

Archetypes: Aspects of your character; facets cut into the crystal that is you (your fictional characters); coined by Carl Gustav Jung in 1919, who taught they lived in the Collective Unconscious (1917)

Wikipedia: Jung described **archetypal events**: birth, death, separation from parents, initiation, marriage, the union of opposites; **archetypal figures**: great mother, father, child, devil, god, wise old man, wise old woman, the trickster, the hero; and **archetypal motifs**: the apocalypse, the deluge, the creation. Although the number of archetypes is limitless, there are a few particularly notable, recurring archetypal images, "the chief among them being" (according to Jung) "the *shadow*, the *wise old man*, the *child*, the *mother* ... and her counterpart, the *maiden*, and lastly the *anima* in man and the *animus* in woman". Alternatively he would speak of "the emergence of certain definite archetypes ... the shadow, the animal, the wise old man, the anima, the animus, the mother, the child".

Archetypes have been in use for centuries; the Tarot is based on archetypes, especially the Major Arcana.

Use archetypes to help you add quirks or depth to your character analysis/development (eg you can start with Linda Edelstein's *Character Traits* and "shuffle" in an archetype reaction to help add relatable personality)

My work is based on my theories/concepts of archetypes reacting/responding differently when exposed to various stressors. For example a Goddess under normal circumstances is going to have a different reaction to an insult than one who is being challenged by depression, betrayal, etc. You can access complete excerpts of my published archetype descriptions at: [queenofspecialarchetypes.wordpress.com](http://queenofspecialarchetypes.wordpress.com)

Caroline Myss, *Sacred Contracts* and *Anatomy of the Spirit*, was my archetype instructor. Her premise is we all are born with 12 Natal Archetypes. I think of these as our *default* set that we return to when surprised, stressed and under duress, etc., regardless of what other archetypes we may be employing.

The natal set includes 4 Survival Archetypes we all have in common: Child (innocent, naive, selfish, whiny, avoids responsibility); Prostitute (barter, knows value, feels has no choice, sells out); Saboteur (rationalizes, barter, pessimism/optimism); Victim ("poor me," exaggerates, lies)

For more specific ways to know how to incorporate an archetype into your character, cast it into an astrology chart. The simple way to do this is to create a card deck of archetypes and a card deck of 12 numbered cards. You can draw one card from each deck (after putting your intention into them) and see what the cards are telling you about the reactions of your character. For example, if you drew Hero and 4, you would have a character that was manifesting Hero traits in its 4<sup>th</sup> House of Home. Hero could be having trouble adjusting to something in home life, or could be coming to the rescue of the home, or could be creating a home where none had existed. The Myss descriptions of the Houses are included in your handouts. For more information in her process consult *Sacred Contracts*, or for information on application consult my book, *Archetypes to the Rescue*.

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ARCHETYPE READING: Brett, Nov 2001

**“Show me how archetypal patterns fit into my heroine’s character in ‘In Your Dreams’ ”**

The following descriptions of the houses are taken from the Vision, Creativity and Intuition, A Training Program in the Science of Intuition, Part II, Sacred Contracts course materials from the summer of 2000, presented by Drs. Caroline Myss and C. Norman Shealy. The descriptions of the Archetypes are excerpts taken from an appendix that will appear in Dr. Myss’ new book, Sacred Contracts, being released in December, 2001.

**First House or Ascendant or Rising Sign, Persona:** The face you show the world, your personality, your personal affairs, physical appearance, and physical make-up; how the world sees you, general conditions of health and susceptibility to illness; the house of the I.

**Your Archetype: Magician**—see alchemist, above; the wizard and magician produce results outside the ordinary rules of life, whether causing people to fall in love or objects to disappear; the magician tends to be seen more as an entertainer. The shadow of seduction and trickery play on the desires of many people to transform their lives.

**Second House, Personal Ownership/Values:** Your value system; the house of money and personal possessions acquired through your own labor including losses and gains – your sense of self-esteem – your sense of values – what you value most.

