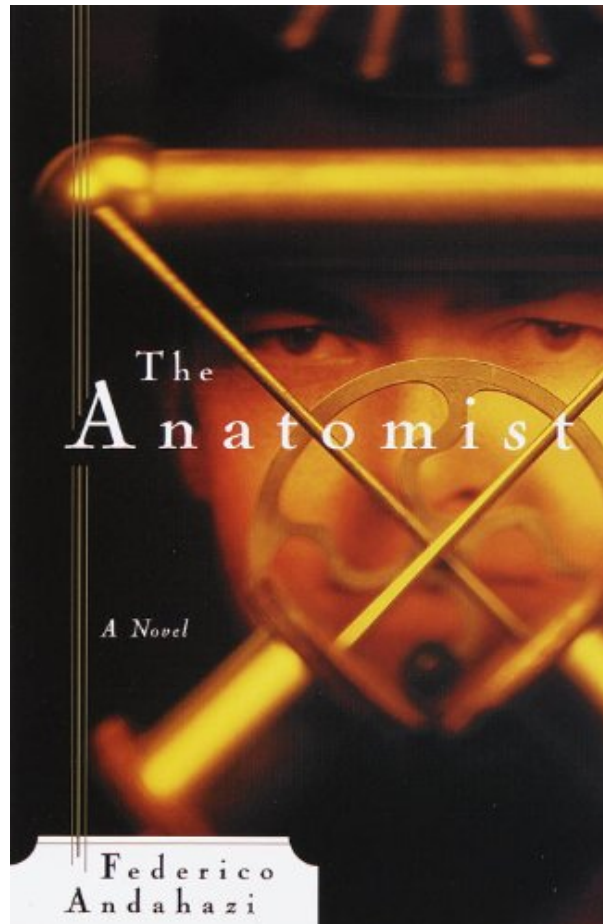
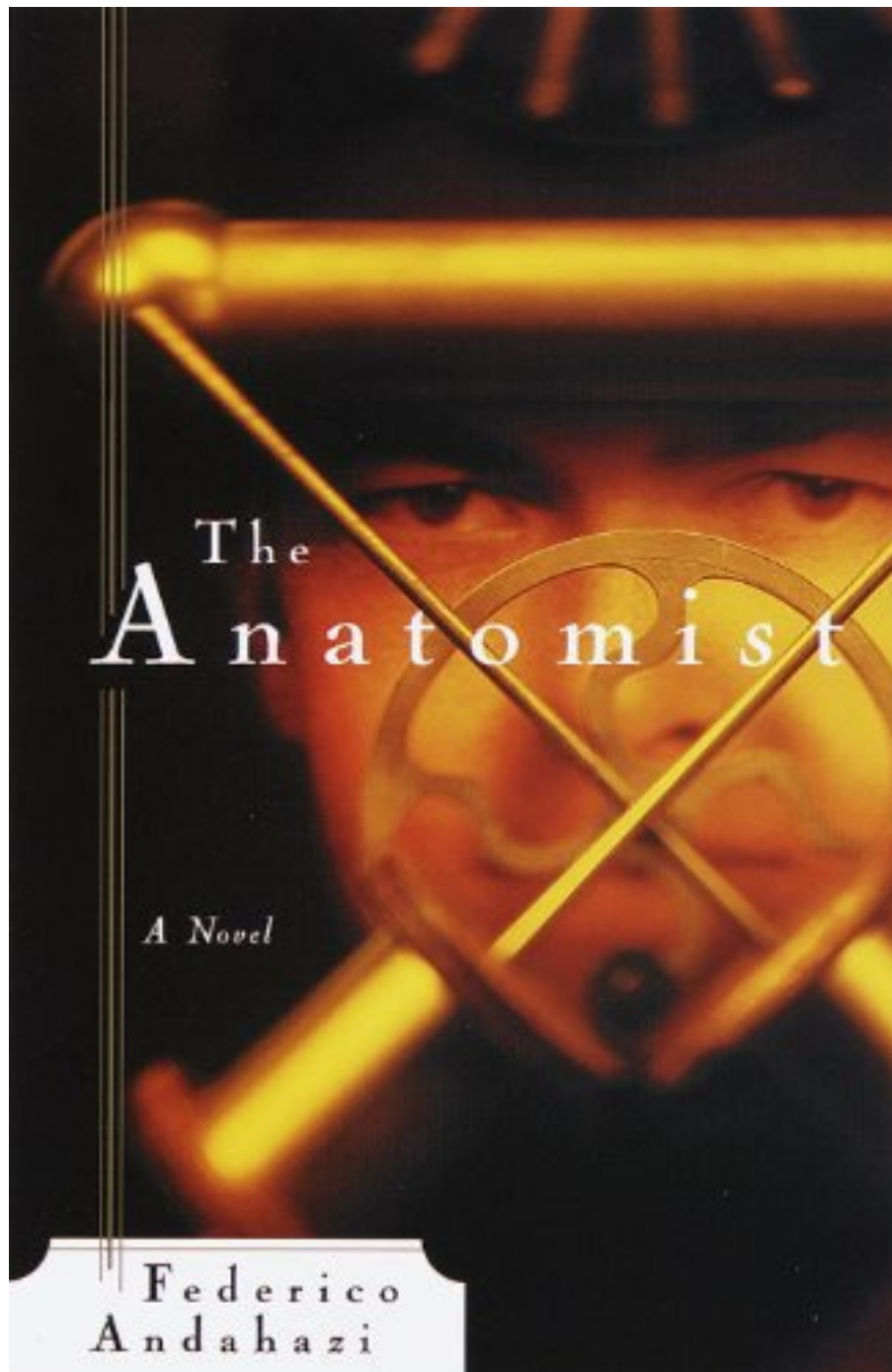


