Record Nr. UNINA9910789140903321 Autore Pinto Sarah Titolo Daughters of Parvati: women and madness in contemporary India // Sarah Pinto Pubbl/distr/stampa Philadelphia, Pennsylvania:,: University of Pennsylvania Press,, 2014 ©2014 **ISBN** 0-8122-0928-1 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (294 p.) Collana Contemporary Ethnography Disciplina 362.2/20954 Soggetti Mentally ill women - Care - India Psychiatric hospitals - India Women - Mental health services - India Psychiatry - India - History - 21st century Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph Note generali Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Front matter -- Contents -- Note on Transliterations -- Introduction: Love and Affliction -- 1. Rehabilitating Ammi -- 2. On Dissolution -- 3. Moksha and Mishappenings -- 4. On Dissociation -- 5. Making a Case -- 6. Ethics of Dissolution -- Bibliography -- Index --Acknowledgments Sommario/riassunto In her role as devoted wife, the Hindu goddess Parvati is the divine embodiment of viraha, the agony of separation from one's beloved, a form of love that is also intense suffering. These contradictory emotions reflect the overlapping dissolutions of love, family, and mental health explored by Sarah Pinto in this visceral ethnography. Daughters of Parvati centers on the lives of women in different settings of psychiatric care in northern India, particularly the contrasting environments of a private mental health clinic and a wing of a government hospital. Through an anthropological consideration of modern medicine in a nonwestern setting, Pinto challenges the dominant framework for addressing crises such as long-term involuntary commitment, poor treatment in homes, scarcity of licensed practitioners, heavy use of pharmaceuticals, and the ways psychiatry

may reproduce constraining social conditions. Inflected by the author's

own experience of separation and single motherhood during her fieldwork, Daughters of Parvati urges us to think about the ways women bear the consequences of the vulnerabilities of love and family in their minds, bodies, and social worlds.