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Psychoanalysis: The Fleeting Dream of Dominating Chaos

Summary:

In a scientific approach to the phenomenon of dream, it is of crucial importance to draw a sharp distinction between the dream as it is dreamed by a dreamer, and the dream as it is accounted by the same dreamer. The dream dreamt is treated, from the perspective of Conversationalism, as an irruption of a fragment of Chaos, sent by the gods, or by the naturalistic functions of the brain. On the contrary, the account of the dream is seen as an attempted normalization of Chaos. The normalization of Chaos through the accounted dream is reached both by the elaborate narrative polyphonies that insert the content of the dream's text into an iconographical tradition from Sophocles to Shakespeare, and by its pure grammatical and prosodic forms, ordered by the rules of iteration, repetition, recurrence. But it is above all such forms of repetition, iteration and recurrence which, as in poetry, ballads, responsories, lullabies, create the hypnotic trance which camouflages the Hydra of half-seen chaos.