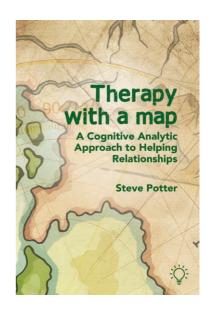
Therapy with a map

A Cognitive Analytic Approach to Helping Relationships

Steve Potter

A therapeutic relationship is a web of interactions, tasks and processes in space and time. It is not easy to stay aware of the relationship in the thick of talking and trying to help someone; but doing so boosts flexibility and enables deeper formulation. A therapist who can be attentive not only to a specific therapeutic model, but also to relational factors underlying all therapy, has a far greater chance of enabling change.

Building on thirty years of theory and practice in the field of Cognitive Analytic Therapy (CAT), yet speaking directly to practitioners across all schools of thought, *Therapy with a Map* sets out a therapeutic process of talking accompanied by visual conversation maps set down in real time



on paper. By mapping these patterns of thinking and relating, therapists can help clients to develop self-understanding and solve problems, and to take away a freer, more self-aware relationship with themselves in the world.

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Table of Contents

Foreword

Preface

Introduction

- 1 Conversational Mapping
- 2 Relationship Mapping
- 3 Narrative Mapping
- 4 Process Mapping
- 5 Learning to Map and Talk
- 6 Writing and the therapeutic voice
- 7 Relational awareness
- 8 Relational healing
- 9 Beginning therapy
- 10 What to do in the middle of therapy
- 11 Ending therapy

About the author

Steve Potter is a psychotherapist who is teaches and supervises Cognitive Analytic Therapy (CAT) and its application to reflective practice in the UK and internationally. His central interest is in the co-creative process of relational mapping, and how it allows us to see and say things that otherwise might be too complex to hold in mind. He is co-editor of the International Journal of Cognitive Analytic Therapy and Relational Mental Health.

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