



## Dreams

*C.G. Jung , R.F.C. Hull (Translator)*

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**Dreams** C.G. Jung , R.F.C. Hull (Translator)

Extracted from Volumes 4, 8, 12, and 16. Includes "The Analysis of Dreams," "On the Significance of Number Dreams," "General Aspects of Dream Psychology," "On the Nature of Dreams," "Individual Dream Symbolism in Relation to Alchemy," and "The Practical Use of Dream-Analysis."

## Dreams Details

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## Mahshid Parchami says

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## Natacha Pavlov says

This interesting volume compiles various articles (some based on lectures) that Carl Jung made on the subject of dreams. Some of the discussions include highlighting that dreams are highly personal and as such, symbols/images won't necessarily represent the same thing to everyone. That's with keeping in mind the fact that there are universal symbols of things, so that imagery is not completely random, but that dreams are basically anything but a simple matter. For these reasons, much of the information is presented through case studies to convey examples of the way symbols and meaning can be derived from context depending on the individual. It also addresses the influence of past experiences upon our current dreams, as the following quote notes: "Our present mental state depends upon our history." (pg. 4)

In addition, it touches on topics like the meaning of numbers in dreams and the origin of symbols. It was interesting to find that many of these symbols are religious and meaningful—regardless of one being a member of that faith—as well as of archetypal nature (ie: the mandala). I was just as fascinated by the repeated mention of symbols derived from alchemy (ie: the 'temenos', the walled garden and fountain, significance of left vs. right), which was surprising and something I'd never considered.

As expected, some important points were made, such as the fact that a lot of this imagery can't be made up—and that it would be hard, if not impossible, to prove that one consciously ingrained something in their unconscious (which is illogical if the unconscious can't ever be truly known, due to its complex nature).

Although mind boggling on different levels (haha), it was mostly a swift read. However, Part 2's article titled 'General Aspects of Dream Psychology' was hands-down the most challenging article of all, since it basically looks at dreams from a highly scientific psychological perspective. This is reflected through denser language and terms I'm unfamiliar with, resulting in slower absorption. (For a moment I'd worried that the whole book would be written like that article but thankfully, it's not the case!) =)

Needless to say, it made for yet another fascinating read on the way our minds work and a reminder that its exploration is worthwhile.

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## Sinem A. says

Çok sevdi?im bir yazar?n rüyalar üzerine dü?üncelerini okumak keyifli oldu. Hatta rüyalar konusunda da Freud'dan çok daha ba?ar?lı? oldu?unu dü?ündüm kitab? okuduktan sonra.

Jung'u okumay?, insan hayat?n?n belli dönemlerine yedirmeli bence.. ?lk kez 20'li ya?lar?m?n ba??nda

okumu?tum. Belli bir Jung alg?s? olu?maya ba?lam??t?, Jung a giri? seviye?i diyebilirim o y?llar için. Kafamda bir ?eyler olu?mu?tu ancak net de?ildi tabi. Bir on y?l sonra bu zemin üzerine ba?ka kitaplar?n? okuyunca kafamda daha da netle?ti baz? kavram ve dü?ünceler, bir basamak daha yükseldi?imi, daha iyi çözdü?ümü fark ettim baz? ?eyleri.

Yine ayd?nlat?c? yine insan? kendiyle kucakla?t?r?c?.

Ancak art?k dilimizde güzel bir Jung külliyat? olu?sa da böyle parça parça ordan burdan de?il de tam okuma ?erefine nail olsak çok daha güzel olur sanki.

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### **John Kulm says**

A collection of essays about dreams. Jung's explanation about "compensation" as a way to understand dreams helped me see things in a new way – for example, I thought my recurring dream about driving an out-of-control car meant my conscious life was out of control. Instead, the dream could be compensating for a conscious life that was in control far too much. Jung relates "compensation" to his ideas on the four functions, and how compensation helps to form a balance.

Some quotes I liked:

"The relation between conscious and unconscious is compensatory. This is one of the best-proven rules of dream interpretation. When we set out to interpret a dream, it is always helpful to ask: What conscious attitude does it compensate?"

