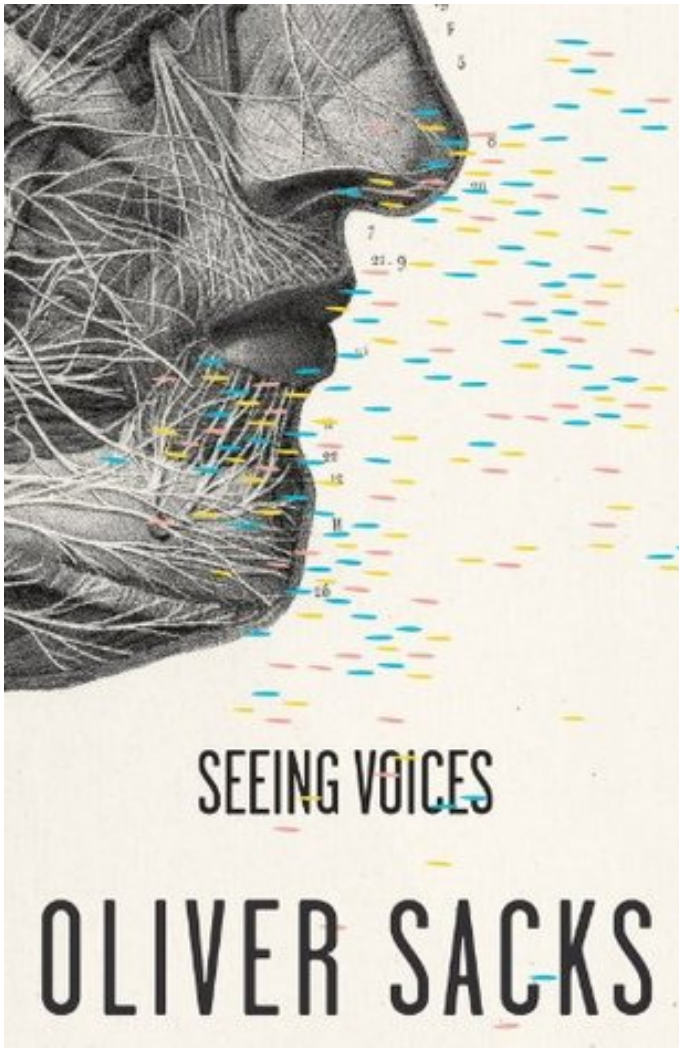

Oliver Sacks

Seeing Voices



Title: Seeing Voices

Author: Oliver Sacks

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Description

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."

Insightful reviews

Trevor: When I was a child my cousin asked me if I would rather be blind or deaf. I didn't hesitate, I would much rather be deaf, I thought - a world of perpetual darkness was to be avoided at all costs.

To be honest, I never really thought about this question again until reading this book. I had no idea what costs deafness can bring with it.

Sacks go through many of these costs and explains, in remarkably simple language, some of the 'age dependent' structures that form our minds - how certain rules of language need to be learnt at certain ages - and if they have not been they mostly will not be, ever. The need for the deaf to learn sign earlier rather than later could not be explained in a better way.

He also explains Vygotsky's Zones of Proximal Development in a remarkably clear way.

This is a wonderful book and one that deals with quite difficult topics in a way that is clear and easy to read.

Bryan Kibbe: A wonderful introduction to deaf language and culture. Sacks is an excellent writer, who clearly has a passion for understanding people.

Cat: This book was really interesting. I'm embarrassingly ignorant about deaf culture. This was very informative about the history of deafness. I also liked that the author was candid about his own ignorance about the subject. *Seeing Voices* is written with all of the enthusiasm that he has for learning about this subject.

Also, just as important, it changed how I think about my relationship with language. How it is a gateway to learning and abstract thinking beyond social implications.

But: there are a lot of asides and tangents in the form of footnotes at the bottom of the page. And they're long. They're interesting and worth reading, but the book feels disjointed because of them. I wish that they had just been incorporated into the narrative. It's the kind of book to read once through ignoring the footnotes, and then go back and just read the footnotes.

Andrea: Few humans particularly comprehend Deaf tradition and the Deaf Community. they suspect they do yet until you establish your self as Deaf (with a capital 'D'), i don't think you

actually do. i used to be hence intrigued to learn Seeing Voices by way of Oliver Sacks, ordinarily simply because he was once listening to and until eventually he begun studying for this book, had little comprehend of the subject matter. in spite of the fact that Mr Sacks, in my opinion, has controlled simply that. The booklet is sort of heavy partially and the reader must leap forwards and backwards among the narrative and wide footnotes that seem on the backside of an exceptional many pages, yet in doing so, not anything escapes the genius of what he writes. I may still upload that i personally are listening to and easily stream on the fringe of the Deaf group as a CSW. This was once the 1st booklet that I learn through Oliver Sacks and i've because develop into a tremendous fan of his work.

Anita: a truly fascinating learn that made me imagine extra concerning the deaf neighborhood and the way tough it might be to be born with out hearing. the 1st half the ebook is attention-grabbing and suggestion upsetting with a few attention-grabbing case studies, however it is permit down by means of the second one 1/2 the booklet that is repetitive and intensely dated. it might be great to have an up to date model with point out of the impact of latest know-how and recent case studies. the significance and background of signing was once fascinating and i'm pleased my basic college made us at the least examine the alphabet!

Garrett Haynes: This publication has replaced my view of deaf people. I took ASL in highschool and on the time didn't take pleasure in it at all. i used to be horrified to find that deaf individuals are happy with their tradition and of signal language. We even watched a video of a fight a variety of deaf humans and households have been having approximately identifying to provide anyone or to get themselves, cochlear implants. I puzzled why they'd be so happy with a disability? Of anything that was once mistaken with them? Now via Oliver Sacks support they're simply in a distinct mode of conception than we're and it doesn't suggest they're moment category or disabled. As a person within the publication said, "the deaf can do every thing the listening to can do other than hear". i'm chuffed that signal is now visible as a real language and that deaf humans can thrive. in the event that they actually are their very own tradition then we listening to humans have to get out in their means and allow them to be themselves.

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