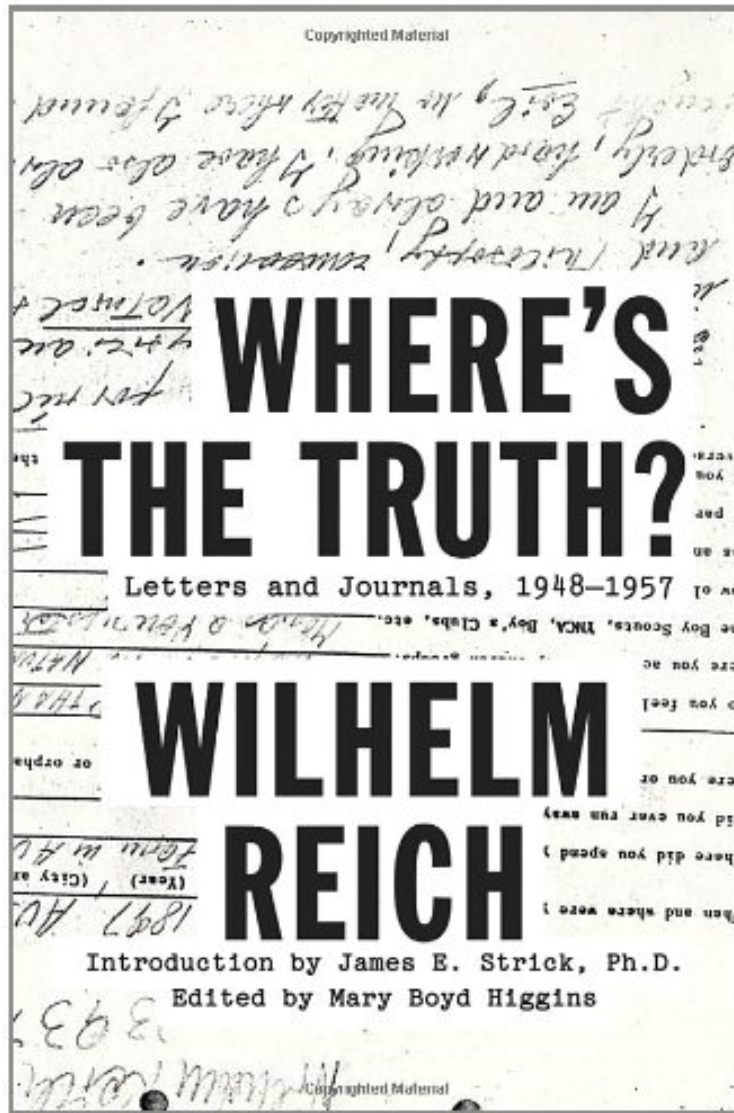


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Where's the Truth?: Letters and Journals, 1948-1957

Wilhelm Reich

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Wilhelm Reich : Where's the Truth?: Letters and Journals, 1948-1957 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Where's the Truth?: Letters and Journals, 1948-1957:

26 of 27 people found the following review helpful. Inspirational. By Richard Schulman I have finished my first read. Having read most of Dr. Reich's books, been in his Therapy I know his discoveries have found real, moment to moment truth in my life. There will always be people who have not truly experienced his work and as such I will leave them like the FDA to there own ends. Given my great admiration for Dr. Reich and yes I loved reading Where's The

Truth, I was disappointed in not finding out more details how Dr. Reich coped with his isolation. How did he cope with day to day prison life? There were many rumors of how he did cope but no refutation in this book. Dr. Reich had tremendous courage in standing up to the FDA and the Emotional Plague and I was glad to read in the excellent Introduction by Dr. Strick of Strick's outrage. I read the journal over a period of a week, and savored each detailed year and thank the the Editors for there respect and love of Dr. Reich. The personal papers of Dr. Reich were given the attention that the great man deserved. I appreciated learning of Dr. Reich's new found love for painting, and understood how he would synthesize his visual acuity into new hypotheses. There is lots of legal briefs and interesting love letters to Grethe Hoff (Myron Sharaf's ex wife) and an insightful view into Ilsa Ollendorffs marriage to Reich. One sees how horrendously the United States and The FDA pursued Dr. Reich and ultimately ignored what was right, motivated by the usual pharmaceutical greed, imprisoned and helped destroy the Twentieth Century most overlooked genius. Reading the personal Letters of Dr. Reich was an honor, and a privilege. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. superbBy ge_nycsuperb3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy acting teacherthe man is a genius and everyone should read him

