

La fauna especular de Jorge Luis Borges (The Specular Fauna of Jorge Luis Borges)

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The purpose of this essay is to analyze “Fauna of Mirrors” by Jorge Luis Borges, in the context of his poetics: mirrors, fantastic animal, and dreams. Borges (re) creates the myth of the Fish of the mirrors and the legend of the tiger of the mirrors, of doubtful existence. Taking advantage of the epistemological distance with China, Borges founds his own sinology, his own myth, and his own legend. For Borges, copying, repetition, real or apocryphal quotes, glosses, translation, interpretation and rewriting are but another form of literary creation. Partially, the writers and texts cited by Borges to assemble his text are apocryphal: it is the case of Father Zallinger and the sinologist Herbert Allen Giles who, although of real existence, are attributed false and incomplete references. In the text, animals of mirrors manifest themselves as products of the Yellow Emperor's dream, as the repressed unconscious, upon which Chinese civilization and culture are founded. *[Article copies available for a fee from The Transformative Studies Institute. E-mail address: journal@transformativestudies.org Website: <http://www.transformativestudies.org> ©2020 by The Transformative Studies Institute. All rights reserved.]*

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*Dios ha creado las noches que se arman
De sueños y las formas del espejo
Para que el hombre sienta que es reflejo
Y vanidad. Por eso nos alarman.
(Jorge Luis Borges, “Los espejos”)*

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