



A Brief Talk on Synchronicity

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“...What we term natural laws are merely statistical truths and thus must necessarily allow for exceptions.” (Carl Jung)

“Synchronicity: a peculiar interdependence of objective events among themselves as well as with the subjective (psychic) states of the observer or observers.” (Carl Jung)

ABCD, causal view:

$A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C \rightarrow D$

A leads to B leads to C leads to D. We understand this.

A'B'C'D', synchronistic view:

A'B' C'D'

Why do A'B'C'D' appear in the same place at the same time? Why do A' and B' seem to be linked? Why C' and D'?

The “physical events” are of the same quality as the “psychic events” or in other words presence is an indicator of ‘why this is so’ as much as any idea we might apply.

For example A', B', C', and D' are linked in this example, this particular instance of observation, because I have linked them and not because of some undiscovered scientific law.

They are in the same place at the same time but they are not alone. There are other things with them, for example the computer screen you read this on or where you're sitting, the sounds of traffic or birds. But in order for us to prove causality we must ignore these

things.

We find what we are looking for by isolating what we are looking for from the things around it. To the extreme, we can isolate a thing even from itself.

To link A'B'C'D' causally is to exclude, for starters, a context. What sentence has come before this one and did you eat breakfast? Does that have anything to do with how we read?

When physical events have as much say as psychic events an isolating causality can be avoided, that is, when structure and its silence are given an equal part in the discussion we don't worry so much about where we are going (or where we have been).

When what will not speak for itself is given respect, that is, when silence becomes a legitimate part of discourse, physicality shifts from an idea to an actual presence. We move out of our heads to inhabit the objects we talk about.

Practically speaking, we will find the relationships we are looking for. If you are looking for money on the ground you have a much better chance of finding it than someone who is not.

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Notes: Quotes taken from Carl Jung's introduction to the Wilhelm translation of the I Ching Book of Changes.

