

## **Common Dream Symbols: Houses in Dreams**

This is a four part series that explores the common symbols that appear in dreams, which includes animals, other people, houses and transportation symbols.

During the holidays, we return home to reconnect with the roots of who we are. Dreaming of being in a house offers a similar symbolic setting in that houses in dreams represent our inner architecture and the foundation of our beliefs. In the same way our thoughts evolve, some aspects of the house can appear the same, while other areas will seem strange as we explore untapped potential. That is why we can have the sense that the house is one familiar from childhood, but has unusual or new elements. It will be these unknown rooms and elements that can shed light upon your untapped or unexplored potential.

Just as the mind is compartmentalized into different areas like work, fulfillment, sex and our social interactions, the rooms of the house can represent similar ideas as we explore them. Moving through a hallway is a common dream as it shows the transitional space where each of the rooms are connected. We dream of hallways usually when we are about to make important changes that affect other areas of our lives. The upper level or attic can represent aspirations or the ideas of critical conscience. The basement often symbolizes what we are hiding or keeping below the surface in the subconscious.

The ground level will be a place of everyday activity and social interaction, where the kitchen can represent searching for fulfillment from a more broad perspective. The furniture can symbolize the ideas we rest upon and the various rooms in the house will have significance related to their function. Consider what is usually done in this room or setting and how it symbolizes various areas of your thinking. The front yard embodies what we are displaying for public view, while the backyard can show growth of more of a private nature.

To dream of a bedroom can reveal sexual aspects that we hadn't considered, such as reading comics on a bed as a representation of a taking a lighter approach in our relationships. The bedroom is also a place of our most intimate thinking and ingrained ideas. Inherent in any bizarre decorations or unusual aspects will be the clues about what

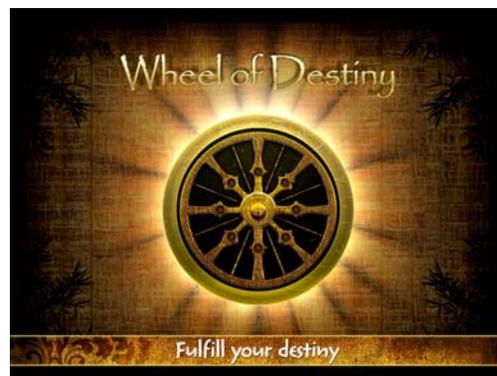
you fail to recognize about your current approach. For example, animal patterns can symbolize moving toward a more earthy and exotic expression. We dream of bathrooms when we are coming clean or becoming truthful with ourselves. Dreams of using a bathroom can symbolize letting go. If a lack of privacy is an issue while using the bathroom, you may have revealed yourself intimately in a way that felt uncomfortable. To dream of the front door or front yard can symbolize making changes to how you appear or interact with the world around you.

Windows and doors will have meaning related to how you view and interact with the opportunities around you. They can symbolize the idea of what you let in, let out and what you keep locked from public view. Even the appliances and utensils in a house have meaning. The refrigerator appears when you are exploring issues have been kept on ice or in the inanimate and frozen condition of an unprocessed feeling. Forks can portray how you take a stab at fulfillment, while knives can embody cutting away or discarding.

When your house is threatened by any type of natural disaster – the dream can be exploring how your foundation of beliefs are giving way – as you approach a new way of thinking or expressing yourself. If you can see the house as a symbolic image of who you are and how you are growing, you will discover how dreams guide you at the same time that they reconnect you to your authenticity.



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