

Girl Interrupted Susanna Kaysen

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Girl Interrupted Susanna Kaysen

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Girl, Interrupted Simon and Schuster

Seminar paper from the year 2002 in the subject American Studies - Literature, grade: 1,3 (A), Technical University of Braunschweig (English Seminar), course: HS Film and Literature, 3 entries in the bibliography, language: English, abstract: "You spent nearly two years in a loony bin! Why in the world were you there? I can't believe it!" Translation: If you're crazy, then I'm crazy, and I'm not, so the whole thing must have been a mistake (125)." How do we know whether someone is insane or sane? Susanna Kaysen's account Girl, Interrupted is told to us through the eyes of a girl who is diagnosed with a borderline personality disorder- can we believe the things she is telling us, or are her memories distorted by her mental illness? The unreliability of the first-person-narrator is not only a question when dealing with the book, but it is also an interesting aspect to consider when taking a closer look at the cinematic version of Girl, Interrupted. In order to analyze how Kaysen's literary work was adapted, I will first shortly introduce the book and the movie. Then I will compare the two works with regard to narrative perspective, plot and time frame, characters, and cultural background.

Far Afield Vintage

The truth won't let her go. Sophie Winters nearly died. Twice. The first time, she's fourteen, and escapes a near-fatal car accident with scars, a bum

leg, and an addiction to Oxy that'll take years to kick. The second time, she's seventeen, and it's no accident. Sophie and her best friend Mina are confronted by a masked man in the woods. Sophie survives, but Mina is not so lucky. When the cops deem Mina's murder a drug deal gone wrong, casting partial blame on Sophie, no one will believe the truth: Sophie has been clean for months, and it was Mina who led her into the woods that night for a meeting shrouded in mystery. After a forced stint in rehab, Sophie returns home to a chilly new reality. Mina's brother won't speak to her, her parents fear she'll relapse, old friends have become enemies, and Sophie has to learn how to live without her other half. To make matters worse, no one is looking in the right places and Sophie must search for Mina's murderer on her own. But with every step, Sophie comes closer to revealing all: about herself, about Mina---and about the secret they shared.

Far From You Grand Central Publishing

With astonishing honesty, this memoir reveals what mental illness looks and feels like from the inside, and how healing from borderline personality disorder is possible through intensive therapy and the support of loved ones. With astonishing honesty, this memoir, Get Me Out of Here, reveals what mental illness looks and feels like from the inside, and how healing from borderline personality disorder is possible through intensive therapy and the support of loved ones. A mother, wife, and working professional, Reiland was diagnosed with borderline personality disorder at the age of 29--a diagnosis that finally explained her explosive anger, manipulative behaviors, and self-destructive episodes including bouts of anorexia, substance abuse, and promiscuity. A truly riveting read with a hopeful message.Excerpt: "My hidden secrets were not well-concealed. The psychological profile had been right as had the books on BPD. I was manipulative, desperately clinging and prone to tantrums, explosiveness, and frantic acts of

desperation when I did not feel the intimacy connection was strong enough. The tough chick loner act of self-reliance was a complete facade."

Asa, as I Knew Him University of Illinois Press

She's depressed, they say. Apathetic. Bridget Murphy, almost eighteen, has had it with her zany family. When she is transferred to the children's hospital's psych ward after giving birth to a baby and putting it up for adoption, it is a welcome relief -- even with the manic ranting of a teen stripper and lurid come-ons of a young megalomaniac. But this oasis of relative calm is short-lived. Christmas is coming, and Uncle Albert arrives to whisk Bridget back to the bedlam of home and the booze-soaked social life that got her into trouble in the first place. Her grandmother raves from her bed, banging the wall with a bedpan through a litany of profanities. Her father curses while her mother tries to keep the lid on developmentally delayed Uncle Rollie. The baby's father wants retribution, and her friends don't get that she's changed.

Elizabeth Packard Vintage

Seminar paper from the year 2008 in the subject American Studies - Literature, grade: 2, University of Innsbruck (Institut fur Amerikastudien), course: On the Edge of Sanity: Mental Illness and Disordered Behavior in American Literature, language: English, abstract: In her autobiographical novel *Girl, Interrupted* Susanna Kaysen deals with the probably most difficult and influential period in her life. At the end of the 1960s, when she was eighteen, she was committed to a mental institution after a half-hearted suicide attempt and diagnosed with Borderline Personality Disorder. She spent two years at McLean, where also famous persons like Sylvia Plath, Anne Sexton, Robert Lowell and Ray Charles have been in treatment. This paper will be trying to point out the difficulties with which people, especially women, were confronted in the 1960s, when they were different in some way and how this could result in being caught in a kind of parallel universe or, even worse, being stuck in between two worlds and not knowing where they belong."

Lying Knopf

For fans of Elinor Oliphant *Is Completely Fine* and *Severance*: an offbeat, wryly funny debut novel that follows an eccentric product engineer who works for a hip furniture company where sweeping corporate change lands her under the purview of a startlingly charismatic boss who seems determined to get close to her at all costs . . .