**Your Archetype: Victim**—the negative traits of the Victim are self-evident. But when properly recognized, it can be a tremendous aid in letting us know when we are in danger of letting ourselves be victimized, often through passivity but also through rash or inappropriate actions. It can also help us to see our own tendency to victimize others for personal gain. In its shadow aspect, the Victim shows us that we may like to play the Victim at times because of the positive feedback we get in the form of sympathy or pity.

**Third House, Communication:** Your communication of will; your personal thought patterns and the way you tend to communicate with others – brothers and sisters – short journeys – the immediate neighborhood – messages and news.

**Your Archetype: Artist (artisan, craftsperson, sculptor, weaver)**—the artist archetype embodies the passion to express a dimension of life that is just beyond the five senses. The Artist psyche is animated with the energy to express it into physical forms. The nature or relative grandeur of any form of expression is irrelevant; a chef can be as much of an artist as a painter or landscaper. The signature of artists is not in what they do but in how intense their motivation is to manifest the extraordinary. Doing what you do in such a way that you create an emotional field that inspires others also indicates the Artist energy at work, as does the emotional and psychological need to express yourself so much that your well-being is wrapped up in this energy. The shadow Artist comprises many clichés, including an eccentric nature and the madness that often accompanies genius. The Starving Artist represents the fear of financial ruin or the belief that fame and fortune come only after death, which often cause artists to suppress their talents. In evaluating your relationship to this archetype, recognize that the need to bring art to others, such as dedicating part of the energy of your life to supporting artists, is as much an expression of the Artist archetype as actually holding a brush in your hand.

**Fourth House, Home:** Your personal power around house/home; your home base – basic security; how you see yourself subjectively; house of more closely-linked parent; ancestry, origins, foundation; general conditions at the end of life; real estate and inheritance through parental background (the parent you spent the most time with); the underlying pattern of operation in your approach to the world; transportation; possibly more the real you than is shown through the First House.

**Your Archetype: Avenger (avenging angel, savior, messiah)**—This archetype and its related manifestations respond to a need to balance the scales of justice, sometimes by employing aggressive techniques. Attorneys who work for the impoverished or disadvantaged, or who volunteer part of their time for pro bono work are modern avengers. Bringing war criminals to trial or legally pursuing corporations that harm society are examples of the Avenger on a global scale, fueled by a sense of righteousness in behalf of society. One can also be motivated to avenge an injustice against oneself or one's family. The Avenging Angel is an expression of the archetype of mythic proportions that suggests that one is on a mission from God, as in the case of Joan of Arc. On the global level, the shadow manifests as avenging perceived immoral behavior by resorting to violence, from acts of ecoterrorism to bombing abortion clinics. The "rightness" of one's cause can never justify innocent third parties. (Gandhi countered the shadow of social vengeance by emphasizing passive resistance to illegitimate authority.) In evaluating your connection to this archetype, review your life for experiences in which your primary motivation was to defend or represent a cause in behalf of others. One instance is not enough. You need to relate to this archetype as a primary force through which many of the choices and actions of your life are directed. A burning desire to get even can be so forceful that you organize a lifetime around meeting that end.

**Fifth House, Eros/Creativity:** Personal power around creativity, sexuality, occupation. The house of romantic love; children either of your flesh or of your mind since it rules creative self-expression – speculation, gambling, hobbies, and recreation; what you do for fun.

**Your Archetype: Healer (wounded healer, caregiver, nurse, therapist, analyst, counselor)**—The Healer archetype manifests as a passion to serve others in the form of repairing the body, mind, and spirit. It expresses itself through channels other than those classically associated with the healing of illnesses, and so you need to look beyond the obvious definition of what you "do." You can be strongly guided by this archetype in any occupation or role in life. Some people, by their very nature and personality, are able to inspire others to release their painful histories or make changes in their lives that redirect the course of their future. Essential characteristics include an inherent strength and the ability to assist people in transforming their pain into a healing process, as well as having the "wiring" required to channel the energy needed to generate physical or emotional changes.

