

Valerius Cordus Encyclopedia Article

Valerius Cordus

The following sections of this BookRags Literature Study Guide is offprint from Gale's For Students Series: Presenting Analysis, Context, and Criticism on Commonly Studied Works: Introduction, Author Biography, Plot Summary, Characters, Themes, Style, Historical Context, Critical Overview, Criticism and Critical Essays, Media Adaptations, Topics for Further Study, Compare & Contrast, What Do I Read Next?, For Further Study, and Sources.

(c)1998-2002; (c)2002 by Gale. Gale is an imprint of The Gale Group, Inc., a division of Thomson Learning, Inc. Gale and Design and Thomson Learning are trademarks used herein under license.

The following sections, if they exist, are offprint from Beacham's Encyclopedia of Popular Fiction: "Social Concerns", "Thematic Overview", "Techniques", "Literary Precedents", "Key Questions", "Related Titles", "Adaptations", "Related Web Sites". (c)1994-2005, by Walton Beacham.

The following sections, if they exist, are offprint from Beacham's Guide to Literature for Young Adults: "About the Author", "Overview", "Setting", "Literary Qualities", "Social Sensitivity", "Topics for Discussion", "Ideas for Reports and Papers". (c)1994-2005, by Walton Beacham.

All other sections in this Literature Study Guide are owned and copyrighted by BookRags, Inc.

Contents

Valerius Cordus Encyclopedia Article.....	1
Contents.....	2
Valerius Cordus.....	3

Valerius Cordus

1515-1544

German physician, botanist, pharmacologist, and chemist who won the admiration of his contemporary scientists even before his early death from malaria. Cordus synthesized ether; developed ways to categorize plants; invented phytography, the systematic science of describing plants; updated and augmented the authoritative first-century catalog of medicinal plants prepared by the Greek physician Dioscorides Pedanius Anazarbeus; and wrote the first pharmacopoeia, the Nuremberg *Dispensatorium* (1546). (A pharmacopoeia is a reference source detailing the dosages and administration of medicinal preparations and drugs.) Swiss naturalist Konrad von Gesner (1516-1565) edited and published several of Cordus's posthumous works, including the revision of Dioscorides (1561).