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Nota di contenuto Front matter -- Contents -- Preface -- I. To Begin, Just Say, "How Are

You?" -- Part I: An Introduction to Ultra-Orthodoxy and Community mental health work in Jerusalem -- 2. The Initiation of Mental Health Care for the Ultra Orthodox - 3. Changing Attitudes in Cultural

Care for the Ultra-Orthodox -- 3. Changing Attitudes in Cultural

Psychiatry -- 4. A Match Is Arranged Between Cultural Psychiatry and Ultra-Orthodox Judaism -- 5. Varieties of Religious Identification -- 6. The Parable of the Turkey -- Part II: The Psychopathology of belief and ritual -- 7. Beliefs and Delusions -- 8. Visions and Hallucinations -- 9. Nocturnal Hallucinations -- 10. "A Big Man Dressed in Black Is Hitting Me" -- 11. Phenomenology and Differential Diagnoses of Nocturnal

Hallucinations -- 12. Normative Rituals -- 13. Ritual as

Psychopathology, or Is the Code of Jewish Law a Compulsive's Natural Habitat? -- 14. Religious Ritual and OCD -- Part III: Psychopathology and Religious Return -- 15. The Baal Teshuva and Mental Health, or Why the Camel Changed His Burden, and How He Felt About It -- 16. Mental Illness and Religious Change: The Chicken or the Egg -- 17. "A

Very Narrow Bridge" -- 18. Mysticism and Psychosis -- 19. "Jerusalem Syndrome" -- Part IV: The Provision of Mental Health Care -- 20. Ultra-Orthodox Attitudes Toward Mental Health Care -- 21. Improving Mental Health Care for the Ultra-Orthodox -- 22. Treating Depression in the Community by the Community -- Part V: Case Studies -- 23. The Soldier of the Apocalypse -- 24. The Healing Power of Ritual -- 25. Paradise Regained -- Part VI: Conclusion -- 26. Betrayal -- 27. Broken Souls Are Not Easily Mended -- Notes -- Glossary -- Bibliography -- Index

Sommario/riassunto

Ultra-orthodox Jews in Jerusalem are isolated from the secular community that surrounds them not only physically but by their dress, behaviors, and beliefs. Their relationship with secular society is characterized by social, religious, and political tensions. The differences between the ultra-orthodox and secular often pose special difficulties for psychiatrists who attempt to deal with their needs. In this book, two Western-trained psychiatrists discuss their mental health work with this community over the past two decades. With humor and affection they elaborate on some of the factors that make it difficult to treat or even to diagnose the ultra-orthodox, present fascinating case studies, and relate their observations of this religious community to the management of mental health services for other fundamentalist, anti-secular groups.