



Sarah Wayland

LIVING IN THE LIMINAL SPACE

Understanding the Lived Experience of Ambiguous or Unresolved Loss to Enhance How We Care for Those Left Behind

Social Work Studies
Collection Editor
KATE PARKINSON

LIVED PLACES
PUBLISHING

Living in the Liminal Space: Understanding the Lived Experience of Ambiguous or Unresolved Loss to Enhance How We Care for Those Left Behind

AUTHOR Sarah Wayland
COLLECTION EDITED BY Kate Parkinson

COLLECTION
Social Work Studies

EDITION
1st edition

MARKET
College/higher education
and Professional and
scholarly

This course reading...

- Offers over 25 years of expertise on ambiguous loss, combining research and lived experience.
- Provides practical strategies for social workers, counsellors, psychologists, and therapists to support those experiencing unresolved grief.
- Blends social theories of hope, loss, and uncertainty with real-world case studies and professional insights.
- Enhances teaching and training for pre-service social work and mental health professionals.
- Ideal for students and professionals in Social Work, Counselling, Psychology, Sociology, and graduate programs focused on grief, trauma, and mental health.

What happens when a person is gone, but not lost—when grief takes hold without the certainty of death?

Living in the Liminal Space explores this profound emotional terrain, where families and communities exist between hope and despair, struggling to find meaning amid ambiguity.

Drawing on more than 25 years of research and practice, Professor Sarah Wayland brings together her experiences working with families of missing people in Australia and internationally. Through a powerful blend of lived experience, academic insight, and compassion, she offers a framework for understanding and supporting those navigating unresolved loss. Extending the foundational work of Pauline Boss and integrating social theories of hope, loss, and uncertainty, this book challenges social workers, counsellors, psychologists, and therapists to view “living grief” not as paralysis, but as a space where resilience and connection can flourish.

This book is essential reading for students and practitioners in social work, counselling, psychology, sociology, and community services, as well as organisations offering postgraduate or professional programs in grief, loss, and trauma support.

Sarah Wayland is a social work academic and researcher specializing in ambiguous loss, trauma, and enhancing professional support practices.

Consumer print and ebook pricing available on the LPP website.
Institutional print and ebook pricing available
through your chosen library vendor.
This title is available as part of the LPP Library collection.
For pricing, inquire at contact@livedplacespublishing.com.