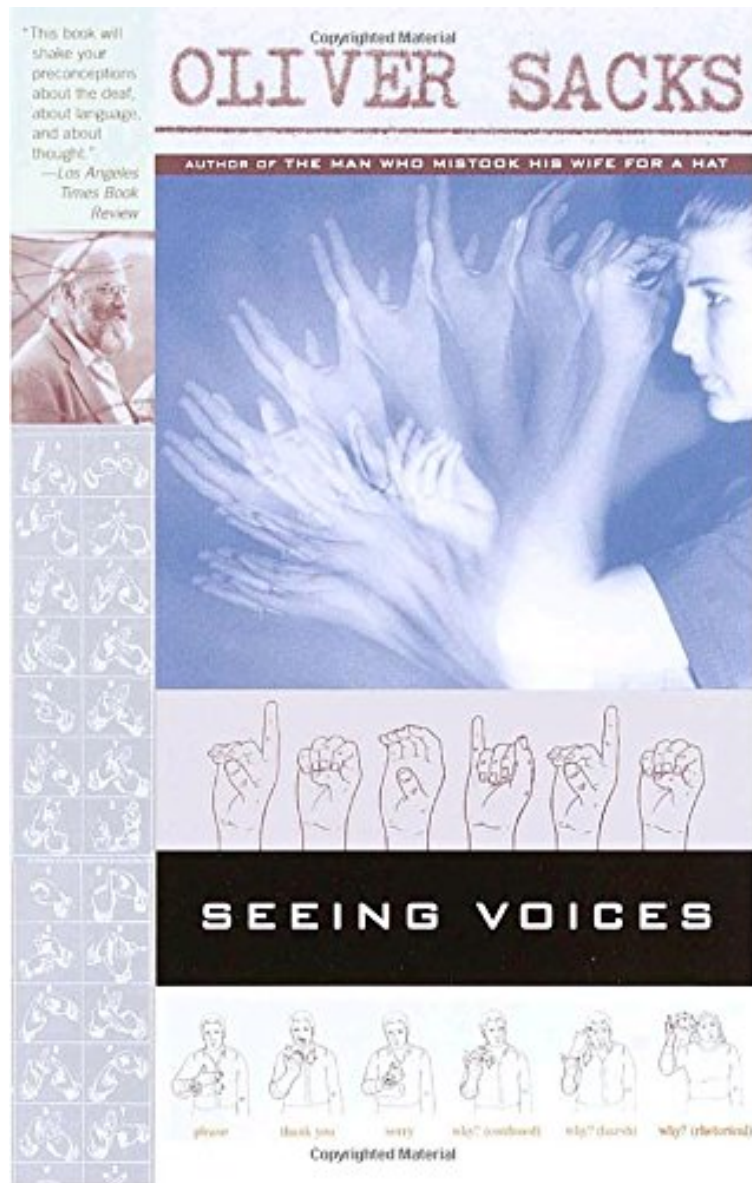


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Seeing Voices

Oliver Sacks

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#109185 in Books Oliver Sacks 2000-11-28 2000-11-28 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.00 x .60 x 5.201, .55 #File Name: 0375704078240 pages Seeing Voices | File size: 39.Mb

Oliver Sacks : Seeing Voices before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Seeing Voices:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Seeing Voices Screams for Us to Hear the Voiceless...By T. L. Cooper My American Sign Language teacher recommended the class read Seeing Voices by Oliver Sacks, so I decided to read it during our break between terms. I quickly found myself immersed in a world within the world in which we

