



Fearless Soul

The Call to Nursing - The Courage to Stay

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The 40th Annual Puget Sound Oncology Nursing Symposium

Passion, Courage, Innovation



Reflexivity in Scholarship

some of my background...

Home



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January 9, 2018







VOICE
Vocation

- Breaking Barriers
- Empathic Communication
- Archetypes and Authenticity
- Personal
- Collective
- Personal and Shared Ancestors

HUMANITIES

Study of topics such as -
Culture, Society, Philosophy, Psychology,
History, Classics, Mythology, Religious Studies,
Archeology, Archetypes, Language,
Anthropology, Ancient Stories and Fairy Tales,
Oral Tradition, Literature, Art, Music, Film,
Television, Popular Culture...

SHADOW

- Unconscious and unknown
- Projections – pointing finger at another

The Call



Our Roots

The nurse's role, the nurse image...

Nurse figures

Some of the nursing pioneers

Florence Nightingale 1820 – 1910

Clara Barton 1821 – 1912

Dorothea Dix 1802 - 1887

Margaret Sanger 1879 - 1966

Margaret Mead 1901 - 1978

Patricia Benner, Novice to Expert, UCSF

Western Pioneers - their legacy continues



Florence Nightingale

Impetus to start
the Nursing
Profession 160
years ago



Wonder Woman
and her connection to
Nursing

The history of nursing as a religious vocation is only part of the story. It does not answer the deeper question because vocation also means voice, as in giving voice to an inner calling.

PASSION - A Calling

The soul stirs and draws the nurse to the profession.

At the core is a sense of mission.

A calling is primal—a heart-felt inner knowing directed at one's personal destiny.

Why Stay?

Until we can see what we are, we cannot
take steps to become what we should be.

- Charlotte Perkins Gilman (1860-1935)

Courage

Latin root cor, cordis is French cour
courage (one must have a great deal of "heart" to be courageous)
encourage (to give someone "heart" to carry out an act)
core is the "heart" of the apple
core of any argument is its essential center
core of the earth is her center
in accord with one another, their 'hearts' agree
harmonious music from the accordion

Fear and Bravery

meet in

Courage

Resilience

The ability to rebound from adversity, overcome difficult circumstances, while adapting and learning from experience.

Resilience develops character.

In work, resilience comes from
valuing the professional role;
maintaining interest;
developing self-awareness;
and accepting personal limitations.

Archetype *ancient imprint*

- Mythology, Ancient Stories, Archeology
- Personal Resonance (inner/intuitive)
- Collective Resonance (shared experience)
- Stereotype is a dead archetype

curiosity
 creativity
 intuition
 senses
 empathy
 compassion



Persephone and Hades

The difference between
stereotype and archetype
and
why it is important to know
the difference.

Cultural and Archetypal approach
to the **role** and the **image** of the nurse

Pre-historic Archeology, History, Folklore,
Mythology, Literature, Art, Popular Culture and
Depth Psychology (Freud/Jung/Hillman/Woodman)



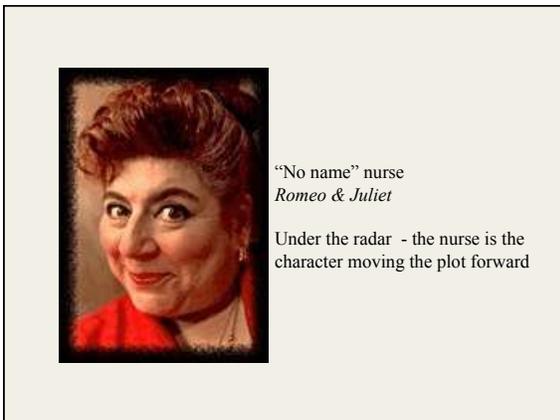
Nurse Ratched
One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest

