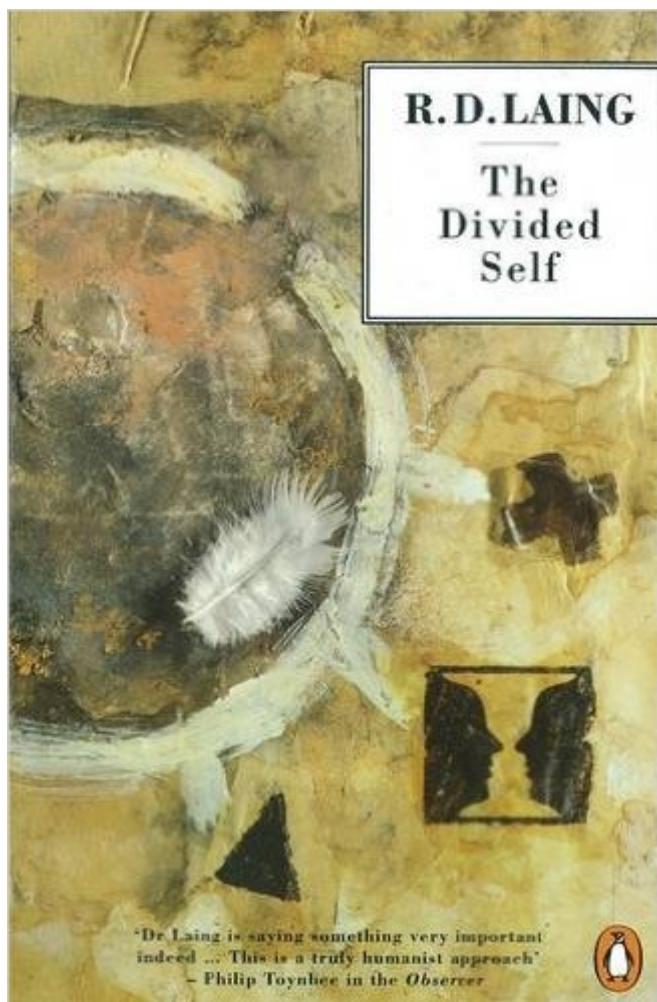


The book was found

The Divided Self: An Existential Study In Sanity And Madness (Penguin Psychology)



Synopsis

Dr. Laing's first purpose is to make madness and the process of going mad comprehensible. In this, with case studies of schizophrenic patients, he succeeds brilliantly, but he does more: through a vision of sanity and madness as 'degrees of conjunction and disjunction between two persons where the one is sane by common consent' he offers a rich existential analysis of personal alienation. The outsider, estranged from himself and society, cannot experience either himself or others as 'real'. He invents a false self and with it he confronts both the outside world and his own despair. The disintegration of his real self keeps pace with the growing unreality of his false self until, in the extremes of schizophrenic breakdown, the whole personality disintegrates.

Book Information

Series: Penguin Psychology

Paperback: 224 pages

Publisher: Penguin Books; Revised ed. edition (August 30, 1965)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0140135375

ISBN-13: 978-0140135374

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.5 x 7.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (41 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #63,783 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #16 inÂ Books > Health, Fitness & Dieting > Mental Health > Schizophrenia #29 inÂ Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Philosophy > Movements > Existentialism #39 inÂ Books > Medical Books > Psychology > Movements > Behaviorism

Customer Reviews

In this valuable study, Dr Laing proposes to examine the way some individuals are very proficient in acquiring a false self in order to adapt to false realities and to give an account of specifically personal forms of depersonalisation and disintegration. It is no small task for the therapist to articulate what the patient's "world" is and his way of being in it in order to outline his psychopathology. The author states that if we look at his actions as signs of a disease, we impose categories of thoughts on the patient in our effort to try to explain his mental state and it isn't easy for the therapist to transpose himself into the patient's strange and alien view of world in order to understand his existential position. Dr Laing states that many patients suffer from "ontological

insecurity" because they feel insubstantial, the ordinary circumstances of life constituting a continual threat to their own existence. He mentions personalities like Franz Kafka, Samuel Beckett and Francis Bacon. Then Dr Laing proceeds by giving the account of three forms of anxiety encountered by the ontologically insecure subject: engulfment, implosion and petrification. To illustrate these three forms, the author describes the case of Mrs R. who suffered from agoraphobia and schizophrenic withdrawal. Interestingly enough, the schizoid individual constantly feels vulnerable as he is exposed by the look of another person and that is why he fears live dialectical relationships with live people and prefers to relate himself to depersonalised persons or to phantoms of his own fantasies, thus the distinction between the "embodied" and "unembodied" self. Such an individual is afraid of the world, frightened that any impingement will be total and engulfing.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

The Divided Self: An Existential Study in Sanity and Madness (Penguin Psychology) Self-Discipline: Achieve Unbreakable Self-Discipline: How To Build Confidence, Willpower, Motivation, Self-Belief And Master Your Life!: Self control, ... Self-Confidence, Self-esteem, Organizing) Self-Love: The 21-Day Self-Love Challenge - Learn how to love yourself unconditionally, cultivate self-worth, self-compassion and self-confidence (self ... happiness) (21-Day Challenges Book 6) Self Help: How To Live In The Present Moment (Self help, Self help books, Self help books for women, Anxiety self help, Self help relationships, Present Moment, Be Happy Book 1) The Myth of Sanity: Divided Consciousness and the Promise of Awareness The \$64 Tomato: How One Man Nearly Lost His Sanity, Spent a Fortune, and Endured an Existential Crisis in the Quest for the Perfect Garden Psychology: Social Psychology: 69 Psychology Techniques to Influence and Control People with Communication Tricks, NLP, Hypnosis and more... (Psychology, ... NLP, Social Anxiety, Cognitive Psychology) Existential Thought and Therapeutic Practice: An Introduction to Existential Psychotherapy Sanity, Madness and the Family: Families of Schizophrenics (Pelican) Self Hypnosis for Beginners: The Ultimate Guide With Systematic Steps To Master Self Hypnosis (Self Hypnosis, Self hypnosis as you read, Self hypnosis diet) Self Hypnosis: The Ultimate Beginners Guide To Mastering Self Hypnosis In 7 Days (self hypnosis, self hypnosis diet, self hypnosis for dummies) NAVY SEAL: Self Discipline: How to Become the Toughest Warrior: Self Confidence, Self Awareness, Self Control, Mental Toughness HYPNOSIS FOR WEIGHT LOSS: SELF HYPNOSIS as you read (FREE Life Mastery Bonus Toolkit Included!) (Self Hypnosis As You Read, Self Hypnosis for Beginners, ... Weight Loss, Self Hypnosis Audio Book 3) Experiencing CBT from the Inside Out: A Self-Practice/Self-Reflection Workbook for Therapists (Self-Practice/Self-Reflection Guides for Psychotherapists) Existential Psychology East-West CCNP Self-Study: Building Cisco

Remote Access Networks (BCRAN) (2nd Edition) (Self-Study Guide) The Emergent Self: An Existential-Gestalt Approach (The United Kingdom Council for Psychotherapy Series) The Romance of Tristan: The Tale of Tristan's Madness (Penguin Classics) Irrational Man: A Study in Existential Philosophy Fight psychology: How to overcome the fear of fighting: A tremendous insight into the mind of a fighter (Self Defense, Mixed Martial Arts, Fighting Dirty, Self Esteem Book 1)

[Dmca](#)