

Cognitive Abilities of Dream Figures in Lucid Dreams

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Following an earlier study by the author that examined which cognitive abilities the dreamer (dream ego) disposes of during lucid dreams, it was investigated which abilities other dream figures possess. Nine students, who had learned to induce lucid dreams by using the reflection technique developed by the author, participated as subjects in the experiment. They were directed to set other dream figures various tasks during lucid dreaming. Dream figures were asked to solve simple arithmetic problems, to write down something, to rhyme and to speak in a foreign language. Each subject had at least four lucid dreams concerned with this investigation. The subjects had no knowledge of each others dream reports, nevertheless the reports were similar. Part of the dream figures actually agreed to perform the tasks and proved successful. Their performance was poorest in arithmetic. None of the dream figures could solve problems with two—digit numbers. In the verbal sphere, however, their abilities were in some cases even better than those of the dreamer. It is suggested that cognitive abilities of the dream ego and those of other dream figures during lucid dreams should be viewed in connection with distinct cerebral processes. Experiments relating thereto are planned.

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