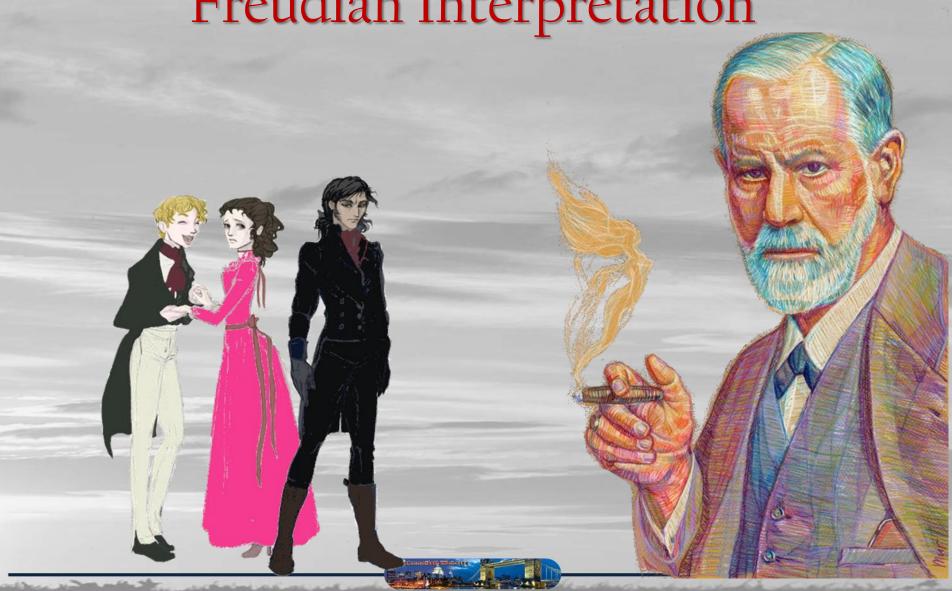
Psychological interpretation of Wuthering Heights



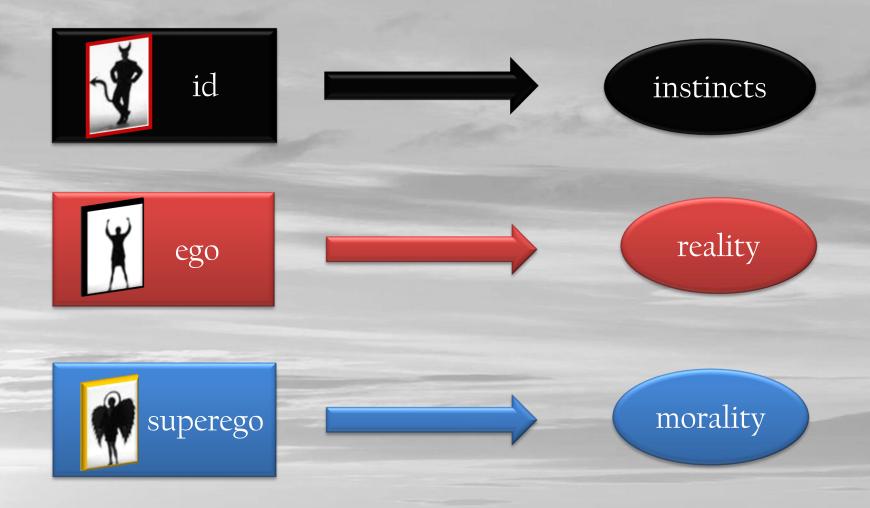


Freudian Interpretation

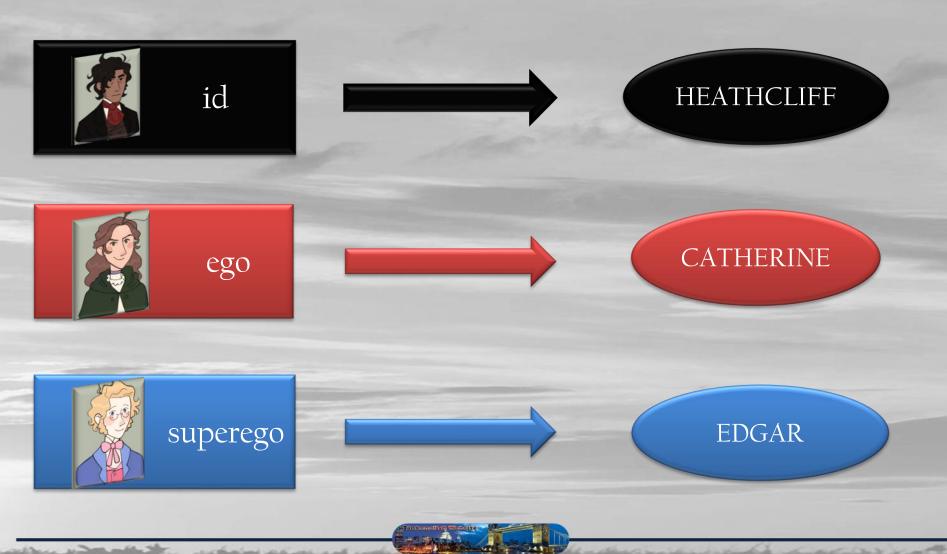




Freud's Tripartism



Freud's Tripartism in W.H.



