

the doctor-patient relationship, and she loses Mr Jones' trust as a patient in her as a therapist almost, it seems, because she tries too hard to be caring, and allows him to become too close to her.

The film shows the dangers of ignoring the warning signs of breaking barriers in the doctor-patient relationship. When social or

sexual contact develops between the two, each is left disorientated and unsure how to respond to the other as a doctor or patient, friend or lover.

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## The magical mind

*Larry Culliford*

Magical thinking co-exists with rational, logical thought. It may be eclipsed by reason, but not extinguished. Magical thinking is an ever-present component of the mind's activity.

Magical thinking arises most clearly in childhood, fostered by fairy tales, legends and myths. The magical mind is omnipotent and omniscient, all-powerful and all-knowing. It knows no boundaries of time or space. When challenged by reason, it sees itself beyond logic. Above all, it cannot admit of its own extinction.

Even in adult life people identify themselves with heroines and heroes, with those of flawless beauty and with the powerful: not just some people, all people. This is the magical mind. In fiction, and so-called *reality*—that is, non-fiction.

But what is non-fiction? Do we not influence the world and make it what it is with our imagination?

Magical thinking is best acknowledged. Attempts to ignore it or suppress it will fail,

and it may then be destructive. Magical thinking and logical, rational thinking are best integrated.

Reasoning, it is said, may be convergent or divergent; but it may also be systematic, thorough, comprehensive. This is best. When systematic thinking and magical thinking are integrated, creative, intuitive thought patterns emerge.

In creative thinking, the magical mind is sometimes in control and sometimes subordinate to reason; neither predominates absolutely. Both are of value. They integrate spontaneously in the night; in sleep and in dreams. The products of this integration, this creativity, are most accessible when conceptual thought is set aside; in contemplation, prayer, worship, and at best in regular, disciplined meditation.

How else could I write such a piece?

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