

## **A Medical Diptych: Dershman Unbound**

### **Clarification of Terms:**

**What does the word "diptych" mean?** (a two-sided [often religious] picture; might refer to the points of view of doctor and patient).

**What is a chachke?** Yiddish, attractive, unconventional young woman; a collectable

**Who was Prometheus?** - a Titan who stole fire from the gods for man; as a punishment he was chained to a rock, where an eagle picked at his liver for 1,000 years; finally, Hercules killed the eagle, and Prometheus is liberated

**What is the reference to Scheherezade?** - 1001 Arabian Nights; romantic tale based more on love than sex; first curiosity, then love, keep death at bay

**Who was Rimsky-Korsakoff?** – composer who wrote flamboyant, romantic music about the tale of Scheherezade

**What is a Victrola?** – an antique record player, one of earliest gramophones

**What is a pinko?** – Derogatory slang for socialist

**What is a putz?** – Yiddish, slang: a fool, an idiot; vulgar slang, a penis

**Who was Chmielnitzki?** - a much-loathed Ukrainian Cossack in the late 1800s who was responsible for the deaths of over 100,000 Jews in pogroms;

**Who were Julius and Ethel Rosenberg?** – sent to the electric chair in 1953 for spying for the Soviets; controversial case