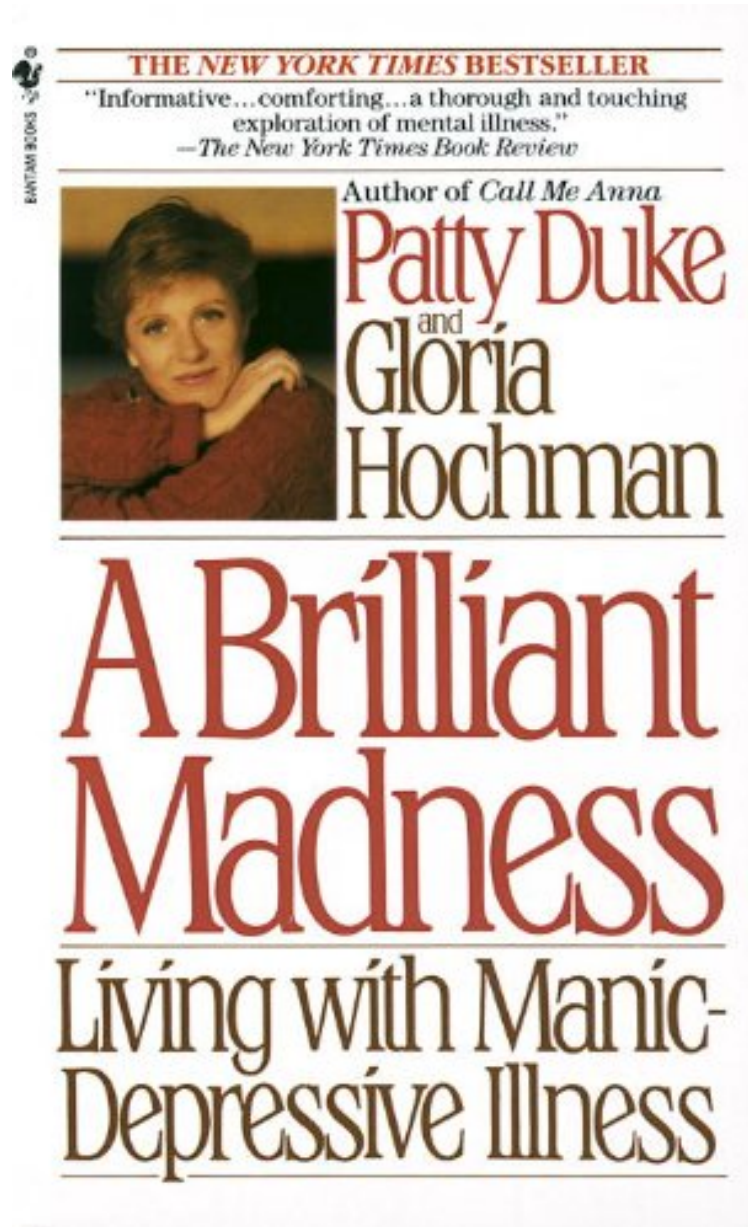


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## Brilliant Madness: Living with Manic Depressive Illness

Von *Patty Duke*

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**Von Patty Duke : Brilliant Madness: Living with Manic Depressive Illness** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Brilliant Madness: Living with Manic Depressive Illness:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. finally!

