Bibliography of First-Person Narratives of Madness In English (4th edition)

This Bibliography is in four sections: (1) personal accounts of madness written by survivors themselves; (2) narratives written by family members; (3) anthologies and critical analyses of the madness narrative genre; and (4) websites featuring oral histories and other first-person madness accounts.

Last revised in November 2008 with assistance from Cheryl McGraw, Catherine Riffin, and Moriah Silver.

Please send corrections, additions, comments or inquiries to:

Gail A. Hornstein
Professor of Psychology
Mount Holyoke College
South Hadley, MA  01075 USA
ghornste@mtholyoke.edu

Personal Accounts of Madness by Survivors Themselves


Agnew, Anna. From Under a Cloud; or, Personal Reminiscences of Insanity. Cincinnati: Robert Clarke, 1886.


--- Bedlamiana: or, Selections from the “Asylum Journal.” Lowell, for the Compiler, 1846.


--- “Illustrations of Insanity Furnished by the Letters and Writings of the Insane.” American Journal of Insanity. 4: 290-303, 1848.

--- I Lost My Memory--The Case as the Patient Saw It. London: Faber, 1932.

--- “Insulin and I.” American Journal of Orthopsychiatry. 10: 810-14, 1940.


--- “Ordeal in a Mental Hospital.” The Radical Therapist, 1974.


--- The Petition of the Poor Distracted People in the House of Bedlam. London: 1620.


Clemens, Louisa Perina Courtauld. *Narrative of a Pilgrim and Sojourner on Earth, from 1791 to the Present Year, 1870*. Edinburgh: 1870.

Crowe, Anne Mary. A Letter to Dr. R. D. Willis: to Which are Added, Copies of Three Other Letters: Published in the Hope of Rousing a Humane Nation to the Consideration of the Miseries Arising from Private Madhouses: with a Preliminary Address to Lord Erskine. London: The Author, 1811.
----- The London-Citizen Exceedingly Injured; or, a British Inquisition Display’d, in an Account of the Unparallel’d Case of a Citizen of London, Bookseller to the Late Queen, Who Was in a Most Unjust and Arbitrary Manner Sent on the 23rd of March Last, 1738, by One Robert Wightman, a Mere Stranger, to a Private Madhouse. London: T. Cooper, 1739.
----- Mr. Cruden Greatly Injured: An Account of a Trial between Mr. Alexander Cruden, Bookseller to the Late Queen, Plaintiff, and Dr. Monro, Matthew Wright, John Oswald, and John Davis, Defendants: in the Court of the Common-Pleas in Westminster Hall July 17, 1739, on an Action of Trespass, Assault and Imprisonment: the Said Mr. Cruden, Tho’ in His Right Senses, Having Been Unjustly Confined and Barbarously Used in the Said Matthew Wright’s Private Madhouse at Bethnal-Green for Nine Weeks and Six Days, till He Made His Wonderful Escape May 31, 1738. To Which is Added a Surprising Account of Several Other Persons, Who Have Been Mostly Unjustly Confined in Private Madhouses. London: A. Injured, 1740.


Davis, Phoebe E. *Two Years and Three Months in the New York State Lunatic Asylum at Utica, Together with the Outline of Twenty Years’ Peregrinations in Syracuse.* Syracuse: The Author, 1855.


Denny, Lydia B. *Statement of Mrs. Lydia B. Denny, Wife of Reuben S. Denny, of Boston, in Regard to Her Alleged Insanity.* n.p., 1862.


Feugilly, Mary Heustis. *A Diary Written in the Provincial Lunatic Asylum*. The Author, 1885.


Fleming, E. G. *Three Years in a Mad House*. Chicago: Donohue, Henneberry, 1893.


Greiner, S. *Prelude to Sanity*. Fort Lauderdale: Master Publications, 1943.


Johnson, Donald McIntosh. *Bars and Barricades, Being the Second Part of “A Publisher Presents Himself.”* London: Johnson, 1952.

