

## Narcissism & Paranoia in the Age of Goethe

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Comprehensive manual! Its such a excellent read through. I have read and i also am confident that i am going to gonna study once more once again in the future. Your life period will be change when you total looking over this ebook. (Cordie Hauck DVM)

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## NARCISSISM & PARANOIA IN THE AGE OF GOETHE



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University of Delaware Press, Newark, 2008. Hardback/Cloth. Condition: New. 1st Edition. 256pp 11 b&w illustrations. [In stock in Australia, for immediate delivery] The first book-length study that examines how literary narcissism in the Age of Goethe intersects with concepts of creativity, language, gender, and national identity, and how major German writers of this period anticipate the formation of what today is recognised as the Freudian concept of narcissism (Herder, Moritz, Goethe, Tieck, Hoffmann). Long before the Freudian interpretation of narcissism, late 18th-century German writers used the Greek myth of Narcissus to explore the understanding of the self. Narcissism refers to the creation of an idealised image of the self and the desire to merge with this image. Beginning in the 1770s, writers like Goethe, Herder, Schiller, and Moritz shaped a new bourgeois aesthetics by depicting and working through the discrepancies between their real-life constraints and their idealist ambitions. The literature of the period is highly self-reflective. It provides insights into how writers attempted to contend with uncertainties connected to the loss of faith in a universal order. For the writers of this time, literature became a mirror that reflected their struggle with bourgeois identity. The study shows that the narcissistic scenario was particularly attractive to 18th-century authors because it could both capture and conceal the contradictions inherent in enlightenment thinking. Failure to reconcile these contradictions, however, can reveal the inadequacies of the self and result in unbearably haunting visions that give way to paranoid delusions. The insecurities and the narcissistic responses expressed in these texts have helped shape ideas about art, language, gender, and national identity in German and Western culture. The analyses of poems, narratives, dramas, and critical texts by Moritz, Schiller, Herder, Tieck, Goethe, Lavater, and others shed new light on how progress in the medical, philosophical, and..

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