INTROVERSION: First impression & 4 questions based on initial subjective look:

- **Sensation** [earth]: How does my body react to this picture?
- **Feeling** [water]: Do I like/dislike this picture? Does it drain or boost my energy?
- **Thinking** [swords]: Does this picture leave me with an ordered, peaceful mind? Are things compatible?
Fig. 23: Diagram showing the four functions of consciousness. Thinking, the superior function in this case, which is mostly near consciousness, at the centre of attention, occupies the centre of the light half of the circle; whereas feeling, the inferior function, which is mostly far-off consciousness and receives only minor attention, occupies the bottom of the dark half. The two auxiliary functions are partly in the light and partly in the dark.\textsuperscript{5}
METHOD TO EXAMINE A PICTURE after Theodor Abt

EXTROVERSION

First Circumambulation with 4 functions, an objective look at picture, applying scales and criteria as applied by our gaze.

"Floating the boat of our ego on the sea of the unconsciousness."

Respect picture.

Analytical. Based on the tools we have studied.

Sensation function

A A A n A A AA c A

c Feeling function

A c An A A A A Ay c A

A n / n / / A A A A
METHOD TO EXAMINE A PICTURE after Theodor Abt

Thinking function

- Look at the structure and order among the different elements of the picture.
- Are the elements proportional and how are they arranged?
- How do they move? How is the space symbolism connected to color symbols, etc.

Intuitive function

- What sort of energizing hints does the picture suggest?
- What seems missing? How would it change?
3. Create Hypothesis and Counter-Hypothesis


b. Counter-Hypothesis: In divergence what might it mean otherwise? Tell the contrasting story.
Second Circumambulation with 4 functions with both hypotheses in mind

Fig. 26: The two hypotheses on the scales. Every amplification of a criterion supports either the hypothesis ($H_1$) or the counter-hypothesis ($H_2$) and thus shows which side is given more support.
c. Thinking function [swords]: Through contrasting Hypothesis and Counter-Hypothesis how do the stories connect elements of the picture?

d. Intuitive function [fire]: Where does the picture come from and where does it go, given the divergent Hypothesis and Counter-Hypothesis stories?

**Goal of picture interpretation**

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**Fig. 27**: Aide-mémoire for the five questions about the picture.
A METHOD TO EXAMINE A PICTURE after Theodor Abt

a. Where does this picture come from? Where is its inner unconscious logic, constellation coming from?

b. What is the relationship to the feminine principle in this picture? How does this relate to the Hypothesis and Counter-Hypothesis? The nurturing elements of earth and water?

c. What is the relationship to the masculine principle in this principle? What is the spiritual orientation and value maintenance of Hypothesis and Counter-Hypothesis? What is masculine elements of air and fire?

d. Where does the picture go? What is its goal? In what way do hints of Hypothesis and Counter-Hypothesis suggest negative or positive, destructive or constructive potentials?

e. What is the quintessence of the picture? How is it all summed up given, origin, gender balance and polarity, goal to jell into a total picture? How might this picture become a whole now?
METHOD TO EXAMINE A PICTURE after Theodor Abt

The purpose of this method is to take time with pictures to let them speak in their own language. If we do it well, the picture should reveal many levels of significance it did not do before.

Name the picture:

Fig. 30: This way from A to B has proved to be helpful in arriving safely at an interpretation that is respectful towards the picture, illuminating it with its own light. (Sensation (S), Feeling (F), Thinking (T) and Intuition (I)).