**Sixth House, Work/Health:** The house which shows how you will serve the world; servants and employees and your own role as a servant or employee; conditions of health and illness; duties and obligations, routine, daily work; the least free area of the chart.

**Your Archetype: Alchemist (wizard, magician, scientist, inventor)**—trait of converting some form of matter into an altered expression of itself. The alchemist is associated with vain attempts to turn base metals into gold, but in its highest manifestation it seeks complete spiritual transformation. Perhaps your work or living situation demands you be especially inventive or interventionist on a regular basis. The shadow sides are found in the misuse of the power and knowledge that comes through them; seduction and trickery brought about through magic and wizardry play on the desires of many people to transform their lives.

**Seventh House, or Descendant, Partnerships:** The house of partnerships of all kinds including marriage, business, etc.; open enemies and obvious competitors; the public; those who challenge or assist; how others appear to you and how they relate to you; the extent of dependency on others and the extent to which others help, guide or dominate you; your audience in life.

**Your Archetype: Child, wounded (orphan, magical, divine...)--**Wounded child holds the memories of abuse, neglect, and other traumas that we have endured during childhood. May be the pattern people relate to the most; you credit the painful and abusive experiences of your childhood with having a substantial influence on your adult life. The shadow aspect may manifest as an abiding sense of self-pity, a tendency to blame your parents for your current shortcomings and to resist moving through forgiveness.

**Eighth House, Legal/Financial:** Other people's money and possessions; sometimes called the house of death; rules money acquired from partnerships; can indicate inheritances and insurance benefits; shows important changes in life and your relation to them; sexual expression; regeneration; DNA; superstitions.

**Your Archetype: Rescuer (co-dependent)—**This archetype, in its mature state, comes to the aid of people in genuine need and by need, this includes helping a person through threatening physical situations, such as home and natural disasters. It is much more accurate and appropriate to think of the rescuer in this description than as a person who comes to the aid of another who is in the throws of healing an illness, though this is a very frequent manifestation of the underdeveloped rescuer. More often than not, when that is the case—or when a person assumes the role of the rescuer in a personal relationship—ultimately the “rescued” person will leave the rescuer because there is no need left which can hold the relationship together. The challenge with this archetype is to be able to fully evaluate your own motivations in terms of why you are extending assistance to another person, and should any personal gain be involved, then note that this is the signature of the underdeveloped rescuer.

**Ninth House, Spirituality/Wisdom:** Rules your philosophical and religious outlook on life; education you pursue to prepare yourself for a vocation or broaden your outlook on life; dreams, long distance travel; the law; world view; relatives by marriage.

**Your Archetype: Prophet (visionary)—**The Prophet brings messages of change—what is to come—into a social context. More often than not, their messages come in the forms of warnings that destruction lay ahead lest change occur. Another characteristic of the prophet is that, as the scripture warns, “he/she is never welcomed in their homeland” because no one wants to face forced change with the possibility of destruction. The political career of Gorbachev portrays a contemporary prophet almost to perfection. Note that it is not necessary to achieve high social status in order to recognize that one has this archetypal connection. Those who foresee difficult times ahead in business, social, or personal matters are carrying the energy of the archetypal force in their system. The shadow side of this energy is manifested in false alarms and in threatening warnings that are based on the fear of the individual rather than on the wisdom that is generated by a true higher vision.

**Tenth House or Midheaven, Highest Potential:** rules careers and honors received; the conscious ambition; the material and physical judgment generally imposed by the world; relationship with outer world; fate; the more distantly-linked parent; how you behave on the job; your true profession; your ambition; your public life.

**Your Archetype: Prostitute--** engages lessons in integrity and the sale of negotiation of one's integrity or spirit due to fears of physical and financial survival or for financial gain. Activates the aspects of the unconscious that are related to seduction and control, whereby you are as capable of buying a controlling interest in another person as you are in selling your own power. Should also be understood as the selling of your talents, ideas, and any other expression of the self; or the selling out of them; relates to the need to birth and refine self-esteem and self-respect.

