

Acknowledgements

for Vivienne

Just as in many altar-pieces, the portrait of the donor is to be seen in a corner of the picture, so, in the majority of ambitious phantasies, we can discover in some corner or other the lady for whom the creator of the phantasy performs all his heroic deeds, and at whose feet all his triumphs are laid.

Freud, 'Creative Writers and Day-dreaming' [1908e]

and thanks to David Groves

[...] everyone needs the suggestive influence of someone else in order to obtain respite from his own criticism.

Freud, Letter to Wilhelm Fliess, April 19, 1894