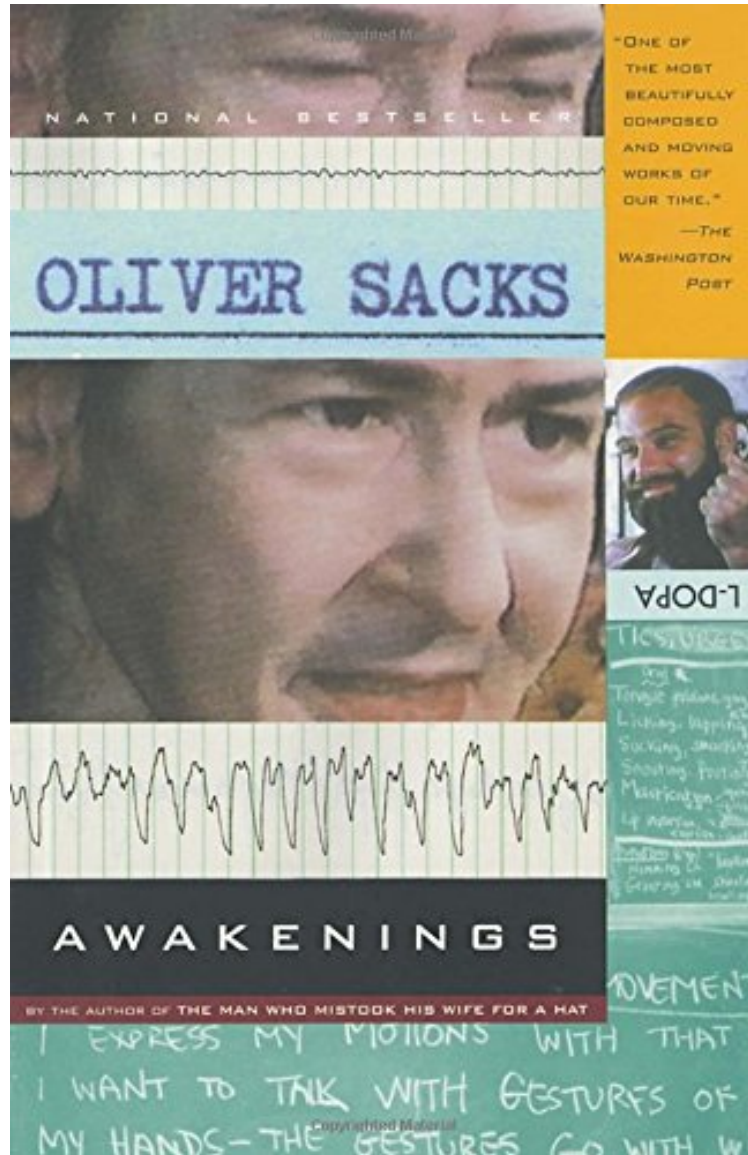


(Download) Awakenings

Awakenings

Oliver Sacks

**Download PDF / ePub / DOC / audiobook / ebooks*



DOWNLOAD



+

READ ONLINE

#46859 in Books Vintage 1999-10-05 1999-10-05 Original language: English PDF # 1 7.97 x .89 x 5.18l, .90
#File Name: 0375704051464 pages Great product! | File size: 42.Mb

Oliver Sacks : Awakenings before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Awakenings:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A brilliant and haunting book By Marius Gabriel The Robin Williams film of the same name was loosely based on this book by Oliver Sacks, but the film tells only part of the story, and inserts an unnecessary amount of distracting romance and sentimentalism into it. The story of how catatonic patients, some of whom had been silent and immobile for decades, were brought back to life with the "miracle drug" L-Dopa by

Dr Oliver Sacks is told as a group of case-studies. It is extraordinarily fascinating, touching and thought-provoking. This is a book which will haunt you and inspire you. Highly recommended. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Rhonda B Good book. A nice compliment after watching the movie first. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. More than just a book about a disease... By Joy Merritt This book gave me a great insight into the the dreaded disease, Parkinson's. Dr. Sacks' book goes beyond the complexities and complications of this disease by addressing the deeper needs of his patients, and sharing his insights, in an effort to understand what gives purpose to the lives of his patients, as well as aiming to help them fulfill those purposes.

Awakenings--which inspired the major motion picture--is the remarkable story of a group of patients who contracted sleeping-sickness during the great epidemic just after World War I. Frozen for decades in a trance-like state, these men and women were given up as hopeless until 1969, when Dr. Oliver Sacks gave them the then-new drug L-DOPA, which had an astonishing, explosive, "awakening" effect. Dr. Sacks recounts the moving case histories of his patients, their lives, and the extraordinary transformations which went with their reintroduction to a changed world.

.com It hardly seems fair that so many great doctors are also great writers. Perhaps it's qualities like sensitivity, craft, and dedication that keep physicians like Oliver Sacks in hospitals all day and at writing desks all night; if nothing else, these qualities shine in books like *Awakenings*. This powerful set of case histories rises above its pathological foundation to find new literary territory, a medical-spiritual synthesis equally stimulating for the mind and the soul. It's no wonder Hollywood producers chose to turn it into a feature film--anyone can see the universal human struggle against bondage and despair in these pages. The sleeping-sickness epidemic of 1918 caused hundreds of survivors to slip into a bizarre rigid paralysis with similarities to advanced Parkinson's disease. These patients, only occasionally able to communicate or move, were nearly all institutionalized for life, their ranks increasing every now and then with similarly afflicted men and women. Sacks came to work at a long-term care facility shortly before the first exciting results with L-dopa and Parkinson's in the late 1960s; his patients soon embarked on dramatic, difficult recoveries from up to 50 years of torpor. He documents their spiritual and medical obstacles with great care to portray their individual personalities, long suppressed but finally released. Though many great doctors are also great writers, few can compare with Oliver Sacks for expressing the relation of medicine to the human spirit. --Rob Lightner "[Sacks] opens to the reader doors of perception generally passed through only by those at the far borders of human experience" -- The Boston Globe "From the Inside Flap" "One of the most beautifully composed and moving works of our time." --"The Washington Post "Compulsively readable. . . . Dr. Sacks writes beautifully and with exceptional subtlety and penetration into both the state of mind of his patients and the nature of illness generally. . . . A brilliant and humane book." --A. Alvarez, "The Observer" *Awakenings*--which inspired the major motion picture--is the remarkable story of a group of patients who contracted sleeping-sickness during the great epidemic just after World War I. Frozen for decades in a trance-like state, these men and women were given up as hopeless until 1969, when Dr. Oliver Sacks gave them the then-new drug L-DOPA, which had an astonishing, explosive, "awakening" effect. Dr. Sacks recounts the moving case histories of his patients, their lives, and the extraordinary transformations which went with their reintroduction to a changed world. "[Sacks] opens to the reader doors of perception generally passed through only by those at the far borders of human experience." --"The Boston Globe "A masterpiece." --W. H. Auden