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Review: Creating Meaning

How are you (weather analogy)? What safe vibing skill did you use this week?

Ask for Help

Cry

Choose self respect

Take good care of your body

Compassion

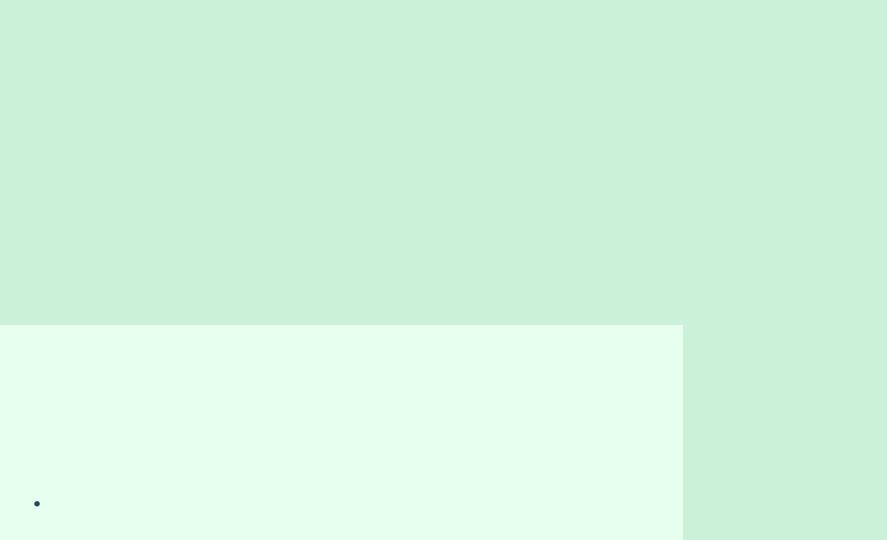
Create a new story

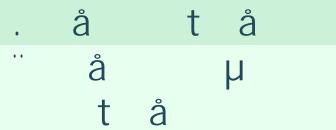
Structure your day

Trust the process

Reframe setbacks

Focus on now





We will read through the meanings that harm and practice alternative meanings that heal on the next few slides.

Instructions: Note in your mind or on a sheet of paper/your phone which meanings you have used in the past and notice any reactions and feelings to both the harmful and healing meanings

- Put a star next to those you particularly struggle with

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Examples that harm

- The escape "I'm upset, I need to binge on food."
- If this, then that "If I get the job, then I'll stop smoking pot."
- **Feelings are reality** because something *feels* true, you believe it must be *fact*.
- Deprivation reasoning-because I've suffered a lot I need substances (or other destructive behaviors)

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- Keep growing Build your tolerance δ problem solving
- Stay in the present Remember: you can start now, every step forward counts.
- Listen to what you know

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Examples that harm

- Time Warp: Sense of time is distorted.
 You believe a negative feeling will go on forever
- Confusing needs with wants: You want something very badly, means you have to have it
- Instant Satisfaction: Life should be easy/ always feel good

Alternatives that heal

- Observe real time: use timer to see how long it really lasts
- Recovery/ healing is the need: needs are essential- food, shelter, clothes, safety, recovery, wants are not
- Work hard: the most enduring satisfactions come from working hard and having patience: work, relationships, recovery

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