





### Brave Writer Brave Shift Ep. 7

"The Homeschooling Paradigm Shift" — Julie Bogart with Rita Cevasco

# Highlights

Rita Cevasco is a speech language pathologist, mother of three incredible children, the author of <u>Trees in a Forest</u>, and the Founder of Rooted in Language, a private speech and therapy practice that she conducts with her daughter.

Julie and Rita share many of the same ideals, and their families have been on a Homeschooling journey together since Brave Writer was in its infancy.

Rita began supplementing public education with home education as soon as her first child started going to school. This continued for a couple years, but Rita was getting disillusioned and her oldest child was getting angry and frustrated. One day she came home from school and said, "I don't want to go to school. I wish I was dead."

Rita knew, then and there, that this could not continue. She thought she would homeschool for one year while figuring out alternatives, but it turned out that homeschooling was just what her family needed.

Julie experienced a similar situation with her oldest child. Both Julie and Rita

had to revise their thinking when confronted with the reality that home schooling requires a paradigm shift, and homeschooling according to the principles they embrace around reading and writing also requires a change in understanding; you cannot simply import school into your home.

In Rita's private speech and therapy practice, she predominantly works with children from public school. However, she's able to serve as a bridge between traditional education and our unique brand of homeschooling.

Brave Writer taught Rita that it's okay for the children to start small – and she can offer them support as a partner, instead of an instructor. This empowers the children, and emphasizes that the most important part of writing is what the child has to say.

Although homeschooling informs Rita's practice in many ways, perhaps none are more influential than how she mentors other parents. Rita believes that homeschooling doesn't just encompass what we teach our kids, but also what parents need to learn so that they can teach their kids.

It's okay for parents to recognize that they are also on a journey of learning — we encourage it! — and it's more than okay for parents to go on that journey with help and support.

## Takeaway Quotes by Rita

- We're little rebels. We're shifting what mainstream culture is doing.
- I teach kids, and I teach parents how to help their kids.
- No one learns to swim by drowning.
- One of the pieces of beauty in Brave Writer is that the most important thing is what the child has to say... That's why we write.
- Learning only happens in relationship.

## <u>Listen to the Podcast</u>

#### Resources

- Connect with Rita: <u>Facebook</u> | <u>Instagram</u> | <u>RootedInLanguage</u>
- Listen to our last conversation with Rita
- *Trees in a Forest* by Rita Cevasco
- Brave Writer: Website | Facebook | Instagram | YouTube
- Download Free Writing Lessons

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We'll do it together, one month at a time, one subject or child at a time, making sure that you can see and measure your progress.

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