



# Your Guide to Archetypes

## in Jungian Psychology

### The Archetypes

Archetypal symbolism represents aspects of ourselves that are found universally in every person. We each embody certain archetypes at any given moment in our life - sometimes more than one. Those archetypes will be reflected back to us in our dream state through symbolism. We will also see them playing out around us in other people and in stories on tv, in books, religion and mythology.

It is important to note that every archetype has both positive and negative associations.

### The Shadow

Refers to an unconscious aspect of the personality which the conscious ego does not identify in itself. These are aspects that we are highly likely to project onto others. In the Tarot, the Shadow is represented by The Moon card in the major arcana.

### The Self

The unification of consciousness and unconsciousness in a person, and representing the psyche as a whole. In tarot, this archetype is represented by The World, the last card in the major arcana and the final phase of the Fool's journey. When someone has integrated all aspects of the shadow self, they have reached self-actualization.

### The Animus & Anima

The totality of the unconscious feminine psychological qualities that a man possesses or the masculine ones possessed by a woman, respectively.

A man will possess an unconscious anima, whereas a woman will possess an unconscious animus.

### The Syzygy (the divine couple)

Animus and Anima in conjunction with one another are known as Syzygy, representing wholeness, divine balance and completion. In tarot, you can find this archetype in the Lovers card as well as the 4 of Wands. It not only represents internal wholeness and balance, but also wholeness and balance within relationships.



# Common Dream Symbols

## Family Archetypes

The father: Stern, powerful, controlling

- The father archetype is exactly what you'd expect it to be. It manifests itself as "God the father" or the devil, the wise old man, a judge, a doctor, an executioner, a leader, a holy man, a boss, and of course a father. In Tarot, it is represented in each of the arcana by the Kings, The Emperor, the Devil, the Hierophant, the Sun, and the Hermit.

The mother: Feeding, nurturing, soothing

- Just like the father, the mother manifests itself as the Goddess, Mother Mary, Lilith, the wise old woman, the maiden, mother, and crone, and in the Tarot, the Queen, The Empress, The High Priestess, and the Moon.

The child: Birth, beginnings, salvation

- The child represents our inner-child, the part of us that we carry at all times that remains innocent. It's the first archetype that we come to know and represents beginnings, birth, and salvation. You can see this archetype manifested in stories like Peter Pan (the orphan / eternal child), The Christ Child (the divine / magical / innocent child), and so many others.

## Story Archetypes

Story archetypes take aspects of the family archetypes and turn them into narratives. You will see these archetypes present themselves in classic mythology, religion, fairy tales and modern day cinema and fiction. They are roles that we each may play in various narratives. They can also overlap - the Magician can be both magical and a trickster. The Maiden also be an earth mother or a witch or sorceress.

- The hero: Rescuer, champion (The Fool in Tarot)
- The maiden: Purity, desire (The Empress)
- The wise old man: Knowledge, guidance (The Hermit)
- The magician: Mysterious, powerful (The Magician in Tarot)
- The earth mother: Nature (The Empress)
- The witch or sorceress: Dangerous (The Moon / High Priestess)
- The trickster: Deceiving, hidden (The Devil or the Magician in Tarot)



# Common Dream Symbols

## Animal Archetypes

Animals can also be symbols to represent aspects of an archetype and you'll see these symbols appear within the artwork of various cards in the traditional Ryder Waite tarot deck. These are also common dream symbols as well as animal totems.

- The faithful dog: Unquestioning loyalty  
The enduring horse: Never giving up (The Chariot)  
The devious cat: Self-serving