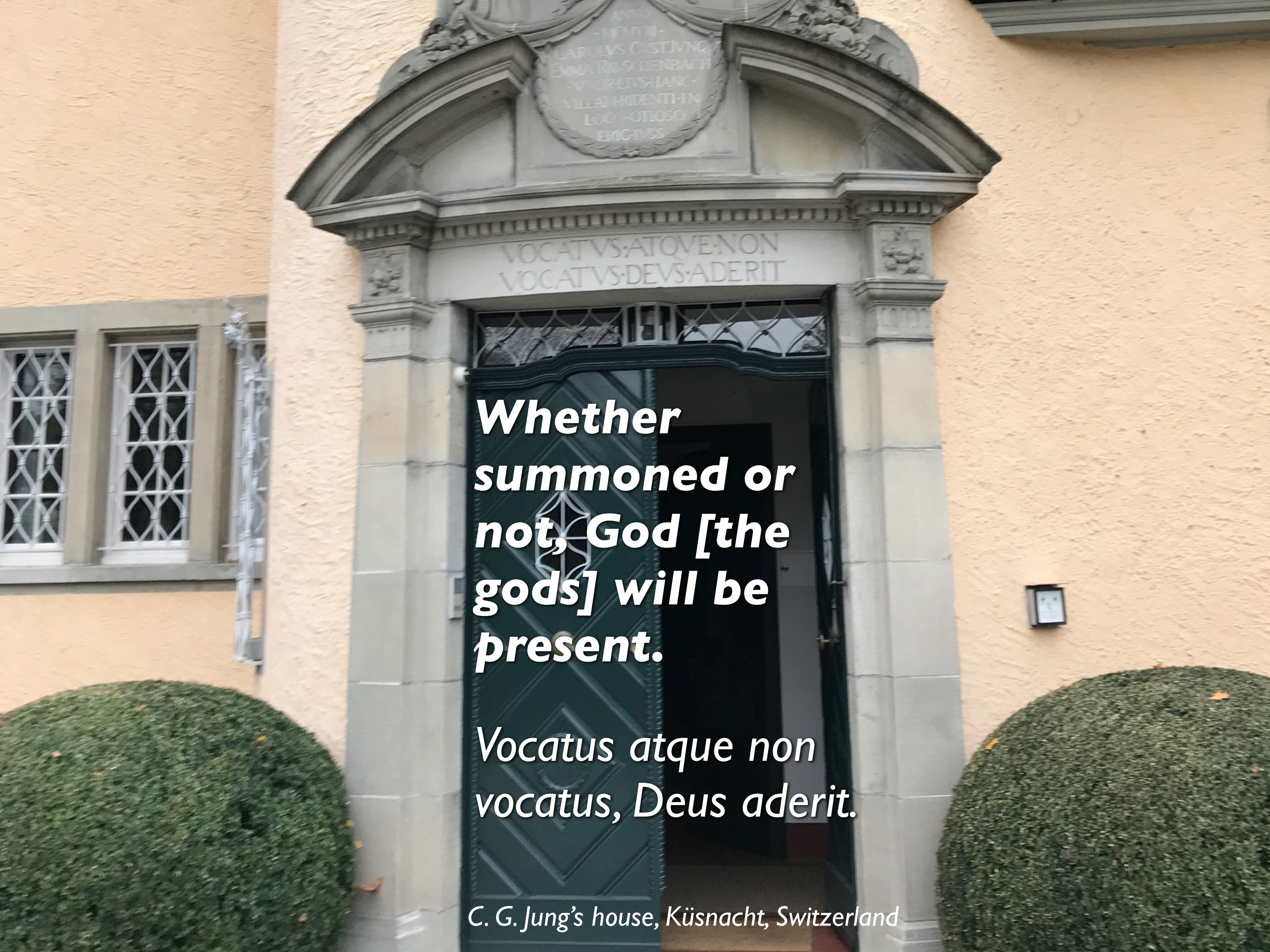




# Animx

queering Jung  
and depth psychology

*George Taxidis (he/him) • 20th January 2024*



**Whether  
summoned or  
not, God [the  
gods] will be  
present.**

*Vocatus atque non  
vocatus, Deus aderit.*

*C. G. Jung's house, Küsnacht, Switzerland*



# Overview

- What is queer?
- Is Jung queer?
- Three areas of queer Jungian interest:
  1. Individuation vs adaptation, and inner vs outer worlds
  2. Universal vs specific: when Oedipus met Salome
  3. A queer Jungian epistemology: bio-psycho-social *and mysterious*
- Queer film and theatre:
  - Três Tigres Tristes* (Brazil 2022)
  - I, Joan* (UK, 2022)
  - Manhãs de Setembro* (Brazil, 2021)

# Lesbian & gay or queer?



# Lesbian & gay or queer?

Queer theory is a discipline  
that refuses to be disciplined.  
**Nikki Sullivan**



# Lesbian & gay or queer?

**Paul Preciado**  
*Can the Monster  
Speak?*

Liberation cannot be a  
more equitable  
redistribution of  
violence.



