



Hearing Loss

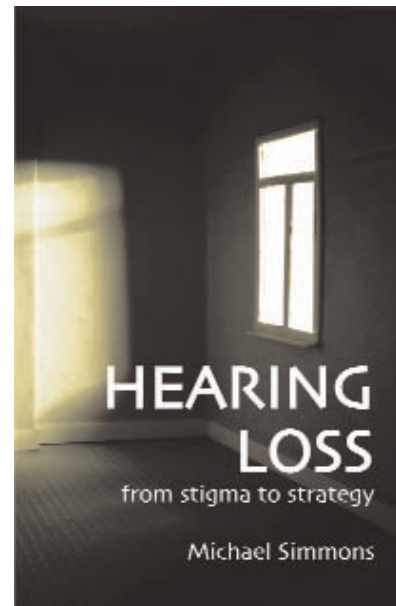
From Stigma to Strategy

MICHAEL SIMMONS

NON FICTION/HEALTH

70,000 WORDS

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WORLD



'What an uplifting and optimistic book for those of us with hearing loss!'
– Colin Dexter, author of the *Inspector Morse* novels

Millions of people in Britain are affected by hearing loss – and the number is growing steadily. For many it is an unforeseen challenge, to enter the world of hearing aids and gadgets and to come to terms with other people's insensitivity and jokes – rarely is blindness laughed at – and the need to adjust a muffled, or even silent, environment.

Michael Simmons, a distinguished British journalist until his retirement in 1997, has age-related hearing loss. While undertaking research for this book he discovered that, while deafness has been the subject of many books and studies, hearing loss is often swept under the carpet, under-researched and under-funded, while being frequently exploited by unscrupulous hearing-appliance manufacturers.

The author examines the challenge and the stigma associated with hearing loss, investigates the historical figures who have experienced the condition, the remedies sufferers – and their partners – have tried, and goes on to look at the resources and aids that are currently available. He finds there is light at the end of the tunnel.

'Successfully tackles head on some of the niggling issues and practicalities of age-related hearing loss. Filled with fascinating information.' – *One in Seven* (RNID)

'Should be read by anyone with the condition and those who know about them. Simmons does an excellent job of shedding light on hearing loss's devastating effects.' – *Publishers Weekly*

'Very honest and articulate . . . well-researched and wide-ranging. Should be required reading for doctors, decision-makers and hearing people generally who have little idea of the socially catastrophic effects of hearing loss.'
– *Hearing Concern Magazine*

MICHAEL SIMMONS took early retirement as a journalist. After a period with the parliamentary staff of the *Glasgow Herald* he became Eastern European correspondent for the *Financial Times*. He later spent twenty years on the *Guardian* first as Eastern European Correspondent, where he played a leading part in the newspaper's coverage of the demise of communism, and latterly commentating on political and social affairs in Britain. He is the author of six books.

For further information please contact Simon Smith at Peter Owen