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La via italiana alla democrazia Practice Makes Perfect: Italian Vocabulary The Years of Alienation in Italy "Pouring Jewish Water into Fascist Wine" The Creation of Psychopharmacology Asylums Inclusive Education in Italy Asylums. Essays on the Social Situation of Mental Patients and Other Inmates Invention of Hysteria Psychiatry and Anti-Psychiatry The Medieval Foundations of International Law Italy's Divided Memory The Pride Loss and the Other in the Visionary Work of Anna Maria Ortese Critical New Perspectives on ADHD Majorana Case, The: Letters, Documents, Testimonies The Limits of Transnational Law Real Social Science Italy's Margins Lab Coats in Hollywood Psychiatry Inside Out Stigma. L'identità negata The Wall of the Earth Encyclopedia of Disability A Critical History of Schizophrenia Dialectics of the Concrete Beyond Technocracy The Liberal Christian Madness We Want Everything Freedom and the Cage Healing Spaces, Modern Architecture, and the Body Neurological, Psychiatric, and Developmental Disorders Dollars, DALYs and Decisions Health and Illness in the Neoliberal Era in Europe Alexander: Child of a Dream Critical Psychiatry A Treatise on Madness The Prison and the Factory Joining Society

Italy's Divided Memory 2009-12-07 the story alternating between 1958 and 2008 the pride examines changing attitudes to sexuality and the perennial themes of love lust and betrayal in 1958 philip is married to sylvia but finds himself falling in love with another man his refusa

We Want Everything 2022-04-12 brain disordersâ neurological psychiatric and developmentalâ now affect at least 250 million people in the developing world and this number is expected to rise as life expectancy increases yet public and private health systems in developing countries have paid relatively little attention to brain disorders the negative attitudes prejudice and stigma that often surround many of these disorders have contributed to this neglect lacking proper diagnosis and treatment millions of individual lives are lost to disability and death such conditions exact both personal and economic costs on families communities and nations the report describes the causes and risk factors associated with brain disorders it focuses on six representative brain disorders that are prevalent in developing countries developmental disabilities epilepsy schizophrenia bipolar disorder depression and stroke the report makes detailed recommendations of ways to reduce the toll exacted by these six disorders in broader strokes the report also proposes six major

strategies toward reducing the overall burden of brain disorders in the developing world

Neurological, Psychiatric, and Developmental Disorders 2001-01-01 first volume in a trilogy about alexander the great

Psychiatry Inside Out 1987 the work of giorgio caproni has been translated into french german and chinese among others but this collection is his first book length english publication his works are finely tuned to modern man s preoccupations with existence in a world deprived of certainties for example the existence or inexistence of god most are touched by experiences such as the second world war and its atrocities the resistance movement or the death of loved ones events that represent the conviction of a subject that will do its best to survive all adversity uncompromised from the introduction by pasquale verdicchio

Inclusive Education in Italy 2012-01-01 this book provides an innovative and thought provoking analysis of the policy of integrazione scolastica from an inclusive perspective drawing on historical and empirical research methods the book arises out of an ethnographic study which investigates the extent to which the policy of integrazione scolastica can be considered an inclusive policy the author poses two fundamental questions why are there episodes of micro exclusion and discrimination against disabled pupils still taking place in regular schools after more than 30 years have passed since the enactment of such a progressive policy can the policy of integration lead to the development of inclusion in italy the research findings presented in the book indicate that exclusion and discrimination towards disabled pupils in education do not result from a lack of implementation of the policy at a school level rather from the perpetuation of dominant discourses which construct disability as an individual deficit the book does not deny the progress made in the country following the application of this anti discriminatory policy rather it challenges the hegemonic abilist culture and the traditional perspectives of disability and schooling that undermine the development of inclusive education after having investigated the theoretical premises of the policy of integration the author argues that this progressive policy is still rooted in a special needs education paradigm and that what was once a liberating policy has been transformed into a hegemonic tool which still manages controls and normalizes disability leaving school settings and teaching and learning routines unchanged she finally argues for a human rights approach for the development of an inclusive school for the 21st century the book is an essential reading for academics policy makers researchers and students involved in education as it links ideological pressures to practical analyses

