



# Embracing Your Inner Critic: Turning Self-Criticism into a Creative Asset

By Hal Stone, Sidra Stone

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## Embracing Your Inner Critic: Turning Self-Criticism into a Creative Asset

By Hal Stone, Sidra Stone

Hal and Sidra Stone are the creators of "Voice Dialogue" process, a therapy that transforms the inner critic from crippling adversary to productive ally.

The inner critic. It whispers, whines, and needles us into place. It checks our thoughts, controls our behavior, and inhibits action. It thinks it is protecting us from being disliked, hurt, or abandoned. Instead, the critical inner voice causes shame, anxiety, depression, exhaustion, and low-self-esteem. It acts as a powerful saboteur of our intimate relationships and is a major contributor to drug and alcohol abuse.

Through examples and exercises, the Stones show us how to recognize the critic, how to avoid or minimize "critic attacks," and, most important, how the inner critic can become an intelligent, perceptive, and supportive partner in life.

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### Editorial Review

#### About the Author

**Hal Stone, Ph.D.**, and **Sidra Stone, Ph.D.**, both clinical psychologists, are the authors of *Embracing Ourselves* and *Embracing Each Other*. Hal founded the Center for the Healing Arts in Los Angeles, one of the first holistic health facilities in the country. Sidra directed Hamburger Home in Los Angeles, a residential treatment center for adolescent girls.

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