



Staring at the Park: A Poetic Autoethnographic Inquiry (Writing Lives)

Jane Speedy

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Winner of the 2016 ICQI Outstanding Qualitative Book Award

Acclaimed qualitative scholar Jane Speedy's world was upended completely after suffering a severe stroke when only in her late 50s. After returning home from the hospital, Speedy took to her iPad to write and draw as a way of making sense of her experience and to aid her recovery. The stunning, fragmented, poetic text and images comprising *Staring at the Park* depict the events of this difficult journey. It provides an alternative model of engaging the self in a research project in an evocative and artistic way. This highly original book: -uses the seemingly ordinary motif of the park opposite the author's house as the catalyst for a wildly creative autoethnography;-includes three narratives of the author's experience of staring at the park?an imagined murder mystery in the park, a realist ethnography of the park, and the life story (both imagined and real) of her facing her illness and recovery; -offers readers a poetic and performative inquiry into the author's new reality.

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