Where's the Truth? is the fourth and final volume of Wilhelm Reich's autobiographical writings, drawn from his diaries, letters, and laboratory notebooks. These writings reveal the details of the outrider scientist's life?his joys and sorrows, his hopes and insecurities?and chronicle his experiments with what he called "orgone energy." A student of Freud's and a prominent research physician in the early psychoanalytic movement, Reich immigrated to America in 1939 in flight from Nazism, and pursued research about orgone energy functions in the living organism and the atmosphere. Where's the Truth? begins in January 1948, shortly after Reich became a target of the Federal Food and Drug Administration. He had already faced persecution by the U.S. government, having been mistaken by the State Department and the FBI for both a Communist and a Nazi. Starting in 1947, Reich was hounded by the FDA, which, in 1954, obtained an injunction by default against him that enabled it to burn six tons of his published books and research journals, and to ban the use of one of his most important experimental research tools?the orgone energy accumulator. Challenging the right of a court to judge basic scientific research, Reich was imprisoned in March 1957 and died in the U.S. Penitentiary in Lewisburg, Pennsylvania, eight months later. The text gathered here shows Reich's steadfast determination to protect his work. "Where's the truth?" he asked a lawyer, and that question animates this volume and rounds out our understanding of a unique, irrepressible modern figure.

About the Author Wilhelm Reich's many works include Character Analysis, The Function of the Orgasm, The Cancer Biopathy, Cosmic Superimposition, and earlier autobiographical writings: Passion of Youth, American Odyssey, and Beyond Psychology?all published by FSG. An early disciple of Freud's, he came to America in 1939, published The Function of the Orgasm in 1942, and died in 1957. Excerpt. © Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved. WHERE'S THE TRUTH? (1948) 7 January 1948 In the beginning of one's task one is enthusiastic about helping mankind. At the end of the same task one is worn out and has lost most or all of the enthusiasm. Humanity, for whose benefit one believed to fight, has put too many dangerous obstacles in one's path. One had to risk breaking one's neck in overcoming these obstacles. Disillusionment has overcome the searcher and helper. Humanity itself through its pestilent sergeants has obstructed its own benefits. Therefore the inventor or searcher acquires that definite expression of suffering and sorrow in his face (Beethoven, Galileo, Freud), which indicates that the enthusiasm to help has been replaced by ardent adherence to truth beyond any immediate practical interests. 17 January 1948 Cancer book printed--published. It is an honest book. *Investigation by Food and Drug still going on. 24 January 1948 No legal action against FDA possible. Advice from Hays office + To Physician Students 26 January 1948 Dear Dr. I have been informed that the investigators of the Food and Drug Administration are trying now to question patients whom you treat psychiatrically. It is my duty to inform you that the patients must be protected from irresponsible inquiries into their private lives. Would you be kind enough to instruct all your patients that they should restrict the investigators to matters pertaining to the accumulator and definitely refuse to answer any questions such as: "How much they pay the doctor," or "Why they went to the doctor," or "With whom they associate," "Where they were born and brought up," etc., etc. Such questions by the inspectors of the F.D.A. are illegal; they have nothing to do with the object of the investigation. Protect medical secrecy. 27 January 1948 Stop of all investigation through FDA by refusing to answer any questions at all. With the FDA the mechanistic world view tried to kill the functional attitude. The development of materialistic philosophy proceeded from fundamental questions not of a mechanical nature but, strangely enough, of a psychological nature. What is sensation? How can matter experience itself? To what is sensation bound? It was on these questions, and not on purely material questions, that scientific minds parted company with metaphysical and mystical minds, and that every dispute flared up about the correct view of the world and the events occurring in it. Because it was clear right from the start that it is only our sensation of events and things that holds the key to the deep mysteries of understanding nature. Sensation is the sieve through which the self is in contact with the world within and outside itself. All our perceptions and our judgments about the world and ourselves depend on the nature of this sieve. The sieve is the outermost limit that delineates the living orgonotic system in the orgone ocean; through the holes in

