

# Sideshadowing: Perceiving Possibilities

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## Abstract

'Sideshadowing' is a term coined by Gary S. Morson ([1994] derived from the more familiar concept of foreshadowing) to conceptualize ways of perceiving alternatives and of seeing possibilities other than or counter to dominant narratives – an essential skill in multicultural education. This essay employs that literary term in suggesting real-life narrative-skill applications in the context of peace education and post-traumatic growth, critical ethical thinking, and additive thinking. Extended and deeper sideshadowing capacities offer a reconstructive potential and process for individuals and societies through enhanced narrative competence in understanding not only what could have been – sideshadowing in service of clearer hindsight – but most urgently, what could yet be.

**Key words: peace education, post-traumatic growth, narrative competence, multicultural education, critical ethical thinking**