, and makes the book essential reading for the intelligent osteopath. " Harold S Klug DO, Osteopathy practitioner, London, UK. "For those who have ears to listen and eyes to read it will probably become the most inspiring osteopathic book of their lives and careers!" Paolo Tozzi MSc Ost FT, Osteopathy teacher, Italy. "This book is long overdue and is a contribution to osteopathic thought and philosophy which has never before been so eloquently stated." Gerald Lamb BSc(Lond) DO, Osteopathy Practitioner, London, UK and International Lecturer. "[This book] will become a classic text of 'must reads' for those who think - . " Nicholas Handoll DO MSCC, Osteopathy practitioner, Hereford UK.

About the Author Robert Lever BA DO is a highly-skilled and well-respected practising osteopath with over 40 years' of experience in providing holistic and compassionate care. He is also a gifted and empathetic teacher who strives to share with his students the understanding of the background science and philosophy of osteopathy which is essential for the effective delivery of care. For over 35 years he lectured on the Principles of Osteopathic Practice at European School of Osteopathy, Maidstone, UK which later awarded him

its Medal of Honour for services to osteopathic education.