

[FREE] Babinski Reflex

Babinski Reflex

Philip Goldberg

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Philip Goldberg : Babinski Reflex before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Babinski Reflex:

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. The usefulness of metaphorsBy CoolestSomeone gave me a copy of this book back in 1991, and I finally got around to reading it just lately. It's a real treasure trove of Reflexes, Theorems, Laws, and Effects from many different disciplines: nuclear physics, medicine, psychology--to name a few. Here you will get an understanding of the Munchausen Syndrome, which enables you to understand why one notable version of this is called Munchausen's by Proxy. You'll also see one effect, syndrome, or factor compared with another, such as Janiger's Law, which predicts--somewhat in the way that the Peter Principle states that one will rise to the level of his or her incompetence--that people will persevere in accomplishments and encounters with new experiences only to the extent of their anxiety about the experience. For each effect, there is described a metaeffect, that is, a transference or application of the affect to behavior or feelings in everyday situations. By knowing the various theorems, principles, etc., one can recognize when others are being controlled by them, or when one is in danger of say, succumbing to The Bandwagon Effect or, in contrast, trying a new way of doing something, as in The Fosbury Flop. In the end, "The Babinski Reflex" provides a way of understanding our world, as well as the metaphoric filters that people place on experience. I recommend the book whole-heartedly.

From School Library Journal Arranged in alphabetical order, the entries in this entertaining collection include the origin of the metaphor, an example of its use, and a metaffect ("a recognized . . . principle whose official meaning can be transferred to another context"). The style of presentation is breezy, and the material is sure to enliven speech or writing with new means of expression. The book belongs on a browsing rather than reference shelf, but because some of the examples are contemporary and uninhibited, a little caution may be suggested. Copyright 1990 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From Library Journal How-to book author Goldberg describes this project as "a fun-fact book." The gimmick is the use of terms like Babinski Reflex and Gresham's Law as "metaffects"--using them outside of the context for which they were coined. Goldberg attempts to explain the original sense of the terms and to suggest ways the terms might enter casual conversation. Many of the examples are tortured, a few are pretentious in the extreme, and more than several are disturbing, as in "Man, she brings out the beast in me! One look at her and I babinski like a dog in heat!" Of some use as a handy reference of simple explanations of a few terms from physics and economics, but little value beyond this is apparent.- Mark L. Shelton, Columbus, Ohio Copyright 1990 Reed Business Information, Inc.