# Lesbian & gay or queer?



**Lisa Duggan –  
'homonormativity'**



**Jasbir Puar –  
'homonationalism'**

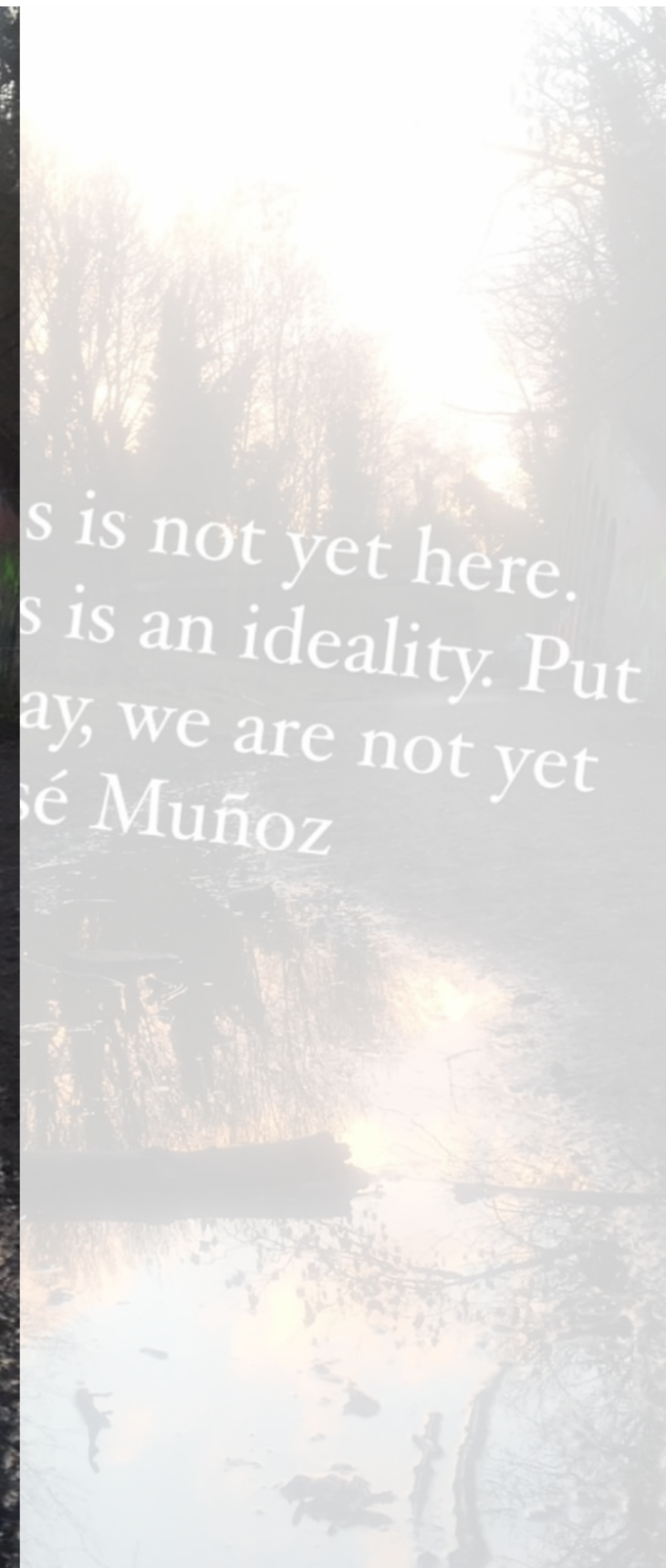
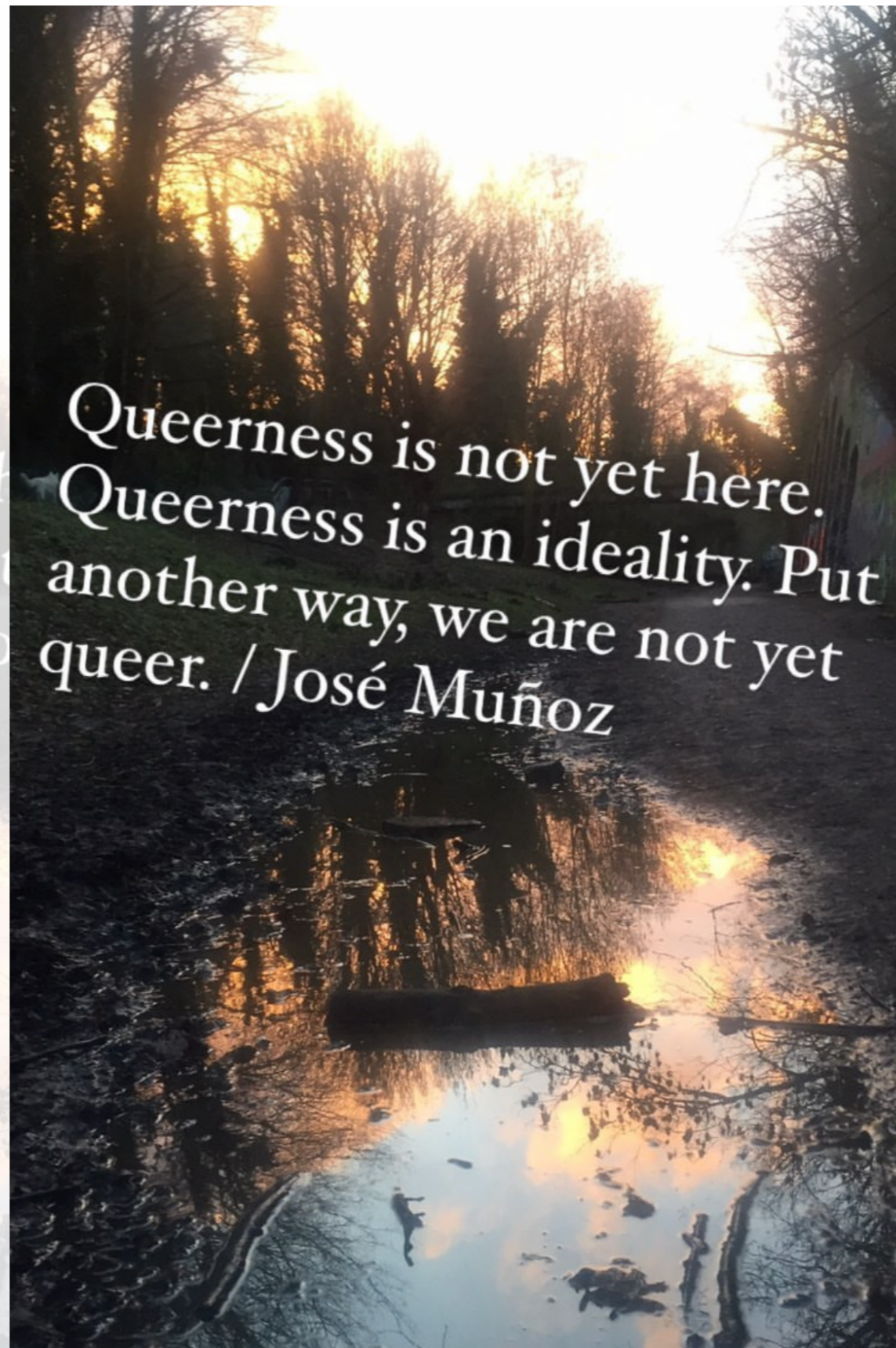
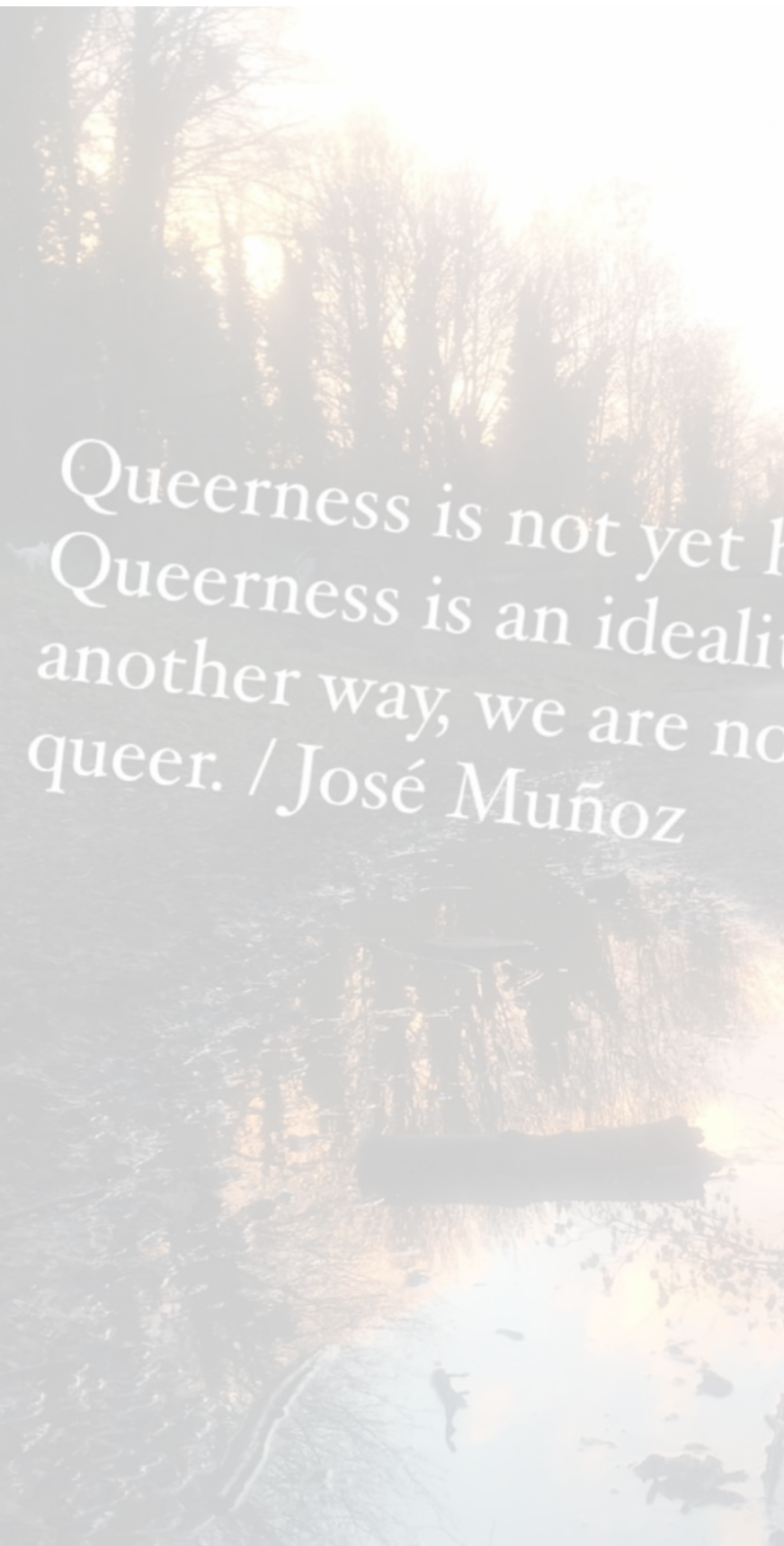
# Lesbian & gay or queer?