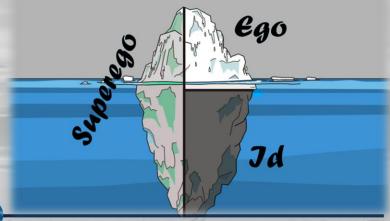
The Id/Heathcliff

- Heathcliff expresses the most primitive drives (like sex)
- the id seeks pleasure and avoids pain
- the id is **not affected by time** and remains in the **unconscious**
- Heathcliff's origins are unknown:
 - a) he is dark,
 - b) he runs wild
 - c) he is primitive as a child
 - d) his three year absence remains a mystery



The Ego/Catherine

- Catherine, as the ego, relates to other people and society
- The ego:
 - a) <u>tests</u> the impulses of the id against reality (that is, if they can be satisfied)
 - b) tries to control the id
 - c) mediates between the desires of the id and the rule of the super-ego





The Superego/Edgar

- Edgar, as the superego, represents the rules of proper behavior and morality inculcated by:
 - a) teachers
 - b) family
 - c) society
- Edgar is civilized and cultured "
- He compels Catherine to choose between Heathcliff and himself



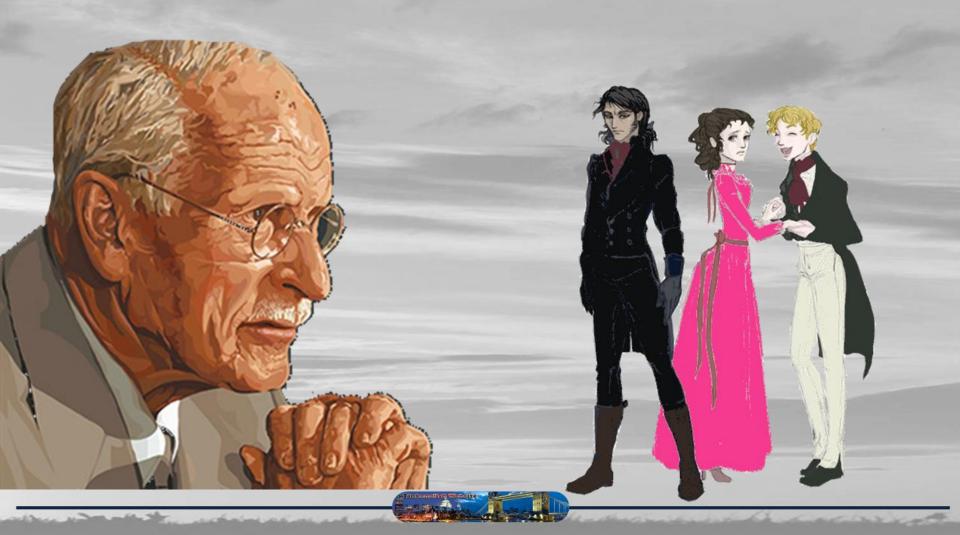


Catherine's Weakness

- Catherine rejects Heathcliff because yielding would degrade her
- Her marriage with Edgar is a realistic social opportunity
- She expects Edgar to accept Heathcliff in their household and to raise him from his degraded state
- This would result in the integration of the disparate parts of her personality—id, ego, and superego—into one unified personality the happiness
- She dies because of the impossibility of integration of the three parts



Jungian Interpretation



The Collective Unconscious

- The collective unconscious is inherited, impersonal, and universal
- It is made mainly of archetypes which may find expression in myths and fairy tales
- An archetype is **primitive mental image** <u>inherited</u> from the earliest human ancestors
- Through myths and fairy tales we have been taught what is good or evil
- The most common archetypes are the shadow, the animus, and the anima.



The Personal Unconscious

• The material that was once conscious but has been forgotten or repressed is stored in the personal unconscious

- The personal unconscious adapts
 archetypes based on the individual's experiences
- The personal unconscious finds expression in dreams and metaphors

Ego
Personal
Unconsciousness

Collective
Unconsciousness

The Self



The Shadow

- In the <u>collective unconscious</u>, the shadow is absolute evil
- In the <u>personal unconscious</u>, the shadow consists of those <u>unconfessable drives/feelings</u>
- The shadow is **emotional**, **uncontrollable**, if it is not satisfied it becomes obsessive or possessive

HENCE

Heathcliff is <u>Catherine's shadow</u>—he represents her darkest side and desires



Heatchcliff the Shadow

- Catherine rejects this part of herself by marrying Edgar, this explains Heathcliff's mysterious disappearance
- Heathcliff/ the shadow can't be repressed permanently
- The shadow tries to resist moral control and can rarely be changed
- Her inability to affect Heathcliff's behaviour can be seen in his ignoring her prohibition about Isabella
- Heathcliff obsessively seeks possession of Catherine to insure his own survival



The Animus and the Anima

- The persona is the outer or social self that faces the world
- The animus is the archetype that completes women. It contains the male qualities which the female persona lacks
- The anima represents the female traits that a man's persona lacks
- The animus of a woman and the anima of a man take the form of a "soul-image" in the personal unconscious
- This soul-image may be transferred/projected to a real person who naturally becomes the object of intense feeling (love or hate).

Anima

Animus

Female

Soul Mates?

- For Catherine Heathcliff is the animus, and for Heathcliff Catherine is the anima
- For Catherine, Heathcliff expresses: anger and hostility, freedom, command, irresponsibility, rebellion, and spontaneity.
- For Heathcliff, Catherine is: beauty, love, status, and belonging.
- The projection of their soul-images explains their profound sense of connection or identity with each other, e.g., Catherine's "I am Heathcliff" or "He is more myself than I am"



Trascendent Love

• In the act of projection a triad arises, which includes a

transcendent part

• The triad consists of the man, the woman, and the transcendent anima/animus

• The object of the projection will be unable to live out the lover's animus or anima permanently

• Catherine and Heathcliff's love transcends life and will exist after death, when they will stay together at last







