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Confessions Of A Sociopath: A Life Spent Hiding In Plain Sight



Synopsis

A PUBLISHERS WEEKLY BEST OF 2013 STAFF PICKAs M.E. Thomas says of her fellow sociopaths, "We are your neighbors, your coworkers, and quite possibly the people closest to you: lovers, family, friends. Our risk-seeking behavior and general fearlessness are thrilling, our glibness and charm alluring. Our often quick wit and outside-the-box thinking make us appear intelligent—even brilliant. We climb the corporate ladder faster than the rest, and appear to have limitless self-confidence." Who are we? We are highly successful, noncriminal sociopaths and we comprise 4 percent of the American population. • "Confessions of a Sociopath" part confessional memoir, part primer for the curious—takes readers on a journey into the mind of a sociopath, revealing what makes them tick while debunking myths about sociopathy and offering a road map for dealing with the sociopaths in your life. M. E. Thomas draws from her own experiences as a diagnosed sociopath; her popular blog, Sociopathworld.com; and scientific literature to unveil for the very first time these men and women who are hiding in plain sight. • Now with Extra Libris material, including a reader's guide and bonus content

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Customer Reviews

At least she is coming out to all but her family. This is written as a confessional/memoir of its author Monica E. Thomas, a pseudonym, necessitated by the subject matter and to protect her present socioeconomic life. Having just read the reviews written before mine, it would seem I am the first to have actually read the entire book, well, at least, so far. I would agree with the other reviewers that the book is technically well written, but does get long in the tooth by the half way mark, with many points being repeated several times which lengthened the book with no apparent advantage that I could ascertain; otherwise I would have given 4 stars. I would agree that the author as self described is unlikeable, but whom I found very interesting simply because I am a retired psychologist and spent the last ten years working with female murderers. The author goes into some detail in trying to distinguish psychopaths, sociopaths, and person with anti-social personality disorder; but for the majority of the world these distinctions are exercises in semantics only. To help clarify this point, as the author takes some time discussing her rationale for the distinction. A psychiatrist, Hervey Cleckley wrote the magnum opus on psychopathology in 1941 in a book called MASK OF SANITY; he might be better known to you for his book on multiple personality disorder which was turned into a movie in 1957 called THE THREE FACES OF EVE. A Dr. Robert Hare building upon Cleckley's work devised a 20 question scale to judge antisocial personality disorder. He only used convicts to base his results on, so it is not representative of the general population and certainly doesn't have the background of the MMPI.

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