Sigmund Freud and his Chows in photos and video

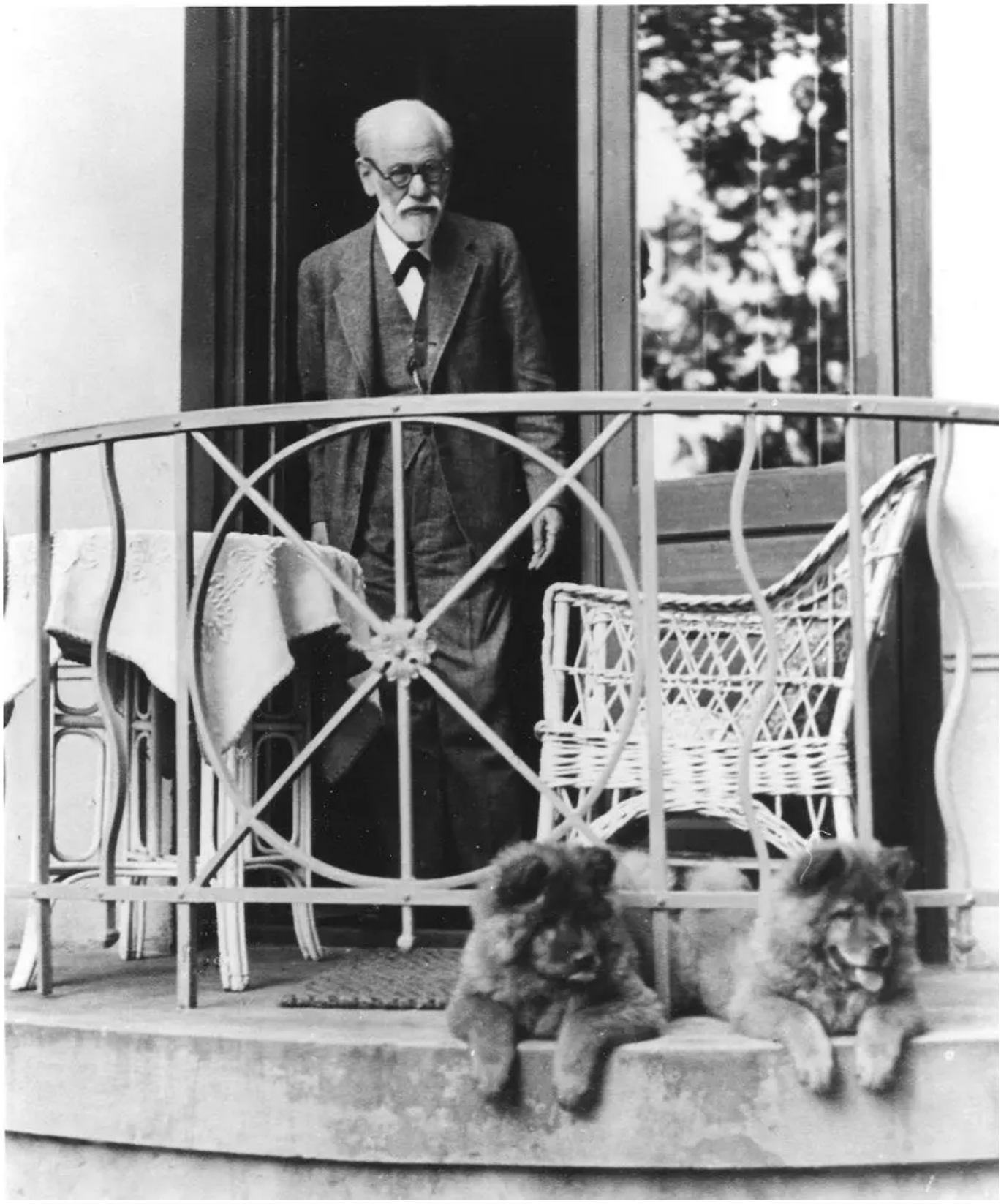


Photo above is of Freud and 2 of his chow puppies from Yofi's first litter, Tattoun (named for Marie Bonaparte's chow Tattoun) and Fo, named for Freud's Stone Dog of Fo. The photo was taken in the summer of 1933 at Hohe Wart. Read more about the puppies in the outline below

Sigismund Schlomo Freud; 6 May 1856 – 23 September 1939

was an Austrian neurologist, now known as the father of psychoanal*ysis*

Sigmund Freud became the owner of a series of Chow Chows, falling in love with canines not until he was in his 70's when his daughter, and acclaimed psychotherapist, Anna, bought a wolfhound named "Wolf". In 1928, Dorothy Burlingame, a close friend of Anna, gave Freud his own dog, a chow named Lün-Yu. Sadly, Lün-Yu died 15 months later, having wandered off on a train station in Salzburg en route to Vienna and turning up dead on the tracks a few days later. Freud was devastated and grieved for seven months before he was able to welcome Yofi (many times spelled Jofi), Lün-Yu's sister, into his home.

