



## Coalesce Podcast

### Episode 041 – The Inner God Archetype

Note, terms, scripture, practice



Carl Gustav Jung (1875-1961)

God archetype: “whole-making instinct”

[John 14:26](#)

“Self” with a capital “S” — Jung means the deepest center of the psyche/soul that is in union with the Divine.

[John 14:17b](#)

[Genesis 1:9-31](#)

[Matthew 7:3-5](#)

[Matthew 6:22](#)

[Ephesians 2:15](#)

[Ephesians 4:13](#)

[1 Corinthians 15:22, 45-49](#)

[Romans 8:18-34](#)

[1 Corinthians 12:22](#)

“Life is a luminous pause between two great mysteries, which themselves are one.” —C. G. Jung

## Practice: Archetypal Story

Jungian analyst and story-teller Clarissa Pinkola Estés writes that “Stories are medicine. . . . They have such power; they do not require that we do, be, act anything—we need only listen. . . . Stories engender the excitement, sadness, questions, longings, and understandings that spontaneously bring the archetype . . . back to the surface. Stories are embedded with instructions which guide us about the complexities of life. Stories enable us to understand the need for and the ways to raise a submerged archetype.”

I invite you to spend some time with Hans Christian Andersen’s familiar tale, “The Ugly Duckling.” Estés calls this a “psychological and spiritual root story. A root story is one that contains a truth so fundamental to human development that without integration of this fact, further progression is shaky, and one cannot entirely prosper psychologically until this point is realized.” The ancient archetype of the orphan, the unusual, the exiled shows us how to find our own home and place of belonging.

You might find an illustrated “children’s” book—though the story is just as relevant for adults—or read Estés’ rendering and interpretation of “The Ugly Duckling” in *Women Who Run with the Wolves*. As you read, allow yourself to enter fully into the story as the misfit cygnet. Observe the ways in which the duck mother is at different times ambivalent, collapsed, and strong. Recall your own mother and the other women who have mothered you; reflect on how they have formed your inner mother. As Estés explains. “By examining these mothering structures, we can begin to assess whether our own internal mother complex staunchly sustains our unique qualities, or whether it needs a long overdue adjustment.” Allow the strong voice of the “wild and wise” Mother to affirm your unique, beautiful self and its place in the universe.

Clarissa Pinkola Estés, *Women Who Run with the Wolves: Myths and Stories of the Wild Woman Archetype* (Ballantine Books: 1992).