

Storied Health and Illness: Communicating Personal, Cultural, and Political Complexities

By Jill Yamasaki, Patricia Geist-Martin, Barbara F. Sharf

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Health and illness are storied experiences that necessarily entail personal, cultural, and political complexities. For all of us, communicating about health and illness requires a continuous negotiation of these complexities and a delicate balance between what we learn about the biology of disease from providers and our own very personal, subjective experiences of being ill. Storied Health and Illness brings together dozens of noteworthy scholars, both established and emerging, in a provocative collection that embraces narrative ways of knowing to think about, analyze, and reconsider our own and others' health beliefs, behaviors, and communication. Comprehensive content reflects the editors' substantial research in integrative health, narrative care, and innovative ways of improving well-being and quality of life in personal relationships, healthcare, the workplace, and community settings.

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- Rank: #454457 in eBooks
- Published on: 2016-07-05
- Released on: 2016-07-07
- Format: Kindle eBook

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Editorial Review

Review
"I think this is a very needed book, highlighting narrative health communication issues as a theoretical and methodological approach in a wide variety of healthcare contexts. The book benefits from the inclusion of multiple authors in an anthology format. At the same time, it incorporates sufficient foundational and applied information to be useful for students encountering narrative approaches for health for the first time." -- Liliana Herakova, University of Maine

"This thoughtful, inviting text tackles the complexities of health communication from the frequently missing perspective of storytelling. Human beings are natural storytellers and this text gives voice to the idea that, as a whole, individual health can be understood as a series of interconnected stories. *Storied Health and Illness* represents a vigorous examination of the multiple, interconnected, personal, social, political, and cultural realities that shape our stories and, consequently, shape our health." --Elizabeth Rattine-Flaherty, St. Louis College of Pharmacy

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