**Raul Rao**  
– ‘homocapitalism’





# Lesbian & gay or queer?



# Is Jung queer?



# Is Jung queer?

**“I have overthrown all the Gods, broken the laws,  
eaten the impure.**

**I have thrown down my sword and dressed in  
women’s clothing.**

**I shattered my firm castle and played like a child in  
the sand.”**

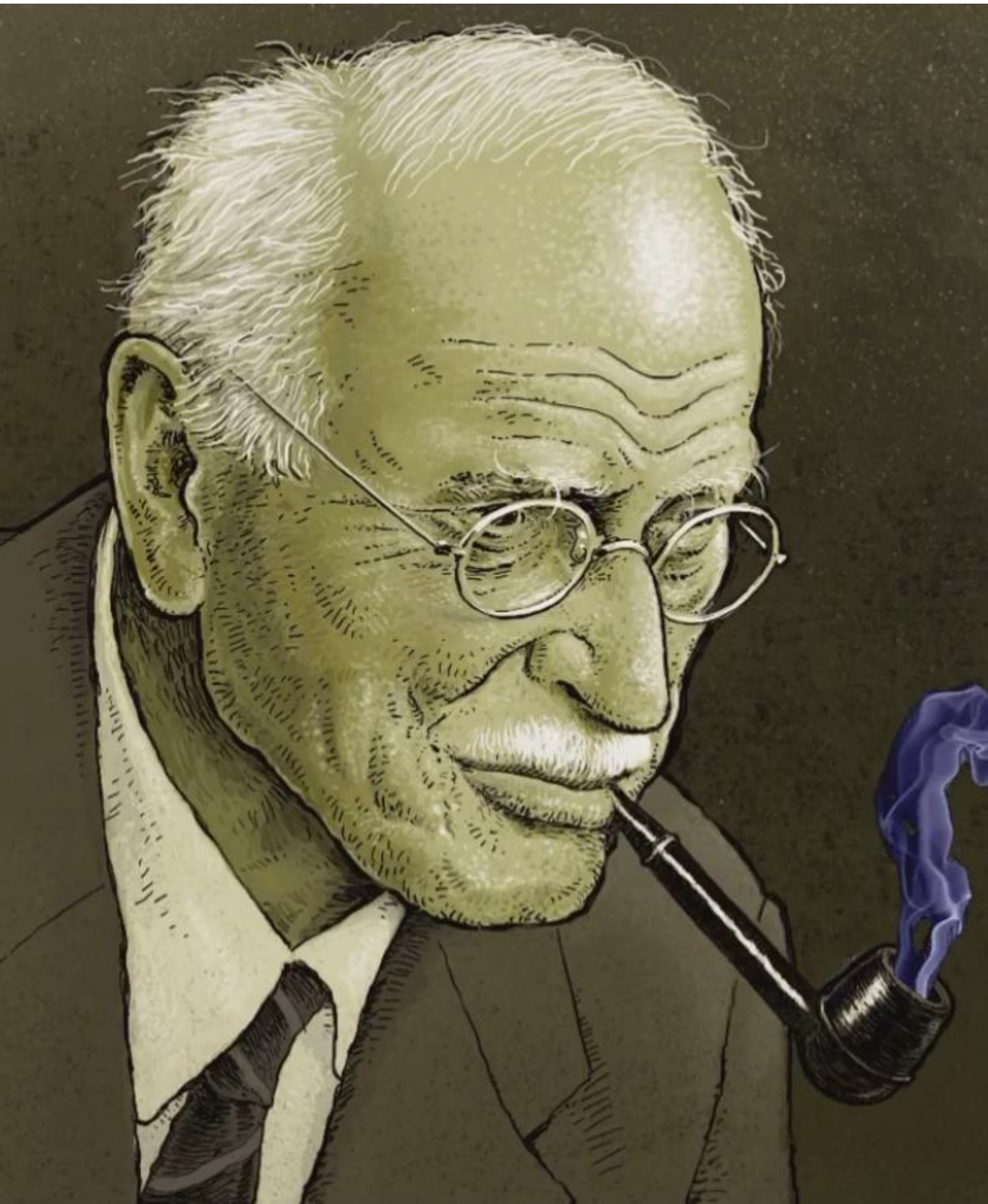
(From the chapter *Incantations*, in the *Red Book*)

