



# Waiting at the Gate: Creativity and Hope in the Nursing Home

*Susan L Sandel, David Johnson*

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Here is the result of over ten years of hands-on clinical experience by two experts who have worked with the elderly. The authors explore the contributions of the creative arts therapies, specifically movement and drama therapy, to the individual and communal welfare of residents in nursing homes. *Waiting at the Gate: Creativity and Hope in the Nursing Home* eloquently demonstrates how movement and drama therapy facilitate the preservation of life, of meaning, and of hope by seeking the beautiful and playful aspects of the self, and valuing humor, flexibility, and spontaneity in relationships with others. The authors show how these values challenge the “waiting to die” phenomenon of the custodial nursing home and offer lively alternatives to the resident in the new institution of the 1990s.

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