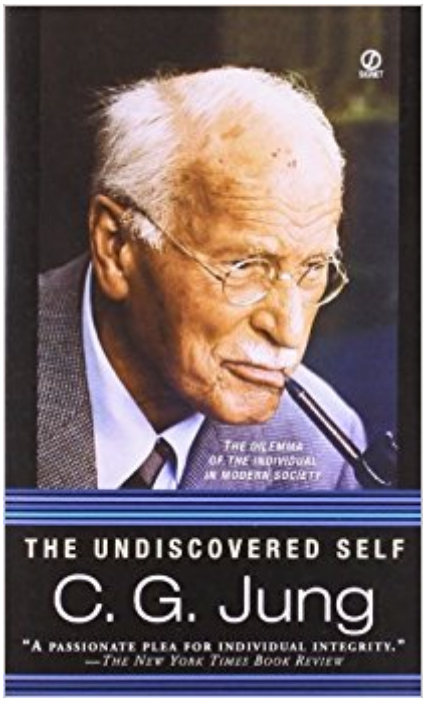
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The Undiscovered Self: The Dilemma Of The Individual In Modern Society



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Synopsis

One of the worldÃ¢â ¬â„¢s greatest psychiatrists reveals how to embrace our own humanity and resist the pressures of an ever-changing world. Ã Â In this challenging and provocative work, Dr. Carl JungÃ¢â ¬â •one of historyÃ¢â ¬â„¢s greatestÃ Â mindsÃ¢â ¬â •argues that civilizationÃ¢â ¬â„¢s future depends on our ability as individuals to resist the collective forces of society. Only by gaining an awareness and understanding of oneÃ¢â ¬â„¢s unconscious mind and true, inner natureÃ¢â ¬â •Ã¢â ¬Å“the undiscovered selfÃ¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •can we as individuals acquire the self-knowledge that is antithetical to ideological fanaticism. But this requires that we face our fear of the duality of the human psycheÃ¢â ¬â •the existence of good and the capacity for evil in every individual. In this seminal book, Jung compellingly argues that only then can we begin to cope with the dangers posed by mass societyÃ¢â ¬â •Ã¢â ¬Å“the sum total of individualsÃ¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •and resist the potential threats posed by those in power.Ã¢â ¬Å“A passionate plea for individual integrity.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •The New York Times Book Review

Book Information

Mass Market Paperback: 128 pages

Publisher: Berkley; Reissue edition (February 7, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0451217322

ISBN-13: 978-0451217325

Product Dimensions: 4.2 x 0.4 x 6.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 108 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #24,783 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #10 inÃ Â Books > Medical Books > Psychology > Movements > Jungian #29 inÃ Â Books > Health, Fitness & Dieting > Psychology & Counseling > Psychoanalysis #112 inÃ Â Books > Medical Books > Psychology > Counseling

Customer Reviews

Ã¢â ¬Å“A passionate plea for individual integrity.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •The New York Times Book Review

Carl Gustav Jung was, together with Freud and Adler, one of the three great pioneers in modern psychiatry. He was born in 1865 in Switzerland, where he studied medicine and psychiatry and later became one of Sigmund FreudÃ¢â ¬â„¢s early supporters and collaborators. Eventually, serious

theoretical disagreements (among them JungÃ¢â ¬â„¢s view of the religious instinct in man) led to a doctrinal and personal break between the two famed psychiatrists. Dr. Jung was the author of many books, and he lived and practiced for many years in his native Zurich. He died in 1961.

Short and sweet! This book was essentially an apocalyptic warning from Jung to the reader on the dangers of collectivism. He grapples this issue in the only way possible, by addressing the importance and primacy of the individual and his/her experience and understanding of self.This book is pretty short, I read it in a single sitting so the person of short attention span will gain a lot from purchasing this book. Overall it will suit the longtime psychologist, the philosopher, or the person seeking to know more about himself.Would highly recommend!

A late book by Carl Jung, and his most prophetic, in the Biblical sense of the word. If only...sigh...the Church, Protestant and Catholic, had read this with understanding, and applied the lessons Jung spelled out regarding what is needed from the Christian Church in terms of reinterpreting, of reimagining, the symbols of the faith for each new generation that comes along, the world would be a much different--in a better way--place.

In one of his clearest explanations, Jung reminds us of the importance of the development of the individual in making human progress, against the abstract lure and power of the State.

This book opens with the observation that "it is chiefly in times of physical, political, economic, and spiritual distress that men’s eyes turn with anxious hope to the future, and when anticipations, utopias, and apocalyptic visions multiply." It is described as "both a serious warning and a long range prescription" for modern civilization and "a passionate plea for indivudual integrity." When one considers the state of the world today with so much economic and political uncertainty and the conflicting ideas and philosophies used for understanding and responding to these rapidly changing developments, this book certainly seems more appropriate today than when it was first published in 1957. These concerns are particularly focused on western civilization as European and American cultures try to respond to seismic economic threat from the Euro-zone, the unknown effects of the "arab spring" and countries in turmoil, and the psychological effect of terrorism on a large scale and possible new wars to contend with. It does give the lone individual pause when he considers all the forces at work in the contemporary world as he tries to make his way through life. These forces seek a major shift in the balance of world power and see this time as an opportunity to exploit the

weakness of the traditional arbiters of that power. The most effective deterrent for those "subversive minorities" who "hold incendiary torches ready" is the "critical reason of a single, fairly intelligent, mentally stable stratum of the population" according to Jung. Here then, lies the central theme of the book which is the very important role of the individual as a part of that deterring stratum of society. By his willingness to resist the mass group mentality, the individual looks for the signs and markers that reveal the direction of current wisdom and finds courage to hold his own course. That course can seem dimly lit when you are not emotionally or intelluctually prepared to wrestle with the ideas competing for society's acceptance. Consider the immediate political climate in America and the pressure on individuals who speak out against some of the more controversial ideas regarding immigration, abortion, organized labor, homosexuality, national healthcare, the national debt, the occupy movement, and what is shaping up to be a hotly contested presidential campaign. Surely these are interesting times that call for thoughtful deliberation and moral courage not mass mentality. The book is a short 112 pages and evolved from conversations between Dr Jung and Dr. Carleton Smith, director of the National Arts Foundation in the 1950's. It is worthy of consideration in these challenging times.

Mr Jung once again came up with an excellent book which digs deep into the mysteries of the self. I recommend it to those who are hungry to know how our psyche works.

If you're reading this then Carl Jung obviously interest you. If he does happen to interest you, you must read. Outstanding read and you will struggle put this book down, and you will be more likely to change the way you think about the concept of self.

This book reveals the nature of psyche in very explicit terms. It goes right to the heart of who or what we are, and how we relate to the grand universal schematic. There is no doubt that the insightful information contained in this book will connect the dots and tie up loose ends for the introspective reader.

I bought the book by recommendation, and was a good one. Is concise and very understandable for people that are not in the psychology or related fields.

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