CG JUNG

THE RED BOOK

NORTON

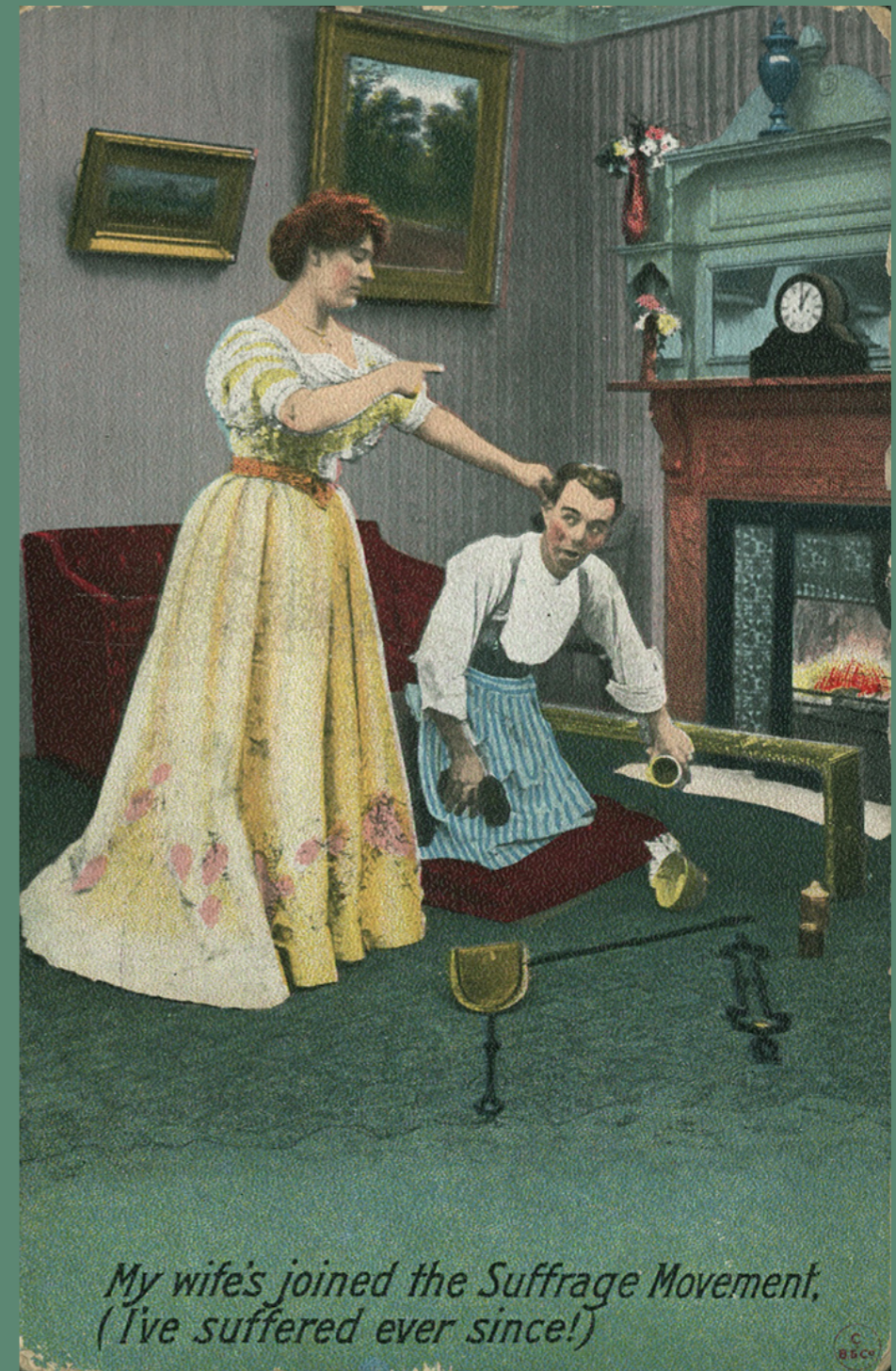
# Is Jung queer?



**“Since masculine and feminine elements are united in our human nature, a man can live in the feminine part of himself and a woman in her masculine part. None the less the feminine element in man is only something in the background, as is the masculine element in woman. If one lives out the opposite sex in oneself one is living in one’s own background, and one’s real individuality suffers. A man should live as a man and a woman as a woman” (CW10, §243)**

# Is Jung queer?

**“...it is just those very virile men who are most subject to characteristic weaknesses; their attitude to the unconscious has a womanish weakness and impressionability. Conversely, it is often just the most feminine women who, in their inner lives, display an intractability, an obstinacy, and a wilfulness that are to be found with comparable intensity only in a man’s outer attitude. These are masculine traits which... have become qualities of the soul.” (CW6, §804)**



# Is Jung queer?



Encountering the other  
in *The Red Book*.

# Is Jung queer?

Encountering the other  
in *The Red Book*.



dir als führ' in d' welt des dunkeln dien / den sie is von abnlich  
substanz wie die gestaltung jen' welt.

**D**er schauplatz des mysteri' spiles is eine lufe wie do krat' eines vulcans. mein lufes in d' is ein vulkan / do die feuerflüssige masse des nie geformt / des un unterschieden' heraus-  
stosst / so gebärt niem' in d' d' die fernd' des chaos / d' uralt' mutt'. wer in d' krat' ein ght  
wird selbo z' chactisch' / stoffe / erz' / schmelzt. das geformte in d' m' d' f' / si' auf' neuem mit d'  
seindern des chaos / d' macht' / des dunkels / d' beher'schend' v' d' versührend' / d' w'nd'  
d' v' d' anlockend' / d' göttlich' v' d' teuflisch'. diese mächt' greif' auf all' s'at' / über mein be-  
stimmtes v' begrenztes hinaus v' verbind' mit all' form' v' mit all' fern' w'el' v' ding' / wo-  
dur' mir in d' erkunde wird von ihr' sein v' thro' beschaffen. weil i' in d' quell' des cha-  
os / in d' uranfängliche / gefall' bin / so werde i' selbo umgeschmolz' in die verbind'  
mit d' uranfänglich' / welches zugleich das gewesene v' das werdende is. z' v' d' d'  
me i' in d' uranfängliche in mir / da d' ur' / da i' ein theil des welt' stoffes v' do welt'  
gestalt' bin / komme i' aus in d' uranfängliche do welt' überhaupt. i' habe zwar  
gestalt' bin / komme i' aus in d' uranfängliche do welt' überhaupt. i' habe zwar

# Is Jung queer?

Encountering the other  
in *The Red Book*.





