



# The Man with the Beautiful Voice: And More Stories from the Other Side of the Couch

*Lillian B. Rubin*

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**The Man with the Beautiful Voice: And More Stories from the Other Side of the Couch** Lillian B. Rubin

In her long career as a psychotherapist, acclaimed author Lillian Rubin occasionally encountered patients who demanded a very special, even unorthodox, therapeutic approach. For the first time, Dr. Rubin tells the stories of her most fascinating, most challenging cases from the other side of the couch, focusing not just on the patient, but on her own inner process as she confronts the issues each case raises.

## The Man with the Beautiful Voice: And More Stories from the Other Side of the Couch Details

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# From Reader Review The Man with the Beautiful Voice: And More Stories from the Other Side of the Couch for online ebook

## Deb says

\*The book with the beautiful voice\*

Wonderfully real and inspirational reflections of therapeutic sessions with a therapist who seems to have the healing combination of genuineness, authenticity, self- and other-awareness, and the innate desire to really hear and see her clients. The words harmoniously sing from the pages of this book with the chorus repeatedly reminding us that in therapy it is indeed the relationship that heals.

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## Teriteriri says

+ zajímavé terapeutické postupy

porušení pravidel v klinické praxi a jeho ne/výhody

- přílišná zjednodušení pro laické čtenáře na úkor kvality (?)

sebechvála a opakující se popis vlastní jedinečnosti, i když místy částečně skrytý za "sypaním si popele na hlavu"

nejpřínosnější pasáže - úvod a závěr

k zamyšlení: Terapeutický vztah a překračování hranic -> závislost klienta na terapeutovi?

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## z says

a bit of a jarring read.

good:

- Rubin makes some good points that the therapeutic process is a two-way street and that therapist is always part of the picture of the relationship.

- the stories themselves are interesting.

bad:

- the storytelling is not very engaging. there are a lot of preaching and arguing with "the therapeutic community at large" that disrupted the stories.

- yes, we get to see the struggles from the therapist's point of view, but some of the stories are told in such a way that it was very obvious she intentionally tried to set up a certain expectation from the reader so that as the story progresses, we would be sympathetic to her situation.

- it is as if she was very insecure about certain choices (breaking the "conventional" rules and boundaries) and wanted to make sure that by telling the stories (with a lot of setting-up-the-expectations), the reader would agree with the choices she made and that she was still competent as a therapist. I as a reader felt like I was pressured to take on her opinions/choices rather than being able to simply read the stories and make my

own conclusion.

for tales told by psychotherapists, I would recommend instead:

- The Examined Life
  - Schopenhauer's Porcupines: Intimacy And Its Dilemmas: Five Stories Of Psychotherapy
  - The Gossamer Thread: My Life as a Psychotherapist
- 

### **John says**

A fairly quick read covering some of the author's more noteworthy cases as a therapist. I found all but the last one highly engaging, and that because I had difficulty relating to the patient's situation than any problems with the writing. Dr. Rubin addresses the issue of following professional rules, even when the situation seems to cry out for an exception ("bending"), including one client relationship, with a tragic ending, where she second-guesses herself to the reader.

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### **Shelley says**

This is an excellent book on the reality of working with difficult patients. Highly recommend it to therapists in training.

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### **miss anamnesia says**

Další výborná knížka z psychoterapeutického prostředí. Některé příběhy mě až dojaly a autorčina osobnost mi byla velmi sympatická.

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### **Ash says**

A pleasant read for people who want to get into the mind of a psychotherapist. Although her style of therapy is in many ways different than my own, I appreciated her general perspective and found her stories to be engaging and fun to read.

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### **Tina says**

This is a book written by a therapist. Each chapter focuses on a different client and how in her work with them she may have done something that others in the field would see as a boundary crossing but in her work with them it gave good results. As a therapist some of the things made me cringe a little (though she was never unethical in my opinion) because as she says boundaries are so ingrained in us from the very start of training. Examples of how important it is for a therapist to also be a human being.

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## Kristin says

Interesting book. This author has been a psychotherapist in San Francisco for over 30 years. She give an interesting account of some of her impressions of the profession in general and then details the therapies of about 5 of her patients. Some of these were success stories and some were not. The author goes into detail about what she was thinking during these sessions and her struggles with how to handle certain situations. It was an easy and interesting read.

