Dr. Ryan Mest

Temporality and Technique: A Response to Eric Severson

Last year, Eric Severson posed a rigorous philosophical question to psychologists: How can we think of psychotherapeutic interventions as something other than creating a new life narrative in which the patient/client is a protagonist? Drawing on Severson's recent book, Levinas' writings, well-written psychoanalytic/psychodynamic literature, and Epicurean research, I gratefully attempt a rigorous response to this question for Eric and the conference that highlights the concept of repetition, related techniques, and Epicurean echoes latent in Levinas' work as well as the temporality and psychopathology of everyday living.

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