

Psychoanalytic Publication and the Freedom of Disguise

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The area of clinical writing and publication can be fraught with tension. This paper explores the unconscious roots that impede prospective authors in feeling the freedom to publicly share their psychoanalytic ideas. It examines what lies behind the responses and anxieties both of the patient who is the subject of the writing and of the analyst-author. It draws on the writings of Britton and Bion to examine how the conflict seen in relation to publication reflects an unconscious Oedipal conflict that needs to be worked through in the analyst and in the analysis in order to remove the unconscious restraints and free up the analyst-author in offering a contribution to psychoanalysis.