

Girl, Interrupted

By Susanna Kaysen



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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 in 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.



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Girl, Interrupted By Susanna Kaysen Bibliography

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• Brand: Vintage

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

When reality got "too dense" for 18-year-old Susanna Kaysen, she was hospitalized. It was 1967, and reality was too dense for many people. But few who are labeled mad and locked up for refusing to stick to an agreed-upon reality possess Kaysen's lucidity in sorting out a maelstrom of contrary perceptions. Her observations about hospital life are deftly rendered; often darkly funny. Her clarity about the complex province of brain and mind, of neuro-chemical activity and something more, make this book of brief essays an exquisite challenge to conventional thinking about what is normal and what is deviant.

From Publishers Weekly

Kaysen's startling account of her two-year stay at a Boston psychiatric hospital 25 years ago was an eight-week PW bestseller.

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From Library Journal

Kaysen's tell-all memoir received an immense amount of media attention and critical praise. The book became a best seller and has recently been made into a movie. In 1967, after taking 50 aspirins to abort the parts of her that she didn't like, the author for the first time visited a psychiatrist, who immediately called a taxi and hospitalized her. The money that her parents had intended to spend on her college education instead went into paying for a two-year stay at McClean Hospital. Poets Sylvia Plath and Robert Lowell, singers James, Kate, and Livingston Taylor, as well as Ray Charles are among the hospital's renowned clientele or, as they call themselves, "graduates." Kaysen offers good insights on the connections among poetry, music, and madness as well as a vivid account of institution life. She is at her best when gossiping, describing her surroundings, and offering one-liners on her stay at McClean. Unfortunately, her reading is flat and ultimately difficult to listen to. Not a necessary purchase except where demand dictates. DPam Kingsbury, Florence, AL

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Owen Bourne:

Have you spare time for the day? What do you do when you have more or little spare time? Sure, you can choose the suitable activity intended for spend your time. Any person spent their spare time to take a wander, shopping, or went to the actual Mall. How about open or even read a book called Girl, Interrupted? Maybe it is to be best activity for you. You understand beside you can spend your time with the favorite's book, you can smarter than before. Do you agree with the opinion or you have some other opinion?

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Richard Moyer:

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Tom Baptist:

As we know that book is significant thing to add our understanding for everything. By a guide we can know everything we wish. A book is a set of written, printed, illustrated or perhaps blank sheet. Every year had been exactly added. This reserve Girl, Interrupted was filled with regards to science. Spend your time to add your knowledge about your research competence. Some people has different feel when they reading any book. If you know how big selling point of a book, you can feel enjoy to read a guide. In the modern era like right now, many ways to get book that you just wanted.

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