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## Tina says

### 3.5 Stars

So, here I am sitting in the aftermath of "The Man With the Beautiful Voice" and I am a bit taken aback. I had to sit and really define to myself what I felt about the book. To make all my feelings and thoughts fair on the subject I will attempt this review finally. While many of the stories at the beginning were engaging, keeping me highly intrigued, I felt that intrigue quickly cool by about page 81. In truth toward the end the author, Mrs. Lillian B. Rubin PH.D., had somehow snuck back into my heart but with none of the intenseness which I so happily prescribed. Instead the stories which provoked inner thoughts mocking me to self-discovery were replaced with those which only allowed external conversation but no internal struggle. The earlier intenseness was all but extinguished. Moreover, I felt after the 3 the stories the book seemed to be on a spin, recycle, and re-use plan. Let us just say I was none too thrilled with that rehashing cycle. Further, it was clear the author was articulate and well-knowledged. It was also apparent she too knew those same facts, a small insight which was not as amiable. Certain words and phrases also began to make me physically cringe. I don't know how no one finally went STOP MENTIONING YOU DON'T THINK YOURSELF GRANDIOSE. Was it perchance the word of the day? I had half a thought to pick up a highlighter and begin counting how many times it popped up, I know it had to be at least once a story and that was about 7 times to many. After explaining to the reader a thought/idea once don't insult them by berating them with the same thought exactly written or highly mirrored numerous times...it is insulting. After the third retelling of how she doesn't allow her transference to affect her judgments, and she is sure she acts on keen insight and clarity, not any overly internal self-grandiose thoughts I began to wonder WHO she was trying to convince...the reader or herself? Surely one wants to be degraded in a book, it was only 162 pages, my memory is not that short. Repetition of her "lacking" mother, Jewish heritage, and impatience (ironic since she didn't like her patients to monopolize or repeat and yet she did just that). All the thoughts were profound the first time around but by the 8th retelling of how hard it was to be Jewish or how she had little patience or whatever other antecedent I found myself less and less empathetic and caring, and instead, bored. The intrigue is through discovery and confrontation not repetition. However, that all said it was still a nice read. I enjoyed hearing her stories, how she related, interacted, and treated her patients.

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## Stephanie says

This book delves into the mentality and struggles of a beginning therapist. I really enjoyed it. I could relate to many of the chapters as this therapist tries to find the balance of her training and the depth of the human experience. From her very first session to the end I realized what I already knew. That no amount of training or book knowledge can prepare you for the range of emotion and at times helpless that come with being an

insightful and thoughtful therapist. Great read!

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### **Nancy says**

Definitely enjoyed this. It was interesting to learn more about the vantage point from the other side of the couch. One thing that struck me about the author's viewpoint was how heavily she relied on empathy to help her clients. It made me wonder whether she could only be helpful where she was able to feel empathy or whether it was that she tended to remember most clearly the clients with whom she'd empathized. I also loved her insight that both in her own interaction with her therapist and in her interactions with her own clients, it was the sometimes the relationship, as much as the insight, that was healing.

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### **Rowella says**

Prachtig boek waarin Rubin aan de hand van beschrijvingen van verschillende clienten en hun therapieën laat zien hoe belangrijk de therapeutische relatie is en afstemming op de individuele client. Ik bewonder hoe open ze schrijft over haar eigen emoties, gedachten en handelingen en zich daarmee soms kritisch uitlaat over richtlijnen en dogma's in de therapie en zich kwetsbaar opstelt. Ze laat hiermee ook de menselijke kant van de therapeut zien. Ik hoop dat ik ooit in de buurt kom van wat zij weet te bewerkstelligen, niet alleen bij haar clienten, maar ook in haar eigen leven en persoonlijke ontwikkeling.

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### **Katja says**

This was a good introduction to therapy, written by a counsellor recounting her first year as a therapist. These stories were fascinating and educational, and they demonstrated to me that in therapy, above all you have to expect ANYTHING. It was so interesting to read about how she handled all the challenges of therapy, although the last one about a Spanish woman was WAY too self-congratulatory for my liking ('I had gone through the same thing so I knew I was the only one who could help her' ...\*spew.\*) Still, it's a good read, particularly for young therapists just starting out.

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### **Iwik Pásková says**

Zajímavá ?tivá kniha, jež vyobrazuje p?řib?hy n?kolika pacient? psychoterapeutky Lillian B. Rubin. Více píší zde: [www.iwikovaknihovna.cz/2017/04/26/muz...](http://www.iwikovaknihovna.cz/2017/04/26/muz...)

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