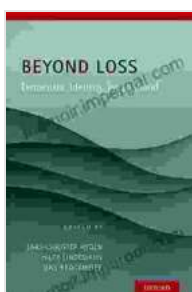


# Beyond Loss: Dementia, Identity, and Personhood

**By Bill Thomas**

In *Beyond Loss: Dementia, Identity, and Personhood*, author Bill Thomas challenges prevailing views on dementia and offers a compassionate and empowering framework for understanding and caring for those living with the condition. Drawing on decades of experience and research, Thomas argues that dementia is not merely a loss of cognitive function, but a unique and often transformative experience that can lead to profound insights and spiritual growth.

Thomas begins by exploring the ways in which dementia can affect a person's sense of self. He argues that while memory loss is a common symptom of dementia, it does not define the person. People with dementia can still experience joy, love, sorrow, and all the other emotions that make us human. They can still learn, grow, and change. They can still have a sense of humor, a sense of purpose, and a sense of spirituality.



## Beyond Loss: Dementia, Identity, Personhood

★★★★☆ 4.3 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 9997 KB

Screen Reader : Supported

Print length : 224 pages

Lending : Enabled

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Thomas also challenges the idea that people with dementia are no longer capable of making decisions. He argues that even in the later stages of dementia, people can still express their preferences and make choices about their lives. It is important to respect their choices, even if they are different from the choices we would make for ourselves.

Thomas provides practical guidance for caregivers, family members, and healthcare professionals on how to create a supportive and enriching environment for those they care for. He emphasizes the importance of treating people with dementia with dignity and respect. He also stresses the importance of providing opportunities for them to engage in meaningful activities and to connect with others.

*Beyond Loss* is a groundbreaking book that challenges prevailing stereotypes and invites us to rethink our understanding of dementia, identity, and personhood. It is a must-read for anyone who is caring for someone with dementia, or who simply wants to learn more about this complex and fascinating condition.

## **Reviews**

"*Beyond Loss* is a compassionate and empowering book that challenges prevailing views on dementia. Bill Thomas offers a new framework for understanding and caring for those living with the condition, one that emphasizes dignity, respect, and personhood. This book is a must-read for anyone who is caring for someone with dementia, or who simply wants to learn more about this complex and fascinating condition."

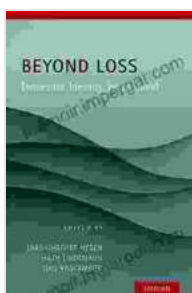
- **Maria Shriver**, author of *What's Wrong with Alzheimer's?*

"Bill Thomas has written a profoundly important book. *Beyond Loss* challenges the prevailing medical model of dementia, which sees it as a disease of decline and loss. Instead, Thomas argues that dementia can be a time of growth, transformation, and even spiritual awakening. This book is a must-read for anyone who is caring for someone with dementia, or who simply wants to learn more about this complex and fascinating condition."

- **Dr. David Shenk**, author of *The Forgetting*

"*Beyond Loss* is a groundbreaking book that will change the way we think about dementia. Bill Thomas offers a compassionate and empowering framework for understanding and caring for those living with the condition, one that emphasizes dignity, respect, and personhood. This book is a must-read for anyone who is caring for someone with dementia, or who simply wants to learn more about this complex and fascinating condition."

- **Dr. Daniel Amen**, author of *Making a Good Brain Great*



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