The Medieval Foundations of International Law 2021-04-26 this book argues that contemporary Italian history has been marked by a tendency towards divided memory events have been interpreted in contrasting ways and the facts themselves often contested moreover with so little agreement over what happened and why it happened it has been extremely difficult to create any consensus around memory these divisions have been seen at all levels but take on particular importance when linked to the great traumatic and life changing events of the twentieth century war terrorism disaster but can also be applied to more cultural fields such as sport and everyday life social change also has an impact on memory this book will take the form of a voyage through Italy and into Italy's past looking at stories of divided memory over various periods in the twentieth century these stories will be interwoven with analysis and discussion

Majorana Case, The: Letters, Documents, Testimonies 2019-12-19 a comparative analysis of the extent and role of transnational judicial dialogue in European refugee law first published in 2010

Madness 2003-03-13 healing spaces modern architecture and the body brings together cutting edge scholarship examining the myriad ways that architects urban planners medical practitioners and everyday people have applied modern ideas about health and the body to the spaces in which they live work and heal the book's contributors explore North American and European understandings of the relationship between physical movement bodily health technological innovation medical concepts natural environments and architectural settings from the nineteenth century through the heyday of modernist architectural experimentation in the 1920s and 1930s and onward into the 1970s not only does the book focus on how professionals have engaged with the architecture of healing and the body it also explores how urban dwellers have strategized and modified their living environments themselves to create a kind of vernacular modernist architecture of health in their homes gardens and backyards this new work builds upon a growing interdisciplinary field incorporating the urban humanities geography architectural history the history of medicine and critical visual studies that reflects our current preoccupation with the body and its corresponding therapeutic culture

Beyond Technocracy 2009-06-02 the explosive novel of Italy's revolutionary 1969 it was 1969 and temperatures were rising across the factories of the north as workers demanded better pay and conditions soon discontent would erupt in what became known as Italy's hot autumn a young worker from the impoverished south arrives at Fiat's Mirafiori factory in Turin where his darker

complexion begins to fade from the fourteen hour workdays in sweltering industrial heat his bosses try to withhold his wages our cynical dry witted narrator will not bend to their will i want everything everything that s owed to me he tells them nothing more and nothing less because you don t mess with me around him students are holding secret meetings and union workers begin halting work on the assembly lines crippling the mirafiori factory with months of continuous strikes before long barricades line the roads tear gas wafts into private homes and the slogan we want everything is ringing through the streets wrought in spare and measured prose balestrini s novel depicts an explosive uprising introduced by rachel kushner the author of the best selling the flamethrowers we want everything is the incendiary fictional account of events that led to a decade of revolt

Dollars, DALYs and Decisions 2006 psychiatry is increasingly dominated by the reductionist claim that mental illness is caused by neurobiological abnormalities critical psychiatry disagrees with this and proposes a more ethical foundation for practice this book describes an original framework for renewing mental health services in alliance with people with mental health problems

Freedom and the Cage 2017-03-28 the widening recognition of mental health as a significant international public health issue has led to an increasing need to demonstrate that investment of resources into service development is both required and also worthwhile in particular there is a need to generate evidence on mental health care strategies that are not only effective and appropriate but are also cost effective and sustainable aimed at health policy makers and service researchers with an interest in strengthening mental health systems this publication sets out to highlight the need for and relevance of an economic dimension to decision making and to summarize results from existing mental health economic analyses

Stigma. L'identità negata 2003 collects over one thousand entries that provide insight into international views experiences and expertise on the topic of disability

The Years of Alienation in Italy 2019-06-11 the years of alienation in italy offers an interdisciplinary overview of the socio political psychological philosophical and cultural meanings that the notion of alienation took on in italy between the 1960s and the 1970s it addresses alienation as a social condition of estrangement caused by the capitalist system a pathological state of the mind and an ontological condition of subjectivity contributors to the edited volume explore the pervasive influence this multifarious concept had on literature cinema architecture and photography in italy the collection also

theoretically reassesses the notion of alienation from a novel perspective employing italy as a paradigmatic case study in its pioneering role in the revolution of mental health care and factory work during these two decades
Lab Coats in Hollywood 2013-02-08 a collection of essays by an italian psychiatrist includes discussions of deviance mental asylum reform and the nature of madness

Healing Spaces, Modern Architecture, and the Body 2016-07-15 health and illness in the neoliberal era in europe discusses the impact of neoliberalism on public health and the social construction of health and illness in europe analysing case studies at a european and national level

