

Freud's *Interpretation of Dreams*

Freud always regarded *The Interpretation of Dreams*, and in particular its thesis that dreams fulfill wishes, as his landmark contribution and the scaffolding of his subsequent work. Susan Sugarman, after carefully examining the text and scrutinizing a range of Freud's other works, shows that the dreams book is not and cannot be that scaffolding. For, not only does his argument on dreams falter, but his reasoning elsewhere – in his case histories, his accounts of phenomena of ordinary waking life, and even his avowedly speculative writing – displays a strength and precision his account of dreams lacks. She concludes by exploring what is then left of the dreams theory and Freud's overall vision of the mind.

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Cambridge University Press & Assessment
978-1-009-24412-1 — Freud's Interpretation of Dreams
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A Reappraisal

SUSAN SUGARMAN

Princeton University

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CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom
One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA
477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia
314–321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre,
New Delhi – 110025, India
103 Penang Road, #05–06/07, Visioncrest Commercial, Singapore 238467

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www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781009244121

DOI: 10.1017/9781009244138

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First published 2023

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Names: Sugarman, Susan, author.

Title: Freud's Interpretation of dreams : a reappraisal / Susan Sugarman, Princeton University, New Jersey.

Description: Cambridge, United Kingdom ; New York, NY, USA : Cambridge

University Press, 2023. | Includes bibliographical references and index.

Identifiers: LCCN 2022024934 | ISBN 9781009244121 (hardback) |

ISBN 9781009244138 (ebook)

Subjects: LCSH: Freud, Sigmund, 1856–1939. Traumdeutung. | Dream interpretation. | Dreams. | Psychoanalysis.

Classification: LCC BF1078.F73 S84 2022 |

DDC 154.6/3–dc23/eng/20220718

LC record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2022024934>

ISBN 978-1-009-24412-1 Hardback

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For Abby and Stephen

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Acknowledgments

I thank Harry Daniels and the English Department at Oxford University for the speaking invitation that resulted in this book, preparation of which was supported by funds from Princeton University and a year's leave at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton. I am indebted to Rüdiger Bittner for his patient and judicious reading of the text and Cindy Hyden, Joseph Avery, and Mari Jarris for additional comments. Thank you to Janka Romero, Rowan Groat, and the staff at Cambridge for easing the book into its final form.