

THE SECRET SPRINGS

his evil self. The Evil Self is then accepted as a sort of inner devil that is at war with his ideal self—his ideal self being the obedient child self that is acceptable to his parents and to his parental God. (Out of this conception of his ideal self arises what Doctor X calls "the Hero Wish," which becomes the unconscious and compulsive ideal of life.)

"Of all phases of the evil self," says Doctor X, "the most destructive is the sex self when faulty education has made it the enemy of the Hero Wish, the child ideal. The reaction to the evil sex self of childhood, when well established, remains a personal devil throughout life, not only destroying all possibility of realizing the Hero Wish, but continually endangering the hope of future life and happiness. What is this faulty education that creates the demon of the sex self?

"The first evidence of sex curiosity in the child usually fills the parent with a horror and shame indescribable. No punishment, no threat, no picture of divine wrath is too terrible to be used to frighten the child away from the devices of sexual self-power. The only reasonable explanation is that the memory of the parent's own struggles with evil is still so vivid that he relives his own