



# Personality Disorders in Modern Life

*Theodore Millon*

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## **Personality Disorders in Modern Life Theodore Millon**

A revision of the leading textbook on personality disorders by renowned expert Theodore Millon

"Personalities are like impressionistic paintings. At a distance, each person is 'all of a piece'; up close, each is a bewildering complexity of moods, cognitions, and motives."

-Theodore Millon

Exploring the continuum from normal personality traits to the diagnosis and treatment of severe cases of personality disorders, *Personality Disorders in Modern Life, Second Edition* is unique in its coverage of both important historical figures and contemporary theorists in the field. Its content spans all the major disorders-Antisocial, Avoidant, Depressive, Compulsive, Histrionic, Narcissistic, Paranoid, Schizoid, and Borderline-as well as their many subtypes. Attention to detail and in-depth discussion of the subtleties involved in these debilitating personality disorders make this book an ideal companion to the DSM-IV(TM).

Fully updated with the latest research and theory, this important text features:

Discussion of the distinctive clinical features and developmental roots of personality disorders  
Balanced coverage of the major theoretical perspectives-biological, psychodynamic, interpersonal, cognitive, and evolutionary  
Individual chapters on all DSM-IV(TM) personality disorders and their several subtypes and mixtures  
Case studies throughout the text that bring to life the many faces of these disorders  
Including a new assessment section that singles out behavioral indicators considered to have positive predictive power for the disorders, this Second Edition also includes a special focus on developmental, gender, and cultural issues specific to each disorder. A comprehensive reference suitable for today's practitioners, *Personality Disorders in Modern Life, Second Edition* features a clear style that also makes it a valuable resource for advanced undergraduate and graduate students. The most thorough book of its kind, this Second Edition is a powerful, practical resource for all trainees and professionals in key mental health fields, such as psychology, social work, and nursing.

## **Personality Disorders in Modern Life Details**

Date : Published August 6th 2004 by Wiley (first published October 8th 1999)

ISBN : 9780471237341

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Format : Hardcover 624 pages

Genre : Psychology, Nonfiction, Science, Medicine, Psychiatry

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# From Reader Review Personality Disorders in Modern Life for online ebook

## Daryl Fatula says

Everything anyone wants to know about personality disorders! This book is amazing, clear and concise!

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## So Hakim says

This is a psychology textbook. The fantastic thing is, I can read and enjoy it... from outside the discipline. My background is engineering. But man, I LOVE this book. :)

Being outside the discipline I can't judge about technical details, however, this book introduced its topics very well. Every chapter was given consistent analytical structure:

### *From Normality to Abnormality*

Well, psychological disorders are degrees in certainty. The authors made clever use of the term "medical student syndrome": just because you feel it fits you doesn't mean you really are.

### *Variations*

Or, how every case of disorders are different.

### *Early Historical Forerunners*

How current scientific consensus were reached, and if (when?) there are still debates. I find this most helpful as someone not formally trained in psychology.

### *The Biological Perspective*

For the more deterministic people out there. There have been complaints about psychology being "too much soft science", so...

### *The Psychodynamic Perspective*

Or, how one particular disorder reacts around different kind of social stimulation. I'm tempted to call it "chemistry of psychological state", but maybe I shouldn't.

### *The Cognitive Perspective*

Explaining how particularly disordered person thinks and decide -- based on clinical reports.

### *The Evolutionary-Neurodevelopmental Perspective*

See "The Biological Perspective" above.

### ***Therapy***

Overview on how a particular disorder may be treated. As per before, based on clinical reports.  
(Can't talk more about this; not my area)

### ***Summary***

All the above recapped, summarized. ~~Well, duh!~~

Well-structured, flowing prose, full of clinical data and anecdotes. I personally learned much from this book. Not that I became psychologist after reading, no: it's about approaching the topic in more disciplined & formal way.

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### **Kiky says**

Thank you for helping me to understand more about personalities :)

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### **Luke says**

This is the definitive book on personality disorders. Superb.

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### **Amy says**

This is a textbook that I read in its entirety just for fun. I can't comment on this book's usefulness in the academic and professional settings it was aimed at since I have no formal background in psychology, but it is written in such a way that a layperson with interest in the topic should be able to keep up without difficulty. Basic concepts are explained clearly before going into more detail and the book has consistent organization throughout.

A few of my favorite things about the book's approach:

Each personality disorder is described as being on a continuum from normal to abnormal. This shows how people can exhibit traits similar to all the symptoms, yet not be considered pathological. This gives a realistic perspective of what changes a pathological individual might achieve as they move toward a more functional state.

Each personality disorder is broken down into subtypes. Most people aren't diagnosed with a single, pure version of a personality disorder with no additional conditions. This explains how vastly different individuals with the same personality disorder can seem and the reasons why.

Multiple case studies are given for each disorder. This shows how the symptoms might manifest in real people and what real-world problems they might face that bring them to therapy. They are referenced throughout the chapter as examples of the concepts being explained.

This book isn't only about what might be considered for formal clinical diagnosis. Ample coverage is also given to disorders that aren't yet considered valid by the DSM.

I won't go into detail about everything the book covers, but it is thorough. Other features include quite a bit of psychology history, multidisciplinary approaches to each disorder, differential diagnosis, descriptions of diagnostic tools, therapy tips and pitfalls, and specific controversies related to the disorders.

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### **Vera Maharani says**

I don't usually add a textbook to goodreads unless I intend to read it as a personal enjoyment. I read it first in my social pathology class and I think this book offers really interesting insight about personality disorders from different perspectives.

It's very comprehensive but easy to understand, with real-case of personality disorder. Even non-psychology student can understand it easily -if they don't just pass the introduction parts, of course.

I recommend it for every psychology student and -ahem- fiction writers who are curious about the tendencies of their characters and where they stand in the spectrum of normality.

-Rereading for the sake of a story I'm working on, hahaha

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### **Ana Paula Gonzalez Toledo says**

es un libro muy didáctico que logra reunir las principales teorías científicas para cada trastorno de la personalidad, de una manera breve, coherente y comprensible. Desmenuza una a una las diferentes estructuras que arrojan las funciones que vemos día a día en la practica clínica.

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