A Novel Anchor

The gripping, unforgettable, and deeply affecting story of a young clinical psychologist learning how she can best help her patients, *The Skeleton Cupboard* is a riveting and revealing memoir that offers fascinating insight into the human mind. In *The Skeleton Cupboard*, Professor Tanya Byron recounts the stories of the patients who most influenced her career as a mental health practitioner. Spanning her years of training—years in which Byron was forced her to contend with the harsh realities of the lives of her patients and confront a dark moment in her own family's past—*The Skeleton Cupboard* is a compelling and compassionate account of how much health practitioners can learn from those they treat. Among others, we meet Ray, a violent sociopath desperate to be shown tenderness and compassion; Mollie, a talented teenager intent on starving herself; and Imogen, a twelve-year old so haunted by a secret that she's intent on killing herself. Byron brings the reader along as she uncovers the reasons each of these individuals behave the way they do, resulting in a thrilling, compulsively readable psychological mystery that sheds light on mental illness and what its treatment tells us about ourselves.

How I Turned My Worst Emotions Into My Best Life Chronicle Books

The world of the schizophrenic, the depressed, the suicidal can seem a foreign, frightening place. Now, a brilliant writer/psychologist takes readers on a mesmerizing journey into this enigmatic world. As readers interact through Slater with patients Lenny, Moxi, Oscar, and Marie, they come to understand more about the human mind and spirit. First serial to Harper's.

Cambridge Penguin

The insanity defense is one of the oldest fixtures of the Anglo-American legal tradition. Though it is available to people charged with virtually any crime, and is often employed without controversy, homicide defendants who raise the insanity defense are often viewed by the public and even the legal system as trying to get away with murder. Often it seems that legal result of an insanity defense is unpredictable, and is determined not by the defendants mental state, but by their lawyers and psychologists influence. From the thousands of murder cases in which defendants have claimed insanity, Doctor Ewing has chosen ten of the most influential and widely varied. Some were successful in their insanity plea, while others were rejected. Some of the defendants remain household names years after the fact, like Jack Ruby, while others were never nationally publicized. Regardless of the circumstances, each case considered here was extremely controversial, hotly contested, and relied heavily on lengthy testimony by expert psychologists and psychiatrists. Several of them played a major role in shaping the criminal justice system as we know it today. In this book, Ewing skillfully conveys the psychological and legal drama of each case, while providing important and fresh professional insights. For the legal or psychological professional, as well as the interested reader, *Insanity* will take you into the minds of some of the most incomprehensible murderers of our age.

Girl Interrupted B Book Club GRIN Verlag

In 1967, after a session with a psychiatrist she'd never seen before, eighteen-year-old Susanna Kaysen was put in a taxi and sent to McLean Hospital. She spent most of the next two years on the ward for teenage girls in a psychiatric hospital as renowned for its famous clientele--Sylvia Plath, Robert Lowell, James Taylor, and Ray Charles--as for its progressive methods of treating those who could afford its sanctuary. Kaysen's memoir encompasses horror and razor-edged perception while providing vivid portraits of her fellow patients and their keepers. It is a brilliant evocation of a "parallel universe" set within the kaleidoscopically shifting landscape of the late sixties. *Girl, Interrupted* is a clear-sighted, unflinching document that gives lasting and specific dimension to our definitions of sane and insane, mental illness and recovery. "From the Trade Paperback edition.

My Misadventures in Motherhood, Love, and Epilepsy W. W. Norton & Company

While other children were daydreaming about dances, first kisses, and college, Jodee Blanco was trying to figure out how to go from homeroom to study hall without being taunted or spit upon as she walked through the halls. This powerful, unforgettable memoir chronicles how one child was shunned—and even physically abused—by her classmates from elementary school through high school. It is an unflinching look at what it means to be the outcast, how even the most loving parents can get it all wrong, why schools are often unable to prevent disaster, and how bullying has been

misunderstood and mishandled by the mental health community. You will be shocked, moved, and ultimately inspired by this harrowing tale of survival against insurmountable odds. This vivid story will open your eyes to the harsh realities and long-term consequences of bullying—and how all of us can make a difference in the lives of teens today.

Please Stop Laughing at Me Shahrazad Ali

Girl, Interrupted Vintage

Perforating the Parallel Universe Vintage

Nora Ephron and Allie Brosh fans take note: Alisa Jones' memoir *Gotham Girl Interrupted* is a smart stand-up comedy about the power of falling down. "Get to your safe spaces, people. Here comes the shimmer..." From irreverent NYC blogger Alisa Kennedy Jones comes an account of her "misadventures in motherhood, love, and epilepsy" that James Patterson calls "smart, harrowing, heart-warming, and very funny." What do Da Vinci, Agatha Christie, and blogger Alisa Kennedy Jones have in common? If you said "timeless artistic genius", stop sucking up--the answer is ecstatic epilepsy. In this hilarious and moving dispatch from the frontlines of neurodiversity, Jones chronicles life with these terrifying-yet-beautiful grand mal seizures. Characteristic of Jones's condition are attacks which leave her with what Zen Buddhists sometimes refer to as a "beginner's mind": a vast, open expanse of headspace, coupled with a creative euphoria. With bracing candor and humility, Jones describes living with chronic illness, single motherhood, and her day-to-day life as a hapless writer in NYC. Above all, Jones reminds us to fight the battle for becoming who we are supposed to be--no matter how much flopping around on the ground and wetting ourselves we have to do to get there.