Some real answers to all my questions Von Ein Kunde Patty Duke's book A Brilliant Madness is the first real good information about bi-polar disorder I have been able to put my hands on! The medical backup information that Gloria Hochman contributes has given me an almost unlimited list of resources to also turn to. I read this book because my 9yr old son and my current husband are both diagnosed as bi-polar, but as I read this intense book I was amazed by feelings of fear, relief, sadness, and anger. I was able to relate to much of what I read and began to see myself which is scary. I now want to find help for all of us as our area is devoid of support groups and other local means of coping with this illness. This book is truly "Brilliant" in both the writing style and the content and has given me some hope in an otherwise bleak future. I strongly recommend this book to anyone where Manic Depression has touched their lives. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Matter of fact/Good beginning for bipolar education Von Ein Kunde I went out and bought this book the day after my 5th therapist diagnosed me as bipolar. She was the first to ever give me a reason and explanation for my life and its events. I read Anna's book in three hours and felt as though my life was finally being explained and someone was justifying who I was. Now that I know why I am the way I am I can move forward and realize that I am not a freak but a human with a chemical imbalance that is now being controlled with lithium. The book is well written from two points of view a medical and personal. The book gives a person a condensed packet of information that can be worked with as one does future research on bipolar disease. Education is the key to understanding and that was the point brought across by these two fine women. Thank you Anna for opening my eyes once again. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Changed my Life Von Carol Frederiksen AFreder843@aol.com I have known there was something wrong with me since I was about 16. For years I thought I had low blood sugar which could account for mood swings. After dealing with a moderate to severe drinking problem, my mood swings persisted. By reading this and Patty Duke's first book, Call Me Anna, I was able to self diagnose myself as manic depressive. After four years of using lithium and an antidepressant, my life is 180 degrees different. I no longer have to try to control my feelings 24 hours a day. And, of course, it just wasn't possible to control them with manic depression. It's a tough disease to cope with when the people who have it are frequently highly intelligent and creative. Such people should be able to control their emotions, shouldn't they? Thank you Patty Duke!

Kurzbeschreibung In her revealing bestseller Call Me Anna, Patty Duke shared her long-kept secret: the talented, Oscar-winning actress who won our hearts on The Patty Duke Show was suffering from a serious-but-treatable-mental illness called manic depression. For nearly twenty years, until she was correctly diagnosed at age thirty-five, she careened between periods of extreme euphoria and debilitating depression, prone to delusions and panic attacks, temper tantrums, spending sprees, and suicide attempts. Now in A Brilliant Madness Patty Duke joins with medical reporter Gloria Hochman to shed light on this powerful, paradoxical, and destructive illness. From what it's like to live with manic-depressive disorder to the latest findings on its most effective treatments, this compassionate and eloquent book provides profound insight into the challenge of mental illness. And though Patty's story, which ends in a newfound happiness with her cherished family, it offers hope for all those who suffer from mood disorders and for the family, friends, and physicians who love and care for them. From the Paperback edition. From Kirkus s Duke tells the story of her manic-depressive illness and its successful treatment, while in alternating chapters medical-writer Hochman (Heart Bypass, 1982) explains the facts of the disease and the methods of treatment currently available. Duke's strange and unhappy childhood was chronicled in Call Me Anna, and is touched on here only to show how fundamentally unloved and rejected she felt. Her manic-depressive disorder began to manifest itself when she was a young woman living in Hollywood, at the peak of her career, starring in The Patty Duke Show. As the illness escalated, her life degenerated into frequent suicide attempts, drug dependency, wrecked relationships, tantrums on the set. She began hallucinating and engaging in bizarre behavior like holding parties in her motel room for hordes of strangers (one of whom she married after a few hours' acquaintance) and hiring two guys she met in a parking lot to manage her finances (with results that can be imagined). Finally, her illness was diagnosed and successfully treated with lithium, which she takes to this day and to which, she says, she owes her present stable, happy marriage and her very life. Hochman provides information on the various forms of depression and the various guises that bipolar (manic-depressive) illness can take, identifies people at risk for these diseases, discusses the link between manic-depressive disorder and creativity, and surveys medical treatments and family-support techniques that can help the sufferer. The tone seesaws between the lurid and the dry, depending on whether Duke or Hochman is writing. But despite its gracelessness, this memoir has merit: Duke shows bravery in telling her story in all its humiliating fragrance, and undoubtedly sufferers from this puzzling and devastating disease will find help in the explanations and resources Hochman diligently provides. -- Copyright 1992, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved. Pressestimmen "A groundbreaking guide for those who are manic depressive or who live with or love someone who is." -- Publishers Weekly