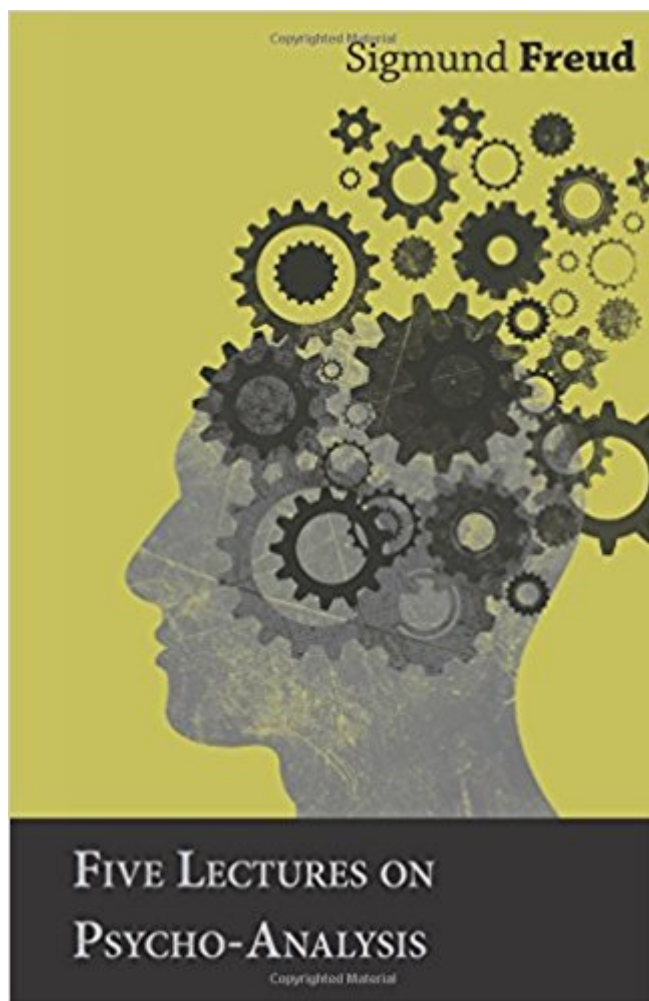


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Five Lectures On Psycho-Analysis



Synopsis

This early work by Sigmund Freud was originally published in 1910 and we are now republishing it with a brand new introductory biography. 'Five Lectures on Psycho-Analysis' is a collection of lectures delivered by the father of psychoanalysis. Sigmund Schlomo Freud was born on 6th May 1856, in the Moravian town of Příbor, now part of the Czech Republic. He studied a variety of subjects, including philosophy, physiology, and zoology, graduating with an MD in 1881. Freud made a huge and lasting contribution to the field of psychology with many of his methods still being used in modern psychoanalysis. He inspired much discussion on the wealth of theories he produced and the reactions to his works began a century of great psychological investigation.

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Customer Reviews

This book was assigned reading from a liberal studies seminar at a local state university long ago. This particular edition was re-read that I recently finished. The BN Publishing reprint of 2008 lacks the translator's name on the title page, but I presume it is James Strachey, whose name is on the Norton edition. It is copyrighted 2008 by BN Publishing, so there is no guarantee the text is the same. It lacks a table of contents, introduction or preface. Text retains British spellings. These were public lectures held at Clark University, Worcester, Mass., in 1909. Freud lectures here are not as technical as in some of his other books. Has a few footnotes, some by the translator; has an appendix of other works by Freud, with a longer bibliography of his works, as well as some other psychoanalysts he cites in his lectures. The book is a survey of the history and development of