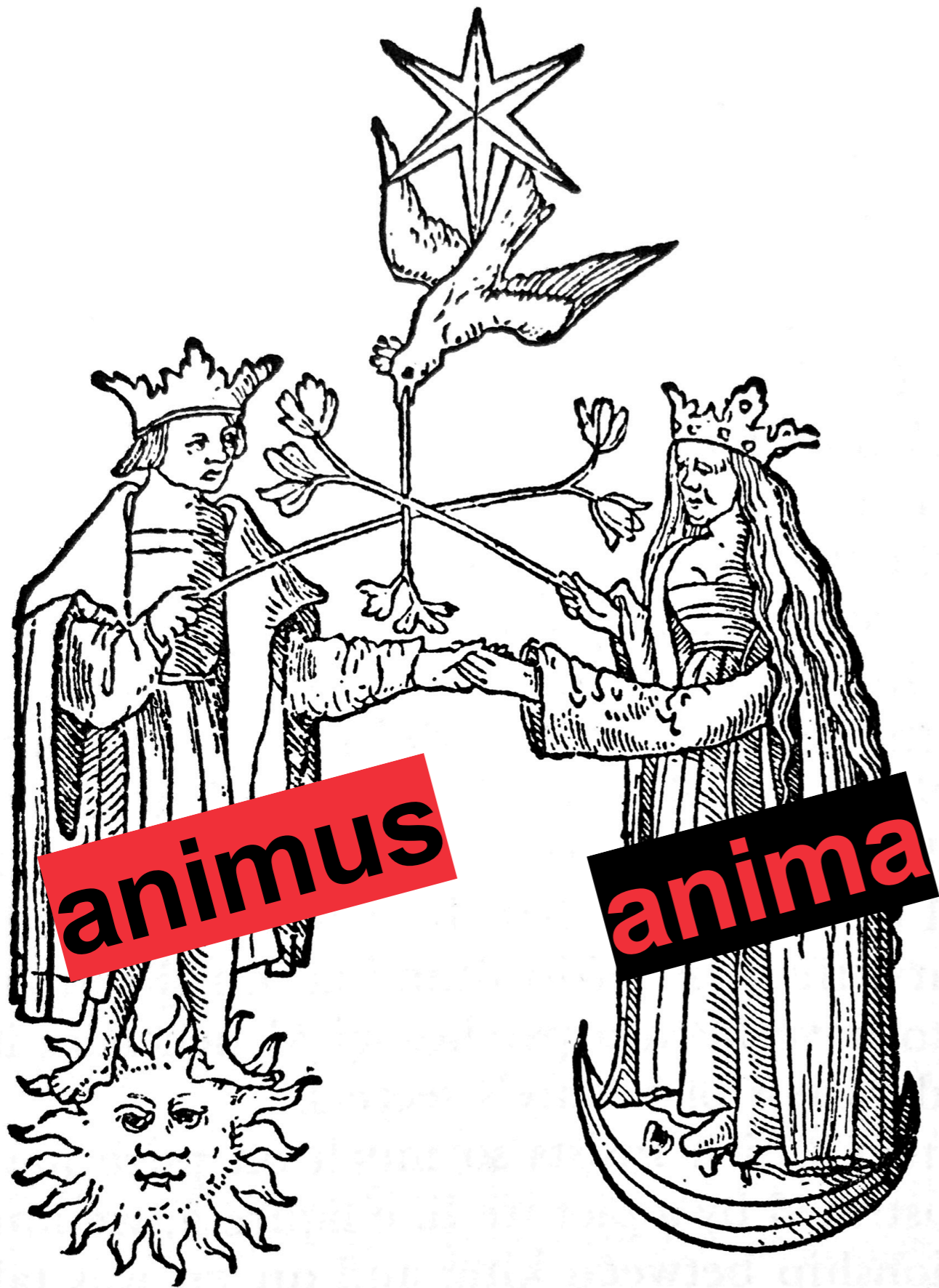
# Individuation vs adaptation

**“[My mother] thinks I hate her and everything she stands for . . . I don’t, for the life of me, know how to tell her that what I want more than anything is to have exactly the life she had. With a few minor alterations.” *Harvey Fierstein***



