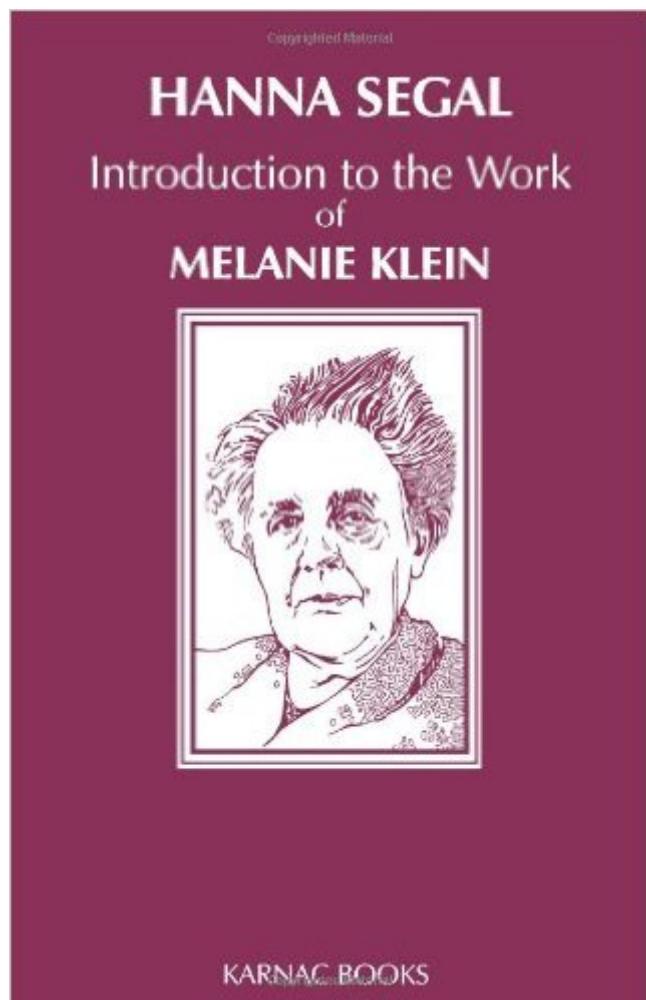


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Introduction To The Work Of Melanie Klein (Karnac Classics)



Synopsis

A lucid and comprehensive introduction to Kleinian theories from one of the leading contemporary Kleinian analysts, including chapters on her early work and on technique. Also includes a complete chronological list of Klein's publications.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book is a very nice condensation of the main points highlighted in Klein's oeuvre. Segal has made a writer whose concepts can appear to many as opaque and experience-distant into something more readily digestible; Segal also supplements this material with her own case descriptions. In all honesty, the Kleinian approach can be difficult to warm up to, and object-relations theorists have been able to take a number of tremendously important principles that Klein highlighted and turn them into something which can be used in a language that may be more immediately accessible to patients. Thus, the theoretical points Segal discusses are much more "palatable" if you will than her case examples. I think the concepts of paranoid-schizoid and depressive positions have a great degree of salience, not only in clinical settings, but in life as well. It is something you see consistently in terms of the splitting and projective identification phenomena. I like to equate the PS position to Hollywood films, with the clear split between good and evil, and the desperate attempts to subvert the viewer's opinion to root for one and disdain the other - as Zizek stated, cinema teaches us "how" to desire. In contrast, the depressive position highlights perhaps a

more bleak and European cinematic depiction, where life is a pretty melancholy experiment overall, no villains or heroes are identified, things just "happen," and no judgment need be passed. The shades of gray come out, omnipotence is abandoned, and the split becomes a distant concept.

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