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Bibliotherapy in public libraries and next steps...

Bibliotherapy & Public Libraries

- 1) Identifying opportunities (two truths and a lie)
 - 2) Developing a user-directed, user-oriented service
 - 3) Mining your collection
 - 4) Starting where you can
 - 5) Building collaboration
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Identifying Opportunities

- Karen - adult mother of three in her early forties struggling with addiction
 - Alice - nine-year-old who is bullied at school
 - Micah - fifteen-year-old male who wants to explore other religions (other than his family's)
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From *Using Bibliotherapy: A Guide to Theory and Practice* by Rhea Joyce Rubin (written 1978)...

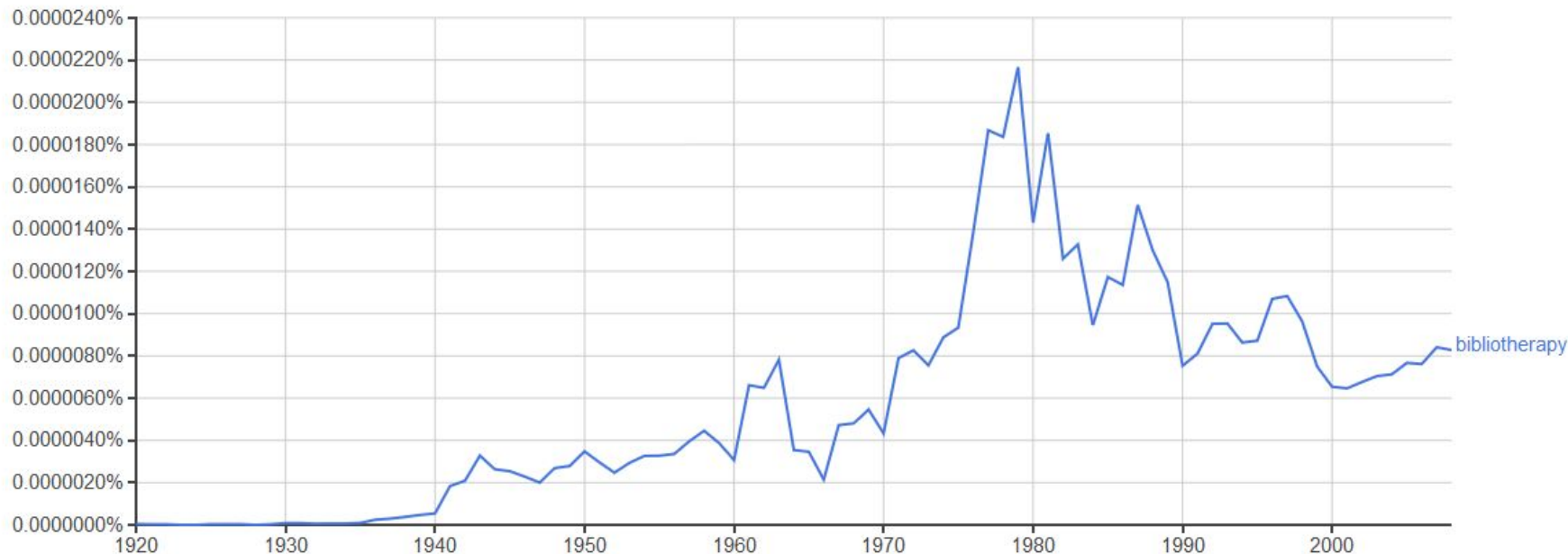
SEMANTICS

The term "bibliotherapy" has not been widely accepted. Many have said that it is too broad a designation. They suggest narrower terms such as "bibliodiagnostics" for assessment, or "biblioprophylaxis" for the preventative use of literature. Others claim the nomenclature is too narrow and suggest "biblioguidance," "bibliocounseling," or "library therapeutics." These terms have broader application because they are not limited by the word "therapy." "Tutorial group therapy" and "literatherapy" have also been used to avoid the prefix "biblio." As Dr. Michael Shiryon states:

Google Books Ngram Viewer

Graph these comma-separated phrases: case-insensitive

between and from the corpus with smoothing of [Search lots of books](#)



(click on line/label for focus)

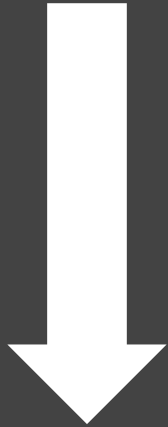
Identifying Opportunities

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Mining Collections

- Spectra of narratives
 - Moving beyond print
 - Other community services
 - etc.
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Abstract narrative
engagement



