



Real Alchemy: A Primer of Practical Alchemy

Robert Allen Bartlett

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A ground-breaking modern manual on an ancient art, *Real Alchemy* draws on both modern scientific technology and ancient methods. A laboratory scientist and chemist, Robert Allen Bartlett provides an overview of the history of alchemy, as well as an exploration of the theories behind the practice. Clean, clear, simple, and easy to read, *Real Alchemy* provides excellent directions regarding the production of plant products and transitions the reader-student into the basics of mineral work--what some consider the true domain of alchemy. New students to practical laboratory alchemy will enjoy reading *Real Alchemy* and hopefully find the encouragement needed to undertake their own alchemical journey. Bartlett also explains what the ancients really meant when they used the term "Philosopher's Stone" and describes several very real and practical methods for its achievement. Is the fabled Philosopher's Stone an elixir of long life or is it a method of transforming lead into gold? Judge for yourself.

Real Alchemy: A Primer of Practical Alchemy Details

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From Reader Review Real Alchemy: A Primer of Practical Alchemy for online ebook

Suzanna Marlow says

A wonderful primer on practical alchemy that is clear and concise. This is my second read through, and I learn something new every time.

Edric Unsane says

A very good look at practical Alchemy. If you are interested in the process which led to modern chemistry, then this is the book for you.

Elizabeth Kolodziej says

This book is just ..inspiring for me. It really helped me when I was writing my second book (sequel to Vampyre Kisses). This book is so informative! It gives not only the history of Alchemy but explains how Alchemy works today and gives a few home recipes you can try. On top of this the author himself is so helpful! He actually teaches this in the classroom! If only I lived in Washington. :)

Michael says

The Mother of All Science

Real Alchemy by Robert Allen Bartlett

The book gives you the unspoken promise of understanding, it gives the reader a brief history of the author, alchemy, and processes/applications for alchemy.

The author writes as if what you do with the introduction to alchemy is up to you as far as the writer is concerned. The book accomplishes exactly what it feels like it was set out to be written about, it feels complete in an introduction and nothing is skipped, other than what the procedures and experiments can do for you. I feel like they are short lived and I wish the process of what each experiment can do for you and for the world was explained more, and the author's views. The author is uniquely qualified to write this book because he has studied alchemy since he was 12, he gave collage classes on the subject. he started studying it when he was 12, in 1974 he began intensive study of alchemy at the Paracelsus Research Society, which was later renamed Paracelsus college, in Salt Lake City Utah. He was instructed by Dr. Albert Reidel, who was a practical alchemist of the twentieth century. He graduated a chemistry university in 1979, was appointed chief chemist at paralab and remained that until its closure in 1983.

The tone of this book is informative with excitement from the author's voice.

Personally, I loved this book, I think it had everything I was looking for, for my introduction to the alchemical arts. There was nothing too complex where just thinking about it didn't make sense of it. I think it was well written well voiced, extremely well researched and well explained. The book answered all the initial question I had about alchemy and helped develop new questions theories and ideas, it also tied up

loose ends. I would recommend this book for anyone who would want to learn what alchemy really is, and start a journey on the path to a modern day alchemist. And also abolish the negative untrue stereotypes about Alchemy.

This book was written so that if anyone who picks it up they can immediately jump into reading it and could relate to if they have an open mind and have the desire to learn, I don't believe that was the main focus, I believe the author did that without realization of that fact, and simply wrote to explain to students young and old. My favorite part of this book was the history, the application and the exclamation of alchemy. Also the quotes were super interesting, and still had relevance today. I can't say that I had a least favorite part of the book, the author covered a lot of material in just a few chapters, compared to what explaining alchemy consists of. If I could change anything about this book. It would be how little the author writes about his personal journey, and the if the applications for the processes described were more in-depth, along with the author's personal take on each practice described. Although I understand, they were more focused on what alchemy is and what it can do, I would have liked to been able to look through a keyhole of what the author has experienced. There are illustrations and diagrams in this book, which the diagrams are extremely useful and helpful for better understanding. But the illustrations are mostly there for Aesthetic, and are just interesting to have in the book.