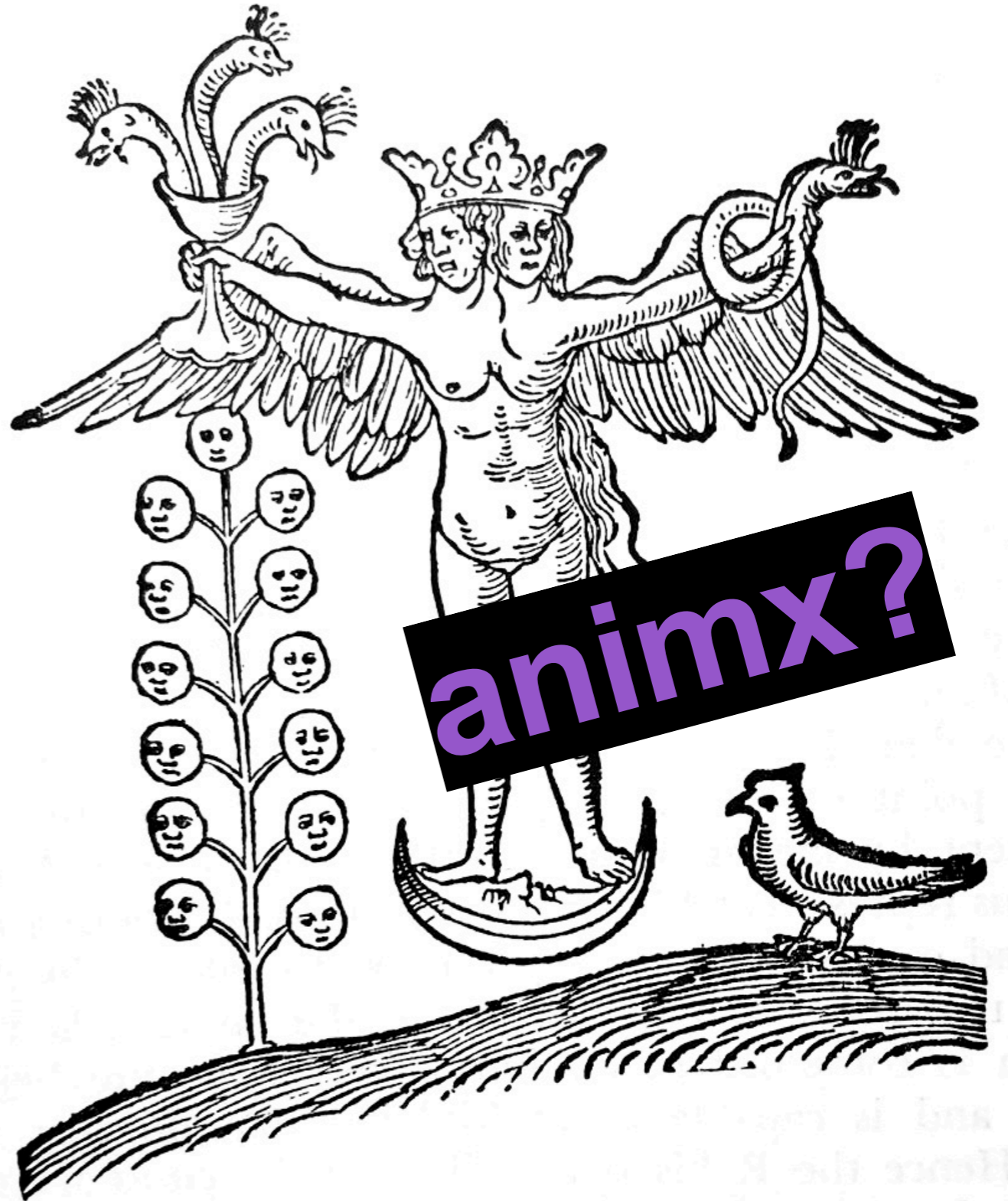
# Inner vs outer world





**animus**

**anima**



**animx?**

“Who are you?”

“I am Ezechiel, and I am an Anabaptist.”

“Who are those wandering with you?”

“These are my fellow believers.”

“Why are you wandering?”

“We cannot stop, but must make a pilgrimage to all the holy places.”

“What drives you to this?”

“I don’t know. But it seems that we still have no peace, although we died in true belief.”

“Why do you have no peace if you died in true belief?”

OGJUNG

THE RED BOOK

NORTON

“It always seems to me as if we had not come to a proper end with life.”

“Remarkable—how so?”

“It seems to me that we forgot something important that should also have been lived.”

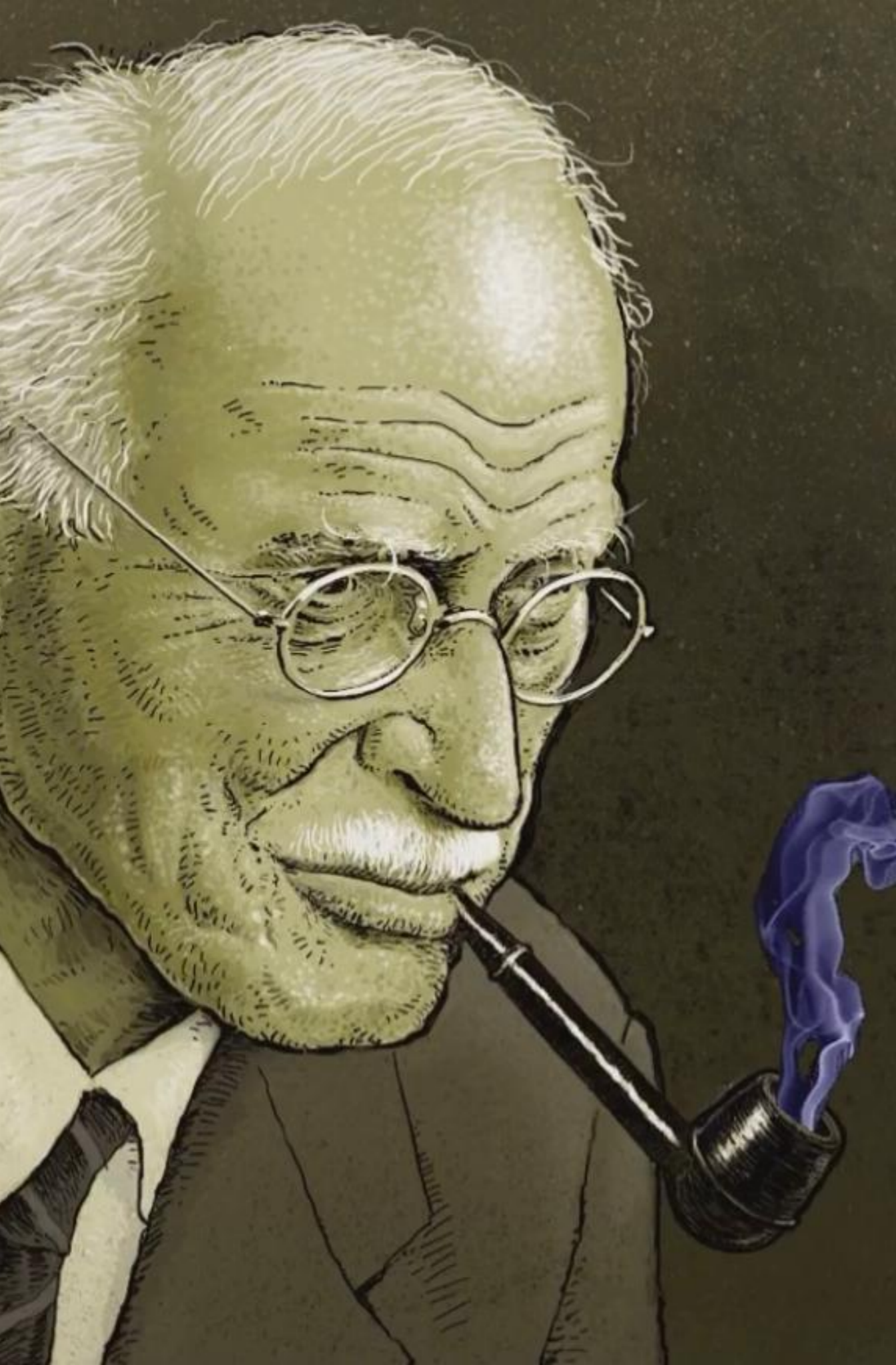
“And what was that?”

“Would you happen to know?”

With these words he reaches out greedily and uncannily toward me, his eyes shining as if from inner heat.

