ARCHETYPAL INTERPRETATION OF “SLEEPING BEAUTY”:
AWAKENING THE POWER OF LOVE
Grace Hogstad

ABSTRACT

In Archetypal Interpretation of "Sleeping Beauty": Awakening the Power of Love, Grace Hogstad takes an historical approach to the different versions of the fairytale. Reading the tales in the order of their appearance in the span of six centuries reveals patterns that are vital to the understanding of the fairytale: Sleeping Beauty's parents swing from the patriarchal to the matriarchal; the princes transform from rapists to being respectful, loving, and sensitive; and the male court counselors are later replaced by wise women. These patterns illustrate the changing masculine-feminine dynamics behind the story. Hogstad finds that Sleeping Beauty, symbolizing Love or the Eternal Feminine, is the core component of the fairytale. She argues that "Sleeping Beauty" represents the awakening of the feminine principle that was pricked to sleep by the masculine principle. The awakening of the feminine does not supplant the masculine, but guides him to his transcendence to "live happily ever after" with her in the dance of love and life.

*Editorial support was facilitated by: Karin Zirk

FULL TEXT:
PDF

This journal is supported by Pacifica Graduate Institute, www.pacifica.edu.

The whole sleeping beauty story is modernized using voodoo magic as the root of the enchantment. The 'Prince', aka Doctor, falls in love with the heroine through sexual dreams while she is in a coma/sleep state. There's a secondary love story with the Doctor's younger brother and a voodoo priestess. Cathy Yardley took the story of Sleeping Beauty and brought it to modern times and used a story I never would have thought of and it actually made sense. I have to admit that the ritual at the end when Serafina shows up had me full of suspense, but I closed the book with a smile on my face.