

# Tricksters Stories and OUD



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# TRICKSTER

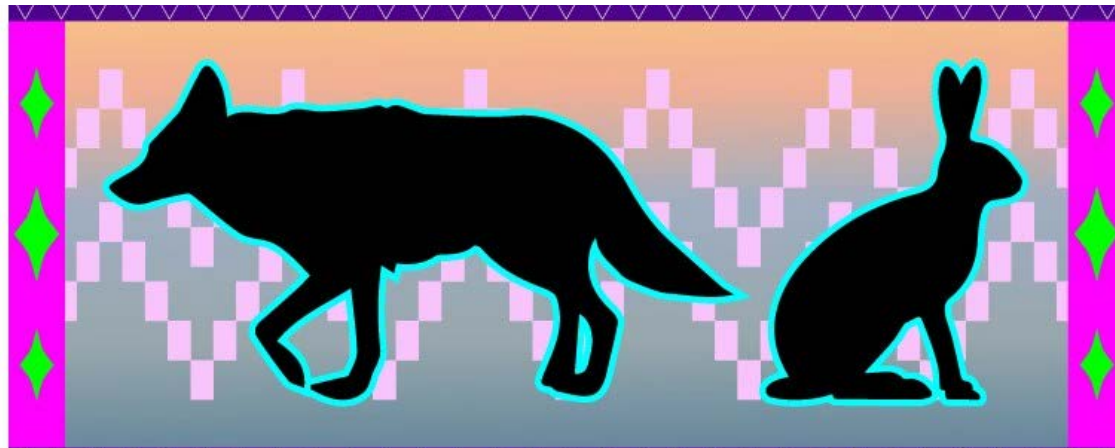
NATIVE AMERICAN TALES

A GRAPHIC COLLECTION

“Meet the Trickster, a crafty creature or being who disrupts the order of things, often humiliating others and sometimes himself in the process. Whether a coyote or a rabbit, raccoon or raven, tricksters use cunning to get food, steal precious possessions, or simply cause mischief.”



# Trickster Spirits and the Opioid Response



Coyote wanders into your life...he'll lend you a pair of eyes ...he'll burn a hole in the darkness.... He is the smoking mirror, night and sorcery, ancestral memory, the enemy on both sides, the crossroads, the compass, the silent wind and thunderous war inside you. ... He holds up the mirror relentlessly until you staring back at yourself....that seems alright to him - Diary of a Dog

# Relationship with Medicine



- ▶ Reestablish our relationship with medicine
- ▶ Change our relationship with medicine people
- ▶ Develop a relationship with the spirit of substances and substance misuse

The question  
is never  
'why the  
addiction'  
but  
'why the  
pain'

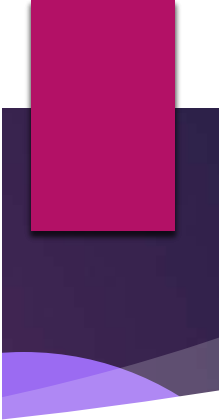

In the Realm of the Hungry Ghosts:  
Close Encounters with Addiction





# Harm Reduction

“It’s important  
to meet people  
where they’re  
at, but not  
*leave them* where  
they’re at.”



There is an extensive body of literature documenting the stigma associated with alcohol and other drug problems. No physical or psychiatric condition is more associated with social disapproval and discrimination than substance dependence. For people who use drugs, or are recovering from problematic drug use, stigma can be a barrier to a wide range of opportunities and rights.

**Drug addiction is often thought of in black and white terms, with out of control addiction on one hand, and complete abstinence on the other, one is either "using" or "clean."**

**However, there is an entire realm of vital interventions between these extremes, where people can be helped at various stages of drug use.**

**This is the world of Harm Reduction.**





# Suggested Resources

Adverse Childhood Experiences Study:

<https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/childabuseandneglect/acestudy/index.html>

Mate, G. (2009). *In the realm of the hungry ghosts: Close encounters with addiction*. Berkeley, CA: North Atlantic Books.

Prochaska, J. O., & DiClemente, C. C. (1983). *Stages and processes of self-change of smoking: Toward an integrative model of change*. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*, 51(3), 390-395.

Rollnick, S., Miller, W. R., & Butler, C. (2008). *Motivational interviewing in health care: helping patients change behavior*. Guilford Press.

Brave Heart Yellow Horse, M. (2004). *The historical trauma response among Natives and its relationship to substance abuse: A Lakota illustration*. In E. Nebelkopf & M. Phillips (Eds.), *Healing and mental health for Native Americans: Speaking in red*. (pp. 7-18). Walnut Creek: Alta Mira Press. Also in *Journal of Psychoactive Drugs*, 35(1), 7-13.

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NPAIHB Resources:

<http://www.npaihb.org/opioid/#SUDTraining>