# **Becoming Your Own Therapist: Make Your Mind An Ocean**

Have you ever found yourself struggling with your emotions, unable to control your thoughts, or feeling overwhelmed by the challenges life throws at you? You are not alone. Many people find themselves in situations where they could benefit from therapy or counseling to help them navigate through life's ups and downs. However, what if I told you that you have the power to become your own therapist and make your mind an ocean of tranquility? In this article, we will explore the concept of self-therapy and provide you with practical tips and tools to achieve mental well-being.

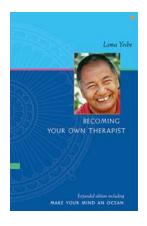
#### The Power of Self-Therapy

Self-therapy, also known as self-help or self-guided therapy, involves taking control of your mental health and well-being. It empowers you to implement strategies and techniques to deal with daily stressors, negative emotions, and challenging situations. By becoming your own therapist, you can develop self-awareness, improve your emotional resilience, and effectively manage your thoughts and behaviors.

However, it is important to note that self-therapy is not a replacement for professional therapy or counseling. In cases of severe mental health issues or traumatic experiences, seeking professional help is crucial. Nevertheless, incorporating self-therapy techniques in your daily life can enhance your overall well-being and complement any ongoing treatment.

Becoming Your Own Therapist & Make Your Mind

an Ocean by Lama Thubten Yeshe (Kindle Edition)



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Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 136 pages
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#### **Identify Your Triggers**

The first step in becoming your own therapist is identifying your triggers - the people, situations, or thoughts that provoke negative emotions or stress. Take some time to reflect on your experiences and emotions. Make a list of things that consistently lead to feelings of anxiety, anger, sadness, or frustration.

Once you are aware of your triggers, you can develop strategies to manage them effectively. This may involve practicing relaxation techniques, engaging in hobbies or activities that bring you joy, or establishing healthy boundaries in your relationships. The key is to find what works best for you and make it a part of your self-therapy routine.

#### **Cultivate Mindfulness**

Mindfulness is a powerful tool in self-therapy. It involves paying attention to the present moment without judgment. By cultivating mindfulness, you can increase your self-awareness, regulate your emotions, and reduce stress and anxiety.

One effective way to incorporate mindfulness into your daily life is through meditation. Set aside a few minutes each day to sit in a quiet space and focus on

your breath. Allow your thoughts to come and go without attaching any judgment or meaning to them. Over time, this practice will help you develop a sense of inner calmness and clarity.

#### **Challenge Negative Thoughts**

Negative thoughts can significantly impact our mental well-being. They can lead to self-doubt, low self-esteem, and a distorted perception of reality. As your own therapist, it is vital to challenge these negative thoughts and replace them with more positive and rational beliefs.

When you catch yourself engaging in negative self-talk, take a moment to question the validity of those thoughts. Are they based on evidence or simply assumptions? Are there alternative explanations or perspectives? By critically evaluating your thoughts, you can reframe them in a more constructive and optimistic manner.

#### **Practice Self-Compassion**

Self-compassion is a fundamental aspect of self-therapy. It involves treating yourself with kindness, understanding, and acceptance, especially during challenging times. Many of us tend to be overly self-critical, which can take a toll on our mental health.

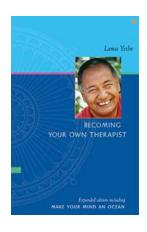
Next time you find yourself being self-critical, try to approach yourself with the same compassion and empathy you would offer to a close friend. Acknowledge your struggles and remind yourself that making mistakes and facing difficulties is a part of being human. Treat yourself with care and gentleness.

#### **Seek Support and Community**

While becoming your own therapist involves self-reflection and internal work, it is essential not to isolate yourself in the process. Seeking support from loved ones, friends, or joining a community or support group can provide valuable insight, encouragement, and accountability.

Share your self-therapy journey with trusted individuals who can offer guidance and understanding. Hearing different perspectives and experiences can broaden your own understanding and provide you with additional tools for growth.

By embarking on the journey of becoming your own therapist, you can take control of your mental well-being and make your mind an ocean of tranquility. Remember that self-therapy is an ongoing process that requires commitment and practice. Be patient with yourself, celebrate your progress, and seek professional help when needed. You have the power within you to navigate through life's challenges and create a fulfilling and balanced existence.



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This book contains public talks by Lama Yeshe on the general topic of Buddhism and mind. Each lecture is followed by a question and answer session. Lama

presented one of the talk to a group of psychiatrists who were delighted to meet and question Lama, and this historic exchange underscores the difference between Western and Buddhist concepts of mental health.

This expanded edition contains both of the very popular Lama Yeshe booklets, Becoming Your Own Therapist and Make Your Mind an Ocean.

#### Becoming Your Own Therapist

First published in 1998, this booklet contains three public talks by Lama Yeshe on the general topic of Buddhism. Each lecture is followed by a question and answer session. Lama and his audiences always enjoyed the give and take of these lively exchanges, and pretty much anything went. Although these talks were called lectures, Lama would have each of us use them as a mirror for our minds and look beyond the words, find ourselves, and become our own psychologist.

#### Make Your Mind an Ocean

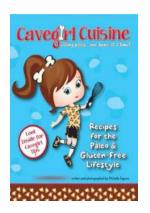
The talks in this booklet are on the general topic of the mind. Two were lunchtime lectures at Melbourne and Latrobe Universities. One was an evening lecture given to the general public. Perhaps of greatest interest is the lecture entitled "A Buddhist Approach to Mental Illness." Lama presented this talk to a group of psychiatrists at Prince Henry's Hospital who were delighted to meet and question Lama, and this historic exchange underscores the difference between Western and Buddhist concepts of mental health.

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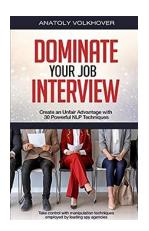
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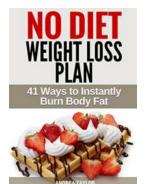
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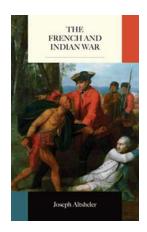
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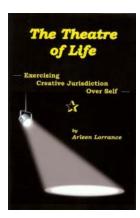
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