

THE NARCISSIST

'Narcissism': noun; exaggerated self-admiration; exaggerated self-love.

Narcissists project a grandiose but false image of themselves. Jim Jones, the charismatic leader of People's Temple, the man who led over 900 of his followers to cheerfully commit mass suicide and even murder their own children was also a narcissist. David Koresh, Charles Manson, Joseph Kony, Shoko Asahara, Josef Stalin, Saddam Hussein, Mao Tse Tung, Kim Jong III and Adolph Hitler are a few examples of narcissists of our time.

All these men had a tremendous influence over their fanciers. They created a personality cult around themselves and with their blazing speeches elevated their admirers, filled their hearts with enthusiasm and instilled in their minds a new zest for life. They gave them hope! They promised them the moon, but alas, invariably they brought them to their doom. When you are a victim of a cult of personality, you don't know it until it is too late.

One must never underestimate the manipulative genius of pathological narcissists. They project such an imposing personality that it overwhelms those around them. Charmed by the charisma of the narcissist, people become like clay in his hands. They cheerfully do his bidding and delight to be at his service. The narcissist shapes the world around him and reduces others in his own inverted image. He creates a cult of personality. His admirers become his co-dependents. He is the sun, they the planets and lesser bodies.

Narcissists have no interest in things that do not help them to reach their personal objective. They are focused on one thing alone and that is power. All other issues are meaningless to them and they do not want to waste their precious time on trivialities. Anything that does not help them is beneath them and does not deserve their attention.

Narcissists are often callous and even ruthless. As the norm, they lack conscience. If an issue raised in their environment does not help the narcissist in one way or another, he has no interest in it ...such issues are unworthy by their very nature because they are not about him. A narcissist cares for no one but himself. Fortunately, most pose no threat to others ...they are simply self serving and selfish.

Many narcissists write autobiographies ...not surprisingly, Adolph Hitler wrote his own autobiography when he was still nobody. So did Stalin. For a narcissist no subject is as important as his own self. Why would he waste his precious time and genius writing about insignificant things when he can write about such an august being as himself?

A singular trait of the narcissist ...he must appear flawless and always correct. To appear to have a fault would be unacceptable to his self-image. He dare not exhibit any weakness to his followers. To do so would be to jeopardize his standing in the self-made world in which he lives. Narcissists are people who are preoccupied with validating a grandiose self-image, find criticism highly upsetting, and will predictably lash out against the source of it. They will want to punish or defeat someone who has threatened their highly favorable views of themselves.