FREUD AND HIS SECOND CHOW NAMED “LUN”, PHOTO TAKEN IN GRINZIG, A SUBURB OF VIENNA 1937

Yofi was with Freud the longest time and often sat through therapy sessions and Freud noticed that the presence of his dog helped reduce tension in the room. Patients would open up more when Jofi was there, especially children and adolescents. Yofi was non-judgmental and a focused and silent observer. Yofi was also a good gauge of the mental state of

Freud's patients; he would sit farther away from the couch depending on how anxious the patient was. If a patient was depressed, Yofi would sit close to him or her, available for petting. Yofi was also a surprisingly accurate timekeeper, yawning and walking to the door at the 50-minute mark. SOURCE

SIGMUND FREUD AND YOFI

Yofi died in 1937 and despite being devastated over her loss, Freud acquired another chow named Lün. By then, the war was upon them and the very next year the entire Freud family was forced to flee from the Nazis. Together with the new chow, they moved to a spacious brick house in North London with a large grassy garden. Today their home is a museum but Freud's office was preserved as it was when he saw patients there, complete with the famous tapestry-draped couch and his round-framed spectacles. The house is also littered with the ghost traces of the family dogs. There is a framed photo of Anna as

an old woman with her chow (named Yofi II after the first Yofi), a needlepoint portrait of Yofi II hanging in Anna's old bedroom, a picture of Wolf hanging behind her loom, and a copy of the poem that "Wolf wrote" to Sigmund on his 70th birthday.
SOURCE

SIGMUND FREUD WITH ONE OF HIS CHOWS 1927

Nemon and Freud and Yofi at Freud’s summer home, 1931

BELOW THIS DETAILED OUTLINE LISTS ALL THE CHOWS THAT CAME INTO SIGMUND FREUD’S LIFE. SOURCE

NOTE: AFTER LUN -YU DIED IN 1929 ANOTHER “LUN” WAS ACQUIRED. I do need to find out more about the second Lun as this list shows both being Yofi’s sister?

1925. Anna Freud gets a German shepherd named Wolf. Her father is besotted, jealousy ensues. Anna writes poems to her father in the persona of the dog and gives him a picture of Wolf for his 7oth birthday.

1928. Dorothy Burlingame, a close friend of Anna, gives Freud his own dog, a chow named Lün-Yu.

August 1929. Lün-Yu dies about 15 months after Freud gets him, having wandered off on a train station in Salzburg en route to Vienna and turning up dead on the tracks a few days later. Freud is devastated and grieves for seven months.

March 1930. Freud brings Yofi, Lün-Yu's sister, into his home. She has, presumably, been in the care of Dorothy Burlingame.

February 1931. Yofi has a litter of puppies (father not yet identified). Only one, Tatoun, survives.

October 1931. Tatoun dies, probably of distemper.

April 1933. Yofi has a second litter.

These puppies meet a worse fate than those in the first litter. Yofi eats part of her litter and the puppy Freud has designated for Bryher, the partner of one of his patients, the poet H.D., bites someone and has to be put down.

1936. Wolf dies.

January 11, 1937. Yofi goes into the veterinary hospital to have a pair of ovarian cysts removed. The surgery seems successful, but on January 14, three days after being released, Yofi dies of a heart attack.

January 15, 1937. Freud reacquires Lün, Yofi's sister, from Dorothy Burlingame. (This is Lun II)

Lün had belonged to Freud for a time but had to be given away – first to the Deutsch family and then to the Burlingames – "because Yofi could not tolerate a rival."

June 1938. The Freud family moves to London with Lün, who is quarantined for six months. Freud is often photographed visiting Lün in the quarantine kennels in the summer and fall.

