

✱ **The Runaway house**  
— asylum for psychiatry-afflicted persons, by Uta Wehde. Preface by Jeffrey M. Masson. Paperback. 192 pages.

In the Netherlands "run-away" houses have been starting to shelter people escaping from psychiatric confinement, electroshock and drugging. They are similar to battered women's shelters. Uta Wehde reports her observations in a Dutch run-away house, and announces a Berlin sanctuary is being formed.

✱ *Dear & expensive incomprehension — the language of madness and the psychiatric retort*, by Kerstin Kempker. Epilogue by Thilo von Trotha. 128 pages. Paperback. 18 illustrations.

Writes Kerstin: "What drives people mad? What is the reason, that people don't go mad? I am particularly interested in the second question, less frequently asked." Peter Lehmann describes her book as a "collage" of literary, philosophical, and psychiatric voices. "Just the literary voices — such as Ingeborg Bachmann, Antonin Artaud, Sylvia Plath, Unica Zürn, Robert Walser — show the anachronistic and non-mitigated observations, perceptions and manifestations can be a skill, which, indeed, has its price, but has nothing to do with illness. Price of madness is risk of psychiatrisation and loss of the mutual language... price of adaptation nevertheless would be the abandonment of one's identity."