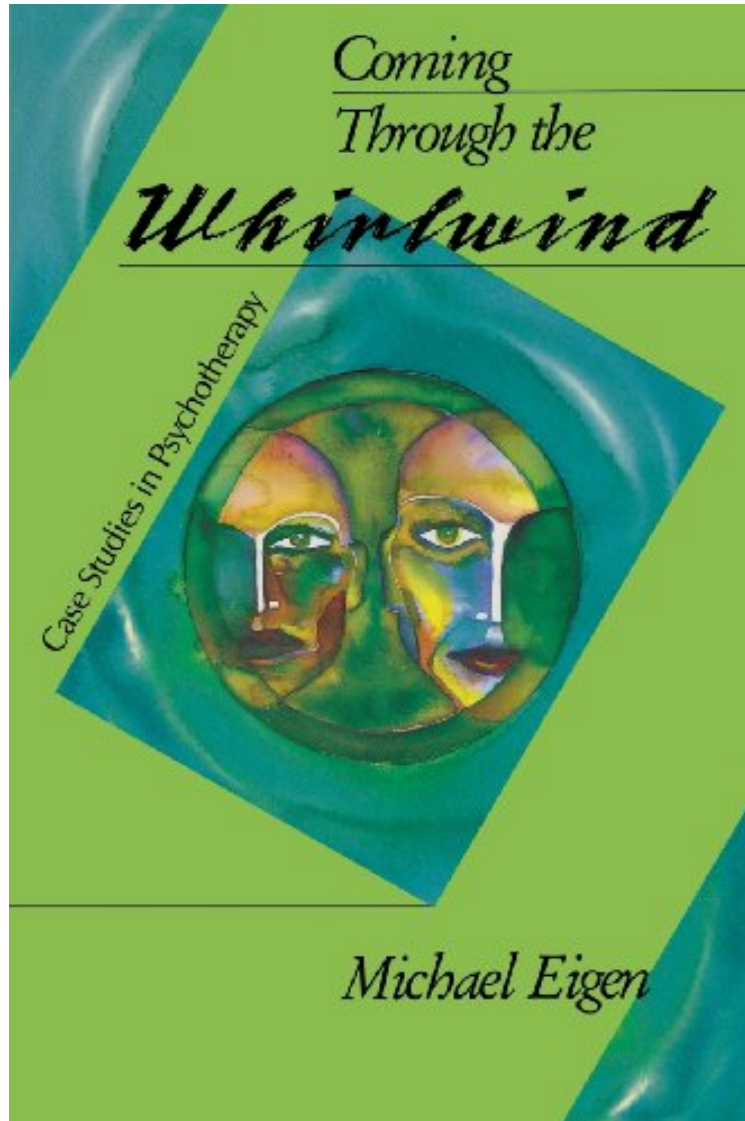


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Coming Through the Whirlwind: Case Studies in Psychotherapy

Michael Eigen

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Michael Eigen : Coming Through the Whirlwind: Case Studies in Psychotherapy before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Coming Through the Whirlwind: Case Studies in Psychotherapy:

24 of 24 people found the following review helpful. Poignant, personal, tale of two psychotherapy journeys By Seiso Michael Eigen has a unique voice among contemporary psychoanalysts that sparks in this reader a direct relation with the text. Utilizing a subjectivist perspective, Eigen narrates two treatments with richness and clarity. In so doing, he charts the dynamic interplay between the oscillating spiritual and psychological dimensions of being. Without

privileging either essential aspect of human experiencing, he demonstrates vividly how each can contribute or occlude awareness of living truth as he participates directly in his patients' struggles with pushing their edges and limitations for creative living. The issue of suffering through life's pleasures, pains, growth spurts and setbacks remains central to Eigen's vision and informs his approach. He maintains a steady eye on the many ways psychoanalytic therapy can ignite both participant's creative spirit, a process that he describes in these two detailed case studies in a way that is neither dogmatic nor prescriptive. Both the experienced clinician and the lay reader interested in the spiritual aspects of life can benefit from this lucid work.

The pain and rewards of depth therapy revealed in two case studies. Michael Eigen, Ph.D., author of *The Psychotic Core* and *The Electrical Tightrope*, is a senior member, Board of Directors, and control/training analyst at the National Psychological Association for Psychoanalysis; Associate Clinical Professor, New York University Postdoctoral Program in Psychoanalysis; faculty and supervisor, Institute for Expressive Analysis and New Hope Guild. In essence, Eigen's book gives witness to a central issue of Aeschylus—we suffer into knowledge—and shows how it is embodied and animated on the stage of the clinical setting with its two throbbing props, couch and chair. - Patrick J. Mahony, author of *Freud as a Writer* No other psychoanalyst writing today can command this repertoire of tones and voices. To read Eigen is to experience the moment-by-moment changes of heart that for him constitute the analytic encounter. The shrewd eloquence, the cunning sympathy and humor at work in this book are unique in psychoanalysis. It should be celebrated with the paradoxes it is inspired by. - Adam Phillips, Author of *Winnicott* Eigen shares two cases: a woman who manifested spirituality to the exclusion of facing hovering psychological problems, and a man whose virtual obsession with psychological “truths” led him to omit spiritual development. This book will be of interest not only to therapists but to all who are interested in the spiritual in human life. - Jean Sanville, Editor of *Clinical Social Work Journal* and author of *The Playground of Psychoanalytic Therapy*.