The Book Of Psychiatric Books

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Synopsis

This volume consists of critical reviews of the most important works in psychiatry ever published and excerpts from those works. For psychotherapy, more than any other profession, books define the field. Most therapists have a personal list of books that for them have been memorable, perhaps even mutative, in influencing their thinking and clinical practice. But in addition to such individual favourites, choices are made at different times by the larger society and by one’s professional group. As a result, a particular book comes to be regarded for some time as the book of the moment, after which it either sinks into oblivion or passes into the respectability of acceptance as an essential part of any reference list. If it does survive for long, though, it will inevitably come to be seen rather differently over time.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

A fine reference: high-level reviews of 37 books from the British Journal of Psychiatry, 1982-1992. Most of the books are classics--Durkheim on suicide, Freud on dreams, plus John Bowlby, Michael Balint, Jerome Frank, Thomas Szasz, Carl Rogers, R. D. Laing, Ilza Veith, Henri Ellenberger, Irvin Yalom, Murray Bowen and 25 more. Each review is followed by a few pages from the book itself. Unfortunately the reviewers are are only named, not identified. Some are well-known: Michael Shepherd, Paul Kline, Sidney Crown, Manfred Bleuler, Eric Crouch, Salman Aktar, Michael Kerr. The combination of retrospective review and sample of the original text makes this a book of lasting interest and value.