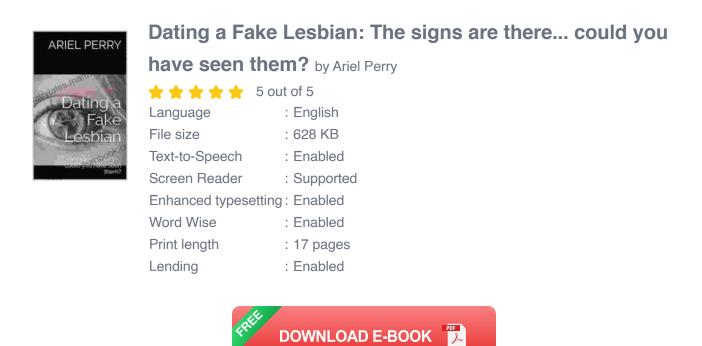
# The Signs Are There: Could You Have Seen Them?

Mental health issues are a growing concern in our society. According to the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI),one in five adults in the United States experiences a mental health disorder each year. And, sadly, many of these disorders go undiagnosed and untreated.



This is a tragedy, because mental health disorders are treatable. With the right help, people with mental health disorders can live full and productive lives. But in order to get help, people need to know that they have a problem.

That's why it's so important to be aware of the early warning signs of mental health issues. If you or someone you know is experiencing any of these signs, it's important to seek professional help.

#### Depression

Depression is a mood disorder that causes feelings of sadness, hopelessness, and worthlessness. People with depression may also experience changes in appetite, sleep, and energy levels. They may also have difficulty concentrating, making decisions, and remembering things.

Some of the early warning signs of depression include:

- Feeling sad, hopeless, or worthless
- Losing interest in activities you used to enjoy
- Having trouble sleeping or sleeping too much
- Feeling tired or having low energy
- Having difficulty concentrating or making decisions
- Experiencing changes in appetite
- Having physical symptoms, such as headaches, stomachaches, or back pain

#### Anxiety

Anxiety is a feeling of fear, worry, or unease. People with anxiety may experience physical symptoms, such as sweating, shaking, or shortness of breath. They may also have difficulty concentrating, sleeping, or controlling their thoughts.

Some of the early warning signs of anxiety include:

Feeling anxious, worried, or uneasy

- Having physical symptoms, such as sweating, shaking, or shortness of breath
- Having difficulty concentrating
- Having trouble sleeping
- Having difficulty controlling your thoughts
- Avoiding situations that make you anxious

#### **Bipolar Disorder**

Bipolar disorder is a mood disorder that causes episodes of mania and depression. During manic episodes, people may experience extreme happiness, energy, and racing thoughts. They may also have difficulty sleeping, make impulsive decisions, and engage in risky behaviors. During depressive episodes, people may experience extreme sadness, hopelessness, and worthlessness. They may also have difficulty sleeping, eating, and concentrating.

Some of the early warning signs of bipolar disorder include:

- Experiencing extreme mood swings
- Having episodes of mania and depression
- Having difficulty sleeping
- Making impulsive decisions
- Engaging in risky behaviors
- Experiencing changes in appetite

 Having physical symptoms, such as headaches, stomachaches, or back pain

#### Schizophrenia

Schizophrenia is a serious mental illness that affects a person's thoughts, emotions, and behavior. People with schizophrenia may experience hallucinations, delusions, and disorganized thinking. They may also have difficulty concentrating, remembering things, and making decisions.

Some of the early warning signs of schizophrenia include:

- Having hallucinations, such as seeing, hearing, or smelling things that aren't there
- Having delusions, such as believing that you are being verfolgt or that you have special powers
- Having disorganized thinking
- Having difficulty concentrating
- Having trouble remembering things
- Having difficulty making decisions
- Withdrawing from social activities

### What to Do If You See the Signs

If you or someone you know is experiencing any of the early warning signs of a mental health disorder, it's important to seek professional help. A mental health professional can evaluate the symptoms and make a diagnosis. They can also recommend treatment options and provide support.

There are many different types of mental health treatments available, and the best treatment will vary depending on the individual. Some common treatments include therapy, medication, and self-help strategies.

With the right help, people with mental health disorders can live full and productive lives. So if you or someone you know is struggling, please don't hesitate to seek help.

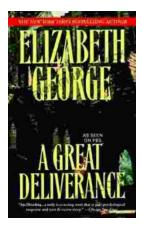


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