

*The Unexpected Success of James
Moriarty*

What gives?

- . We understand the appeal of Sherlock Holmes*
- . Not intended as a principle character*
- . Utterly evil*
- . Why did He catch on any why does he remain*

Carl Jung & Symbols of Myth

- Psychiatrist - founded analytical psychology; known for his proposal of a collective unconscious
- Proposed that through history there is a similarity of symbols in all myths
- Led to the development of archetypes

Jung's Archetypes

What is an archetype:

"But what is the archetype? An innate tendency which molds and transform the individual consciousness. A fact defined more through a drive than through specific inherited contents, images etc.; a matrix which influences the human behavior as well as his ideas and concepts on the ethical, moral religious and cultural levels." <http://www.carl-jung.net/archetypes.html>

Jung's Archetypes

- . In short it's characteristics that we recognize on a deep level that trigger an emotion or connection that creates an identification
- . some argue seen as a part of ourselves

The Moriarty Archetype

- Evil, Dark, menacing - a Devil, trickster
- Primordial images: sunken eyes, reptile: snake
- Who do we (in the west) identify with the original snake -- the Devil, Satan.

The Hero's Journey

- Proposed by Joseph Campbell in study of mythology*
- Like Jung, Campbell proposed it was cross culture and contained consistent elements*
- 17 stages in 3 sections: Departure, Initiation, Return*

The Hero's Journey

- . Common figures : helper, the wiseman, and the trickster*
- . clearly demonstrated in Star Wars & LOTR*
- . Sherlock's journey : cases*
- . helper (side-kick) : Watson*
- . wiseman : Mycroft?*

The Hero's Journey

- . Moriarty is the obvious rival - villain*
- . The confrontation sets up the culmination in the loss of Holmes.*
- . The resurrection of Holmes in the Empty House completes the Journey and establishes Sherlock as a mythical figure for all time*

In Summary

- . The professor touches something instinctual in us to be identified as evil (snake, spider)*
- . He is essential for the establishment of Sherlock's Heroic Journey*

Afterthoughts

- Bill Mason's "The Rule of Three" (hero, helper, villain)
- Prof Alvarez : we try to frame the complex in terms we understand them. How does the influence of archetypes complicate (bias) that?