Johnson, Donald McIntosh. *A Doctor Regrets, Being the First Part of “A Publisher Presents Himself.”* London: Johnson, 1949.

Johnson, Donald McIntosh. *A Doctor Returns, Being the Third Part of “A Publisher Presents Himself.”* London: Johnson, 1956.


Kinder, Elaine F. “Postscript on a Benign Psychosis.” *Psychiatry*. 3: 527-34, 1940.


McGarr, Margaret Atkins. *And Lo, the Star.* New York: Pageant, 1953.


Stone, Elizabeth. *A Sketch of the Life of Elizabeth T. Stone, and of Her Persecution, with an Appendix of Her Treatment and Sufferings While in the Charleston McLean Asylum Where She was Confined Under the Pretence of Insanity*. Boston: The Author, 1842.

-- Remarks by Elizabeth T. Stone, upon the Statements Made by H.B. Skinner, in the Pulpit of the Hamilton Chapel, on Sunday Afternoon, 18th of June 1843, in Reference to What She Had Stated Concerning His Being Chaplain in the Charlestown McLean Asylum: and Also a Further Relation on Her Suffering While Confined in That Place for 16 months and 20 days. Boston: The Author, 1843.


-- *The American Godhead; or, the Constitution of the United States Cast Down by Northern Slavery, or by the Power of Insane Hospitals*. Boston: The Author, 1861.


Swan, Moses. *Ten Years and Ten Months in Lunatic Asylums in Different States*. Hoosick Falls: The Author, 1874


Thaw, Harry K. *The Traitor—Being the Untampered with, Unrevised Account of the Trial and All that Led to it*. Philadelphia: Dorrance, 1926.


Turner, Cyrus S. *Eight and One-Half Years in Hell.* Des Moines: Turner, 1912.


Victor, Sarah M. *The Life Story of Sarah Victor.* Cleveland: Williams, 1887.


Wilson, W. *They Call Them Camisoles*. California: Lymanhouse, 1940.


Narratives by Family Members


**Anthologies, Narrative Analyses, and Criticism**


Bridges Creative Writing Group. *I am God's Goldfish and Other Writings*. UK: Breckland Print Solutions, 1999.


Jackson, Vanessa. *In Our Own Voice: African-American Stories of Oppression, Survival and Recovery in Mental Health Systems*. Available from P. O. Box 10796, Atlanta, GA 30310.


Websites Featuring First-Person Madness Narratives

Alaska Mental Health Consumers Website: http://www.akmhcweb.org
Antipsychiatry Coalition: http://www.antipsychiatry.org
Asylum Magazine: http://www.asylumonline.net
ECT: http://www.ect.org
Freedom Center: http://www.freedom-center.org
Hearing Voices Network: http://www.hearing-voices.org
Icarus Project: http://www.theicarusproject.net
Institute for the Study of Human Resilience: http://www.bu.edu/resilience
International Guide to the World of Alternative Mental Health: http://www.alternativementalhealth.com
International Community for Hearing Voices: http://www.intervoiceonline.org
Law Project for Psychiatric Rights: http://psychrights.org
M-Power: http://www.m-power.org
Mad Not Bad: http://www.madnotbad.co.uk
Mad Pride: http://www.ctono.freeserve.co.uk
Mental Health Client Action Network of Santa Cruz County: http://www.mhcan.org
Mental Health Media: http://www.mhmedia.com
Mental Health in the UK: http://www.zoo.pwp.blueyonder.co.uk
Mind: http://www.mind.org.uk
Mind Freedom International: http://www.mindfreedom.org
National Association for Rights Protection and Advocacy: http://www.narpa.org
National Empowerment Center: http://www.power2u.org
Pennsylvania Mental Health Consumers Association: http://www.pmhca.org
People Who: http://www.peoplewho.org
Prinzhorn Collection: http://prinzhorn.uni-hd.de/index_eng.shtml
Psychiatric Survivor Archives: http://psychiatricsurvivorarchives.com
Successful Schizophrenia: http://www.successfulschizophrenia.org
Survivors Art Foundation: http://www.survivorsartfoundation.org