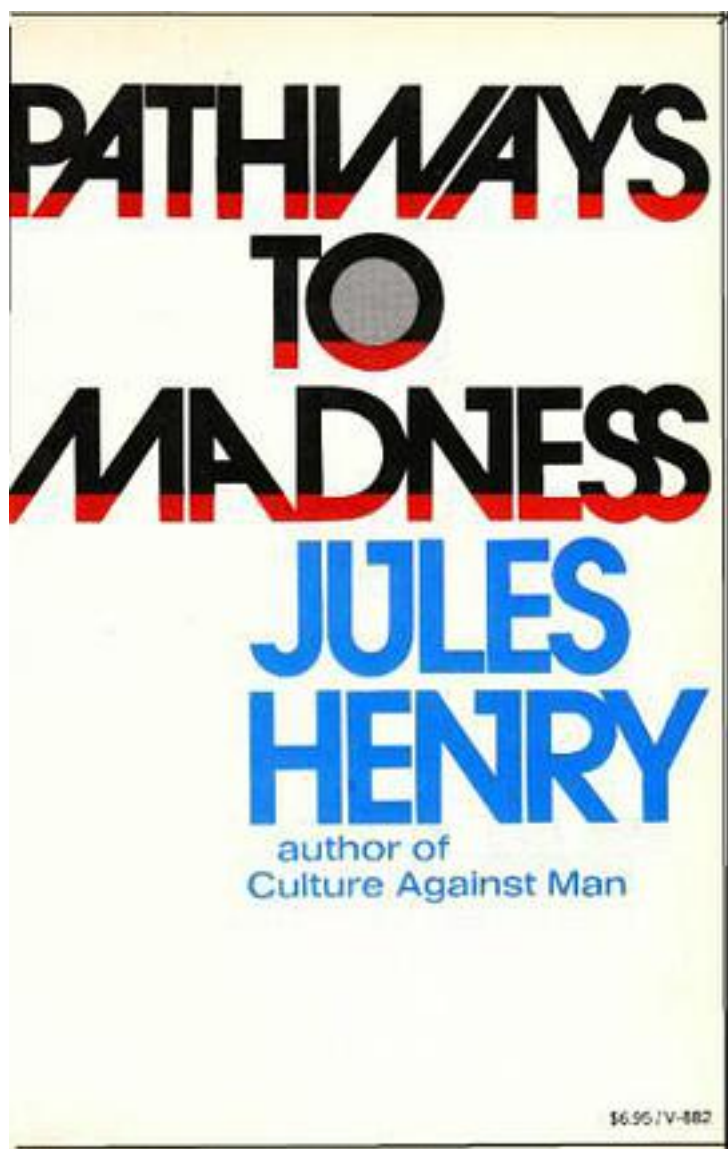


Pathways to Madness V882



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i Preface
 This book is written for children. I hope it will help reduce the misery in their lives; and I hope some parents will be able to save themselves some suffering by avoiding some mistakes with their children. Some may be made aware that usually we do not know what we are doing to them. In 1948 in a paper entitled "Common Problems of Research in Anthropology and Psychiatry" I said that since lack of scientific knowledge family life was an obstacle to understanding of illness researchers should live for a short time with families of the emotionally ill. The idea was as might have been expected ignored by "the profession." Years later however Bruno Bettelheim made it possible for me to do the work with the aid of Ford Foundation funds he had at his disposal. I am grateful for his help his insight and his confidence in me. I am grateful also for the opportunity to learn from him and his associates. The first product of my studies of the families of psychotic children was a monograph entitled "L'Observation naturaliste des familles d'enfants psychotiques" published in Paris in 1963. In 1963 I published "The Portman Family" and "The Ross Family" in my Culture Against Man. This book is not only a study of pathways to madness but also indirectly an account of some changes in myself as the years passed between "L'Observation naturaliste" and completion of "The Keen Family" which is the final study in this volume. Meanwhile the world changed too--the sense of doom of helplessness was not quite as strong in the world when I published my first study as it is now--and as the world crisis deepened my work was affected I think my own understanding was improved. About half this book was written during my tenure as a fellow of the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences and I am most grateful to its director Ralph Tylor a sensitive man who knows how to say "Y" and to its staff. I also want to thank Washington University for the "year off." I wish I could thank by name the organizations that introduced me to the families discussed here but to do so would violate privacy. I have discussed every page of this book with my wife and it is likely that some of its weaknesses might have been eliminated had I accepted all of her suggestions. I am also grateful to Berenice Hoffman for superb editorial work. I want to thank Barbara Willson for her patient and superb copyediting. Jarvis Louie of Othello at the Volxwerk pp. 69-70. In the Journal of the La Jolla Child. Vintage Books; New York. Random House.

作者介绍:

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