

OTNפ

# Discovering PaRaDiSe in Stories







# P'shat – Literal





# Remez – Hint





# D'rash – Seek





**Sod – Secret**



# פדסד

PaRDeS = Orchard

Orchard = Eden

Eden = PaRaDiSe



## P'shat – Literal

*Capture the bones of the story. List the characters, locations, objects. Identify the cultural context.*

## Remez – Hint

*List all the parts of the story that are confusing, arbitrary, intriguing. Identify what you like and don't like from the P'shat. Don't make any interpretations! No hidden meanings!*

## D'rash – Seek

*Explore alternatives for the hints. What else might the object be? What would happen if...?*

## Sod – Secret

*Try out some of the alternatives. What changes about the story? Does its message change? Do you like it more or less?*



# Remember

- *These are tools for exploring stories*
- *Give yourself free rein while trying alternatives*
- *Don't worry about whether it's "OK" to tell the story this way*
- *Be bold in your alternatives!*
- *Try telling it with an open heart – and see what else emerges! and then...*
- *Tell it differently... and then... and then...*





# Nhunggabarra – levels of story meaning

1. *The level of the text itself*
2. *Relationships between people and within communities*
3. *Relationships between the community and the larger environment*
4. *Spiritual actions and psychic skills*

Sveiby, Karl-Erik and Skuthopre, Tex. *Treading Lightly: The Hidden Wisdom of the World's Oldest People*. Crow's Nest, Australia: Allen & Unwin, 2006. P45

Cited in Mehl-Madrona, Lewis. *Healing the Mind through the Power of Story*. Bear & Company, Rochester VT, 2010. Loc 192 (Kindle)





# Thank you!

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