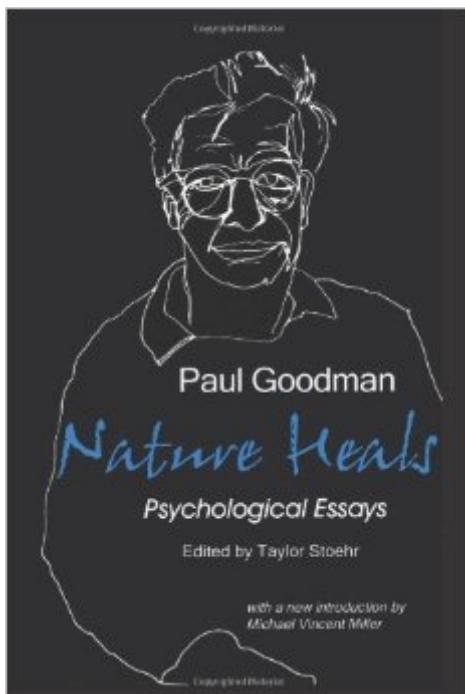


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Nature Heals: The Psychological Essays Of Paul Goodman



Synopsis

Paul Goodman was one of the founders and major theoreticians of Gestalt therapy, as well as a practicing psychotherapist for many years. He constantly sought to understand the nature of ourselves and our society. "Our misery seems so ingrained that it calls for an explanation from our essential natures." "Nature Heals" contains Goodman's most important writings on psychology, including his critiques of Sigmund Freud and Wilhelm Reich, his discussions of aggression, racism, sex, ethics and other areas of modern psychopathology. Of particular interest is his appraisal of the special problems of writers, and his notes on his own self-analysis. This book stands alone as perceptive psychological writing. These essays also help us understand the underpinnings of Goodman's political and literary visions. The pieces - some of them published here for the first time - have been selected and introduced by Taylor Stoehr, Goodman's biographer and one of his literary executors.

Book Information

Paperback: 302 pages

Publisher: Gestalt Journal Press; 2nd Revised ed. edition (January 1, 1977)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0939266113

ISBN-13: 978-0939266111

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.7 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars See all reviews (1 customer review)

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Customer Reviews

This volume collects two dozen essays by the brilliant anarchist critic Paul Goodman. The introduction by Goodman's disciple Taylor Stoehr presents a cogent and intimate portrait of Goodman's contribution to psychology, providing useful context for his wide ranging selections of Goodman's psychological writings: his engagements with Freud and Reich, and his psychological approaches to literature, sociology, and self-knowledge. As always, Goodman thrills with his agile, vivid, humane prose, and the book is chock full of penetrating aphorisms. As the collection is largely of short works written for periodicals, it can sometimes feel a little breezy; those looking for a more

comprehensive picture of Goodman's psychology would do well to seek out his "Gestalt Therapy."

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