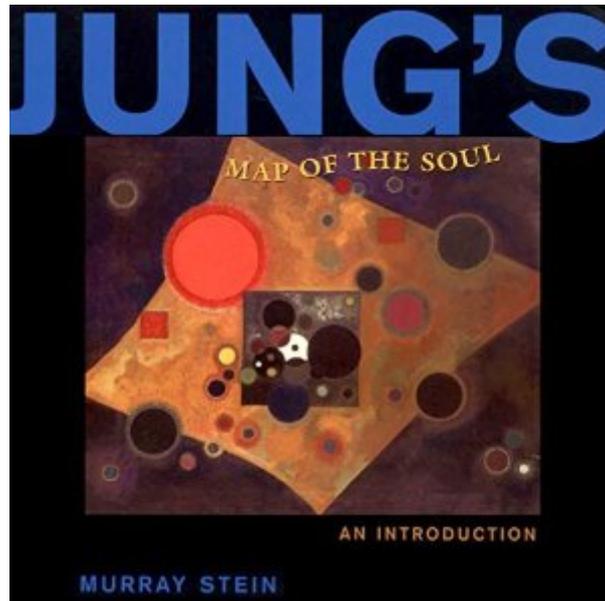


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Jung's Map Of The Soul: An Introduction



Synopsis

More than a mere overview, the audiobook offers listeners a strong grounding in the basic principles of Jung's analytical psychology in addition to illuminating insights. "Probably the best one-volume English language summary of Jung's thought." (Choice) "Himself a widely regarded analyst, Stein presents Jung's major theoretical contributions in language as uncomplicated as the subject allows...Aimed at the general reader but sufficiently academic for the specialist, this is an excellent basic book on the subject." (Booklist) "Writing for the general reader, Stein provides an outline of Jung's basic concepts that is clearly written and indicates some of the distinctions between Jung's thinking and Freud's." (Publishers Weekly)

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book is based on a lengthy lecture series by Stein given at the Chicago Jung institute. The lectures are truly outstanding! The book is outstanding! But, having heard Stein explain these things out loud makes the book seem more distant, somehow. That's still a strong recommendation! Stein is one of my favorites of the current generation of Jungian analysts. He also has a seminary degree, and (in true Jungian style) some of his best works are on the psychology of religion. In this book, Stein intelligently explains most of the basic (and some not-so-basic) Jungian concepts. Even if you're familiar with these, Stein's perspective is worth examining. He has a number of unique things to say, and he says them well. The recorded series is still available from the Chicago Institute, and it's now available on CD (and cassette). Hey, but listen up! There's also another long audio series by Stein which is well worth pursuing: "A Psychological Interpretation Of The Bible." I've read and

heard many, many Jungians on themes like this. Stein is absolutely one of the very best! As much as I truly love most of Edward Edinger's books on Biblical themes, this series by Stein is even better! It really is remarkable. I'm hoping that, someday, it will finally find its way in print.

This is the best concise guide to Jung that I am aware of. Every chapter is engaging and the author's deep understanding and ability to express Jung's ideas comes through vividly on every page. I also like that Stein quotes Jung liberally to illustrate important points and places Jung's ideas in context. Jung is sometimes difficult to interpret because of how he approached various subjects during different periods of his life and because of his writing style. This book cuts through the potential confusion, gets to the point and also adds value in terms of depth beyond just presenting basic concepts. If you want a good introduction in Jung's own words, then *Aion* is probably a good alternative. However, I think this book adds considerable value beyond just reading *Aion* or Carl Jung's other works randomly. If you want to read some works by Jung that are more accessible, then you may enjoy reading his lectures. These are often easier to understand than his books. There are also some nice collections of Jung's writings by topic.

Typically, I find it difficult to read Jung or read interpretations of Jung's philosophy because the concepts are so complex and/or the writing is poor. This book is an exception. Murray Stein presents a coherent, and informative analysis. I initially borrowed the book from the library, but after reading the first two chapters I decided that this is a book I'd like to own. I bought the book so I can write in it, refer to it as questions arise, and reread it as my life progresses and my understanding of life deepens.

I am a layman and know very little about this Jung stuff, but this guy Murray can write and he holds my attention as I try to visualize the ego and the unconscious. When someone is so clear they allow me to comprehend and then even speculate a bit on my own. Fun.

"Jung's Map of the Soul" is an excellent book summarizing the theories of Carl Jung. It was suggested as reading in the first year of the graduate Masters program I completed in Depth Psychology, but it was not the most introductory book on the syllabus and most of us read it after first reading a few other more simplified works by other authors on Jung. It is now, my favorite book of its type and I think truly prepares one to have the theoretical background to read and understand Jung's *Collected Works*. Stein does an excellent job of describing very complex Jungian concepts,

including the psychoid aspect of the psyche (which I could never understand until I read Stein), the shadow, animus/anima, instincts, archetypes, the collective unconscious, individuation, and the self-regulating system of the psyche. If you will be digging into reading Jung's Collective Works, then I suggest you do as I did and purchase Stein's book as a constant reference to help with interpretations. In particular, I found Stein's writing invaluable in assisting me to interpret Jung's writing on the relationship of the psyche and body-mind relationships as it relates to human instinct and somatic life-energy. Martha Love, coauthor of *What's Behind Your Belly Button?: A Psychological Perspective of the Intelligence of Human Nature and Gut Instinct*

This has been a very effective overview and introduction into Jung's work. I expect to explore further, but this would be a good investment of time before you explore Jung's writings. You will get an overview of key concepts, definitions, and relationships, which I believe are necessary in order to put his work in context. As a person that is new to this level of depth in analysis of the psyche, this was a solid introduction. Very good for introductory to moderate readers on the subject. I can't speak for more advanced users, as I am not one.

This book gave me all the tools I needed to begin to read Jung's works directly. It clarifies most of the core concepts of Jung. I bought the kindle version, but I am in the waiting list for the paper version as it is easier to consult terms and definitions in this way.

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