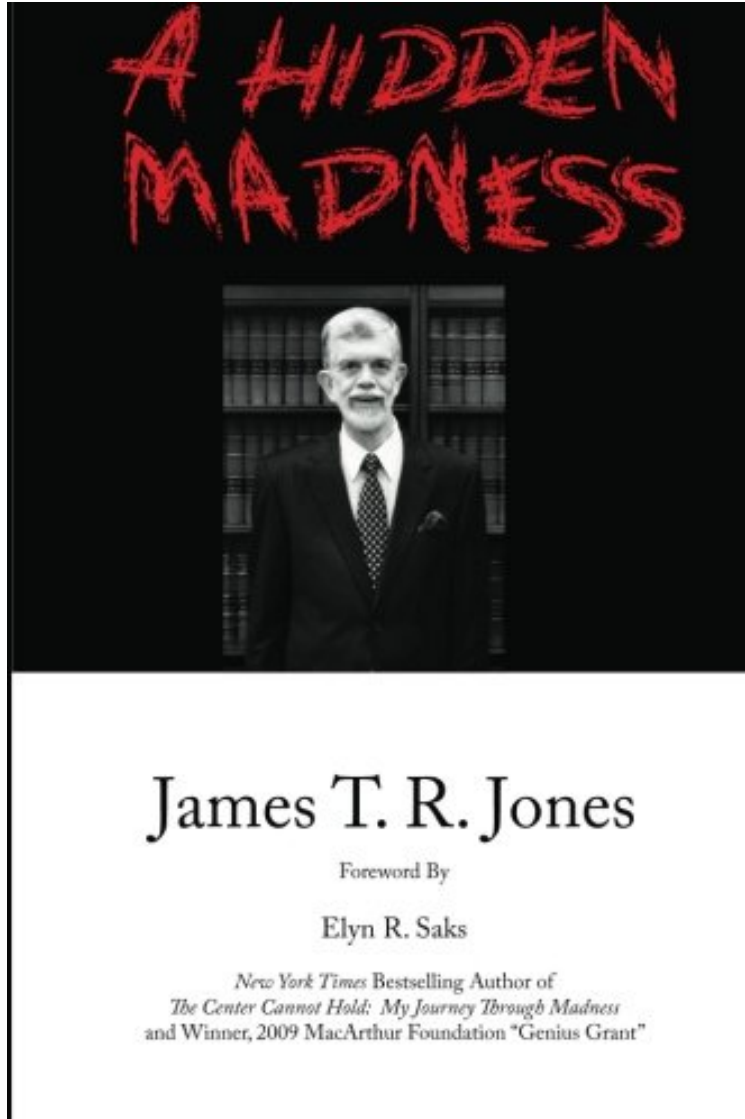


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A Hidden Madness

James T.R. Jones

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James T.R. Jones : A Hidden Madness before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Hidden Madness:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Engrossing and InspiringBy KY-BarbaraI found this book inspiring and engrossing. It is an easy, enjoyable read, and I didn't want to put it down until I finished it. That is quite a compliment from me because I seldom visually read extra books. My job requires a lot of heavy duty reading, so when I have free time, I usually "read" via unabridged audio books as I walk my dogs or work in my yard. I knew Professor