A Critical History of Schizophrenia 2016-04-08 will the ordinary man become a scientist bucci exposes the inadequacy of the technocratic model but also the weaknesses of contemporary bioethics when facing the increasing dilemmas posed by science and technology to contemporary society il corriere della sera italian leading newspaper bucci provides a clear rigorous and accessible discussion often enriched by a subtle irony of complex and ambiguous issues showing that science and innovation are not neutral terrains but rather among the key conflictual contexts in which contemporary social and political changes take place italian review of sociology a dense but accessible book bucci acutely describes the shortcomings of the technocratic and ethical responses to the contemporary dilemmas of science and technology italian edition of the new york review of books nuclear energy stem cell technology gmos the more science advances the more society seems to resist but are we really watching a death struggle between opposing forces as so many would have it can today s complex technical policy decisions coincide with the needs of a participatory democracy are the two sides even equipped to talk to each other beyond technocracy science politics and citizens answers these questions with clarity and vision drawing upon a broad range of data and events from the united states and europe and noting the blurring of the expert lay divide in the knowledge base the book argues that these conflicts should not be dismissed as episodic or the outbursts of irrationality and ignorance but recognized as a critical opportunity to discuss the future in which we want to live massimiano bucci s analysis covers the complex realities of post academic science as he explores the widely debated theme of science and democracy across a broad range of technological controversies overviews issues raised by the current relationship among scientists policymakers business interests and the public dispels stereotypes of the detached scientific community versus the uninformed general public examines the role of the media in framing scientific debate addresses the

question of how to move beyond technocracy to a more fruitful collaboration between scientists and citizens offers a bold vision for a future in which the scientific and public spheres regard each other as partners working toward a shared purpose beyond technocracy science politics and citizens has great value as a postgraduate text for courses in technology and society political science and science policy it will also find an interested audience among scientists policymakers managers in the technological sector and concerned lay readers in his brilliant new book beyond technocracy science politics and citizens massimiano bucci opens for the reader the pandora s box of the complex relationship between scientists and citizens in contemporary democratic societies with major corporations owning university labs and academic researchers and their institutions pocketing millions literally from the proceedings of patents resulting from their scientific work bucci analyzes the implications of contrasting drives toward for profit and open science private and public science without pulling his punches and without hiding behind easy popular solutions bucci clearly lays out the choices we face when confronted with a science whose potential societal impact positive and negative is becoming ever greater e g nuclear energy genetically modified foods genetic engineering based on a wealth of empirical evidence and case studies the book is extremely accessible and well written making it an ideal introduction to the issues i would highly recommend it to specialists and non specialists alike roberto franzosi professor in department of sociology at emory university

Asylums 2017-09-08 a total institution is defined by goffman as a place of residence and work where a large number of like situated individuals cut off from the wider society for an appreciable period of time together lead an enclosed formally administered round of life prisons serve as a clear example providing we appreciate that what is prison like about prisons is found in institutions whose members have broken no laws this volume deals with total institutions in general and mental hospitals in particular the main focus is on the world of the inmate not the world of the staff a chief concern is to develop a sociological version of the structure of the self each of the essays in this book were intended to focus on the same issue the inmate s situation in an institutional context each chapter approaches the central issue from a different vantage point each introduction drawing upon a different source in sociology and having little direct relation to the other chapters this method of presenting material may be irksome but it allows the reader to pursue the main theme of each paper analytically and comparatively past the point that would be allowable in chapters of an integrated book if sociological concepts

are to be treated with affection each must be traced back to where it best applies followed from there wherever it seems to lead and pressed to disclose the rest of its family

"Pouring Jewish Water into Fascist Wine" 2017-01-05 the aim of this project is to offer the reader a critical edition and an english translation of 139 letters that were exchanged between the victims of mussolini s racial laws and the jesuit pietro tacchi venturi

Invention of Hysteria 2004-09-17 tavistock press was established as a co operative venture between the tavistock institute and routledge kegan paul rkp in the 1950s to produce a series of major contributions across the social sciences this volume is part of a 2001 reissue of a selection of those important works which have since gone out of print or are difficult to locate published by routledge 112 volumes in total are being brought together under the name the international behavioural and social sciences library classics from the tavistock press reproduced here in facsimile this volume was originally published in 1967 and is available individually the collection is also available in a number of themed mini sets of between 5 and 13 volumes or as a complete collection

