



Trouble In Mind: Stories From A Neuropsychologist's Casebook

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In Trouble In Mind, neuropsychologist Jenni Ogden, author of Fractured Minds, transports the reader into the worlds of 15 of her most memorable neurological patients. There is Luke, the gang member who loses his speech but finds he can still sing, and HM, who by losing his memory becomes the most studied single case in medical history. You will meet Julian, who misplaces his internal map of the human body, Melody, a singer who risks losing her song when she undergoes brain surgery to cure her epilepsy, and Sophie who has just enough time to put her house in order before Alzheimer's dementia steals her insight. For the patients, the struggle to understand their disordered minds and disobedient bodies takes extraordinary courage and determination. For professionals and researchers working with these patients, the ethical and emotional challenges are demanding. Trouble In Mind is a book that will be enjoyed by students, health professionals and general readers alike.

Trouble In Mind: Stories From A Neuropsychologist's Casebook Details

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From Reader Review Trouble In Mind: Stories From A Neuropsychologist's Casebook for online ebook

Kerry says

Interesting case studies on what can go wrong when the brain is damaged. After over 20 years of ME, I could relate to some of the brain issues even if I don't actually have any brain damage.

Jenni Ogden says

As I wrote in my review for "Fractured Minds" it does not seem appropriate to put a star quality against one's own book! However, I note that many authors do give their own books 5 stars, perhaps just to get the reviewing started... Also having spent blood, sweat and possibly even tears over writing it, deep down authors may truly score it as amazing. And to write a book and see it published is certainly no mean achievement. Nevertheless, my only way of rationalizing this 5-star review is by virtue of the truly amazing stories that belong not to me but to the people whose stories they are. I can't rate how well I've portrayed them—only readers can do that— but I can rate every person in this book—neurological patients and their families and friends— as truly amazing. Every one of them began as an "ordinary" person, and went on to become extraordinary. I can only hope I have done justice to their courage, perseverance and positive spirit.

Kathleen Dixon says

Last year I read Jenni Ogden's Fractured Minds: A Case-Study Approach to Clinical Neuropsychology and thoroughly enjoyed the case-studies, being sufficiently fascinated by it to be interested in reading this as well. When I read the introduction I was a little taken aback as I read that some of the case-studies would be repeated (with more on the personal side) and I wasn't too sure that I 'approved' of re-using material. However, I just finished this book and read almost every word - I just skimmed a little of the technical stuff (and I didn't read the chapter on HM as I have read a lot elsewhere about him). Jenni writes so very readably!

These stories can give us all a great deal of insight into the problems faced by people with brain damage, but what I particularly liked was reading about how the professionals work with the patients and their families. It is heartening to see how much caring goes into the care-giving.

Jenni Ogden says

This Australian edition of "Trouble In Mind" published by Scribe Publications differs from the Oxford University Press, New York, edition in that it begins with a brief preface and then goes straight to the case studies, and the original Introductory chapter on the basics of clinical neuropsychology and neuroanatomy are included as appendices at the end. It has UK/Australian spelling and a striking new cover, and as well as in trade paperback is available as a Kindle, Kobo and iBook (at least to Australian and New Zealand readers).

Rosemary says

Jenni Ogden's *Trouble in Mind* pulls you into the lives of several individuals with vastly different brain disorders. Each personal story flows effortlessly, with clinical information presented so accessibly, that it's easy to forget you are reading a doctor's casebook! Several times I found myself shaking my head in disbelief or exhaling deeply at the oddball diagnosis or sheer enormity of the challenges these individuals faced, yet Ogden captures each person's essence and inner self in a way that is truly insightful and captivating.

Reading *Trouble in Mind* is a great way to learn about the human brain from a human perspective, as told by the kind of compassionate neuropsychologist (and woman) we would all like to call a friend.

I particularly liked hearing about each patient's personal life and how he or she navigated the world in his or her specific condition. I felt a special bond with one young woman, and rejoiced with her when I learned that an operation I never knew existed allowed her to remain seizure-free and have the children she so longed to bear. This is an engaging, informative book that teaches, inspires, and ultimately makes you grateful for your own miraculous brain. Great read!

Patrick Costigan says

Informative/inspirational stories in digestible chunks. It's so crazy how brains sometimes (don't) work.

Emma Codd says

New Zealand author, Jenni Ogden, has taught, researched and practised in the fields of clinical psychology and neuropsychology for 27 years. Now, in her fascinating new book *Trouble in Mind: Stories from a Neuropsychologist's Casebook*, she shares some her most remarkable experiences – and patients.

In Ogden's previous text, *Fractured Minds: a case-study approach to clinical psychology*, she shared some of her more unusual cases from her time spent working in some of the world's leading hospital. This was a book aimed at students and professionals working in the field of psychology. In *Trouble in Mind* Ogden revisits many of these cases but this time her book will appeal equally to students and professionals, to those living with or supporting someone with a brain disorder, and to readers who merely have an interest in this topic.

Reading like a memoir, Ogden maintains a real sense of intimacy as she tells the stories of 15 patients living with brain injuries and disorders. This is a topic that has the potential to be quite dry, but Ogden uses these patients as the foundation for exploring it. We learn about the individual people she encountered as much as about the brain injuries they presented with, and through understanding their individual experiences we, as readers, are given some insight into the human brain and how it works.

What makes *Trouble in Mind* particularly appealing is how personal it is. When we have known someone with a disorder or disease, when we have seen how it has affected them, the person, we come away with a true notion of the impact and effect of the disorder. What better way then to explain neuropsychology than through the real-life stories of Ogden's patients?

As I read her sensitive accounts I felt I knew these people learning to cope with the unexpected, I laughed with them and empathised for them and their families. I encountered individuals with Alzheimer's, Huntington's and Parkinson's disease, and those with aphasia, hemineglect and epilepsy. Some had inherited diseases and others had endured brain injuries due to accidents. All of them were utterly relatable. In amidst her patients' stories, Ogden effortlessly weaves in the science of the brain, its functions and what happens when things go wrong. She does so in a way that keeps a potentially dry topic interesting, and in a way that is clear and understandable, regardless of your previous knowledge on the subject.

If her goal was accessibility, Ogden has achieved this. For whatever reason you are interested, whether personal or academic, Trouble in Mind will offer you new insights into the workings of the brain.

Katherine Skinner says

Loved this. A great way to learn a bit about neuroscience through real people's stories. As absorbing as a novel, and very compassionately told.
