

Eaton, Vincent. *Self-Portrait of Someone Else*.
Aug. 1989. 245p. Viking, \$16.95
(0-670-82464-X). Galley.

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In his first novel, Eaton provides a fascinating glimpse—in "Technicolor" narrative—into the mind of a once-lucid, highly articulate young man whose personality disintegrates under the pressures of coping with the vicissitudes of adult life. So realistic is this novel's "case history" that one would swear the main character, Tim Buckles, truly existed, were it not for the author's skillful employment of literary devices that announce this work as fiction. The result is a dramatically suspenseful yarn, imaginatively told through police reports and interviews, Tim's journal writings, and psychological write-ups.

—*Mary Banas*

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