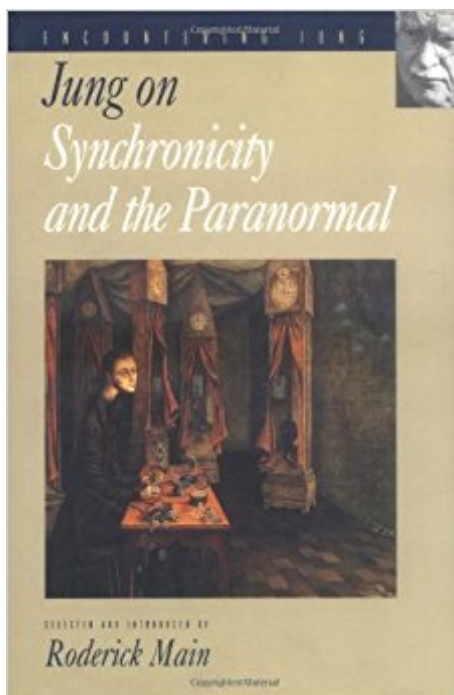


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Jung On Synchronicity And The Paranormal



Synopsis

C. G. Jung had a lifelong interest in the paranormal that culminated in his influential theory of synchronicity. Combining extracts taken from the Collected Works; letters; the autobiographical Memories, Dreams, Reflections; and transcripts of seminars, Jung on Synchronicity and the Paranormal sets out clearly his seminal contribution to our understanding of this controversial area. In his introduction, Roderick Main discusses Jung's encounters with and observations of the paranormal, the influences that contributed to his theory of synchronicity, and the central ideas of the theory itself. The selections include Jung's writings on mediumistic trance phenomena, spirits and hauntings, anomalous events in the development and practice of analytical psychology, and the divinatory techniques of astrology and the I Ching. The book also features Jung's most lucid account of his theory in the form of his short essay "On Synchronicity," and a number of Jung's less-known writings on parapsychology, his astrological experiment, and the relationship between mind and body. Jung on Synchronicity and the Paranormal addresses subjects that were fundamental to Jung's personal and professional development. Probing deeply into the theory of synchronicity, Roderick Main clarifies issues that have long been a source of confusion to Jung's readers.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I read this book prior to reading Jung's "Synchronicity: An Acausal Connecting Principle". Since

most of Jung's original work has been translated & can be a bit obscure at times, this companion book offers many important insights into Jung's work. It is well written & clear, but you have to take the time to "listen" to what you are reading as opposed to just attempting to gloss over it. This companion book is extremely helpful. I highly recommend it for those attempting self-exploration or studying for degree classes in psychology.

In this book, we have an excellent selection of Carl Jung's writings and talks on Synchronicity and the Paranormal. If you are interested in either or both subjects, this book is a valuable source straight from the mind of one of the world's great thinkers. The first to make the case that coincidences are not just random events, it was Jung who coined the term Synchronicity. Associate of Albert Einstein, William James and Wolfgang Pauli, Jung makes it very clear how new discoveries in physics during the 20th Century influenced his work. In story after story, he also relates fascinating paranormal experiences of his own, using them to support his theory of Synchronicity. Even more than that, his words offer a wonderful peek into the man's thought processes by detailing his personal explorations of things such as spiritualism, astrology, I Ching, visions, dreams, life after death, and even UFOs. In discussing Synchronicity, Jung relies heavily on his views of "archetypes" and "the collective unconscious". I found those portions of the book a little dense and hard to read. I'm not even sure if having a background in Jungian Psychology would be of help but maybe so. However, when Jung launches into his many personal, paranormal experiences, I found a clarity and authenticity to his words that made them a joy to read. Although I don't think Jung made a complete case for his theory of Synchronicity, he did indeed point the way for others.

If you're trying to get at what Jung wrote on the paranormal, this volume saves you the trouble of locating and ploughing through the many volumes of his writings.

The best part is that the editor summarizes every essay in the beginning of the book to make everything much easier to understand!

Jung is someone I very much admire for his ingenuity in exploring the areas of the psyche that more traditional conventions ignore. Because he was very connected to the paranormal and synchronistic events from his childhood, his work speaks from an experiential realm which he integrates well with psychoanalytic theory. I highly recommend this book as a resource for any good library of inner

work.

I am enjoying this book quite a bit, the only drawback is I thought it was all Carl Jung's work, but it's actually a compilation of his letters and writings with far too much commentary by the author. The introduction alone was a zillion pages long, I want a pure Jung book, so this isn't quite what I wanted but nonetheless it does have his work in it so that part meets my expectations.

I don't recommend reading this at night. Although I suggest this to anyone interested in Jung's work, psychoanalytic theory, gossip of those in the field at the time (Freud, James, ect.), and even those interested in the law of attraction teachings; I would recommend this to those who enjoy horror novels as well. If you get freaked out by "bumps in the night", or perhaps like that sort of thing, you'll be entertained by this collection.

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