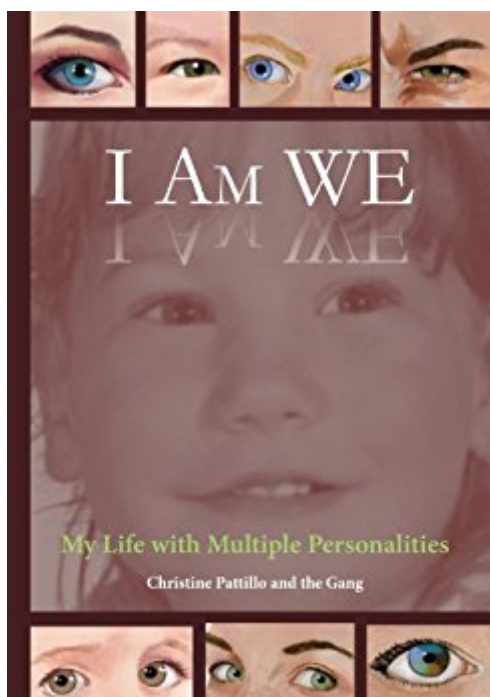


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I Am WE: My Life With Multiple Personalities



Synopsis

Many people have secrets they are fearful to share with those who love them. Christine Pattillo was one of those people—except instead of just one secret, she had many. As long as Christine could remember, she lived with Multiple Personality Disorder (MPD) or Dissociative Identity Disorder (DID). At times she shared her life with up to six alternate personalities, yet she masqueraded as an active and happy high school student, a successful career woman, and a wife of fifteen years. But she kept her secret hidden from everyone around her, including her own husband. It wasn't until the age of forty-one and after ten years of counseling that she finally managed to utter the seven most difficult words of her life: "There is more than one of me." Coming out about MPD was terrifying. Was her husband going to leave her? How was she going to tell her mother, siblings, and friends? How would people judge her? And how would she and the alters live day to day out in the open, each carving out their own quality time? How would they all integrate in society? What happens when one of the alters wants to have a baby of her own? And a suicidal one wants to destroy them all? In this fascinating memoir, Christine shares her incredible journey of life with MPD. Readers come to know all of the alters (Hope, SHE, Rim, Tristan, Q, Chrissy, and Cyndi) as the unique and extraordinary individuals they are. We also hear from Christine's husband, family, friends, and therapist, who relate firsthand the joys and challenges of living with MPD. *I Am WE* dispels many common, often misguided conceptions about MPD. While theories about the condition abound, none are more qualified to discuss it than those living it. Join Christine and her family as they share their highs and lows, triumphs and losses, and above all the love they have for one other.

Book Information

File Size: 8135 KB

Print Length: 372 pages

Publisher: Christine Pattillo LLC (April 21, 2014)

Publication Date: April 21, 2014

Sold by: Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B00JV9N6Q6

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #233,844 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #16

in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Health, Fitness & Dieting > Counseling & Psychology >

Pathologies > Dissociative Identity #42 in Books > Health, Fitness & Dieting > Mental Health >

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Pathologies

Customer Reviews

Christine kept her secret until she was forty-one. She didn't even tell her husband, nor the counselor she'd gone to for ten years. Then, sick with anxiety, she uttered to her therapist the seven most difficult words of her life, "There is more than one of me." Although it was a huge relief to share her secret, now she faced learning to deal with managing a life with Dissociative Identity Disorder, sometimes called Multiple Personality Disorder (MPD). Christine Pattillo has done a remarkable job of sharing her life and those of her husband and "alters" in *I Am We: My Life with Multiple Personalities*. It is believed that Dissociative Identity Disorder is caused by early childhood repetitive, extreme, physical, sexual or emotional abuse. As a young child Christine suffered repeated sexual abuse from a friend's stepfather. In addition, Christine also endured physical and emotional abuse from her own father. One might think the natural tendency might be to attempt to rid oneself of multiple personalities, but a child fears ridicule, so the condition is often kept secret. Not only that, but in Christine's case, she was actually fond of and derived great comfort in some of her alternate personalities. But not all. Some got her into trouble. When Christine married Christopher, he had no idea what was in store and how he would have to juggle his time between Christine and "the gang": Hope, Rim, She, Q, Chrissy, Cyndi, and even a boy, Tristan. The alters include personalities of different ages, temperaments and desires. I found *I Am We* fascinating.

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