Jones from law school and always found him to be kind and respectful. I had no idea of his struggles, for by all outward appearances, he was fine. The story held my interest, not just because I knew the main character, but because the book made me care about this person and want to see what happened to him. I found myself profoundly touched and reflecting differently on my own life's journey. As a society, our understanding of mental illness is still backward. I hope that Prof. Jones' story helps us all realize that mental illness should have no more stigma than suffering from high blood pressure, diabetes, or acid reflux. It is a chronic condition that must be managed, but it doesn't mean anything about the character or integrity of the person. This book transcends its strong case for an enlightened understanding of mental illness. For me, the book was powerful because the author claimed his authentic voice, owned his life, and was vulnerable to his audience. It inspired me to reclaim my own weirdness and struggles. We all carry secrets that we would rather hide from others and harbor fears that we are not good enough. This book is a stand for compassion and self-acceptance. When we see and work with people, we have no idea of what they are going through and what burdens they carry. This book speaks to something at the core of us all. I highly recommend it.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Success life in spite of illness By George Hedrick A Hidden Madness James T. R. Jones I found this to be a most informative book. It is an autobiography that relates Mr. Jones' struggles with bipolar disorder throughout his life until the present time. Now in recovery, he enjoys a productive career as a law professor and legal scholar. In the 30+ years that Mr. Jones has coped with this serious mental disorder, he has progressed from hiding it from all around him, mainly due to the stigma of having a mental illness to becoming an advocate for others like him and their families as well as a champion both in fighting stigma and in asserting the rights of the mentally ill. The fight against stigma aimed at the mentally ill is a continuing fight for all of us who either have family members or must ourselves endure these illnesses. This true story tracks how one person progresses from first diagnosis and the need to hide his illness to becoming a success in spite of his illness and no longer needing to hide the fact of his having such a diagnosis. I would recommend this book to anyone. It is an interesting story that will provide a new appreciation for the abilities of the mentally ill when you finish reading it.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Not so much By Slick Bullard too academic in most places. Reads like a resumé when narrating his academic career.

A Hidden Madness tells the story of an accomplished individual who has reached the pinnacle of his profession despite suffering for over thirty years from the severe mental illness bipolar disorder. He has done so mostly in silence because of fear of stigma. Extreme childhood bullying helped cause his condition, which has seen him hospitalized five times in psychiatric facilities for periods as long as six months. It is an eye-opening voyage through the little-understood realm of severe mental illness featuring its powerful medications, periodic hospitalizations, often rocky relationships, and light as well as dark moments. The story offers both real hope for those afflicted by serious mental illness and deep insight into their many symptoms, numerous drugs, periodic crises, and potential triumphs. It shows that by being compliant with a medical regimen of therapy and medication, getting help and support from others with the same illness, benefitting from a loving family, discovering coping mechanisms to get through every day, having caring and understanding friends, and being too stubborn to let a disease ruin his life one can enjoy a successful and fulfilling professional and personal life. James T. R. Jones earned an undergraduate degree with highest distinction from the University of Virginia and a law degree with honors from Duke University School of Law, where he served on the Editorial Board of the Duke Law Journal and graduated second in his class. He worked for an elite law firm on Wall Street, clerked for a judge on the United States Court of Appeals, and was a finalist for a clerkship with the then-Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court. He taught for a year at the Law School of the University of Chicago, and since 1986 has been a member of the faculty of the Louis D. Brandeis School of Law at the University of Louisville, where he is a full professor of law. He wrote a series of seven articles about using tort law to force law enforcement officials and medical professionals to report domestic violence to the appropriate authorities and has been recognized as a national expert on this important social issue. In 2008 he ended twenty-two years of secrecy about his disease at the Brandeis School of Law and twenty-eight years overall when he wrote the article Walking the Tightrope of Bipolar Disorder: The Secret Life of a Law Professor that was published in the leading peer-reviewed journal in legal education. The article generated an enormous positive response, as did pieces that appeared in public media in the Louisville area. Since 2008 he has spoken extensively about Severe Mental Illness, Stigma, and the Value of Treatment and is widely recognized for his award-winning mental health advocacy efforts. He now serves on the Boards of four local and national groups that focus on mental health and the way society treats those with serious mental illness. He has been happily married to attorney Kathleen Murphy Jones since 1997 and has two wonderful daughters. For more information about Professor Jones go to his Web site at http://www.law.louisville.edu/faculty/james_jones. A Hidden Madness includes a foreword by Elyn R. Saks, author of the acclaimed New York Times bestseller The Center Cannot Hold: My Journey Through Madness and winner of a 2009 MacArthur Foundation "Genius Grant." Saks, who is a professor at the Gould School of Law at the University of Southern California and suffers from schizophrenia, is the only other law professor in the United States publicly to

acknowledge having a severe mental illness.