**Eleventh House, Relation to World:** the house of hopes and wishes; the kinds of friends you have and how many; the ideals toward which you strive; group associations; the income from your career; your attitude toward sociability.

**Your Archetype: Saboteur--** made up of the fears and issues related to low self-esteem that cause you to make choices in life that block your own empowerment and success. As with the Victim and the Prostitute, you need to face this powerful archetype that we all possess and make it an ally. When you do, you will find that it calls your attention to situations in which you are in danger of being sabotaged, or of sabotaging yourself. Once comfortable, you learn to heed and save yourself untold grief. The shadow Saboteur will manifest in the form of self-destructive behavior or the desire to undermine others.

**Twelfth House, Collective Soul:** sometimes called the house of self-undoing; because it rules secrets we keep hidden from ourselves; secret attitudes hidden in the sub-conscious that can be harmful to us; shows where we can abstract meaning from the past and build a foundation into the future; where we must judge ourselves; our capacity for inner awareness, spirituality and growth; secret enemies where we are the most subservient; connection to collective unconscious; karma.

**Your Archetype: Midas (Miser)—**These two archetypes are so close that for practical purposes you can consider them together. Midas turned everything he touched into gold, including, tragically, his beloved daughter. The archetype is associated with entrepreneurial or creative ability. That Midas was a king symbolically implies that the Midas figure has the power to generate wealth for an entire kingdom, yet is interested only in his personal aggrandizement. Greed is his downfall. For that reason, lessons of generosity are a large part of the characteristics of this archetype. The shadow Midas or Miser creates wealth by hoarding money and emotions at the expense of others, and refusing to share them. Although the desire to earn a living or become wealthy is not negative, this archetype also represents a need to control the forces around you for fear of losing your wealth. The challenges inherent in the Miser and Midas can go so far as to make a person confront what he is willing to do to create a mountain of wealth.

**ANALYSIS:** read from first house to seventh house; second house to eighth house; etc. Remember this is a chart reflecting Brett's outlook on life for purposes of knowing her as a heroine in a novel.

Brett's persona is that of a magician that can entertain and mystify her audience, but she faces the challenge of using tricks to attract men. Her wounded child lives in the partnership house, so she sees partners through the eyes of pain and past wounds, which carries baggage that may repel men. Brett's victim lives in her house of values, she has trouble knowing what to value, and has a *poor me* attitude tied to her sense of money and personal possession, as if everyone else has it better. She is a co-dependent in her house of legal/financial issues where other people's money is concerned...she oscillates between rescuing others and enabling herself, and them, to be dependent on the generosity

of others. She communicates as an artist, who must create and bring some kind of beauty to the world. Spiritually she is often the voice of doom and gloom, but it keeps her attune to the status of companies she works with or clients that may not be able to afford her services. In home life she is an Avenger, wanting her home to be a safe refuge and she fiercely defends it—it is hard for her to let others into her sanctuary, so her suitors feel this pressure and if sensitive to it, will leave prematurely to being accepted into her trust threshold. Her highest potential is ruled by her Prostitute, which means she's challenged by the temptation to sell out to please others. It confuses those trying to get close to her—on one side of the coin she is being anything they want, and on the other she is fighting them off to protect the home ground. Her eros/creativity is ruled by the Healer, which makes it a challenge for her to find emotionally healthy suitors. She tends to find men, or projects, that need her healing touch and once they receive it, they leave or she loses interest. Her relation to the world is ruled by the Saboteur-- Brett is challenged by bashing in her hopes and dreams and has few friends as a result. She avoids socializing because she feels no one would really like her anyway, and that is also the root of her financial challenges. In her work and health, though, Brett can create something out of nothing. She has an innate way of being able to turn a bad business deal into something workable. Brett's alchemist ability in the 6<sup>th</sup> house is complimented by her 12<sup>th</sup> house where her Midas lives. Her challenge here is to watch greed and not let it become a subconscious harm to her success.