Critical Psychiatry 2006-07-12

Italy's Margins 2014-03-27 how science consultants make movie science plausible in films ranging from 2001 a space odyssey to finding nemo stanley kubrick s 2001 a space odyssey released in 1968 is perhaps the most scientifically accurate film ever produced the film presented such a plausible realistic vision of space flight that many moon hoax proponents believe that kubrick staged the 1969 moon landing using the same studios and techniques kubrick s scientific verisimilitude in 2001 came courtesy of his science consultants including two former nasa scientists and the more than sixty five companies research organizations and government agencies that offered technical advice although most filmmakers don t consult experts as extensively as kubrick did films ranging from a beautiful mind and contact to finding nemo and the hulk have achieved some degree of scientific credibility because of science consultants in lab coats in hollywood david kirby examines the interaction of science and cinema how science consultants make movie science plausible how filmmakers negotiate scientific accuracy within production constraints and how movies affect popular perceptions of science drawing on interviews and archival material kirby examines such science consulting tasks as fact checking and shaping visual iconography kirby finds that cinema can influence science as well depictions of science in popular films can promote research agendas stimulate technological development and

even stir citizens into political action

Health and Illness in the Neoliberal Era in Europe 2020-11-26 joining society asks precise questions to what are the young socialized which skills modes of thinking or action are required from them and what are their developmental value socialization tends to be viewed within the confines of a particular geographical or cultural situation the multi national list of contributors brings an international perspective to the problem of socialization to work and to adult life while at the same time emphasizing the common issues that face youth around the world some of the topics addressed are the rules and roles involved in socialization attaining personal agency through collective activity use of new technologies and the role of intergenerational relationships this book sheds new light on the processes through which society may hope to intervene in positive ways with today s youth

The Liberal Christian 1823 spurred by ideals of individual liberty that took hold in the western world in the late nineteenth century psychiatrists and public officials sought to reinvent asylums as large scale totally designed institutions that offered a level of freedom and normality impossible in the outside world this volume explores the caged freedom that this new psychiatric ethos represented by analyzing seven such buildings established in the austro hungarian monarchy between the late 1890s and world war i in the last two decades of the habsburg empire architects of asylums began to abandon traditional corridor based plans in favor of looser formations of connected villas echoing through design the urban and freedom oriented impulse of the progressive architecture of the time leslie topp considers the paradoxical position of designs that promoted an illusion of freedom even as they exercised careful social and spatial control over patients in addition to discussing the physical and social aspects of these institutions topp shows how the commissioned buildings were symptomatic of larger cultural changes and of the modern asylum s straining against its ideological anchorage in a premodern past of unenlightened restraint on human liberty working at the intersection of the history of architecture and the history of psychiatry freedom and the cage broadens our understanding of the complexity and fluidity of modern architecture s engagement with the state with social and medical projects and with mental health psychiatry and psychology

Real Social Science 2012-04-19 italy s margins explores how certain places and social groups in italy have been defined as marginal or peripheral since unification this marginalization involves not only concrete policies but also ways of perceiving people and places as outside society s centre the author looks closely at how photography and writing have supported political and

social exclusion and conversely how they have been enlisted to challenge it five cases are examined the peripheries of italy s major cities after unification its east african colonies in the 1930s the less developed areas of its south in the 1950s its psychiatric hospitals before the reforms of the late 1970s and its nomad camps after 2000 each chapter takes its lead from a symptomatic photograph and is followed by other pictures and extracts from written texts these allow the reader to examine how social marginalization is discursively performed by cultural products

Joining Society 2004

Practice Makes Perfect: Italian Vocabulary 2007-12-26 go beyond arrivedirci and add thousands of words to your italian vocabulary to communicate comfortably in italian you need access to a variety of words that are more than just the basics in practice makes perfect italian vocabulary you get the tools you need to expand your lexicon and sharpen your speaking and writing skills and how do you this practice practice practice each chapter of this comprehensive book focuses on a theme such as family or travel so you can build your language skills in a systematic manner as you lay the foundation for a burgeoning vocabulary you will perfect your new words with plenty of exercises and gain the confidence you need to communicate well in italian practice makes perfect italian vocabulary offers you more than 250 exercises concise grammatical explanations an answer key to gauge your comprehension with help from this book you can easily speak or write in italian about different occupations and jobs italian holidays and traditions taking the train growing your own garden where it hurts on your body your house your family and friends what you studied in school your favorite tv show your family s background and much more

