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According to Carl Gustav Jung’s theory, the origin of a piece of art either derives from the conscious will of the artist or from the collective unconsciousness. Nietzsche’s Also sprach Zarathustra is said to be the most impressive example of the latter. Jung understood it as an expression of Nietzsche’s identification with the archetype of the ‘old wise man’, appearing as Zarathustra. By examining analytical psychology’s examples of this archetype in mythology and religion and comparing them to Nietzsche’s Zarathustra, this study complicates the major assumption of Jung’s Nietzsche-interpretation, namely his attempt to identify Zarathustra with the archetype of wisdom.