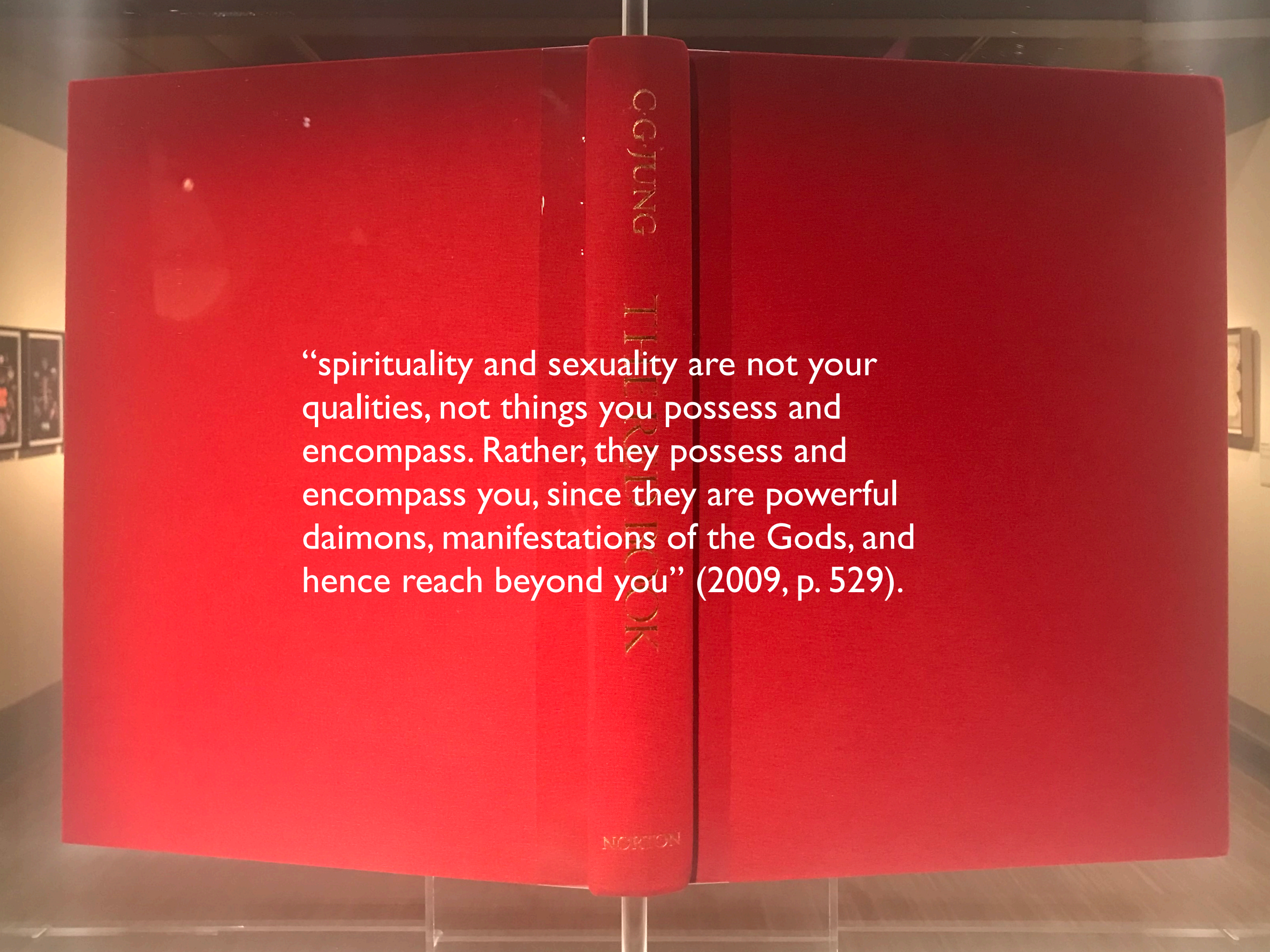
“Let go, daimon, you did not live your animal.”

*The Red Book - Reader’s Edition, p. 335*



“Sexuality and spirituality are  
pairs of opposites that need  
each other.”

*1925 Seminar, p. 30*



“spirituality and sexuality are not your qualities, not things you possess and encompass. Rather, they possess and encompass you, since they are powerful daimons, manifestations of the Gods, and hence reach beyond you” (2009, p. 529).

# Gender is as useful and as useless as a psychiatric diagnosis

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## Men less likely to recycle because they are worried people will think they're gay, study claims

Scientists say measures to save the environment are often seen as typically 'feminine' things to do

[Phoebe Weston](#) Science Correspondent

- Wednesday 07 August 2019 18:50



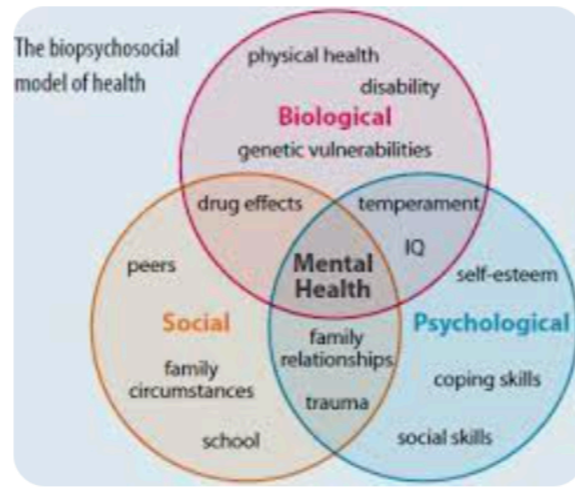
# Gender is biopsychosocial —and mysterious!



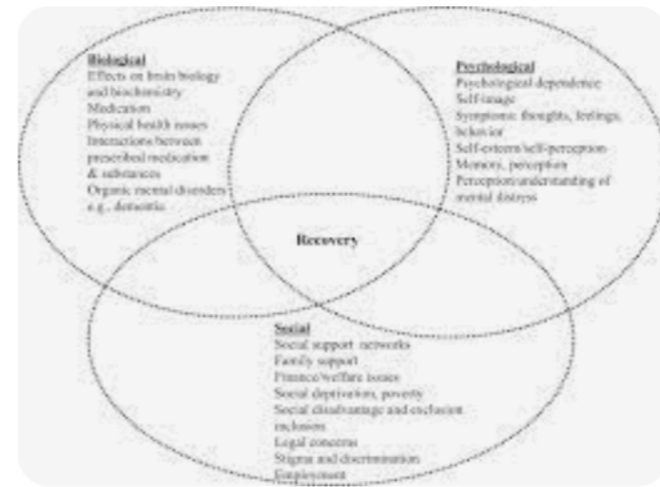
Media  
Biopsychosocial model - Wikipedia



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BioPsychoSocial model ...



