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The Hole in the Heart:
Why We Fail at Love

C.G. Jung Institute of Philadelphia
Philadelphia Association of Jungian Analysts
December 11, 2009

Why is love so difficult? How do we fail at it? For centuries, love has been a topic for philosophy, theology, and especially the arts. During the past century, depth psychology, evolutionary theory, and modern science have taken up the topic as well. Yet marriages and partnerships continue to break up, and the divorce rate climbs. We seem to be failing at love. Are we the problem? Modern society? Or is it love itself that is so difficult? Could love be problematic even at an "archetypal level"?

To explore the situation, this lecture will draw upon the Upanishads of the East, Homer's Hymn to Aphrodite of the ancient Greek world, and Virgil's Aeneid of the Roman West. To bring our view to the present, we will also look at some contemporary film clips. By the end of the discussion, we will have a better appreciation of why love is difficult, how and why we fail at love, and what those failures could be asking of us.

Dr. Berry is a Zurich-trained Jungian Analyst. She is the author of *Echo's Subtle Body: A Contribution to Archetypal Psychology* and numerous articles. In 1991 she was the first Scholar in Residence at Pacifica Graduate Institute of Depth Psychology in California. She lectures internationally and has served as president of the Inter-Regional Society of Jungian Analysts and of the New England Society of Jungian Analysts. Currently she has a private practice in West Bath, Maine.