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Autore	Ludlam Molly
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RELATIONSHIPS; CHAPTER EIGHT: An impasse in power relationships: an intersubjective view in a South African socio-cultural context; CHAPTER NINE: Touching the void: the impact of psychiatric illness on the couple
CHAPTER TEN: An exploration of the unconscious couple fit between the "detached" and the "adherent" narcissist: one couple's shared fear of madness
CHAPTER ELEVEN: Sex as protection against intimacy and closeness: working with buyers and sellers of sex; PART IV: THE POWER OF THEORY AND RESEARCH: THE PSYCHOTHERAPIST'S AIDS TO THINKING ABOUT THE COUPLE
CHAPTER TWELVE; CHAPTER TWELVE: The power of our attachment to theory-or Oedipus meets Ganesh;
CHAPTER THIRTEEN: Marriage is a strange attractor: chaos theory, a paradigm shift for couple therapy
CHAPTER FOURTEEN: Can attachment theory help define what is mutative in couple psychoanalytic psychotherapy?
CHAPTER FIFTEEN: Attachment therapy with couples: affect regulation and dysregulation in couple relationships; effective and ineffective responses to painful states by therapists and partners;
CHAPTER SIXTEEN: Psychopathology and therapeutic style: integrating object relations and attachment theory in working with borderline families

Sommario/riassunto

The couple relationship is at the centre of this book. The complex nature of the couple attachment is emphasized, drawing both on psychoanalytic concepts and on attachment theory. The chapters aim to integrate theory with practice and can be seen, both separately and together, as offering new insights into the intricate web of psychic fantasies, shared unconscious anxieties and external realities that shape the attachment between the couple. The book is divided into four sections. The first focuses on ways in which the couple identity is shaped, perceived and presented. It does this through looking at how images of the couple are formed by the couple itself, the therapist, the artist, the writer and society at large. The following section explores the impact of some of the developmental challenges that couples may encounter as part of family life, such as dealing with adolescent children, the childless older couple, and managing sibling relationships.
