

The Other Within: The Genius of Deformity in Myth, Culture, and Psyche

By Daniel Deardorff

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Daniel Deardorff knows otherness firsthand. This highly regarded “singer” in the old sense of that word—musician, storyteller, maker of ritual—had polio as an infant and has used a wheelchair most of his life, giving him a lived perspective that deeply informs his views on this subject. In *The Other Within*, Deardorff starts with a radical notion: to disclose the blessings of outsiderhood, the many gifts and insights contributed to culture by the marginalized and outcast. Unlike studies that stress the plight of the outsider, this one asserts that to be cast down and out of the consensus-worldview affords a difficult yet significant opportunity: to encounter oneself, not as defined by society but as one actually is. An eloquent spokesman for “the man or woman on the weird road,” Deardorff presents dozens of powerful examples from myth and literature to illustrate his message in a richly allusive, complex series of essays. Drawing on the work of mythologians, poets, psychologists, and scholars, *The Other Within* takes readers on an initiatory journey, uncovering the roots of human identity and imagination and offering insights–including “trickster wisdom”—revealing the mythic underpinnings of everyday life. This second edition includes updated text, a new introduction, and a helpful glossary.

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Editorial Review

About the Author
Daniel Deardorff is a composer, producer, and performer who has toured with the band Seals and Crofts. An independent scholar who has become a prominent figure in the mythopoesis movement, he lives in Port Townsend, WA. Robert Bly is one of America’s preeminent poets. He lives in Minneapolis, MN.

Users Review

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Why don't make it to be your habit? Right now, try to prepare your time to do the important behave, like looking for your favorite guide and reading a guide. Beside you can solve your short lived problem; you can add your knowledge by the book entitled The Other Within: The Genius of Deformity in Myth, Culture, and Psyche. Try to make book The Other Within: The Genius of Deformity in Myth, Culture, and Psyche as your friend. It means that it can to get your friend when you truly feel alone and beside that course make you smarter than in the past. Yeah, it is very fortuned for you personally. The book makes you considerably more confidence because you can know every little thing by the book. So , we should make new experience in addition to knowledge with this book.

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