

Applying the Jungian interpretation technique, we shall be provided the following interpretations:

- *A long trip*: the *individuation process* is a long road represented as a long trip by train, by sea or air. The road is in fact a spatial transposition of inner psychic changes, when the Ego is dissolved in order to be reborn under a new shape. A plastic representation of this process can be found in mediaeval alchemy literature for instance, in a picture of the emperor - the sign for the Ego - being swallowed by a wolf - the symbol of the *prima materia*, i.e. animal unconscious - while being reborn in the background from sublimated matter burning in flames.<sup>5</sup>

- *A close friend*: is the close friend accompanying us in our spiritual journey as a personification of the Self. That is also the motif of the magic company of the traveler. Let us give three famous examples: the Apostles on their way to Emaus, *Bhagavad-Gita* - Krishna and Arjuna, and the 18<sup>th</sup> *sura* in the Koran - Moses and Chidher. These striking analogies do not thoroughly explain what we are to understand when the "magic companion" appears in our dreams.

In a different interpretation, the close friend may be a personification of the *Shadow* archetype. In Jung's psychology, the *Shadow* embodies psychic contents repressed by the dreamer's ego. In one word, that is a specific allusion to the "repressed" in Freudian psychoanalysis.<sup>6</sup> The assimilation of the *repressed* - of the *Shadow* - is the first step in the *individuation process*. Moreover, this effort is taken on the individual level of *per-*

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<sup>5</sup> You may see the symbolic alchemic picture of this process at [http://www.freudfile.org/psychoanalysis/fairy\\_tales.html](http://www.freudfile.org/psychoanalysis/fairy_tales.html).

<sup>6</sup> More about the Freudian approach of dreams and its main concepts may be found by taking our *Initiation into Psychoanalysis* email course. [http://www.freudfile.org/psychoanalysis/initiation\\_course.html](http://www.freudfile.org/psychoanalysis/initiation_course.html).