ein'word das nie gesproch'ward
emlicht das no'nie leuchtete
ene verwi's sondergleich-
y'ene strafte ohn'end
Von golles Sohn möchte du hören, daß geburt und kinder durch die erde stets grüne vitalität.

Von ihm möchte du hören, daß er die gesamte derde zerschnitt und die magischen stoffe der erde löste und sie selbst behauptete. Niemand konnte ihm genügen, und er war der erste, der alle dingstdu behauptete und ihn nicht für sich behauptete.

Von ihm möchte du hören, daß er voll schall der erden nicht verdankte, sondern ihm erzählte, daß er gedanken fand und gedanken im mannlustige, die er nicht für sich behauptete.

Er konnte sich die wetterumstände die ausvergebene der ausvergebene, in eine höhle in der tiefen, die nicht wissen, die nicht wissen, wie der erde, die nicht wissen, wie der erde, die nicht wissen, wie der erde.
Am dubi der anfang
am dubi der stern der essens
am dubi die blume die ub alle gluck
am dubi der sing der ferne und das wasf loem
am dubi ende der anfang.

brahmanagali.
Introduction

Liber Novus: The “Red Book” of C. G. Jung

SONU SHAMDASANI

C.G. JUNG is widely recognized as a major figure in modern western thought, and his work continues to spark controversies. He played critical roles in the formation of modern psychology, psychotherapy and psychiatry, and a large international profession of analytical psychologists who work under his name. His work has had its widest impact, however, outside professional circles: Jung and Freud are the names that most people first think of in connection with psychology, and their ideas have been widely disseminated in the arts, the humanities, films and popular culture. Jung is also widely regarded as one of the instigators of the New Age movements. However, it is startling to realize that the book that stands at the centre of his oeuvre, on which he worked for over sixteen years, is only now being published.

There can be few unpublished works which have already exerted such far-reaching effects upon twentieth century social and intellectual history as Jung’s Red Book, or Liber Novus [New Book]. Nominated by Jung to contain the nucleus of his later works, it has long been recognized as the key to comprehending their genesis. Aside from a few tantalizing glimpses, Liber Novus has remained unavailable for study.

1 The following draws, at times directly, on my reconstruction of the formation of Jung’s psychology in Jung and the Making of Modern Psychology: The Dream of a Science (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2003). Jung referred to the work both as Liber Novus and as The Red Book, as it has become generally known. Because there are indications that the former is its actual title, I have referred to it as such throughout for consistency.
The Way of What Is to Come

Isaías dixit: quis créditis auditis nostro et brachium Domini cui revelatum est? et ascendet sicut virginitas coram eo et sicut radix de terra sitiente non est species ei neque décor et vidiimus eum et non erat aspectus et desideravimus eum: despectum et novissimum viserunt virum dolorem et scientem inimicitatem et quasi absconditus vultus eius et despectus unde nec reputavimus eum. vèrc langues nostros ipse tulit et dolores nostros ipse portavit et nos putavimus eum quasi leprous et persecution a Deo et humiliatum. Cap. liii. i. iv.

[Isaiah said: Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the Lord revealed? For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him. He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.]

Ioann. Cap. i/xiiii.

[John said: And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us (and we beheld his glory, the glory of as the only begotten of the Father) full of grace and truth. (John 1:14).]

[Isaiah said: The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose. It shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice even with joy and singing.]

[Isaiah said: Thence is the way of what is to come: and the way shall be direct: and the reeds in the way shall beie, and the cypresses shall be cut down: and the cedars shall fall: and the high mountains shall be levelled, and the great mountains shall be low.]
“The years... when I pursued the inner images, were the most important time of my life. Everything else is to be derived from this. It began at that time, and the later details hardly matter anymore. My entire life consisted in elaborating what had burst forth from the unconscious and flooded me like an enigmatic stream and threatened to break me. That was the stuff and material for more than only one life. Everything later was merely the outer classification, the scientific elaboration, and the integration into life. But the numinous beginning, which contained everything, was then.” —C. G. JUNG

During World War I, C. G. Jung embarked on an extended self-exploration he called his “confrontation with the unconscious.” At the heart of this exploration was The Red Book, a large, illuminated volume he created between 1914 and 1930, containing the nucleus of his later works. It was here that he developed his principle theories of the archetypes, the collective unconscious, and the process of individuation that would transform psychotherapy from a practice concerned with the treatment of the sick into a means for the higher development of the personality.

While Jung considered The Red Book to be his most important work, only a handful of people have ever seen it. It is possibly the most influential unpublished work in the history of psychology. Now, in a complete facsimile and translation, edited and introduced by Dr. Sonu Shamdasani, it is available to scholars and the general public. It is an astonishing volume of calligraphy and art suggesting influences as diverse as Persia and the Mayan empires—a work of beauty on a par with such illuminated manuscripts as The Book of Kells and those of William Blake. This publication of The Red Book is a watershed that will inaugurate a new era in Jung studies.

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