



# A Mythic Life: Learning to Live our Greater Story

By Jean Houston

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The tabloid press had a field day, but the sensationalistic coverage only revealed how out of touch the popular media are with the profound role that advanced psychology and spirituality play in people's lives today. Jean Houston is at the cutting edge of the work on realizing the fullness of our human potential, which is as mainstream and pervasive in our culture as computer technology.

*A Mythic Life* presents Jean Houston's real story and her true teaching. Here she draws on her personal history and vast cultural knowledge to show how we can experience in our own lives the greater human story that is revealed in myths and discover our real potential.

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## A Mythic Life: Learning to Live our Greater Story By Jean Houston Bibliography

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## **Editorial Review**

From Publishers Weekly

Psychologist, popular author and leading figure in the human potential movement, Houston absorbed a sense of wonder from her Sicilian-born mother, Mary, a former stock-and-bond analyst who claims to see angels, and from her father, Jack, a TV and radio comedy writer for Eddie Cantor, George Burns and Henny Youngman. Her peripatetic girlhood, spent in Hollywood in the 1940s and in New York, Chicago, Dallas, St. Louis and New Orleans, was disrupted at the age of 14 when her father announced that he was divorcing her mother to marry another woman. Coping with grief and loss, discovering one's "Essence self" and tapping latent creative potential are abiding themes of this unorthodox, continually surprising spiritual autobiography. Houston believes that myths and archetypes can provide keys linking our local lives to larger patterns unfolding on the planet and in the cosmos. In that context, she discusses her identification with the goddess Athena, her mystical experiences, psychedelic trips and explorations of altered states of consciousness, her myth-reenacting workshops and her encounters with Margaret Mead, Paul Tillich, Joseph Campbell, Aldous Huxley, Martin Buber and Gestalt psychologist Fritz Perls. \$75,000 ad/promo; author tour.

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From Library Journal

Houston?psychologist, author, mathematician, scholar, and student of humanity?has had many amazing life experiences, as we learn in this autobiography, including fascinating encounters with other people and cultures. She describes these personal events and uses them to try to lead us toward a new human experience. She illustrates the potential that we all have within us, if only we can learn to see ourselves as part of a greater whole. Houston believes that myth corresponds with all aspects of human existence and that it is the link that can lead us to our spiritual source. The author's enthusiasm and energy are felt on every page, but her writing is not always easy to follow. This book may not be in the same league as the work of Joseph Campbell (with whom she has done research), but it will undoubtedly be popular with readers of New Age material. Purchase accordingly. [One Spirit (QPB) selection.]?Elizabeth Caulfield Felt, Washington State Univ. Lib., Pullman.

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Review

Mythology has helped humans understand the past: now psychologist Houston tells how mythic elements in modern living can result in patterns repeated time and again in modern lives, crossing cultural and historical barriers to reassert themselves. Plenty of case history examples pinpoint instances of these elements and their effects on both individuals and societies. -- *Midwest Book Review*

## **Users Review**

**From reader reviews:**

**Rosa Johnson:**

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#### **Alma Saunders:**

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#### **Martin Song:**

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