# THE ANATOMIST BY FEDERICO ANDAHAZI



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A lyrically written, sensual, and extraordinarily enjoyable novel in which a Renaissance anatomist's astonishing discovery forever changes the female erotic universe.

In sixteenth-century Venice, celebrated physician Mateo Colombo finds himself behind bars at the behest of the Church authorities. His is a crime of disclosure, heinous and heretical in the Church's eyes, in that his research threatens to subvert the whole secular order of Renaissance society. Like his namesake Christopher Columbus, he has made a discovery of enormous significance for humankind. Whereas Columbus voyaged outward to explore the world and found the Americas, Mateo Colombo looked inward, across the mons veneris, and uncovered the clitoris. Based on historical fact, *The Anatomist* is an utterly fascinating excursion into Renaissance Italy, as evocative of time and place as the work of Umberto Eco, and reminiscent of the earthy sensuality of Gabriel Garcia Marquez. Perceptive and stirring, it ironically exposes not only the social hypocracies of the day, but also the prejudices and sexual taboos that may still be with us four hundred years later.

- Sales Rank: #1613766 in Books
- Published on: 1999-09-14
- Released on: 1999-09-14
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 7.97" h x .58" w x 5.10" l, .43 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 228 pages

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Neither Fish nor Fowl

By Jane Brodsky

I much enjoyed the book and read it at one sitting. As others have noted, the author is clearly familiar with the subject, and has done plenty of research, and has peppered the text with enough Italian phrases to make you almost feel at home in the plot. Written in a style that aspires to be literary, philosophical, as well as befitting the period, the novel fails to move the reader and feel for the characters who are as flat as a board. Five for research and style and one for writing a compelling as well as historically founded plot. There you go, a plain three stars!

1 of 2 people found the following review helpful.

worthy but short of excellent

By A Customer

Personal Review of 'The Anatomist' \_\_\_\_\_ Robert Wolf, Charlottesville, VA USA

After learning of the impending release of this book on N.P.R. news, I was quite intrigued and amused by the premise. I also was attracted by the fact that the story scandalized the fragile sensibilities of a present day nation at the dawn of the 21st century. (Any issues focusing too overtly on the body still can, it seems)

I enjoyed this book in one evening, though it struck me as more a fleshed out short story than a, well, full bodied historical novel. I was moderately connected to the characters, but only "by half" as the British like to say. Of course, there were no truly sympathetic characters in the story after one get's to know the basics of their persona. (The crow was perhaps the most genuine and lovable character I thought, second only to Lorena Bobbit's young patron saint.) Maybe I missed knowing more of these character's deeper motivations and enough background to appreciate them better.

The portrayal of combined ignorance of the processes of the physical world was fairly shocking when mixed with the the self indulgent suppositions that passed for placing new shreds of evidence into some comfortable perspective. It drives home Anais' eternal observation that "we don't see the world as it is, we see it as WE are."

I think the dry misogynist courtroom scenes were effective farce which reflected well into corrosive gender attitudes that persist to the present day. They did make me start to root for the executioner, however.

I found it slightly unbelievable that NOBODY on any corner of the planet had noticed the nerve bundle at the center of this story prior to the 16th European century, weather by exploration of their own territorial waters or of other's distant shores... Perhaps the neglected issue was more due to a lack a means of dissemination than an actual oversight by the entire the human species to date. So much for the 'oral tradition'.

Perhaps the only real winner's in this story were the opportunistic venereal microbes who seemed to cruise through their happy lives undisturbed by the vicious, threatened institutions of the era or even the flaccid efforts of 16th century 'medicine'. Not all that much HAS changed after all.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

Masterly done, tempting beyond its cover

By A Customer

Somewhere halfway through, I could not help thinking that this was nothing but one more glorifying repackaging of Renaissance alchemic sophistry; more fodder against the monopoly on knowledge of the Catholic Church and the effective extermination by auto-da-fe of minds that dared even a slight deviation from its preachings.

To understand in what ways this is much more than that, one needs to read it to the last page. The most intriguing aspect of it, is the triangle formed by Matteo Colombo, the anatomist, Ines de Torremolinos, the pious Florentine widow and Mona Sofia, the classy Venetian prostitute--and what became of each at the end. Boludo is an Argentine word literally meaning "chutzpah" but also describes an "idiot" in liberal interpretation. Well, this is a boludo book in a literal sense...



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