Psychiatry and Anti-Psychiatry 2013-10-11 dante fedele s new work of reference reveals the medieval foundations of international law through a comprehensive study of a key figure of late medieval legal scholarship baldus de ubaldis 1327 1400

The Limits of Transnational Law 2010-03-18 a new hands on approach to social inquiry for social scientists who wish to make a difference to policy and practice

Encyclopedia of Disability 2006 kosik writes that the history of a text is in a certain sense the history of its interpretations in the fifteen years that have passed since the first czech edition of his dialectics of the concrete this book has been widely read and interpreted throughout europe in diverse centers of scholarship as well as in private studies a faithful english language edition is long overdue this publication of kosik s work will surely provoke a range of

new interpretations for its theme is the characterization of science and of rationality in the context of the social roots of science and the social critique which an appropriately rational science should afford kosik's question is how shall karl marx's understanding of science itself be understood and how can it be further developed in his treatment of the question of scientific rationality kosik drives bluntly into the issues of gravest human concern not the least of which is how to avoid the pseudo concrete the pseudo scientific the pseudo rational the pseudo historical starting with marx's methodological approach of ascending from the abstract to the concrete kosik develops a critique of positivism of phenomenalist empiricism and of metaphysical rationalism counter posing them to dialectical rationalism he takes the category of the concrete in the dialectical sense of that which comes to be known by the active transformation of nature and society by human purposive activity

Critical New Perspectives on ADHD 2006-09-27 the majorana case is beautifully written with a pleasant style and concatenates a great deal of material a text that could only be written by those who know the life and work of ettore majorana very well as prof recami the book traces the extraordinary life of ettore majorana through his letters documents and several testimonies from his friends and family members what makes it more fascinating is that the author presented it also as a detective story by exploring his mysterious disappearance at young age the personal testimonies also give to the book a welcome surplus the majorana case therefore is both a pleasant biography and a mystery book contemporary physicist ettore majorana was born in the sicilian city of catania he joined enrico fermi's via panisperna boys at an early age and was part of the team who first discovered the slow neutrons the research that would lead to the nuclear reactor and eventually the atomic bomb enrico fermi considered him one of brightest scientists comparable to galileo and newton on march 25 1938 ettore majorana mysteriously disappeared at 31 when the author moved to the university of catania sicily from milan university back in 1968 he soon discovered important documents pertaining to majorana's life and works together with his own investigative materials and full cooperation from majorana's family members he published a book on his disappearance in italian after having helped the famous italian writer leonardo sciascia to write down his known essay by supplying him with copy of some of the discovered documents recami's book was entitled il caso majorana epistolario documenti testimonianze and when it first appeared in italy it drew interest from all the major newspapers publications and tvs broadcast media even after his disappearance ettore majorana's name appeared in many areas of frontier physics research ranging from elementary

particle physics to applied condensed matter to mathematical physics and more his long lasting contributions is a testimony of his brilliance and farsightedness and has continued to draw interest from scientists not only in italy but from all over world until today an english version of the original is very appropriate at this juncture when more and more scholars in the world are getting convinced that he was really a genius like galileo and newton this book traces the extraordinary life of etto majorana through his letters documents and testimonies from his friends and family members what makes this book more fascinating as a detective story too is his mysterious disappearance at young age this book therefore is both a biography and a mystery book

The Pride 2010 combines theme and genre analysis in a study of the italian author from her first literary writings in the 1930s to her novels in the 1990s Asylums. Essays on the Social Situation of Mental Patients and Other Inmates 1971 the first english language publication of a classic french book on the relationship between the development of photography and of the medical category of hysteria in this classic of french cultural studies georges didi huberman traces the intimate and reciprocal relationship between the disciplines of psychiatry and photography in the late nineteenth century focusing on the immense photographic output of the salpetriere hospital the notorious parisian asylum for insane and incurable women didi huberman shows the crucial role played by photography in the invention of the category of hysteria under the direction of the medical teacher and clinician jean martin charcot the inmates of salpetriere identified as hysterics were methodically photographed providing skeptical colleagues with visual proof of hysteria s specific form these images many of which appear in this book provided the materials for the multivolume album iconographie photographique de la salpetriere as didi huberman shows these photographs were far from simply objective documentation the subjects were required to portray their hysterical type they performed their own hysteria bribed by the special status they enjoyed in the purgatory of experimentation and threatened with transfer back to the inferno of the incurables the women patiently posed for the photographs and submitted to presentations of hysterical attacks before the crowds that gathered for charcot s tuesday lectures charcot did not stop at voyeuristic observation through techniques such as hypnosis electroshock therapy and genital manipulation he instigated the hysterical symptoms in his patients eventually giving rise to hatred and resistance on their part didi huberman follows this path from complicity to antipathy in one of charcot s favorite cases that of augustine whose image

