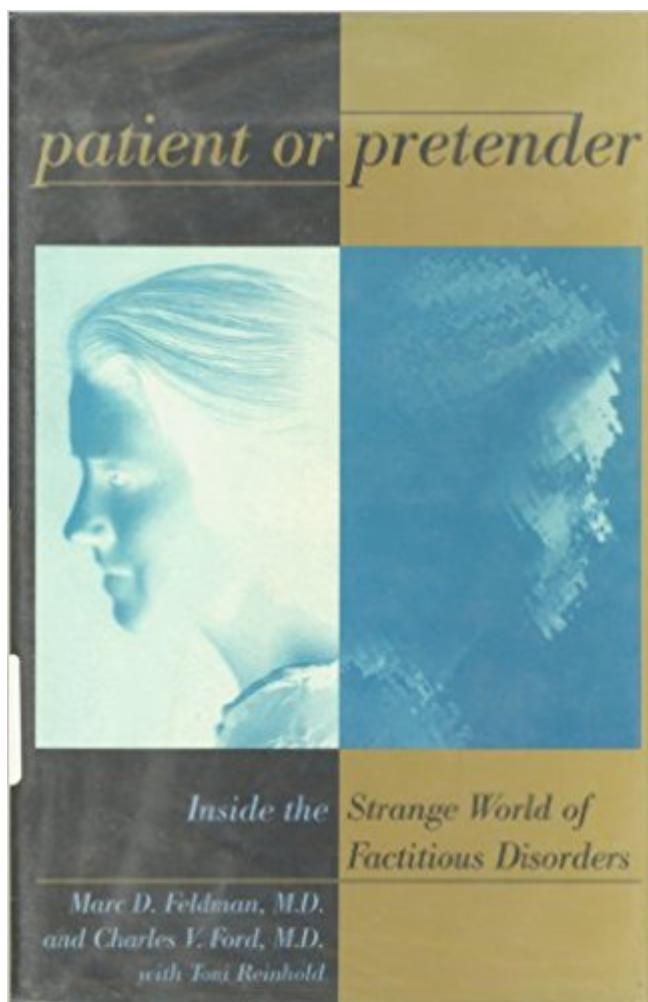


The book was found

Patient Or Pretender: Inside The Strange World Of Factitious Disorders



Synopsis

Recounts the case histories of factitious disorder patients who make themselves ill as a way of gaining emotional fulfillment and recognition. They take playing sick to pathological extremes, profoundly affecting their lives as well as the lives of those who support them. In these pages, readers will find a group of cases so bizarre that they challenge the imagination and, at times, medical knowledge.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

According to psychiatrists Feldman and Ford, most of the patients featured in this engrossing collection about feigned illnesses shared a desperate need for attention, sympathy and drama. Recent research suggests they are subject to a brain dysfunction ("factitious disorder") that requires psychiatric care. The authors' medical mystery stories range from simulated breast cancer to near fatal faking of anemia by self-bloodletting. Other patients invent stomach disorders, bulimia, fevers, seizures, blindness, or insanity, with some purposeful patients deliberately ingesting rat poison or drugs. Most cruel of all deceptions is a form of Munchausen syndrome in which a parent fakes the illness of a child. In a book of more interest to professionals, the authors recommend special training for practitioners who hope to treat these "real, not false patients" despite their calculated deceptions.

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Psychiatrists Feldman and Ford describe the bizarre phenomenon of patients who fake symptoms

or serious illness (including cancer or AIDS) to get emotional support and attention. A patient's skill at convincing doctors often derives from experience as a healthcare worker or as a caretaker or relative of someone who is chronically ill. In its extreme form, known as Munchausen Syndrome by Proxy, this phenomenon leads patients to make a career of seeking hospitalization for themselves or their children, often disappearing when challenged and reappearing later at another institution. The authors stress the need for early detection and discuss the ethical and legal issues involved. Recommended for medical and large public libraries.- Lucille Boone, San Jose P.L., Cal. Copyright 1993 Reed Business Information, Inc.

An outstanding book on an apparently too common problem leading to various forms of child abuse. No doubt it can carry over into cases of parental alienation syndrome as well. This book led me to having the opportunity to save my young son; and acquire sole custody pro se. All should be on guard for the profile of the 'dedicated' nurturing parent who in reality may be a self serving disturbed individual in reality.

This book Patient or Pretender is an extensive study about Munchausen Disease. This is when a person pretends to be ill to receive attention. It is a mental illness in that the person craves attention and would do anything to get it, even hurt themselves. My take on the prognosis is that it is very hard to cure. The patient usually leaves treatment as soon as he is found to be pretending about his illness. These patients rarely seek psychiatric help. This was my first purchase on . I found everything I needed in the description of the book on line. I knew it was about the subject that I was interested in. The used book place that mailed me this book couldn't have been nicer. He kept me up to date on line regarding when I could expect my purchase. It came on time.

fascinating book

For people interested in factitious disorders, this is a good book. Though it is an older book, it is interesting to see how more and more people in today's society are developing these disorders. This book is on the forefront of factitious disorders, giving good ground work and understanding. If you are looking for terrible case studies, this is probably not the book for you.

Excellent case studies portraying factitious disorder and similar disorders!

This book is very readable and uses case histories to teach about the factitious illnesses. As I have a family member who appears to suffer from this, it is helping me to understand her better and to come up with an approach to perhaps helping her. Even without the personal interest, it is valuable to know about this illness as we may meet people in our daily lives who can draw us into artificial dramas that we should avoid.

Wonderful book and amazing author.

Great Thank you very much

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