

# Writing for special needs: The importance of the real relationship

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## Abstract

The author reflects on a personal journey involving trauma and loss - namely the experience of parenting a special needs child, and attempts to convey something of how that has impacted on his life and what it has meant for him both personally and professionally. On a personal level it has involved a process of trying to come to terms with the reality presented, and finding some acceptance. The author explores some of the consequences on his life as a professional, and in so doing shares thoughts on the difficulty of knowing and not knowing, highlighting the issues of subjectivity and intersubjectivity in the process. The author writes in the hope that at this juncture in the local development of psychoanalytic thinking, we can find space to value and nurture the plurality of analytic voices that reflect our differences.