

# Review of: "Jung on the Meaning of Life"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Dr. Sanford Drob's paper, "Jung on the Meaning of Life," is a timely academic piece that certainly succeeds in accomplishing its stated goal, "explor[ing] Carl Jung's diverse and seemingly contradictory perspectives on the meaning of life."

The paper is beautifully written and properly sectioned, and the argument is well-documented and easy to trace. The author's familiarity with the subject is praiseworthy, as he gives the reader a quick academic overview of Jung's intricate outlook on life, death, meaning, and religion.

Jung's perspective on existential matters carries so much complexity that it may be better to interpret his views somehow metaphorically. For example, a cursory reading may suggest that Jung regards Christ as an archetype, but a closer look shows that he deals with Christ as an expression of an archetype. Such nuances are crucial when examining the pioneering Swiss Psychiatrist's work, and the wealth of quotations the author provides, along with his own insight, does justice to this matter.

The present review contains no criticism but two recommendations.

First, the paper quotes Jung extensively, and though this is justified, the author's critical input doesn't become fully visible until the last section titled "Final Reflections."

Second, the analytical aspect of the paper may benefit from expounding upon the references to Jewish mysticism. It would be useful to thoroughly analyze the latter from a Jungian perspective and flesh out their psychoanalytical dynamics instead of just citing them as examples.

These are merely recommendations. Otherwise, the paper is excellent the way it is.