Adapting & Directing Susanna Kaysen's Girl, Interrupted Random House

The author offers a compelling memoir of her two years as a teenager in a psychiatric hospital, sharing vivid portraits of her fellow patients, their keepers, and her experiences during treatment

Baby Animal Hidden Pictures Puffy Sticker Playscenes Highlights Press

This baby animal-themed collection of adorable Hidden Pictures puzzles and other activities--plus more than 50 puffy stickers--is perfect for every animal-loving child. Baby animals and puffy stickers meet in this unbeatable collection! Young puzzlers will love hunting for hidden objects in fun Hidden Pictures puzzles and solving other bright, engaging picture puzzles. Kids can also decorate each scene with the included puffy stickers. Get ready for imaginative fun!

Girl, Interrupted Riverhead Books (Hardcover)

After a session with a psychiatrist she'd never seen before, 18-year-old Susanna Kaysen is sent to McLean Hospital, where she spends the next two years on a ward for disturbed teenage girls.

An Illustrated Memoir of Love and Loss GRIN Verlag

Two family sabbaticals across the Atlantic and a brilliant orchestra conductor shape the perspectives of a young woman from 1950s Harvard Square, who develops new ways of thinking about music, love and art while struggling with feelings of being a perpetual outsider. By the best-selling author of *Girl, Interrupted*. 35,000 first printing.

Loud in the House of Myself: Memoir of a Strange Girl Random House

A woman diagnosed with dissociative identity disorder reveals her harrowing journey from abuse to recovery in this #1 New York Times bestselling autobiography written by her own multiple personalities. Successful, happily married Truddi Chase began therapy hoping to find the reasons behind her extreme anxiety, mood swings, and periodic blackouts. What emerged from her sessions was terrifying: Truddi's mind and body were inhabited by the Troops—ninety-two individual voices that emerged to shield her from her traumatizing childhood. For years the Troops created a world where she could hide from the pain of the ritualized sexual abuse she suffered at the hands of her own stepfather—abuse that began when she was only two years old. It was a past that Truddi didn't even know existed, until she and her therapist took a journey to where the nightmare began... Written by the Troops themselves, *When Rabbit Howls* is told by the very alter-egos who stayed with Truddi Chase, watched over her, and protected her. What they reveal is a spellbinding descent into a personal hell—and an ultimate, triumphant deliverance for the woman they became.

The Skeleton Cupboard: The Making of a Clinical Psychologist Orbit Books

'When I went off to college I started telling people that my mother died in a car crash.' Ellie and Izzy have lived a life with a mother they adored. Taking them for long midnight baths or dancing in the dark in the rain, she's been a magical, colourful figure. Now, on the eve of her forty-first birthday, Izzy realises that she's about to reach the year her mother never got beyond. Her father and sister are flying out for an emotionally charged weekend visit, and Izzy can't help feeling that she's still responsible, that there are apologies to be made. Surely now she's at an age where a grown-up daughter can put things behind her? Like her bestselling novel *The Abortionist's Daughter*, Elisabeth Hyde's *Crazy as Chocolate* dwells on the fragile yet binding relationship between a mother and her daughters. It is an enchanting novel of an idyllic, wild childhood and of two girls who, in spite of everything, love the woman who gave them life.

The Very Nice Box Virago Press

"The beauty of Lauren Slater's prose is shocking," said *Newsday* about *Welcome to My Country*, and now, in this powerful and provocative new book, Slater brilliantly explores a mind, a body, and a life under siege. Diag-nosed as a child with a strange illness, brought up in a family given to fantasy and ambition, Lauren Slater developed seizures, auras, neurological disturbances--and an ability to lie. In *Lying: A Metaphorical Memoir*, Slater blends a coming-of-age story with an electrifying exploration of the nature of truth, and of whether it is ever possible to tell--or to know--the facts about a self, a human being, a life. *Lying* chronicles the doctors, the tests, the seizures, the family embarrassments, even as it explores a sensitive child's illness as both metaphor and a means of attention-getting--a human being's susceptibility to malady, and to storytelling as an act of healing and as part of the quest for love. This mesmerizing memoir openly questions the reliability of memoir itself, the trickiness of the mind in perceiving reality, the slippery nature of illness and diagnosis--the shifting perceptions and images of who we are and what, for God's sake, is the matter with us. In *Lying*, Lauren Slater forces us to redraw the boundary between what we know as fact and what we believe we create as fiction. Here a young woman discovers not only what plagues her but also what heals her--the birth of sensuality, her creativity as an artist--in a book that reaffirms how a fine

writer can reveal what is common to us all in the course of telling her own unique story. About Welcome to My Country, the San Francisco Chronicle

said, "Every page brims with beautifully rendered images of thoughts, feelings, emotional states." The same can be said about Lying: A Metaphorical Memoir.

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