crops up again and again in the iconographic Augustine's virtuosic performance of hysteria ultimately became one of self sacrifice seen in pictures of ecstasy crucifixion and silent cries

Alexander: Child of a Dream 2001-10

The Creation of Psychopharmacology 2009-07 David Healy follows his widely praised study of the antidepressant era with an even more ambitious and dramatic story of the discovery and development of antipsychotic medication. Healy argues that the discovery of chlorpromazine, more generally known as thiorazine, is as significant in the history of medicine as the discovery of penicillin, reminding readers of the worldwide prevalence of insanity within living memory. But Healy tells not of the triumph of science but of a stream of fruitful accidents of technological discovery leading to neuroscientific research of fierce professional competition and the backlash of the antipsychiatry movement of the 1960s. A chemical treatment was developed for one purpose and as long as some theoretical rationale could be found, doctors administered it to the insane patients in their care to see if it would help. Sometimes it did dramatically. Why these treatments worked, Healy argues provocatively, was and often still is a mystery. Nonetheless, such discoveries made and unmade academic reputations and inspired intense politicking for the Nobel Prize. Once pharmaceutical companies recognized the commercial potential of antipsychotic medications, financial as well as clinical pressures drove the development of ever more aggressively marketed medications with verve and immense learning. Healy tells a story with surprising implications in a book that will become the leading scholarly work on its compelling subject.

Loss and the Other in the Visionary Work of Anna Maria Ortese 2014-03
Experts from all over the world take a critical, highly international and often controversial perspective on the ADHD phenomenon, a condition that has reached global proportions, significantly affecting the lives of children, parents, and teachers worldwide. This book raises a number of concerns often not covered by the material currently available to parents and practitioners: critical new perspectives on ADHD, unpicks the myths surrounding the development of this phenomenon, and leaves no stone unturned in its search for answers. An in-depth exploration into the reasons for the emergence and maintenance of ADHD leads to suggested explanations of the dominance of US psychiatric models and the need for new markets for major pharmaceutical companies, as well as the functions that ADHD diagnoses fulfil in families, classrooms, and communities in a world where moves to educational inclusion are paradoxically paralleled by the ever-increasing use of medication to control children's behaviour. This book scrutinises current accepted practice.

and offers alternative perspectives and strategies for teachers and other education professionals this in an invaluable resource for anyone with a serious interest in adhd and other behavioural difficulties

La via italiana alla democrazia 2017-01-12T00:00:00+01:00 all inizio del 2013 si sono verificati due eventi inediti la rielezione a capo dello stato di giorgio napolitano e il successo elettorale del movimento 5 stelle questi due fatti hanno segnato una cesura che ha concluso il novecento politico degli italiani a partire da questa novità interpretativa l autoreripercorre l intera storia repubblicana ricostruisce tra l altro i modi con cui le famiglie politiche hanno concorso all organizzazione del potere e alla vita collettiva realizzando una prima socializzazione politica di massa e come pur essendo i soggetti fondatori della democrazia e della sua stabilit  siano pressoch  scomparse

The Wall of the Earth 1992 schizophrenia was 20th century psychiatry s arch concept of madness yet for most of that century it was both problematic and contentious this history explores schizophrenia s historic instability via themes such as symptoms definition classification and anti psychiatry in doing so it opens up new ways of understanding 20th century madness

The Prison and the Factory 1981

A Treatise on Madness 1758

Dialectics of the Concrete 2012-12-06 this fascinating story of madness reveals the radically different perceptions of madness and approaches to its treatment from antiquity to the present day roy porter explores what we really mean by madness covering an enormous range of topics from witches to creative geniuses electric shock therapy to sexual deviancy psychoanalysis to prozac the origins of current debates about how we define and deal with insanity are examined through eyewitness accounts of those treating patients writers artists and the mad themselves

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