



Journal of Contemporary Narrative Therapy

Editors: Tom Stone Carlson, Sanni Paljakka, marcela polanco, and David Epston
Associate Editor: Kimberly S. Rodríguez Jiménez

Editors' Note

We are pleased to announce the May 2026 release of the *Journal of Contemporary Narrative Therapy*. This issue brings together the work of practitioners whose writing emerges directly from practice shaped through careful attention to language, ethical responses, and reflection of narrative ideas in lived therapeutic encounters grounded in close listening and collaborative inquiry.

In **“It’s Taken Care Of: A Collaborative Effort by a Student and a Teacher to Keep Trouble Out of the Classroom,”** *Virginia Maxfield* offers a compelling account of narrative practice within a school setting. Through a brief yet impactful exchange with a young student, Maxfield traces how an externalizing conversation creates space for a story of strength, leadership, and courage that extends beyond the classroom.

In the final installment of her series **“Breaking the Frame: Aesthetic Encounters with Narrative Practices – Part 3,”** *Lucy Merrill Cotter* continues her exploration of the relationship between art and narrative practices. Drawing on works from Yayoi Kusama, Pipilotti Rist, and Ana Mendieta, Cotter invites our readers to reconsider assumptions of identity and space, and widen the conceptual and imaginative territories available in therapy.

Lastly, in **“Animative Descriptions and Vivifying Discovery: Inviting Clients into the Marvel of Their Understory,”** Brian Wainwright explores the generative force of language in the narrative therapeutic practice. Attending carefully to the animating effects of description, Wainwright examines how narrative dialogue can invite persons into renewed contact with subtle, and often overlooked, aspects of lived experience.





The articles in this issue reflect commitments that continue to animate contemporary narrative therapy: careful attention to language, ethical responsiveness to lived experience, and openness to forms of inquiry that make available new territories of meaning, authorship, and participation.

Sincerely,

Tom Carlson, Ph.D.

Editor, Journal of Contemporary Narrative Therapy