I have and would recommend this book to anyone who is looking for a foundation to alchemy, it's simple to understand, everything's black and white for the reader and for learning the material, there is no beating around to get to the big picture. I think the type of reader who would enjoy this book is one that wants to learn, who is willing to put in the time to understand and dissect it. Anyone who i would recommend this book to would also have to be very open minded, there are a lot of concepts in the book that are going to seem outrageous and impossible, to have happened or be able to have happened.

Layo says

This is a revealing, accurate, complete, and concise (in some cases, nearly terse) set of instructions for performing practical alchemical experiments. In it, the author demystifies the code words that veiled the writings of the ancient philosophers, which is a great favor - they are so veiled that they have been taken to be mystical metaphor rather than descriptions of physical operations. He presents a down-to-earth guide for making medicinal preparations from herbs and metals, and even for creating the philosopher's stone and performing transmutations. The book contains an explanation of philosophical principles but does not dwell on the abstract. What I love about this author is that he makes things no more difficult than they need to be, and points to seeds of further development such as astrology and qabalah without belaboring them. This is great because he doesn't give the student opportunity to avoid the real work by distracting him or herself with emotionally and intectually appealing speculation. His approach is concete: if you want to get benefit from this book, you will get out of the armchair. This approach offers not knowledge, but understanding that leads to wisdom.

By the time you begin reading about the mineral works, you'll probably be wishing for a more expanded explanation, or even a series of videos; though the instructions are clear, the operations are difficult to visualize for the novice. This is not a flaw in the work, but an example of the way alchemy conceals herself to the casual intellect yet reveals herself to the hand at work. My experience of practical alchemy is that the process of doing the simple experiments makes the more advanced methods comprehensible: the only real way into this work is to start doing it. This author is a consummate practitioner, and his instructions can be relied upon to be descriptions of the work as he has done it and at which he has succeeded. I've met him and

watched him perform both plant and mineral operations, and attest to the veracity of his writings. In my own work so far, I praise the efficacy of Art in creating internal change. It is worth the effort required to understand and perform these operations.

Rana Adham says

This book is a great start for anyone wishing to learn about the obscure art of Alchemy. My only complaint is that it concentrates more on practical applications than on theoretical ideas. I would have loved to know what the "medical uses" are for some of these tinctures, or how to ingest them for example. Are they formulated into pills or made into potions?

However, I'm glad I found such a source to begin with, and I would definitely be exploring the subject more deeply.

Wiz Garber says

I'm prejudiced, since I'm the publisher of the first edition and I edited the manuscript.

Nancy Goldberg Wilks says

There was alot in this book that went over my head, but it was fun! I felt like I was reading a modern day alchemical manuscript!

Stefania says

A friend recommended this book, and I tried to give it a fair chance since I did not know anything about alchemy. I thought it was just a psychological/spiritual metaphor of sorts, as I read in some psychology books.

Aside from some interesting theoretical concepts in the first few chapters (I loved the chapter on astrology), the rest sounded a lot like nonsense to me. Also, I find it pretty irresponsible to write a book to give "instructions" to people on how to play with liquid mercury or prepare powdered glass to drink. Like, NO, do not do those things, it doesn't take a degree in chemistry to know that that's dangerous.

Mia Morrison says

A nice beginner's guide with some skimmed history and words of the masters - it certainly allows me to learn more about it all before I delve deeper, though I do wish he had dedicated less time to talking about the Philosopher's Stone - I strongly felt that took away from some of it, but I suppose he's o doubt pushing it like that for the hopes of drawing in another generation and offering caution, especially with the

misinformation of the internet, some an irony due to the designs used to hide it in the Middle Ages. But still, a good read for a good start I think. ^_^

Isaac says

This book gives some very detailed accounts of the practice of the Art.
The style is simple and clear.

Hans says

Alchemy is not what most people think. I'll leave it at that.

King of the Salts = Niter = Potassium Nitrate

Vitriol = six pointed star = Copper or Iron Sulfate (The True mineral salt or red and white spirits)

VISITA INTERIORA TERRAE RECTIFICANDO INVENIES OCCULTUM LAPIDEM

Visit the interior of the earth and rectifying, you will find the hidden stone.

Sal Ammoniac = star / sun -

Alum = Lantern = Sulfate of potassium and aluminum $KAL(SO_4)_2$

Salt = Key - Sodium Chloride (NaCl)

Patrick Andersen says

An interesting and compelling basic treatise of laboratory alchemy from a practitioner.
