



## The Moon and Madness

By Niall McCrae

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Lunacy, the legendary notion of minds unhinged by the moon, continues to captivate the popular imagination. Although it violates the assumptions of modern science and psychiatry, such belief remains common among mental health workers. Furthermore, several studies have found a small, unexplained correlation between behaviour and the lunar cycle. The book is divided into two parts. It begins with a historical account of the lunacy concept, followed by an investigation of hypothetical mechanisms for a lunar effect.

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## The Moon and Madness By Niall McCrae Bibliography

- Rank: #4028762 in eBooks
- Published on: 2011-12-02
- Released on: 2011-12-02
- Format: Kindle eBook

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## Editorial Review

### Review

"It highlights the fact that the moon does have proven influence on nature but acknowledges that this has been dismissed in relation to humans. It states that a flurry of systematic investigations in recent decades has delivered equivocal findings and argues that ultimately the reader will judge whether lunar influence on behaviour is real, possible or imagined. I for one am still undecided."

(Carol Cooper, Sheffield Hallam University *NursingTimes.net*)

"Beans spurt, sea urchins swell, worms glow, clams open, wolves wail and the tides turn. So why shouldn't we humans be sensitive to the perturbations of our silvery sister world, the Moon?"

(Geoff Ward *Suite 101*)

"Does the moon make you mad?, In this erudite overview of the history of the treatment of mental illness and the history of cosmology, the conclusion is – 'we don't know'. Nonetheless, it is a fascinating journey."

(Clare Reddaway *Bookbag*)

"Egyptian hieroglyphs and the mathematics of Pythagoras to science fiction and scientific exploration."

(Ken McLoone *Nursing Standard*)

"McCrae traces the origins of the belief that the Moon can exact influence on mental states and behaviour... The narrative thrust of the book often moves without much announcement from one subject to another, for example from Malleus Maleficarum to astrology and back to lunar cycles."

(*British Journal of Psychiatry*)

### About the Author

Niall McCrae is a clinical researcher at the Institute of Psychiatry, King's College London.

## Users Review

### From reader reviews:

#### Linda King:

The book The Moon and Madness can give more knowledge and information about everything you want. Why then must we leave a very important thing like a book The Moon and Madness? Wide variety you have a different opinion about reserve. But one aim that book can give many data for us. It is absolutely

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