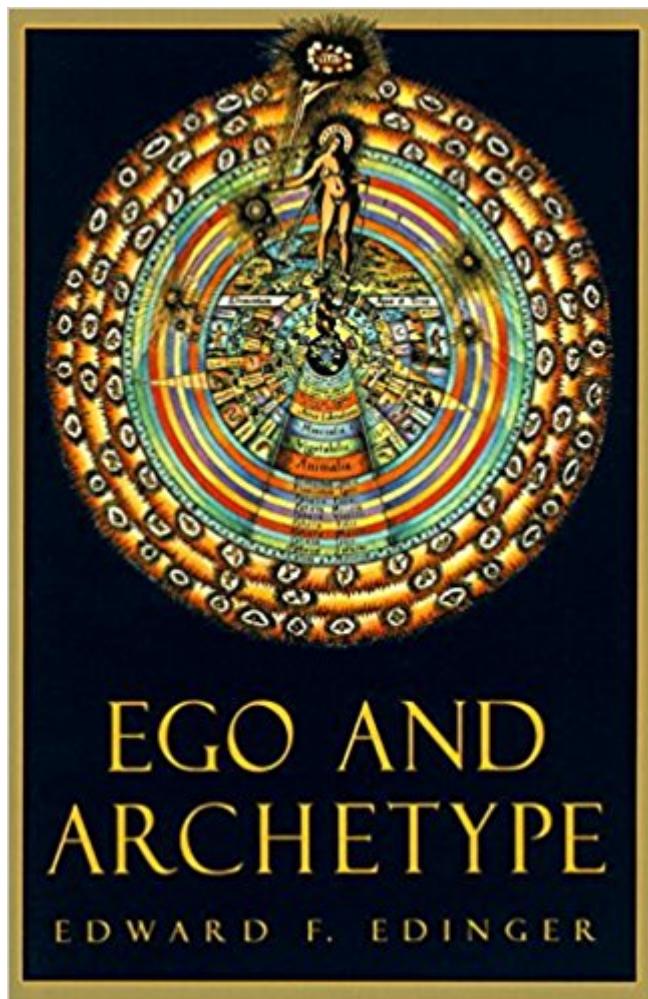


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Ego And Archetype



Synopsis

This book is about the individual's journey to psychological wholeness, known in analytical psychology as the process of individuation. Edward Edinger traces the stages in this process and relates them to the search for meaning through encounters with symbolism in religion, myth, dreams, and art. For contemporary men and women, Edinger believes, the encounter with the self is equivalent to the discovery of God. The result of the dialogue between the ego and the archetypal image of God is an experience that dramatically changes the individual's worldview and makes possible a new and more meaningful way of life.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Edward F. Edinger, M.D., a founding member of the C. G. Jung Foundation for Analytical Psychology in New York, is the author of many books on Jungian psychology, including *The Eternal Drama* and *Anatomy of the Psyche: Alchemical Symbolism in Psychotherapy*.

This is an important writing by Jungian Analyst Edward F. Edinger. I am a Jungian enthusiast since 2010. A profound dream caused me to seek its meaning which began my study of Jung and writings by his followers. I think people who recognize that they are in the midst of "the process of individuation" will love the insights of Edinger in this writing. I keep it at hand for frequent reference. I have both the Kindle version and the paperback.

When I first read this it was suggested outside reading in a course I was taking for an Associate Arts degree. The professor was brilliant and introduced me to so many authors and readings. Since that time I've been an ardent student of Jung, some thirty years or more. I lost my dog-eared copy full of underlining and marginalia, or gave it to a friend. I bought another because I wouldn't be without it when I begin to write a presentation, and often a poem. Edinger takes off on the Christian myth using Jung's theories on symbolism and its a fascinating journey. I do think he can be difficult sometimes, but then he is dealing with extremely complex ideas. Primary sources were even harder to read as Jung circled his subject until it became a spiral. Edinger covers the inflated ego mostly and its relationship to the development of the Self with some good definitions of Jungian terms, especially, archetype. I'm happy with any good translator like Edinger to help me understand Jung more fully.

I was a young well educated military aerospace engineer and a devout right-wing Christian when a senior engineer handed me this book and asked me if I listened to the content of my dreams. I would have never thought this man, an "engineer's engineer," was interested in anything outside of the scientific reality taught to us in engineering school, let alone the psychology of human beings and especially one's dreams. I have read this book through at least three times, each time marking-up new insights I learn with a different color pen, just as I had done in analyzing my scriptures. It took awhile to learn the language of psychology, but once mastered I was able to have revealed to me the wonders of the human psyche and for that I thank Edinger for producing this masterpiece. Edinger attracts his audience by revealing the genius of the teachings of the New Testament biographers of Jesus and other biblical writers. He shows how the Beatitudes taught by Jesus form the foundations of depth psychology, 2000 years before the field develops. He opens up a whole new interpretation of the story of Job, ties in the teachings of Jesus as regarding the process of Individuation, touches on Alchemy and metaphysics, and discusses the symbology found in the Christian religions, especially the Trinity. He includes wonderful related classic artworks along the way. Edinger teaches the processes of Jungian psychology throughout the text. This introduced me to the field of psychology and the major contributions of Carl Jung. The transformations I went through occurred during each reading of this book. While painful, my level of self-awareness has risen to new levels I feel not achievable had I relied on my religious teachings alone. I now describe myself as a liberal agnostic college educator that seeks spirituality from where Jesus said it lies: the human heart. Thank you Dr. Edinger.

Edward Edinger was exploring the Ego long before Eckhart Tolle or Ken Wilbur published their popular tomes. Edinger thoroughly demonstrates the necessity of the Ego to one's personal psychological development, whereas other figures in the contemporary spiritual movement would elicit one to transcend ego and live without it. This book is as pertinent and valuable today as it was when originally published in 1972. It has changed the way I perceive myself, others and the world at large.

The best explanation of how Christian stories operate at the immediate psychological level of the Self that I have read. It resonates and expands on the message which Jesus gave "the kingdom of God is within you".

Written in 1972 this profound and enlightening book maps the depths of the psyche from a Jungian perspective. Using the Christ archetype, Edinger pulls the truths out of the mythology. I first read it in 1975, lost my copy and have been thinking about the book. I received an excellent copy from and am devouring each page.

I recommend for all. Especially expecting parents. Everything makes sense from this point over.

This was a gift for my son and he enjoyed it.

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