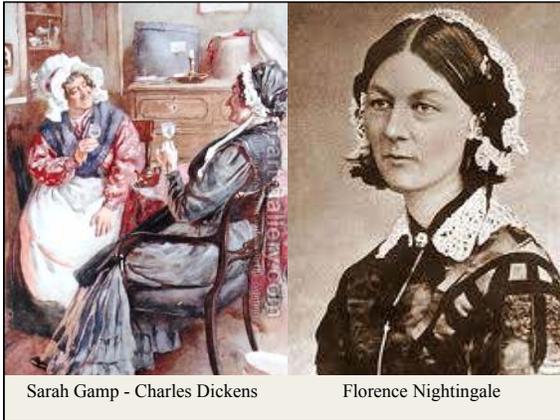
Annie Wilkes
Misery

Paradox









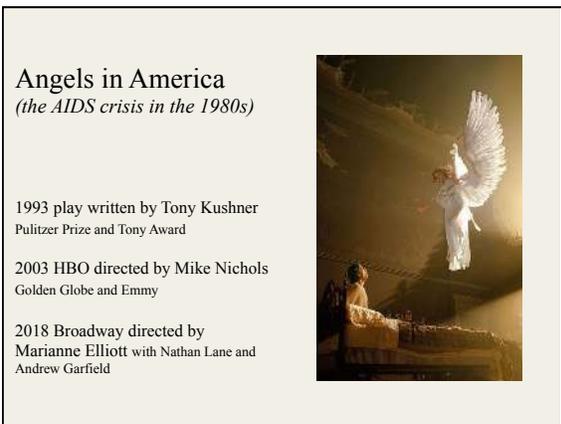
What might be found through a deeper look into these splits, repressions, and distortions?

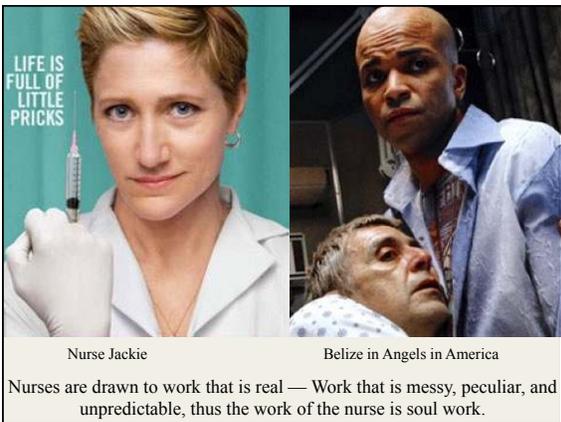
Isis Hygeia

Archetypal Images
pre-historic archeology, fairy tales, mythology, literature, art, film, television









The nurse image holds
longing
ambivalence
fear
desire
vulnerability

Current Events and Popular Culture

Stories - The Personal IS Political

Personal - Collective - Personal

Myths are public dreams.
Dreams are private myths.

- *Joseph Campbell*

Everyone who is born holds dual citizenship, in the kingdom of the well and in the kingdom of the sick.

— Susan Sontag, *Illness as Metaphor*

Thyroidectomy and Voice

Inflamed Heart

People are not looking for meaning in life; people are looking for the experience of being alive!
- Joseph Campbell

Once you have reached an advanced age, as you look back over your life, it can seem to have had a plot, as though composed by a novelist. Events that seemed entirely accidental or incidental turn out to have been central in the composition.
- Arthur Schopenhauer

False goal of balance and moderation –
Neither found in the human experience.

Ambiguity of extremes –
Nurses live in this arena.

There is a vitality, a life force, an energy, a quickening that is translated through you into action, and because there is only one of you in all of time, this expression is unique. And if you block it, it will never exist through any other medium and it will be lost. The world will not have it. It is not your business to determine how good it is nor how valuable nor how it compares with other expressions. It is your business to keep it yours clearly and directly, to keep the channel open. You do not even have to believe in yourself or your work. You have to keep yourself open and aware to the urges that motivate you. Keep the channel open.
- Martha Graham

Each nurse is unique, valuable, imperfect with mysterious complexities and is grounded in the archetype.

It is time to fulfill the unfinished business of our ancestors.

Imagination opens to vocation.

Questions are a form of life.
Answers are a form of death.

- Lyn Cowan, PhD

If we deny the nurse as angel, we are deprived of her altruism.

If we disavow the nurse as witch, we lose her intuition and perception.

If we refuse to admit the nurse is sacrificial servant, we forget her ability to tend to others' needs first.

If we reject the nurse as erotic, we dismiss her comfort tending a stranger's body.

If we dismiss the nurse as strict matron, we disregard her vigilance and the rage required to protect the vulnerable.

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Tell me, what is it you plan to do
with your one wild and precious
life?

- Mary Oliver



Happy 40th Anniversary!



The Soul of the Nurse

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