"The only thing we know about the contents of the unconscious, apart from the fact that they are subliminal, is that they stand in a compensatory relationship to consciousness and are therefore essentially relative. It is for this reason that knowledge of the conscious situation is necessary if we want to understand dreams."

"Everything that is unconscious is projected, and for this reason the analyst should be conscious of at least the most important contents of his unconscious, lest unconscious projections cloud his judgment."

"All the contents of our unconscious are constantly being projected into our surroundings, and it is only by recognizing certain properties of the objects as projections or imagos that we are able to distinguish them from the real properties of the objects. But if we are not aware that a property of the object is a projection, we cannot do anything else but be naively convinced that it really does belong to the object. All human relationships swarm with these projections."

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### **Peter Dunn says**

On reading this I am even more convinced that Jung vastly overthinks and over analyses what dreams are. The section on numbers in dreams is particularly silly and felt like a particularly bad combination of numerology, the sort of science that tries to find secret number codes in blocks of biblical text, and the ravings of a stage medium. However in terms of presentation it's a well thought out selection of Jung's writings on the topic, nicely reproduced, with many wonderful illustrations from the original text. I would

certainly recommend for anyone wanting to explore this aspect of Jung's thinking.

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## **Qasim Zafar says**

When it comes to Jung's point of view of dream interpretation, a deep understanding of complex topics in psychology isn't necessary; instead, what is required is a strong understanding of the foundational subjects, and a wide knowledge of mythology, culture, comparative religion and the like. This book is not a stand-alone work by Jung, but a collection of works, presented in four sections in this book:

1. Dreams and psychoanalysis - in the first works by Jung in this book, the reader will become familiar with Jung's view on the importance of dream interpretation and his advice on proper approaches to it. To give the reader a holistic understanding of the subject matter Jung gives some basic examples from his clinical experience. A point of comparison is also given by discussing the contributions of the Freudian school on the matter as well as discussions on where the Freudian work has fallen short.

2. Dreams and Psychic Energy - in this presentation of works, Jung talks about the manner in which psychic energy attaches itself to objects in conscious life, and how it is represented in dreams. This, is a further expansion on the section one and didn't really require a section of its own, but for the sake of understanding, I suppose it makes sense.

3. The Practical Use of Dream - the dream analyst has to be aware of transference, counter transference, as well as the questions the dream analyst asks - for the questions already have a portion of the answer prefigured in them. And, ultimately it is not important for the dream analyst to understand the solution, or the answer, but it is only necessary that the person who's dream it is does. It took me a bit to understand this principle, but I remembered something that Nietzsche said in one of his works... and I paraphrase, "if I hold the key to the locks to your chains, then what difference does it make if your locks are different from mine?"

4. Individual Dream Symbolism in Relation to Alchemy - Presents examples of dreams, and instead of providing tools for diagnosing the dreamer, the presentation is such that the dreams are not meant to diagnose the dreamer but are rather aimed at giving the analyst tools for understanding the context of the dreams. Apart from analysis of how psychic energy is expressed in dreams, Jung's analysis of Mandala dreams is also presented. Mandala dreams are those dreams which deal with the center of a person.- again, what is presented are not skeletal structures which one can use to diagnose, but rather tools which one can use to provide a context and understand. This section primarily deals with the principles pertaining to individuation and the synthesis of opposites in the personality of the dreamer.

Part 4 is the most dense section in the book, and the sheer number of ideas presented, in terms of symbols, makes it a slow read but ultimately worth it. I have picked up "psychology and alchemy" by Jung several times and found myself putting it down out of frustration-only to pick it up again later to repeat the cycle. Upon reading this book, I feel as though I am in a better position to understand the material in that book.

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## **Mochizuki says**

Carl Jung says he has analysed more than 2.000 dreams per year, a very impressive number by anyone's standards. In his Dreams book, which a very good collection of many of his dreams experiments, he is after





classical education. Also, the selections included this book were taken from a much larger work and there are numerous references to Figures (illustrations) from the sections that were not included. The references either should have been removed or the illustrations added in an appendix.

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