September 1939. Sigmund Freud dies, outlived by Lün, who has avoided her master in his final weeks, most likely because of

his necrotic jaw.

1938 FREUDS’ CHOW LUN (SECOND LUN) IN LUXURY QUARANTINE QUARTERS IN LONDON

After his flight from Vienna because of fear of the Nazis, he went to London and there his chow was quarantined for six months. Freud, whose health was declining, visited his chow as often as he could. Lun, the four and a half-year-old chow bitch who arrived in London with her famous master, Professor Sigmund Freud, had taken up residence in North Kensington at the only quarantine kennels in London, and the only kennels in London which have been formed out of human dining and drawing rooms. Professor Freud made telephone inquiries about Lun's health and the dog has barked happily back. SOURCE

SIGMUND FREUD'S DOG RETURNED—VIA TAXI

—Milwaukee Journal

Phychoanalyst Sigmund Freud owned a beautiful chow dog who never had occasion to seek its master's professional advice in solving its problems.

A well adjusted animal who loved the company of other dogs, she would leave the doctor's house every morning, and wander the streets of Vienna.

Invariably, by the end of day, she would be hopelessly lost. But that did not cause her to become panicky. She would proceed calmly to the nearest taxi stand, raise her head to reveal the identification tag around her neck, and have herself driven home. Dr. Freud was always good for the fare.

I'M PRETTY SURE THIS IS THE SECOND "LUN" THE ARTICLE REFERS TO

ANNA FREUD, SIGMUND FREUDS DAUGHTER AT THE AGE OF 85 TAKEN IN 1980

THESE VIDEOS I FOUND BELOW ARE PRICELESS TIDBITS OF CHOW HISTORY WITH CAMEO APPEARANCES OF HIS CHOWS

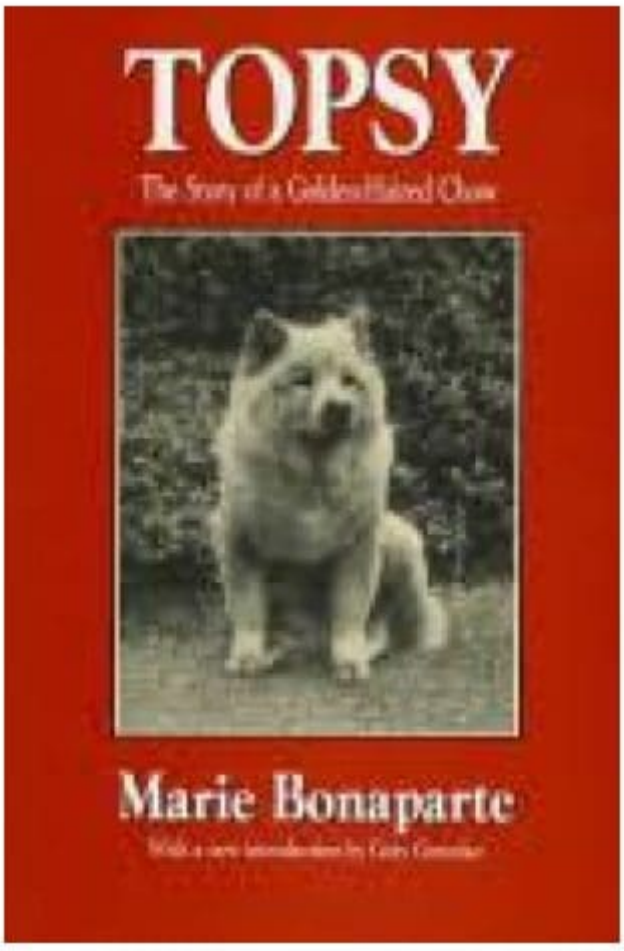
BELOW FREUD AND HIS CHOW YOFI CAN BE SEEN AT TIME MARKER 1:26

BELOW FREUD AND YOFI ARE AT TIME MARKER 0:06 AS WELL AS 2:15-2:21

MORE OF YOFI CAN BE SEEN HERE

THE NEXT CHAPTER IN MY SIGMUND FREUD ARTICLE IS ABOUT THE BOOK –

TOPSY: THE STORY OF A GOLDEN HAIRED CHOW….CLICK HERE TO READ



The story reflects on Sigmund Freud's own affection for, and use of, dogs in his analyses. It goes on to describe the relationship between Freud and author Marie Bonaparte and how dogs played a significant part in that companionship.