

# The Weight Of Compassion: And Other Essays - Eoin O'brien

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THERE ARE MANY facets to Samuel Becketts writing humour, despair, love, poignancy, suffering but for me there is one dominant characteristic, compassion, compassion for the human condition of existence. So begins Eoin OBriens title essay, an observation that stands for the collection as it broadens out into convergent streams of essays on literature and medicine. Part One uses on the nature of friendship and connectivity, on the role of the good doctor and the sentient individual in society. Intimate portraits of literary Dublin in the twentieth century and earlier, Samuel Beckett, Con Leventhal, Nevill Johnson, Denis Johnston, Mchel MacLiammir and Petr Skrabanek; Corrigan, Gogarty and Korotkoff, Chekov and Handel, speak of exemplars past and values present, as the influence of the arts is inscribed on a doctors life and work. The Beckett essays alone yield remarkable commentary on Irelands greatest early modernist, and include a little-known account of the Irish Hospital at Saint-L in Normandy, where Beckett worked as a storekeeper in ?946: a poignant drama of humanity in ruins that informed his subsequent work. The Corruption of Privilege, addressed in Part Two, looks incisively at the practice and history of the authors profession within Ireland and elsewhere; at medical education and the medical establishment; at medical journalism, humanitarian involvement, and at broader issues landmines in the Third World and the plight of colleagues in Bahrain. Invaluable archival images of, among others, Samuel Beckett, Con Leventhal and Nevill Johnson (each a personal friend of the authors), underpin the writings of this chronicler and observer of Irelands recent past. Author: O'Brien, Eoin Publisher: The Lilliput Press Illustration: N Language: ENG Title: The Weight of Compassion: and Other Essays Pages: 00280 (Encrypted EPUB) On Sale: 2012-12-04 SKU-13/ISBN: 9781843513889 Category: Literary Collections : Essays Category: Medical : General Category: Medical : Essays

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