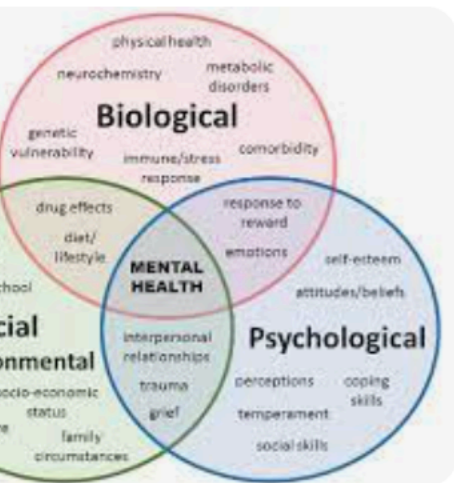
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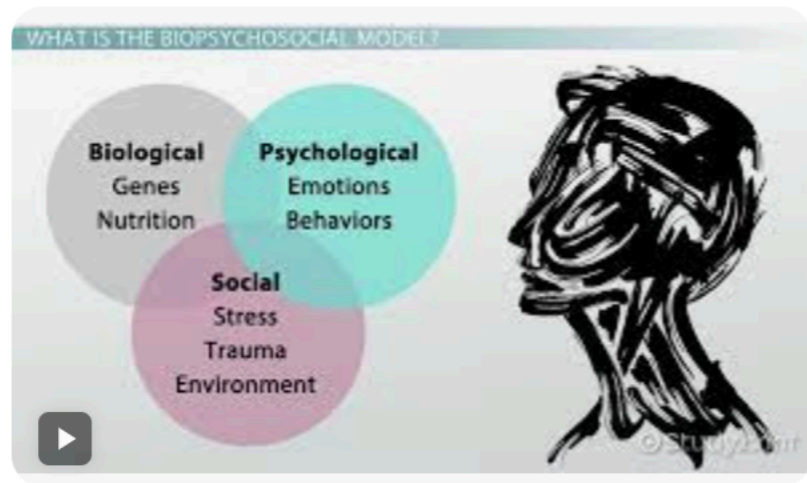
ScienceDirect.com  
Biopsychosocial Model - an overview ...



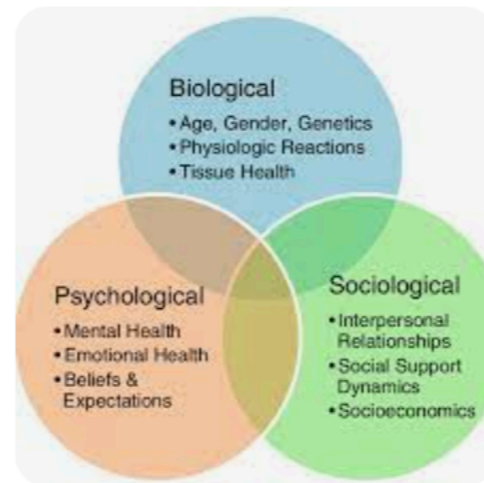
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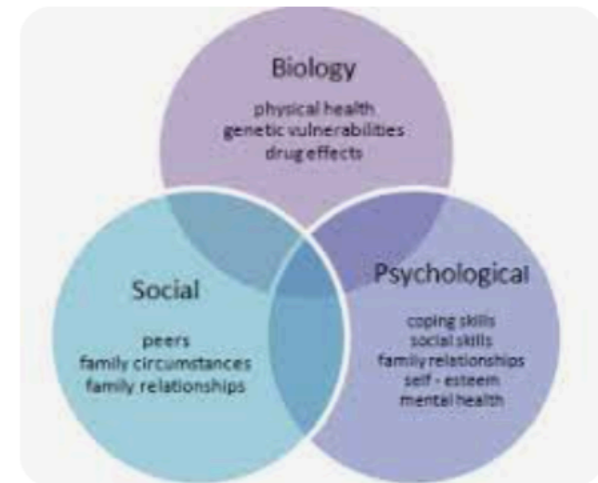
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Biopsychosocial model of men...



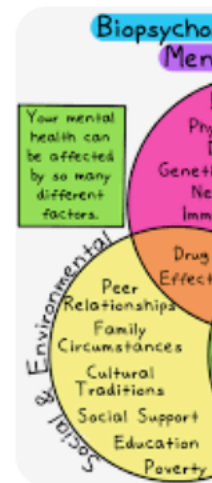
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ResearchGate  
the biopsychosocial model ...



Global Therapies  
The BioPsychoSocial Model is Desc...



Self-Love Foundation  
Biopsychosocial Model of



When David in *Giovanni's Room*, encounters the first inkling of his desire toward his friend Joey, it is felt as both mysterious (Baldwin, 1956/2007, p. 6) and monstrous (p. 8), and yet in the same breath, he describes his friend's body as "the most beautiful creation I have ever seen" (p. 8).



# Gender is biopsychosocial *and mysterious!*

**Morgan M Page**  
*Writer, artist, historian,  
practitioner of Santeria*



TRANS PEOPLE  
ARE SACRED.



1124 OUTFRONT 100091



# Queer prophets

**“[My drag show] is a kind of religious experience, a room united in the celebration of difference; when a show goes really well, it gives me a kind of faith. A faith that Allah’s plan for me was to twirl onstage in a skirt so that I could eventually find not only myself, but Allah, like many Sufi Muslims had been doing centuries before me.”**

**Amrou Al-Kadhi, aka Glamrou, *The Queer Prophet*, in *The Book of Queer Prophets***




# Queer prophets



**I, Joan**  
*Shakespeare Globe Theatre*  
*London, August-October 2022*  
*Written by Charlie Josephine*

**AU NOM DE DIEU!**

# Queer prophets



**“Trans people are sacred. We are the divine. We are practising our divinity by expressing authenticity. By enjoying our multiplicity. Elevating our humanity, finding the unity hidden inside community, remembering our collective connectivity fuels courageous creativity, unlocking the blessed spiritually that we all seek, yeah, this shit’s about to get spiritual. Setting aside all religiosity, we’ll focus instead on more of a... street God, if you will. A God for the queers, and the drunks, and the beautiful fuck-ups. A God for the Godless.”**  
(the opening lines from *I, Joan*)

**AU NOM DE DIEU!**

**“Another world is impossible  
– and we’re heading there.”**

**Três Tigres Tristes**  
*Directed by Gustavo Vinagre*  
*Brazil, 2022*





Can't you see it was God  
who put him in your life?



Darling, God wanted me to be a man,  
and look how that went.

**Manhãs de Setembro**  
*Series 1, episode 2, 2021*