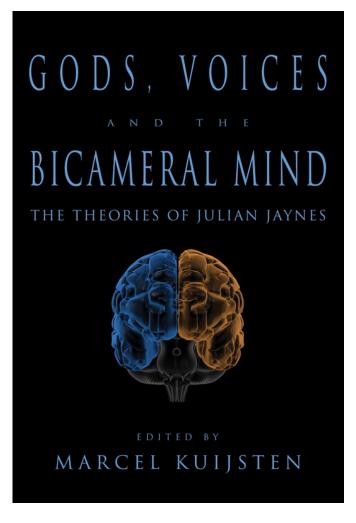
GODS, VOICES, AND THE BICAMERAL MIND:

THE THEORIES OF JULIAN JAYNES

EDITED BY MARCEL KUIJSTEN



Does consciousness inevitably arise in any sufficiently complex brain? Although widely accepted, this view — inherited from Darwin's theory of evolution — is supported by surprisingly little evidence. Offering an alternate view of the history of the human mind, Julian Jaynes's ideas challenge our preconceptions of not only the origin of the modern mind, but the origin of gods and religion, the nature of mental illness, and the future consciousness. potential of The tremendous explanatory power Jaynes's ideas force us to reevaluate much of what we thought we knew about human history.

Gods, Voices, and the Bicameral Mind both explains Julian Jaynes's theory and explores a wide range of related topics such as the ancient Dark Age, the nature of dreams and the birth of Greek

tragedy, poetic inspiration, the significance of hearing voices in both the ancient and modern world, the development of consciousness in children, the transition to consciousness in early Tibet, the relationship of consciousness and metaphorical language, and how Jaynes's ideas compare to those of other thinkers.

PRAISE FOR JULIAN JAYNES'S THEORY

"... [O]ne of the most thought-provoking and debated theories about the origin of the conscious mind."

— Andrea Cavanna, M.D., in Consciousness: Theories in Neuroscience and Philosophy of Mind

"[Jaynes's] proposal is too interesting to ignore."

— David Eagleman, Ph.D., in Incognito: The Secret Lives of the Brain

- "... I sympathize with Julian Jaynes's claim that something of great import may have happened to the human mind during the relatively brief interval of time between the events narrated in the *Iliad* and those that make up the *Odyssey*."
 - Antonio Damasio, Ph.D., in Self Comes to Mind
- ".. Scientific interest in [Jaynes's] work has been re-awakened by the consistent findings of right-sided activation patterns in the brain, as retrieved with the aid of neuroimaging studies in individuals with verbal auditory hallucinations."

— Jan Dirk Blom, M.D., Ph.D., in A Dictionary of Hallucinations

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MARCEL KUIJSTEN is Founder and Executive Director of the Julian Jaynes Society. In 2013, he co-chaired (with Rabbi James Cohn) the 2013 Julian Jaynes Society Conference on Consciousness and Bicameral Studies. His previous books are *The Julian Jaynes Collection* and *Reflections on the Dawn of Consciousness: Julian Jaynes's Bicameral Mind Theory Revisited*.

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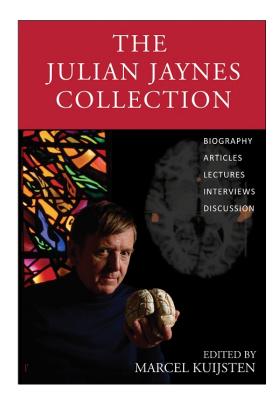
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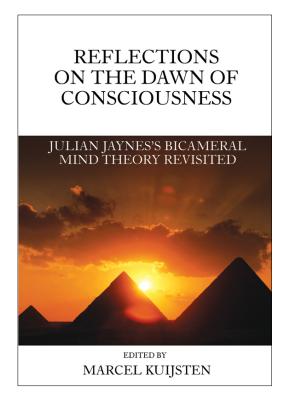
LAURA MOONEYHAM WHITE is the John E. Weaver Professor of English at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Her publications include two monographs and a critical edition on Jane Austen; she has also published broadly on interdisciplinary nineteenth-century topics. White's recent work includes a monograph on Lewis Carroll and a data-mining project on Austen's use of free indirect discourse.

Also from the Julian Jaynes Society:



The Julian Jaynes Collection, edited by Marcel Kuijsten

Princeton University psychologist Julian Jaynes's revolutionary theory on the origin of consciousness or the "modern mind" remains as relevant and thought-provoking as when it was first proposed. Supported by recent discoveries in neuroscience, Jaynes's ideas force us to rethink conventional views of human history and psychology, and have profound implications for many aspects of modern life. Included in this volume are rare and never before seen articles, lectures, interviews, and in-depth discussions that both clear up misconceptions as well as extend Jaynes's theory into new areas such as the nature of the self, dreams, emotions, art, music, therapy, and the consequences and future of consciousness.



Reflections on the Dawn of Consciousness: Julian Jaynes's Bicameral Mind Theory Revisited, edited by Marcel Kuijsten

Why are gods and idols ubiquitous throughout the ancient world? What is the relationship of consciousness and language? How is it that oracles came to influence entire nations such as Greece? If consciousness arose far back in human evolution, how can it so easily be altered in hypnosis and "possession"? Is modern schizophrenia a vestige of an earlier mentality? These are just some of the difficult questions addressed by Julian Jaynes's influential and controversial theory of the origin of subjective consciousness or the "modern mind." This book includes an indepth biography of Julian Jaynes, essays by Jaynes, and the discussion and analysis of Jaynes's theory from a variety of perspectives such as clinical psychology, philosophy, neuroscience, anthropology, linguistics, and ancient history.