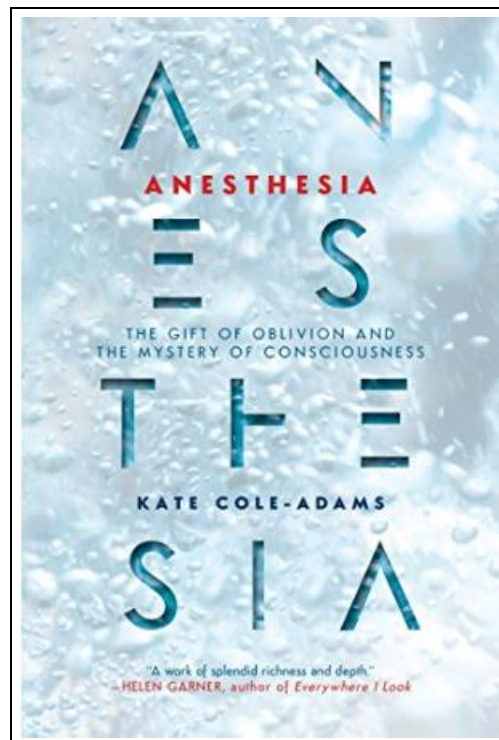


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ANESTHESIA: THE GIFT OF OBLIVION AND THE MYSTERY OF CONSCIOUSNESS (HARDBACK)



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Counterpoint LLC, 2017. Hardback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. An obsessive, mystical, terrifying, and even phantasmagorical exploration of anesthesia s shadowy terra incognita. --The New Yorker Anesthetize: to render insensible First there s the injection, then the countdown--and next thing you know, you re awake. Anesthesia: The Gift of Oblivion and the Mystery of Consciousness is the story of the time in between, an exploration of that most crucial and baffling gift of modern medicine: the disappearing act that enables us to undergo procedures that would otherwise be impossibly, often fatally, painful. In the past 150 years, anesthesia has made surgical intervention routine, from open-heart surgery to the facelift. But how much do anesthesiologists really know about what happens when their patients go under? Can we hear and retain what s going on? Is pain still pain if we don t remember it? How does the unconscious mind deal with the body s experience of being sliced open and ransacked--and how can we help ourselves through it all? Kate Cole-Adams weaves her own personal experiences with surgery and its aftermath with the explorations and personal accounts of others, doctors and patients alike--accounts of people who wake under the knife, who experience traumatic reactions, dreams, hallucinations, and submerged memories--accounts that evoke and illuminate the provisional nature of the self. Haunting, lyrical, sometimes shattering, Cole-Adams leavens science with personal experience, and brings an intensely human curiosity to the unknowable realm beyond consciousness.



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