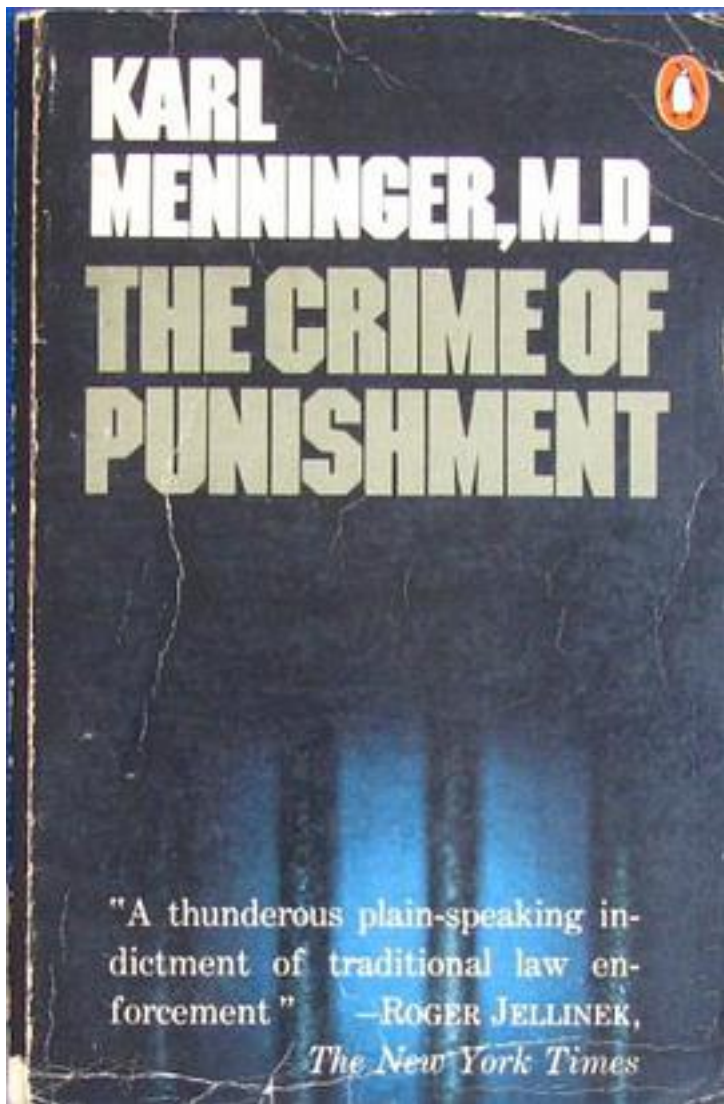


The Crime of Punishment



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Preface
In 1942 two well-known Chicago boys conspired to kill an unknown young
younger friend for no obvious reason. Partly just because the crime seemed so
senseless and partly because the families could not afford to pay for their
services many prominent American psychiatrists were brought into the
limelight of the trial to explain the state of mind of the offenders. These colleagues
were arraigned against one another; the opinions sworn to by some were flatly
contradicted and denied by others. This awkward and inconclusive exhibition
gave rise to widespread public comment. It came at a time when in fields other
than the law, psychiatry was leaping into a new prominence and promise of
usefulness. The outpatient clinic had been created, neurophenamine had
been discovered, psychological tests were being developed, the child
guidance clinic had been born, and psychoanalysis and other forms of
psychiatric treatment were inspiring new hope in a field long characterized by
cheerlessness and despair. It seemed appropriate, therefore, to William
Alanson White, then president of the American Psychiatric Association to
appoint a special committee of that organization to study the relation
of psychiatry and psychiatrists to the law and lawyers, to control and to court
procedure. To my great surprise, he pointed me chairman of that committee.

作者介绍:

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