psychoanalysis. The five lectures covers such topics as hysteria, the talking cure, hysterical conversion, states of consciousness, hypnoid states, hysterical disassociation, splitting of consciousness, cathartic procedure, repression, jokes and their relation to the unconscious, ideational elements, complexes, free association, association experiments, interpretation of dreams, dream-problems, sexual complexes, small faulty actions by people, neuroses, the erotic life, infantile sexuality, auto-eroticism, origin of perversion, the sexual development of children, etc. He believes in a deterministic cause of mental life. Nothing is trivial or haphazard. The psycho-analytical technique is already efficient enough to fulfill its task: to bring the pathogenic psychical material into consciousness, He defends himself against his critics in several places in the book. He believes his theories are universal. He believes that sexual etiology is of decisive importance. Much of the last two lectures focuses on sex,, namely, the withdrawal from reality being the main purposes of mental illness. He talks of involution, of repression, reality and fantasy, wish fulfillment, and the like. He talks of transference as part of the patient's emotional life. He goes into much detail discussing transference and the childhood development of sexuality. He becomes defensive again about his theories, saying, people are unaccustomed to reckoning with strict and universal application of determinism to mental life. He discusses at length what happens when the unconscious wishes have been set free by the psychoanalyst. Then he discusses the possible outcomes of the work of the psychoanalyst. Freud's theories gained enormous fame and influence in the field of psychiatry. Yet he still has critics and to many his ideas are discarded. Yet I have encountered people who say you have to love Freud, while in fact there is no obligation to accept anything g Freud says. It has been said that Freud's theories only apply to middle-class 19th century Jewish women of Vienna. But that is an exaggeration. However, psychiatrists have discovered that the world has cultures where Freud's theories do not apply. I myself am critical of Freud, especially his doctrine of determinism, for this implies humans don't have free will. I would say Freud is out of date, and people look for more modern theorists of the mind.

What a treat to read conversationally presented topics in such approachable language. While some of the theory is "dated", there are the classics of thought that hold to today's theory. A classic for psychoanalytic clinicians.

That's Freud, unique and necessary, of course, if one intends to learn about the human soul

Got this for school. It was a'ght.

It's Freud.

Good

This was an interesting book. It documents Freud's ideas on psychoanalysis and was very illuminating. I would recommend this to increase someone's general knowledge.

In this study Freud delves into the studies of psycho-analysis and prepares a prognosis that stipulate his observations. He confesses that this series of lectures are not the entire studies of psycho-analysis but provide just a glimpse into the subject. In the Study of Hysteria: hysterical patients have been noted to suffer from prior reminiscences. Their symptoms are residues and mnemonic symbols of particular traumatic experiences. Not only do the patient remember the painful experiences of the remote past; but they still cling to them emotionally; they cannot free themselves of the past and for its sake they neglect what is real and immediate. The fixation of this mental life to pathogenic traumas is one of the most significant and practically important characteristics of neurosis. Typically in the pathogenic situations; the patient is emotionally overwhelmed and is obliged to suppress a powerful instead of allowing its discharge in the appropriate signs of emotions, words or actions. One is driven to assume that the illness occurred; because the affects generated in the pathogenic situations had their normal outlet blocked and the essence of the illness lay in the fact that these 'strangled' affects were then put to an abnormal use. In short they remained a permanent burden upon the patient's mental life and a source of constant excitation for it. Freud disagrees with Pierre Janet's thesis that hysterical patients; are inherently incapable of holding together the municipality of mental process into a unity; arises the tendency of mental dissociation. Janet in his experiments showed that in hypnosis the lapses of the supposed lost memories could be brought back. On the contrary Freud suggests that forgotten memories were not lost. They were in the patient's possession and were ready to emerge in association to what was still known by him; but there was some force that prevented them from becoming conscious and compelled them to remain unconscious. The force that was maintaining this the pathological condition became apparent in the form of resistance on the part of the patient. What Freud has found out about pathogenic complexes and repressed wishful impulses of neurotic traces back the symptoms of the patients' illness with really surprising regularity to impression from their erotic life. Even before puberty extremely energetic repression's of certain

instincts have been effected under the influence of education, and mental forces such as shame, disgust and morality have been setup, which like watchmen, maintain these repressions. So that when at puberty the high tide of sexual demands is reached, it is met by these mental reactive or resistant structures like dam, and make it impossible for it to reactivate the instincts that have undergone repression.

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