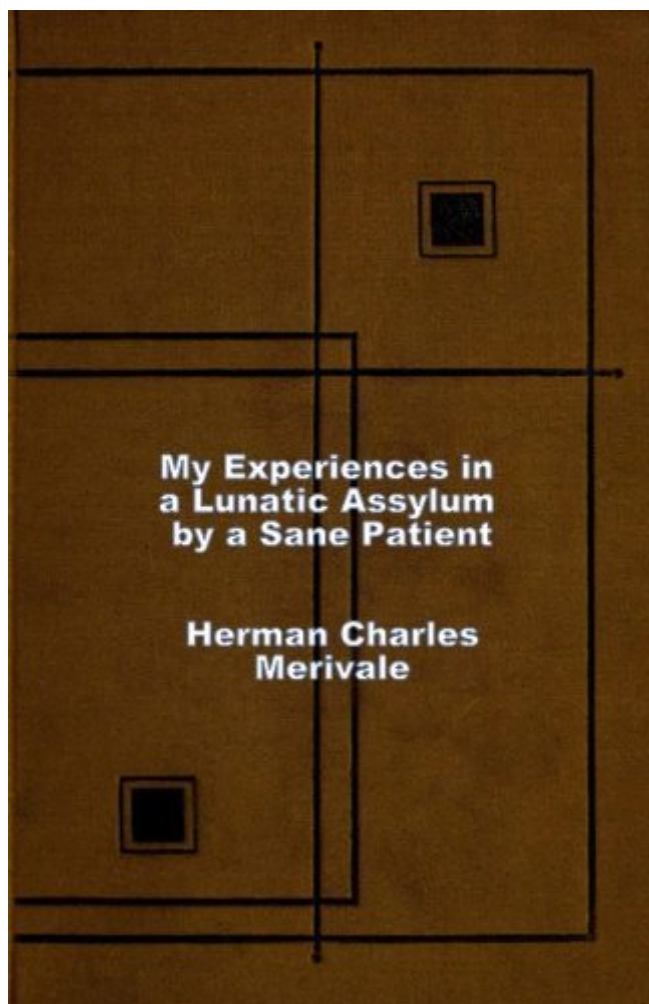


The book was found

# My Experiences In A Lunatic Asylum



## Synopsis

Excerpt:It's a mad world, my masters. I suppose that the motto I have affixed to the first chapter of the brief history of a singular personal experience is by this time an accepted axiom. Was it in one of Mr. Sala's columns of gossip that I was reading the other day of the man of the pen who commented upon the imprisonment in an asylum of a brother of his craft merely by saying, "What a fool he must be! For years I have been as mad as he, only I took care never to say so?" [Pg 2]There are odd corners in the brains of most of us, filled with queer fancies which are as well kept out of sight; eccentricities, I suppose they may be called. The man who is so "concentric" as to be innocent of peculiarities is a companion of a dull sort. But Heaven help us all when such things may be called, and treated as, madness. For, if all of us were used according to our deserts in that way, who should escape the modern substitutes for whipping?

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Yes this book is filled with ramblings but this is a book written by an inpatient of the asylum. What can you possibly expect? It being filled with understandable words and paragraphs? That is your own fault for judging the book by it's cover. I found it an enjoyable read and is similar to Black Swan. A little instability in your own life is needed to understand the life of this human.

Written by a man who claims total sanity, yet his actions as he describes many of them, are those of a seriously mentally ill person. He writes of his treatment in a private lunatic asylum. The conditions are deplorable, but nowhere near what they had previously been or continued to be even in the USA as late as the early 1950's. A quick read, one needs to relax into the British English language of almost 150 years ago.

Had to read for a class. However, it clearly shows how far the mental health treatment needs to come. Very compelling, very sad but something everyone should read to get a true perspective of mental treatment.

Merivale describes the state of Victorian policy and practice, of the Lunacy Law's corruption of the individual's rights to be judged by qualified Drs vs a persons relatives' ease in having a person being sentenced to private asylums, with wardens and Drs. who have no psychiatry knowledge, nor training, being private-for-profit. We have come far in mental health care reform; the closing in the 1970's of the country's mental asylums in favor of outpatients clients treated at the local community clinics, which has greatly increased the homeless population with non-compliant-mental patients.

I loved the book. I did think there funny parts. For me, the book moved right along. Maybe I read more "old" books. I rarely read contemporary books-best sellers and things like that. So I am more practiced in reading this kind of thing and for that reason I leave this message to similar readers-I think you will enjoy the book.

So interesting! A rare look into the asylums. I found it a little hard to follow at times. He isn't the best writer, but it was interesting.

The title grabbed me as something of interest. After reading two chapters though, I was tempted to put it down in favor of a more accessible story. The language is rambling and dated, a struggle for anyone who is not familiar with 19th Century British English prose. There are few 'juicy bits' if you are hoping for a soap opera tell-all and little of historical value that a non-fiction work wouldn't provide. The narrative's saving grace is that it's not lengthy.

Rambling discourse with little details. Not an enjoyable or informative story. Lacks continuity of thought and does not adequately explain how he came to be committed.

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