

SCORING DREAMS FOR THE CENTRAL IMAGE

Definition: A Central Image (contextualizing image) is a striking, arresting, or compelling image — not simply a story — but an image which stands out by virtue of being powerful, vivid, bizarre, or detailed. A CI need not be one static image. It can be several connected images or a brief scene ( moving image).

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. fear, terror</li> <li>2. helplessness, vulnerability, being trapped, being immobilized</li> <li>3. anxiety, vigilance</li> <li>4. despair, hopelessness (giving up)</li> <li>5. anger, frustration</li> <li>6. disturbing — cognitive dissonance, disorientation, weirdness</li> <li>7. guilt</li> <li>8. grief, loss, sadness, abandonment, disappointment</li> <li>9. shame, inadequacy</li> <li>10. disgust, repulsion</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>11. power, mastery supremacy</li> <li>12. awe, wonder, mystery</li> <li>13. happiness, joy, excitement</li> <li>14. hope</li> <li>15. peace, restfulness</li> <li>16. longing</li> <li>17. relief, safety</li> <li>18. love (relationship)</li> </ul> |
|--|--|

Dream ID#	1. CI? (Y/N)	2. What is it?	3. Intensity (rate 0 to 3)	4. What emotion?	5. Second emotion?

Summary of studies on Central Image Intensity (CII)

- CII is higher in dreams than in daydreams. It is higher in awakenings from REM than from NREM sleep.
- CII is higher in people who have experienced a recent acute trauma than in others.
- CII is higher in dreams after a trauma than before, when data available in the same people.
- CII is higher in recent dreams of students who report ever having experienced abuse than in other students..
- CII is higher in dreams after 9/11/01 than in dreams before 9/11/01, in the same persons.
- CII is higher in people characterized by “thin boundaries.”
- CII is higher in memorable dreams than in recent dreams from the same person.
- CII is higher in dreams called “important” by the dreamer, than in “unimportant” dreams.
- CII is especially high in dreams called “especially significant” by the dreamer.
- CII is especially high in dreams that led to a new discovery.

Ernest Hartmann MD

EHDream@AOL.com




