

# Book Reviews

Manaster, Guy J., Painter, Genevieve, Deutsch, Danica, & Overholt, Betty Jane (Eds.). **Alfred Adler: As We Remember Him.**

North American Society of Adlerian Psychology. 1977. photog.

This collection of vignettes provides the reader with an opportunity to exercise the same integrative skills required to interpret early recollections. Collectively, the stories provide insight into Alfred Adler, and it is easy to get caught up in sorting through the various themes.

Because the book is short, it can be completed in one sitting; however, since there are numerous brief sketches, perhaps it should be saved for those times when the reader has just a few minutes to devote to a pleasurable experience.

The closing fable is deceptive in its simplicity, but should be required reading for all practitioners, regardless of theoretical orientation, and could easily spark a lively debate among theorists, which I think Adler would have liked. The editors and contributors should be well pleased with the results and with their contribution to an understanding of Alfred Adler as one of the great contributors of the field of psychology.—*Kathryn B. Greever, West Virginia University.*

Terner, Janet, & Pew, W.L. **The Courage to Be Imperfect: The Life and Work of Rudolf Dreikurs.**

Hawthorn Books, Inc. 1978. 412 pp. index. \$14.95.

Janet Terner and W.L. Pew have succeeded admirably in documenting Rudolf Dreikurs' influence and leadership in Adlerian psychology. *The Courage to Be Imperfect* is important in its treatment of Dreikurs as the courageous, dedicated professional whose

theoretical orientation was revered by few and maligned by many. A lesser man might well have joined the ranks of those Adlerians who failed to openly declare their theoretical base. Instead, Dreikurs chose to stand firm and breathe new life into the practical application of psychological theory.

The authors have included a rather extensive treatment of the practice of Adlerian psychology throughout the book, and the reader cannot easily escape coming to grips with the practicality of these concepts, which makes the book as much a history of Adlerian psychology as it is a biography of Rudolph Dreikurs. The authors have chosen to concentrate on Dreikurs and his devotion to the life task of work. Readers who wish to understand Dreikurs in the other two life tasks (friendship and love) will have to content themselves with much less detail. However, this fact does not detract from the significance of the book.

Those who knew and worked with Dreikurs will enjoy the book, and most of the more prominent will find they have been included. However, the historical value of this work will have a high positive correlation with the extent to which Adlerian psychology continues to be recognized as a valid approach to counseling and psychotherapy.—*Kathryn B. Greever, West Virginia University.*