

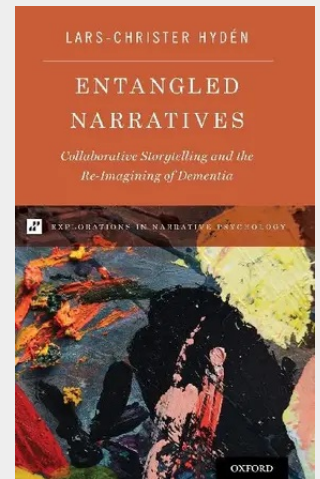
Hyden

Entangled Narratives

Collaborative Storytelling and the Re-Imagining of Dementia

As people are living longer on average than ever before, the number of those with dementia will increase. Because many will live a considerable time at home with their diagnosis, we need to know more about the ways people can adapt to and learn to live with dementia in their everyday lives. Lars-Christer Hydén argues in this book that to do so will involve re-imagining what dementia really is and what it can mean to the afflicted and their loved ones. One of the most important everyday opportunities for sharing experiences is the simple act of storytelling. But when someone close to you gradually loses the ability to tell stories and cherish the shared history you have together, this is seen as a threat to the relationship, to the feeling of belonging together, and to the identity of the person diagnosed. Therefore, learning about how people with dementia can participate in storytelling along with their families and friends helps to sustain those relationships and identities. In *Entangled Narratives*, Hydén not only emphasizes the possibilities that are inherent in collaborative storytelling, but instructs professionals and otherwise healthy relatives to learn how to effectively listen and, ultimately, re-imagine their patients and loved ones as collaborative meaning-makers in their lives.

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100,40 €

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Lieferfrist: bis zu 10 Tage

Artikelnummer: 9780199391578

Medium: Buch

ISBN: 978-0-19-939157-8

Verlag: OXFORD UNIV PR

Erscheinungstermin: 01.12.2017

Sprache(n): Englisch

Auflage: Erscheinungsjahr 2017

Produktform: Gebunden

Gewicht: 537 g

Seiten: 248

Format (B x H): 161 x 240 mm

