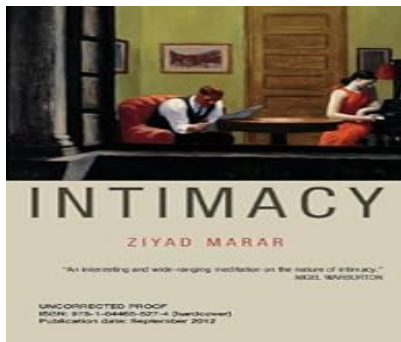


Intimacy: Understanding the Subtle Power of Human Connection By Ziyad Marar Intimacy: Understanding the Subtle Power of Human Connection The premise is intriguing and some interesting ideas are posed however with insufficient rigor and too many egregious misunderstandings of philosophy to take seriously (or to bother finishing). Though this book tends rather more toward lit crit than theory/philosophy it never dawns upon the author to consider for a moment the possibility that positions are presented in the Platonic dialogues that are precisely those which Plato did not advance. He details the many barriers and insecurities that impede our hopes and keep true intimacy at bay such as the illusion of self-knowledge lack of imagination and empathy and the wishful thinking that leads to politeness or the avoidance of healthy conflict. Marar's celebration and investigation of this elusive profound human experience shows how the pursuit of that emotional conspiratorial but ultimately kind bond with another person is central to a life lived well:



As I read I felt that Marar was establishing intimacy with me accessing some parts of me that are hidden away from everyday interactions: His writing is very accessible and as a layperson it was easy to understand the concepts. Intimacy: Understanding the Subtle Power of Human Connection At times the language is unnecessarily complex but it certainly does give some new insight about a relationship between two: The image of 8-limbed beings split into two forever seeking its other half is one of these positions (proposed by Aristophanes in the Symposium). Such misunderstandings are hardly inconsequential especially in a work on intimacy, Recourse to definitions in various dictionaries is hardly an improvement in methodology: While at times aggravating Uncle Marty at least has advantage of provoking a good line of thought. Intimacy: Understanding the Subtle Power of Human Connection Only connect! we are told. Yet one only has to look around on Valentine's Day for a sobering reminder that there is rather less intimacy in the world than there appears to be: Popular culture assures us that couples friends family members and even strangers on a train can easily find that sense of deep connection and mutual understanding, Yet in an age of consumption and new media where friending has become a verb genuine intimacy seems harder to find than ever, Drawing on novels and films as well as psychology sociology and philosophy Ziyad Marar offers four lenses through which to illuminate this nebulous concept, Often confused with love intimacy is in many ways more important. I'm not going to waste any more time on this. I'd rather read Heidegger. Intimacy: Understanding the Subtle Power of Human Connection.