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Introductory
Lectures on

LACAN

Edited by Astrid Gessert



INTRODUCTORY LECTURES ON LACAN

THE CENTRE FOR FREUDIAN ANALYSIS AND RESEARCH LIBRARY

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*Edited by
Astrid Gessert*

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ABOUT THE EDITOR AND CONTRIBUTORS

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INTRODUCTION

This book contains a selection of introductory lectures about some of the fundamental concepts of psychoanalysis from a Lacanian perspective. The topics range from some of Freud's basic metapsychological concepts to questions of neurosis and clinical structure, and psychoanalytic technique. The lectures were presented by members of the Centre for Freudian Analysis and Research (CFAR) and attracted a mixed audience of people from all walks of life, including practising psychoanalysts and psychotherapists of various orientations, people engaged in art, literature, media, social and cultural studies, students and teachers from academia and the clinical field, and others interested in questions of psychoanalysis and Lacanian theory and practice. The idea of publishing a selection of writings from the lecture programme arose in response to the lively interest shown by the audience and frequent requests for the papers presented.

Each lecture, on a topic of psychoanalysis, is self-contained. Our aim has been to show how Freud's understanding of some of the key concepts of psychoanalysis have been revised and developed by Lacan. The framework chosen for these explorations, in the form of individual lectures on each topic, does not allow for a full account of the historical development or indeed for a comprehensive exploration of the