



Operators and Things: The Inner Life of a Schizophrenic

Barbara O'Brien

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Reissue of the 1958 classic true story of a woman's descent into schizophrenia and her journey back to sanity.

"O'Brien has produced a work of brilliance and power, evoking a combination of Kafka and Joyce, with a touch of Orwell." Robert R. Kirsch, *Los Angeles Times*

"An absorbing account of life in the dream world of a schizophrenic." *Publishers Weekly*

"For six months she travels around the country on Greyhound buses, captive of the Operators, who push and pull, torment, confuse, and exhaust her. And at the end of her time of madness, she understands precisely what has been happening. Her insight is penetrating and irresistible. Her writing is delectable. She displays gut-wrenching humor and pungent metaphor with an eloquent, eminently readable style. This book is enthusiastically recommended." *Coevolution Quarterly*

"Astonishing recollections." *Punch*

"Striking autobiography." *Phenomenological Sociology*

"Brilliantly reveals what the unconscious is like." *Publishers Trade List Annual*

"...the author is contributing irreplaceably to our knowledge." *Archives of General Psychiatry*

"A beautifully lucid autobiographical description of a psychotic episode that lasted six months whose healing motion is clear." R.D. Laing, *The Politics of Experience*

"With penetration and satisfying imagery, Miss O'Brien (a pseudonym) describes her psychosis, from which unaccountably and spontaneously she recovers." William F. Buckley, *National Review*

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