

DreamsID Events:

Painting of the two dreams that "Dora" told Freud





Julia Lockheart and Mark Blagrove

The Winter 2021 issue of *DreamTime* included our article describing the October 24 2020 online event in which a panel of experts and worldwide audience discussed the first dream that teenage patient "Dora" told Freud, and saw the dream painted live by Julia Lockheart onto two pages taken from Freud's (1900) *The Interpretation of Dreams*. On January 31 2021 we held a second online event, to discuss the second dream that Dora told Freud just before she abruptly left psychoanalysis.

In the events we aimed to relate the dreams to Dora's family circumstances, so as to honor her life. We had panel members from around the world, including Deirdre Barrett; Brigitte Holzinger; film-maker Kate Novack, who has recently made an Oscar-shortlisted documentary about Dora; Sharon Sliwinski; and Katharina Adler, German author of the novel *Ida*, and great-grand-daughter of Dora, now known to have been Ida Bauer.

The first dream was of Dora and her brother being rescued from a burning house by her father, and her father telling her mother that she could not save her jewel-case, as that would put the children in danger (Freud 1905). The dream depicted Dora's wish to be rescued by her father, and possibly by Freud, from ongoing sexual harassment by a family friend. The second dream was of Dora living independently



in a German town, receiving a letter from her mother saying that her father had died, travelling through woods to the railway station and then to the family home. At the end she reads an encyclopedia at the family home, but does not go to the funeral. The dream depicts Dora's worries about her father's health, but also her strivings for

independence.





The first painting: At top left Lockheart depicted the Alpine spa town of Merano, where Dora lived with her family before 1900 and where the harassment occurred. The composition brings together the father, Dora and her brother, with her mother pointing at her jewel-case.

The second painting: At top left Dora is walking in the German town; beneath this she is reading the letter; at top right she is walking through woods to the railway station; finally, she is reading the large book. Lockheart chose not to depict the funeral, as Dora did not see the funeral in the dream and did not report any grieving in the dream.

Videos of the two events are on the DreamsID YouTube channel; further details are at DreamsID.com.

References

Freud, Sigmund. 1977 (1905). Fragments of an Analysis of a Case of Hysteria ("Dora"). The Pelican Freud Library, Vol. 8, Penguin Books.

Lockheart, Julia & Mark Blagrove. 2021. DreamsID event: 120th anniversary of "Dora" telling her burning house dream to Freud. *DreamTime*, Winter 2021, pp.19-21.

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