

Contents

Preface to the First Edition	xii
Preface to the Second Edition	xiii
About the Author	xiv
Chapter 1 Atmosphere and Water	1
Nitrogen (Dinitrogen, N_2)	1
Oxygen (Dioxygen, O_2)	2
Ozone (Trioxxygen, O_3)	3
Carbon Dioxide, CO_2	4
Noble Gases	5
Other Gases in the Atmosphere	7
Ammonia	7
Chloromethane and CFCs	7
Carbon Monoxide	8
Hydrogen	9
Hydrogen Sulfide	9
Sulfur Dioxide (SO_2)	9
Sulfur Trioxide (SO_3)	10
Acid Rain	10
Smog and Air Quality	11
Air Pollution	12
Indoor Air Pollution	13
Greenhouse Gases	14
Water	15
Deuterium Oxide (Heavy Water)	16
Hydrogen Peroxide	17
Chapter 2 Carbohydrates and Artificial Sweeteners	19
Introduction	19
Trehalose	22
Polysaccharides	23
Chapter 3 Hydrocarbons	28
Chapter 4 Acids and Alkalis	38
Acids	38
Alkalis	45

Superacids	49
Superbases	52
Chapter 5 Steroids and Sex	53
Introduction	53
Testosterone	55
Man-Made Anabolic Steroids	57
Contraception	61
Sex Means More Than Steroids	63
Chapter 6 The Senses	67
Carotene and Vision	67
Taste	69
Smell	71
Chiral Molecules and Smell	72
Pyrazines and Smell	73
Pheromones	74
Human Pheromones?	79
Chapter 7 Cosmetics and Perfumes	80
Shampoo	80
Hair Colouring and Waving	81
Nail Varnish	82
Face Powder	83
Lipstick	83
Mascara and Eye Shadow	84
Sunscreen and Tanning	84
Toothpaste	86
Bad Breath and Mouthwash	86
Body Odours and Deodorants	87
Perfumes	88
The Birth of Modern Perfumery	89
Rose	90
Musks	93
Nitromusks	94
Polycyclic Musks	94
Macrocyclic Musks	95
Vanillin	96
Aldehydes and 2-Methylundecanal	98
Four More Traditional Ingredients	100
Jasmine	100
Character Impact Constituents	101

Patchouli	104
Sandalwood	105
Vetiver.....	107
Rosemary	109
Frankincense	111
Sniffing Out Disease.....	115
“Acetone Breath Syndrome” and Diabetes.....	116
Parkinson’s Disease	116
Cancer.....	118
Alzheimer’s Disease	119
Chapter 8 Natural Killers.....	121
Curare.....	121
Frog Venoms	121
Tetrodotoxin	124
Cone Snail Venoms (Conotoxins).....	125
Spider Venoms.....	127
Scorpion Venoms	128
Snake Venoms	129
Strychnine	130
Chapter 9 Unnatural Killers.....	132
Dimethylmercury	132
Tetraethyllead	133
Greek Fire and Napalm	135
Chlorine Gas and Phosgene	136
Phosgene	137
Nerve Agents	137
Syria.....	139
Novichok Agents	143
The Salisbury Attacks	144
The 2020 Attack	145
How Nerve Agents Work.....	145
CS and Mustard Gas.....	148
Mustard Gas	149
Thalidomide	150
Chapter 10 Explosives.....	154
Detecting Explosives	159

Chapter 11	Pleasure Molecules	160
	Phenylethylamine	160
	Amphetamine.....	160
	Methamphetamine.....	161
	Ecstasy.....	163
	Ritalin (Methylphenidate)	165
	Caffeine	166
	Cocaine.....	168
	Designer Drugs.....	172
	Cathinones.....	175
	Khat	175
	“Monkey Dust”	178
	Naphthaloylindoles (“JWH” Family)	179
	Ethanol	180
	LSD	182
	Marijuana	184
	Nicotine	186
Chapter 12	Natural Healers	191
	Galantamine	191
	Opium and Morphine.....	192
	Heroin.....	195
	Oxycodone	197
	Penicillin	199
	Quinine and Antimalarials.....	202
	Taxol (Paclitaxel).....	208
	Tetracycline	211
	Vancomycin.....	213
	Vinca Alkaloids.....	214
Chapter 13	Man-Made Healers	216
	Aspirin.....	216
	Ibuprofen	219
	Phenacetin	220
	Acetanilide	220
	Acetaminophen	220
	Acyclovir	221
	Beta-Blockers and Atenolol.....	222
	Azidothymidine.....	223
	Cisplatin and Other Platinum Anticancer Drugs	224
	Linezolid.....	228
	Antidepressants	229

Antiulcer Drugs.....	231
Sulfanilamide and the Sulfonamides	233
Antiflu Drugs.....	236
Fentanyl and Other Painkillers.....	239
Carfentanil.....	240
Nitazenes	241
Suzetrigine, VX-548 (Marketed as <i>Journavx</i>).....	242
Chapter 14 Synthetic Polymers.....	244
Polythene (or Polyethylene)	244
Polyvinyl Chloride, Poly(Chloroethene)	245
Teflon, Poly(Tetrafluoroethene), PTFE	246
Polystyrene (Poly(Phenylethene)).....	247
Poly(Methyl Cyanoacrylate).....	247
Poly(Methyl Methacrylate) (PMMA).....	248
Nylon	249
Terylene	250
Kevlar	251
Polyurethane.....	253
Recycling Polymers.....	254
Microplastics	256
Bibliography	259
Index.....	312