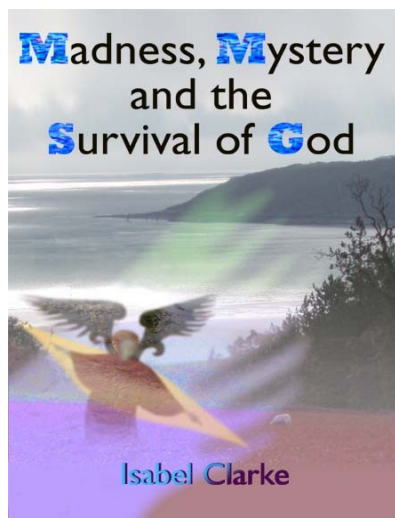


# Madness, Mystery and the Survival of God

Isabel Clarke

Publishing Nov 2008



- Why do people still believe in God and the supernatural in a scientific age?
- How come madness and mysticism are so similar?
- What can we learn from this?
- Psychological science offers an intriguing new perspective on these questions: one that relates the great challenges that face us, whether of ecology or fanaticism, to our basic limits as human beings.
- It is a perspective that places human beings in the context of relationship with a larger and ever mysterious whole.

**Isabel Clarke** is a psychological therapist, who works with people diagnosed with psychosis and other severe mental health problems. Familiarity with their experience, together with a knowledge of the spiritual literature and of research into the processing capacity of the brain, led to her central conclusion: that psychosis and spiritual experience both inhabit that other reality - a reality that is integral and vital for all humans.

The accounts of individuals who have explored this other reality – through experiences that could be variously labelled as spiritual emergency or even psychosis, lie at the heart of this book. Understanding these experiences reveals the impact of that other way of experiencing in 'normal' life. God is located within the scientific world view in a way that respects mystery and so enlarges rather than diminishes our vision.

*Absolutely first class! It came into the can't put it down category so I have read it cover to cover.* **Ian Mowl**, Co-ordinator of *GreenSpirit*

*I have thoroughly enjoyed reading this. It is groundbreaking territory, fascinating, good, topical and relevant.* **Janice Hartley**, Secretary of The Spiritual Crisis Network Development Group

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