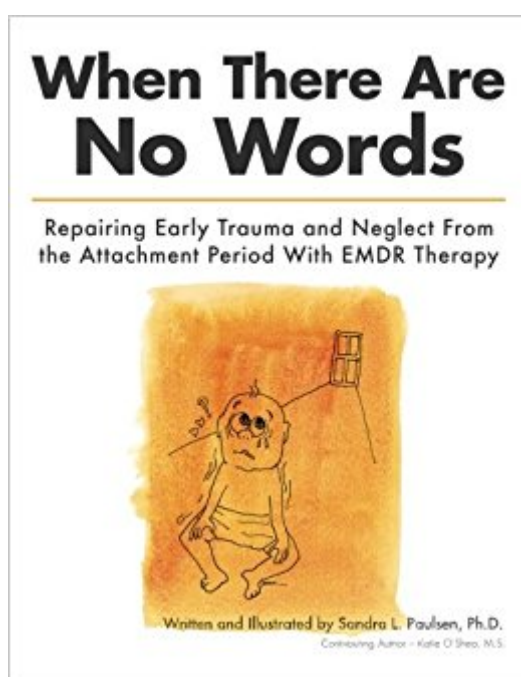


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# When There Are No Words: Repairing Early Trauma And Neglect From The Attachment Period With EMDR Therapy



## Synopsis

This book, intended for clinicians treating very early trauma and neglect in the attachment period, integrates several treatment strategies in a comprehensive and resonant approach that is attuned to the client's unspoken early experience. Although the book presumes EMDR training, it has considerable application for other clinicians who deal with the pernicious effects of early trauma and neglect in the attachment period. The book is based on the seminal contributions of Katie O'Shea, and integrates the author's understanding of complex trauma, dissociative disorders, and the neurobiology of traumatic dissociation, including Panksepp, Porges, Schore, and others. It draws upon the somatic therapy traditions of Peter Levine and others for accessing the somatically held unprocessed trauma responses. Although primarily for clinicians, the cartoons are also suitable for use with clients. Like the author's first book on dissociation, the lay public will be interested in the book because its cartoons make the information comprehensible. The early trauma approach in its basic form consists of 1) containment, 2) safe state, 3) resetting hardwired subcortical affective circuits and 4) clearing trauma by time frame for temporal integration. For complex cases, each step has ego state variations and there are more preparatory steps to ensure the self system is aligned with treatment goals. It integrates ego state work to reduce loyalty to the aggressor and the problem of perpetrator introjects. The author was a collaborator of the late father of ego state therapy, John G. Watkins, Ph.D. Sandra Paulsen offers a third integration approach, "temporal integration," to supplement the "tactical integration" and "strategic integration" approaches of Catherine Fine, Ph.D. and Richard Kluft, M.D., respectively. The book has over a hundred original drawings by the author, which telegraph complex psychological and neurobiological concepts quickly, making the book a quicker read than would otherwise be possible. The format, with its generous use of bullets, white space and cartoons, mean that a range of readers can scan the chapters for the information relevant to their own needs. Appendices provide detailed information on the mechanics of the work, how to ethically work in the intensive format, containment procedures for complex cases, working with perpetrator introjects. Although the book is informal with its use of cartoons, the book includes relevant scholarly citations and references. Because it is both metaphoric and scholarly, it speaks to both the right and left hemisphere's of the reader's brain. Many concepts will slip in unawares through the compelling use of metaphor. The book includes case examples to illustrate the suggested scripting for accomplishing each of the relevant steps. Narrative discussion describes the most likely problems for each step and what to do about them. Katie O'Shea, M.S., is acknowledged as contributing author because of her development of the original approach and some of the ideas contained in the book. Ulrich Lanius, Ph.D. contributed to the neurobiological understandings in the

book. Above all, the author's goal is to help others understand how the story tells itself non-verbally, when trauma occurs in the attachment period and is held in implicit memory. When we hear of the story in the non-verbals, clinicians can "catch and release" the traumatic sequelae of very early trauma and neglect. The book includes worksheets for clinicians use. It supplements the online workshops that Dr Paulsen presents on this same topic, and others, see [www.bainbridgepsychology.com](http://www.bainbridgepsychology.com).

## Book Information

Paperback: 225 pages

Publisher: CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform (January 24, 2017)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1507507194

ISBN-13: 978-1507507193

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 0.5 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 6 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #129,578 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #13 in [Books > Health, Fitness & Dieting > Mental Health > Dissociative Disorders](#) #493 in [Books > Medical Books > Psychology > Clinical Psychology](#)

## Customer Reviews

In addition to the present volume, Dr Paulsen authored, ["Looking Through the Eyes of Trauma & Dissociation: An Illustrated Guide for EMDR Therapists and Clients"](#) and Lanius, Paulsen, & Corrigan, ["The Neurobiology and Treatment of Traumatic Dissociation: Toward an Embodied Self"](#). She authored chapters in books by Forgash & Copeley, "Healing the Heart of Trauma;" R. Shapiro, "EMDR Solutions II;" Luber, "EMDR Scripted Protocol: Special Populations." She contributed to Corsini's, "Encyclopedia of Psychology, 2nd Ed.," and "Handbook of Innovative Psychotherapies," and Neukrug's "Sage Encyclopedia of Counseling and Psychotherapy." A fellow of the ISST&D, she was invited faculty in Germany, South Africa, Japan, Scotland, Norway, Sweden, Russia, Brazil, England, Hong Kong, and more, and was EMDRIA Masters Series Lecturer, 2004. She teaches workshops on ego state therapy, somatic methods, the early trauma approach and how the story tells itself non-verbally. Her clinical practice is limited to brief intensive work on a forested island near Seattle. Clients come from all over the world to work for several days, all day, to clear and repair trauma in the attachment period. She consults

extensively to other mental health professionals on the use of EMDR with complex and dissociative clients. Her online workshops are available through [sfrankelgroup.com](http://sfrankelgroup.com). Paulsen received her Ph.D. and Masters in Clinical Psychology from the University of Hawaii at Manoa, and her B.A. from the University of California, Berkeley. She lives with her husband in a log house in the forest on Bainbridge Island, WA.

The best books I have ever read on this subject. Practical application and clinical tools with research to validate the processes.

For any therapist who's doing early trauma work this book is thorough and in depth yet very easy to grasp the concepts. Is an excellent adjunct resource to Sandra's workshops that teach how to clear early trauma.

Dr. Paulsen knows her stuff. This is a very illuminating book. Full of education and new ways of looking at your cases.

Very informative for a master therapist

I was thrilled to read this long-awaited gem! This protocol for healing very early trauma is such a powerful addition to the EMDR therapy toolkit, and having the book makes it possible for more people to confidently and proficiently help clients in this essential way. Sandra is a masterful writer, thoroughly presenting details and angles to preclude unanswered questions. She includes the scientific basis for the protocol in an understandable way and gives clear explanations of all of the phases and steps, with illustrations and case studies. I greatly appreciate how fully Sandra explains adaptations to make the protocol effective with even the most complex and highly dissociative clients. Her expertise in working with this population comes shining through. I can't imagine a more valuable addition to the field of trauma therapy and I recommend that every EMDR therapist read it!

Good

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