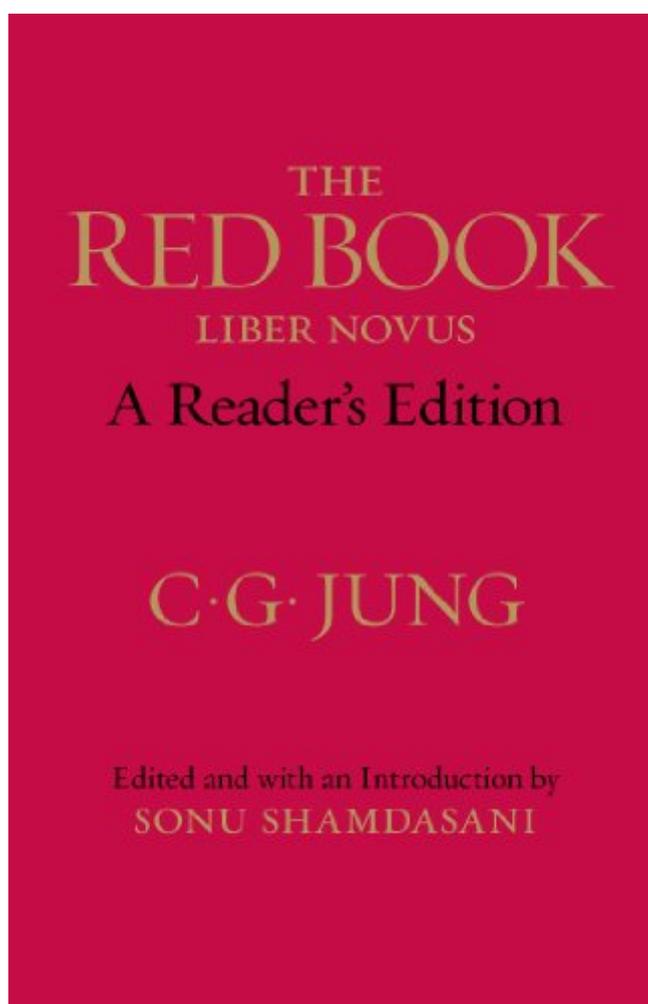


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The Red Book: A Reader's Edition: A Reader's Edition (Philemon)



Synopsis

A portable edition of the famous Red Book text and essay. The Red Book, published to wide acclaim in 2009, contains the nucleus of C. G. Jung's later works. It was here that he developed his principal theories of the archetypes, the collective unconscious, and the process of individuation that would transform psychotherapy from treatment of the sick into a means for the higher development of the personality. As Sara Corbett wrote in the New York Times, "The creation of one of modern history's true visionaries, The Red Book is a singular work, outside of categorization. As an inquiry into what it means to be human, it transcends the history of psychoanalysis and underscores Jung's place among revolutionary thinkers like Marx, Orwell and, of course, Freud." • The Red Book: A Reader's Edition features Sonu Shamdasani's introductory essay and the full translation of Jung's vital work in one volume.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Before reading any further, note: This a review of the READER'S edition - and the Reader's Edition

DOES NOT include the facsimile images (art and calligraphy) of the original "Red Book: Liber Novus." I suspect many of those who ordered the book unaware of this will be surprised and disappointed. This distinction was not made clear in pre-publication information. If you wish to see the original book in all its visual glory, pay the price and order the complete folio-sized facsimile edition. So, why then publish, and why purchase, a "Reader's Edition"? Why is this edition important, even essential? Because the text of "Liber Novus" (as Jung formally titled his "Red Book") is really more important than the art. Jung experienced and recorded his visions and then composed his draft manuscript of Liber Novus before beginning on the art. The art and calligraphy came later, they were composed over the following 16 years or so. The text - compiled principally between 1914 and 1915, with a last section added in 1917 - is Jung's primary record of his extraordinary odyssey across the threshold of consciousness, and into the heart of mythopoetic vision. As he said: "This inner world is truly infinite, in no way poorer than the outer one. Man lives in two worlds." This is the journal of Jung's exploration of the inner world - and it ranks as one of the most important journeys of exploration in the record of human exploration. Dr. Shamdassani, who spent thirteen years editing Liber Novus for publication, has strongly suggested that one should read the text before even looking at the images. I agree.

To re-iterate - this is NOT the full version with all the beautiful paintings and illuminated text. If you're buying it for the pretty pictures, it's going to cost you more than twenty dollars. Also, ignore any one star reviews that are just complaining because they didn't take the time to read the description and use common sense. I bought this for what it is, a portable translation of the Red Book. I already own the full sized facsimile version. While that version is inexplicably beautiful, it is impossible to carry, difficult to read for extended periods, and too expensive to let people borrow, let alone touch without washing their hands. The Reader's Edition is the size and build of a decently made bible. Those who portray this as a con are likely just venting because they didn't read the description and were expecting the full sized color version with illustrations. This is just the translation. But the imitation leather is comfortable, the pages are reasonably thick, a lot of text in a manageable size. This is like a bible you would pay for, not like the bibles that get shoved in your hands at universities and music festivals. This book travels well, is inexpensive enough to make handwritten notes in, and is much easier to read. The translation in the full-sized version is an ordeal to read though hunched over a coffee table, but this one is portable enough to absorb into. As for the content, many other reviewers stated it better than I could, but this is a must have for any fan of Jung. This is the primordial soup that birthed the theories that made him famous. The visions are the closest we'll get to the dream

journal on Jung's bedside table.

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