live. Sacks, a hearing man, explores the Deaf world and Deaf Culture in a way that brings clarity to something that feels impossible to understand. Sacks provides a glimpse into the history of deaf people and their interactions with the world. His observations are compassionate but never pitying. At times I found myself wincing at the cruelty people are capable of inflicting on one another as I read his descriptions of the attitudes toward deaf people throughout history. In his discussion on communication among the Deaf and between Deaf and hearing people, I felt a sense of the urgency all living beings feel to communicate. His examination of deaf people's attempts to communicate and how often hearing people force their communication on other people as if it's the only way to communicate left me heartsick but more aware of my own tendencies. I felt incredibly aware of how often I take hearing for granted and how often it serves me without me giving it a second thought. Sacks also pushed me to think about how "normal" doesn't mean the same thing to everyone, something I know but sometimes forget. Seeing Voices is about more than Deaf Culture and deaf people, it's a book about how society functions and normalizes and fears and creates and destroys and changes. Seeing Voices screams for us to open our world and see beyond the limitations we place on ourselves and others based on misconception and lack of communication...5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Seeing what makes us human. By Rogananda Looking at language without speech is mind blowing. Without language we do not share in human culture. We do not "think" without language. I truly believe that everyone should find the experiences of the deaf important and interesting on an emotional and intellectual level. This book was a great start for me. While this book is dated, Oliver Sacks shares very valuable experiences by deaf people. He reviews some of the personal struggles of the deaf, their historic treatment by hearing people, some history of sign language, and the development of Deaf culture. It is helpful that Oliver Sacks starts initially from his own ignorance. He walks us through well researched insights, and he brilliantly lights our understanding of human thinking that comes from language development. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A door to the world of the Deaf By Garrett Mccutcheon As a hearing person, I must admit that I never gave much thought at all to the Deaf, let alone Deaf culture. Sacks' Seeing Voices is a real eye opener in this regard. Sacks admits that he came at the problem of deafness from a medical/neurological perspective, and was quickly and radically changed by what he learned about the Deaf. Sacks' passion is evident as he takes the reader through the history of Deaf culture, the struggles and successes of the Deaf. I now have a new appreciation of the Deaf, and their place in society, and their unique difficulties. This has opened a new channel in my mind, one which I intend to explore more fully in the future.

Like *The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat*, this is a fascinating voyage into a strange and wonderful land, a provocative meditation on communication, biology, adaptation, and culture. In *Seeing Voices*, Oliver Sacks turns his attention to the subject of deafness, and the result is a deeply felt portrait of a minority struggling for recognition and respect--a minority with its own rich, sometimes astonishing, culture and unique visual language, an extraordinary mode of communication that tells us much about the basis of language in hearing people as well. *Seeing Voices* is, as Studs Terkel has written, "an exquisite, as well as revelatory, work."

From Publishers Weekly In what PW judged "an extraordinarily moving and thought-provoking report," neurologist Sacks scrutinizes the history of treatment of the deaf, investigates the expressive capabilities of sign language and gauges the linguistic and social pressures faced by deaf people. Illustrated. Copyright 1990 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Library Journal Sacks, a neurologist and author of the popular *The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat* (LJ 2/15/86), developed a serious interest in sign language and deafness after reviewing Harlan Lane's *When the Mind Hears* (LJ 10/15/84) for the New York of Books . In this work, Sacks explores all facets of the deaf world--he meets with deaf people and their families and visits schools for the deaf, spending a good deal of time at Gallaudet University. As he writes, "I had now to see them in a new, 'ethnic light,' as people with a distinctive language, sensibility, and culture of their own." The work is divided into three broad sections, throughout which there are numerous, somewhat distracting footnote "excursions." Although there is a wealth of insight and information here, the book tends to drag for the average reader and may disappoint fans of Sacks's previous best seller. Recommended for scholars and graduate collections.- Debra Berlanstein, Towson State Univ., Baltimore Copyright 1989 Reed Business Information, Inc. "This book will shake your preconceptions about the deaf, about language and about thought--. Sacks [is] one of the finest and most thoughtful writers of our time."--Los Angeles Times Book "Fascinating and richly rewarding--. Sacks is a profoundly wise observer."--The Plain Dealer "One cannot read more than a few pages of Sacks without seeing something in a new way. His breadth of understanding and expression seems limitless."--Kansas City Star "A remarkable book, penetrating, subtle, persuasive--. [It] will likely become a classic."--St. Louis Post-Dispatch