Concrete narrative
engagement

children's stories & fairy tales

poetry

fiction

“true story” fiction

biographies & autobiographies

generalized/popularized

nonfiction

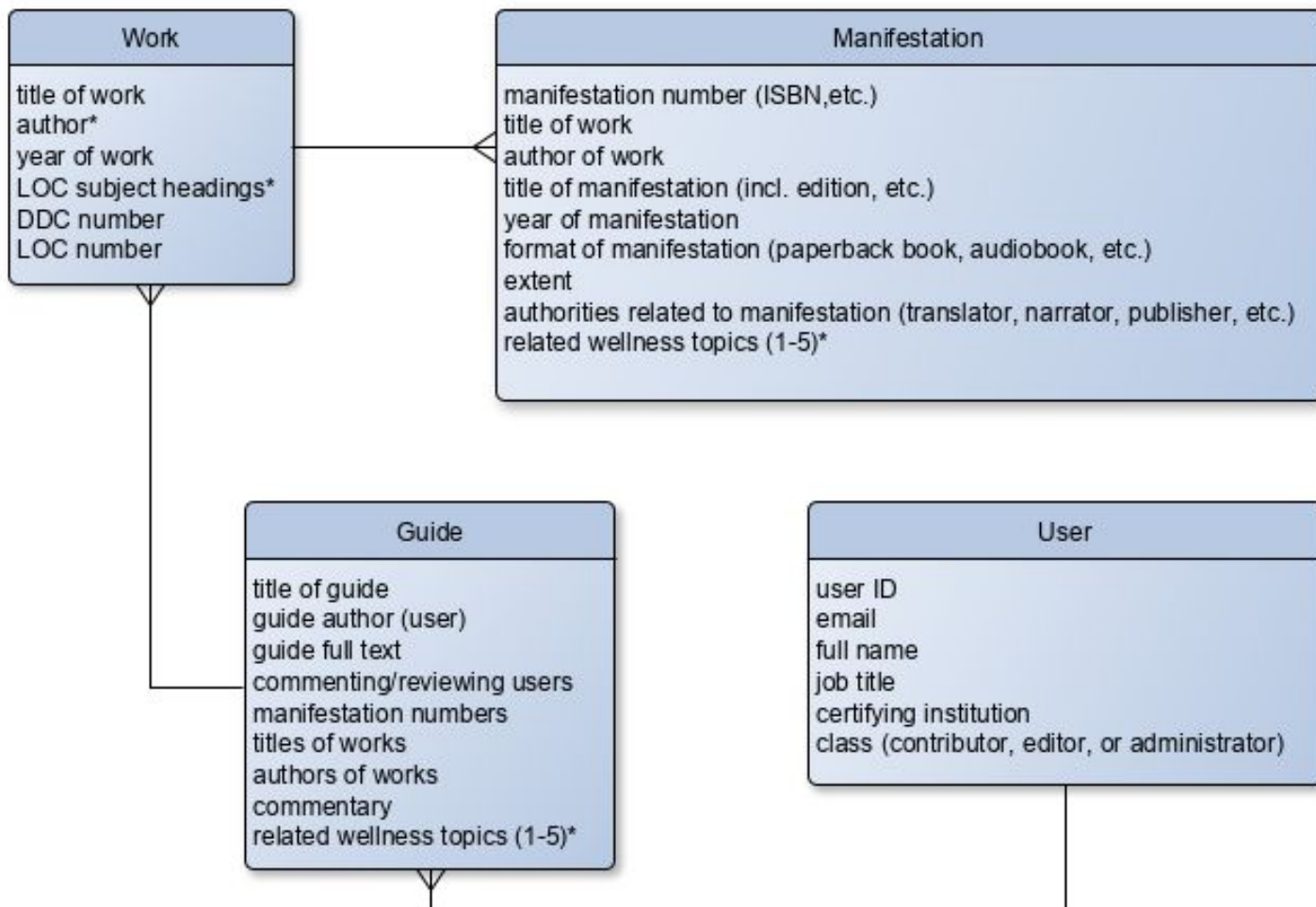
specialized/scholarly nonfiction

Starting Where We Can

- Book lists and reading guides
 - One-on-one check-ins/chats
 - Group sessions
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Building Collaboration

- Online opportunities
 - Database/wiki
 - Training
 - etc.
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Thank you!



- 1) Sherrill Sherwood (ssherwood@haliburtonlibrary.ca) - Collection Development Coordinator at Haliburton County Public Library (HCPL)
- 2) Barb Fraser (barb.fraser@hhfht.com) - Registered Social Worker with the Haliburton Highlands Family Health Team
- 3) Natalia Tukhareli (ntukhareli@cmcc.ca) - Director of Library & Information Services at the Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College
- 4) Jennine Agnew-Kata (jakata@lindr.on.ca) - Executive Director at Literacy Network of Durham Region (LiNDR)
- 5) Brandon Kidd (bkidd@ideaexchange.org) - Youth Services Librarian at the Idea Exchange libraries in Cambridge, Ontario