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Table of Contents:

PREFACE Joseph D. Lichtenberg, MD Acknowledgements Introduction

Chapter 1: The Many Faces of Twinship: From The Psychology of the Self to The Psychology of Being Human

Chapter 2: A New Dimension of Twinship Selfobject Experience and Transference Chapter 3: Twinship and "Otherness": A Self Psychological, Intersubjective Approach to "Difference"

Chapter 4: Mutual Finding of Oneself and Not-Oneself in the Other as a Twinship Experience Chapter 5: Trauma, Recovery and

Humanization: From Fantasy, to Transitional Selfobject, through a Twinship Tie

Chapter 6: Contemporary Self Psychology and Cultural Issues: "Self-Place Experience" in an Asian Culture

Chapter 7: Placeness in the Twinship Experience

Chapter 8: "I am afraid of seeing your face":Trauma and the dread of engaging in a twinship tie

Chapter 9: Is It a Problem for Us to Say, "It Is a Coincidence That the Patient Does Well"? Chapter 10: Being Human and not being Human: The Evolution of a twinship experience Epilogue What is "Being Human"? References

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Kohut's Twinship Across Cultures

The psychology of being human

By Koichi Togashi and Amanda Kottler

"Original and groundbreaking, this book by Togashi and Kottler constitutes the most important contribution to self psychology's theory in many years, and thus expands also the range of relational psychoanalysis. Their focus on experience of otherness in yearning for connection, for the sense of being human among humans, will make this a classic. A great gift for every clinician."

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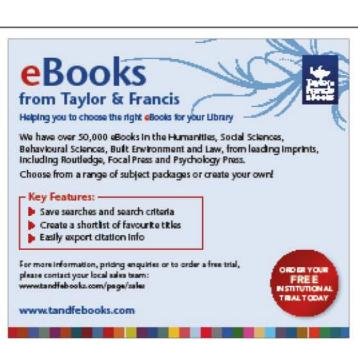
Kohut's Twinship Across Cultures: The Psychology of Being Human chronicles a 10-year-voyage in which the authors struggled, initially independently, to make sense of Kohut's intentions when he radically re-defined the twinship experience to one of "being human among other human beings".

Commencing with an exploration of Kohut's work on twinship and an illustration of the value of what he left for elaboration. Togashi and Kottler proceed to introduce a new and very different sensitivity to understanding particular psychoanalytic relational processes and ideas about human existential anguish, trauma, and the meaning of life. Together they tackle the twinship concept, which has often been misunderstood and about which little has been written. Uniquely, the book expands and elaborates upon Kohut's final definition, "being human among other human beings." It problematizes this apparently simple concept with a wide range of clinical material, demonstrating the complexity of the statement and the intricacies involved in recognizing and working with traumatized patients who have never experienced this feeling. It asks how a sense of being human, as opposed to being described as human, can be generated and how this might help clinicians to better understand and work with trauma.

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