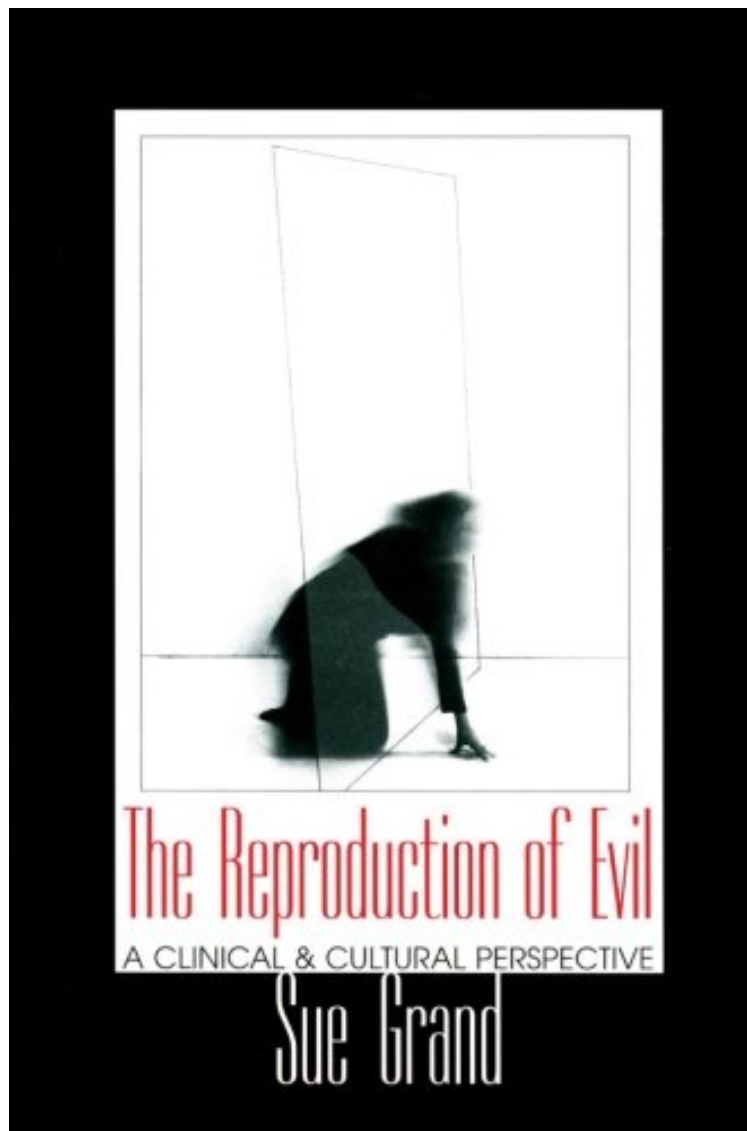


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The Reproduction of Evil: A Clinical and Cultural Perspective (Relational Perspectives Book Series)

Sue Grand

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Sue Grand : The Reproduction of Evil: A Clinical and Cultural Perspective (Relational Perspectives Book Series) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Reproduction of Evil: A Clinical and Cultural Perspective (Relational Perspectives Book Series):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A remarkable contribution that has deepened and informed my work ...By Marc KaminskyA remarkable contribution that has deepened and informed my work with patients who split off their murderous rage within the dissociated self state that also preserves the sense of injured innocence of the victimized child. A highly original and eloquent synthesis of dissociation theory (Bromberg, et. al.)/relational psychoanalysis (Mitchell, Harris, et. al.) and neo-Kleinian theory (Ogden, et. al.) enriched by the author's literary and historical knowledge.

Why is it that victims of abuse so often become perpetrators, and what can psychoanalysis offer to these survivor-perpetrators, whose criminal conduct seems to transcend the possibilities of empathic psychoanalytic inquiry. In *The Reproduction of Evil*, Sue Grand engages these deeply troublesome issues in the belief that psychoanalysts can and should reclaim the study of what lies beyond ordinary human empathy. Her goal is to elucidate the link between traumatic memory and the perpetration of evil. To this end, she presents an interdisciplinary analysis, at once scholarly and passionate, of the ways in which families and cultures transform victims of malignant trauma into perpetrators of these very traumas on others. Through intensive case studies, Grand draws the reader into the world of the survivor-perpetrators who commit acts of child abuse, of incest, of racial persecution, even of homicide and genocide. By infusing psychoanalytic inquiry with cultural analysis and by supplementing clinical vignettes with well-chosen literary illustrations, Grand is able to convey the survivor-perpetrator's immediacy of experience in a manner that readers may find unsettling, even uncanny. By interweaving psychoanalytic, sociohistorical, and literary perspectives, Grand fills a critical lacuna in the literature about trauma and its intergenerational transmission. Her analysis of the psychodynamic processes and cultural tensions that bind perpetrators, victims, and bystanders provides trenchant insights into the violence and fragmentation that beset our society. Essential reading for a wide clinical audience, *The Reproduction of Evil* will also be powerfully informative for academic and lay readers interested in the intrapsychic, interpersonal, and cultural factors that account for the perpetuation of evil from generation to generation.

"Drawing on her own clinical experiences and the work of others, Sue Grand challenges us to take on the perilous task of identifying individuals dedicated to malice and killing, and to try to work with them on the murderous core of their personality through psychoanalytic psychotherapy. Among the many merits of her book are her rich clinical and historical portraits of those individuals at risk for a life of 'malignant dissociative disorder' and her clarification of the role of confrontation in their treatment. It is essential, Grand holds, for these patients to take responsibility for their hateful forms of destructiveness. It is the therapist's challenge, on the other hand, to bear the pain with the patient, to resist the temptation of revenge, and thereby to provide a therapeutic medium for the process of self-healing. In a century in which the Holocaust was at first glance easier to comprehend because it was preceded by the long-standing Nazi habit of declaring victims to be 'enemy aliens,' it behooves us to study the phenomena of human destructiveness. *The Reproduction of Evil* is essential to such study." - Henry Krystal, M.D., Author, *Integration and Self Healing* (Analytic Press, 1993) "The *Reproduction of Evil* is a moving book written by a therapist who is also a philosopher and a poet. When Sue Grand presents her clinical findings, we hear more than cases; we meet people who, in spite of deep disturbances, are uniquely alive. Grand's book is an important addition to the literature on massive social evil, a phenomenon that has been the hallmark of the century behind us." - Martin S. Bergmann, Ph.D., Clinical Professor of Psychology, NYU "Sue Grand offers us a fascinating, profound, and wide-ranging reflection on trauma, abuse, and dissociation. As she weaves her remarkable narrative, she is able to unify the concrete reality of pain and violence with the best of what psychoanalytic theory has to offer. Her ethical clarity, her depth of observation, her elegant writing, and the courageousness of her clinical stance place her among the few psychoanalysts who truly inspire us to consider afresh the furthest reaches and darkest edges of our field." - Jessica Benjamin, Ph.D., Author, *Shadow of the Other* About the Author Sue Grand, Ph.D. is a supervisor at the New York University Postdoctoral Program in Psychoanalysis and a supervisor and faculty member at the Manhattan Institute of Psychoanalysis. She is in private practice in Teaneck, New Jersey and in New York City.