the sieve, the experiencing organism communicates with the cosmic orgone ocean.*To Dr. Werner kemper30 January 1948Dear Dr. Kemper,I have received your letter of 29 December and was very pleased to hear that the parcels have finally reached you. We sent you a fourth food parcel last week and likewise a parcel of books was sent to you via Willi Brandt* in Berlin. These books also include one called "The Cancer Biopathy" which covers the work done over the last 14 years on organic biopathies. I hope that you will embrace the discovery of orgone.+ It sounds incredible, but it is quite obvious that what psychoanalysts once called the libidinous cell energy has now actually been shown to exist in a physical and demonstrable form.Are you in contact with Aenne Morseth (Heimburgstrasse 4, Hamburg Klein--Flottbeck)? Please keep in touch now and again, and I would be glad to be of help to you in any way that I can. We are also in contact with other people in Europe.16 February 1948Eva+ in distress. The following happened: She was in class with several students and a professor of heart physiology. They spoke of literature to be read. He said, "Don't read literature like that of the paranoid who believes there is a pulsation in the body and in the atmosphere."--clearly WR. She did not say anything. But felt terrible.She did not dare to look at the Cancer Biopathy I had sent to her. She did not go to work with Cott§ as arranged. She "gave herself another two years."23 February 1948Refutal of the ionization theory*. Facts and experiment:G M [Geiger Müller] tubes give G.M reaction without voltage to orgonotic excitation.Electrons from secondary coil produce no ionization. The leaves in the charged electroscope do not come together.The energy field between two plates, fed by the Ind coil, does not influence the electroscope.Single-pole electroscope can be charged.Lumination in complete vacuum 2-pole and single - pole.I photograph the ether!!! No doubt. The more literature I read on the ether, the clearer the following become:The requirements of the ether are important, but the description of the ether is not important.The understanding of ether became nonsense in order to take account of certain mechanical processes, which are in themselves questionable: for example, quantum 6.5×10^{-27} erg sec.The orgone is the true ether.The high-ranking physicists and mathematicians have puffed themselves up unduly, They provide proof of arbitrary assumptions in a stringent way.6 March 1948Today, between 8 and 9 p.m. the entire world came crashing down, and a new one came into being.Experiment: A vacuum tube produced 10,000 pulses per minute (32 scaler), with a blue glow, up to 1,000 volts without gas, without ions.12 March 1948The ether requires a restructuring of physics and astronomy in their entirety. This requires courage, method, loneliness, and very little publicity. And this load cannot be easily carried.13 March 1948The rolling snowball: Karl Menninger, incoming president of the American Psych. Society, has approvingly published Brady's* insulting article. Orgonomy+ has pulled the rug out from under his psychoanalysis.22 March 1948I must not allow myself to be captured by current things and forms. My work is part of the distant future.I need helpers, but the helpers belong to the present. This is a tragedy. And only he who carries his own load can make my burden lighter.To Armin Beregi2 April 1948Dear Mr. Beregi:I have received your letter of 12 March, via Dr. Hoppe.+ Many of the questions that you raise, such as those relating to heart action currents, etc., cannot be answered at present because we still know too little about the relationship of orgone to electromagnetism. As regards your methods of approaching orgone phenomena, I must in principle repeat what I have already indicated to you: Over the course of about 16 years, packed full with experimentation and theorizing, it has become quite clear that we cannot understand orgone energy in the context of the methods and theories of classical physics, because these methods are simply not suitable and do not take us any further forward. It has already been discovered, through experiment, that we must separate the electromagnetic excitation of light from the radiation of light itself; i.e. the phenomenon of light consists of two different functions. This has been confirmed.Similarly, it is likely that the orgone theory will make it possible to explain Planck's quanta, which so far have not been understood, rather than--vice versa--Planck's quanta providing an explanation of the functions of orgone energy. This follows clearly from the fact that orgone is primordial and is obviously the source of all known energy phenomena. If you ever succeed in establishing relationships between the action currents and orgone energy phenomena, you will have made a contribution to science the value of which cannot be overestimated. You are also certainly correct in stating that all manner of so-called miracle cures are based on body-orgone effects. Naturally, in the final analysis, such questions can be answered only by the outcome of experiments.My Planck number is slightly higher than the one that is generally known because I was forced to extend the minute by 4 seconds.My orgonometric numbers on astrophysics were deliberately formulated in such a way that nobody can understand them. They will be published in a way that everyone can follow, once the work has been completed.2 April 1948I succeeded in:Reducing the ion theory of the GM tube to 0; orgone works in a vacuum.Reducing the energizing voltage to 250 V at 3000 [pulses] per minute.[Obtaining] 7-8000 pulses per minute at 350 V.An orgone-motor is becoming a reality.6 April 1948I have once more ended in a heavenly waste land. This time because of the discovery of the orgone phenomena in a vacuum.Like other people, I could enjoy children. but I need rest in order to think, and children do not allow that.I could exert a fascination more easily than other people in gatherings.* But I had to recognize that this enthusiasm achieves nothing. They continue to defame as before.I have discovered the ether.This will cause me a terrible amount of trouble. Einstein stands squarely in the way with his empty space, supported by human fear of the truth. But I must put Einstein out of action as far as the ether question is concerned. By presenting the facts.10 April 1948Ilse+ called Dr. Wolfe of the Med. Dept. of the Atomic Energy Commission NY.She wanted to talk to him about the GM reaction as a social problem. He promised to call back but did not do so on the same day.We are still afraid of the great responsibility that has been visited upon us.

That is why we are running to "authorities" fo...