9 Flavors of Narcissism

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Each Enneagram type can show up in an unhealthy **narcissistic** way when they lose empathy, intimacy and/or become over identified with being better:

- 1 I am morally superior and know the one right way regardless of how it impacts you.
- 2 I am wonderful because I'm so helpful, I sense your emotions and know what you need. (Of course I'm entitled to special treatment.)
- 3 I'm a winner and the best. Just at how successful I am so admire me for it and give me special treatment.
- 4 I'm misunderstood and these pedestrian people can't understand my specialness. One 4 said when she starts feeling disdain, she knows she's in the cut off place which has a sort of narcissistic quality.
- 5 I'm more knowledgeable than all these ignorant people (as I unconsciously cut off my heart).
- 6 I'm loyal and dutiful to my people/group and project all my disowned aggression and fears of deviance and vulnerability onto others. This can devolve into us versus them aggression and a sort of group narcissism. Some 6s admit it shows up as intellectual arrogance.
- 7 I'm wonderful, witty, charming, and deserving of attention and admiration, and if you don't like me, I'm out of here because it must be your problem. 7s often display the hallmark narcissistic tendency to be hyper sensitive to criticism.
- 8 I have all the influence and power and my _____ (fill in the blank) are bigger and better than yours. (Think Gaston in Beauty and the Beast; the arrogant hunter who is determine to marry Belle). 8s can experience the narcissistic tendency to be vengeful with a compulsive need to balance the scales.
- 9 I'm unaware of my stubborn aggression and passively block out and don't deal with anything that threatens my comfort regardless of its impact on others. (9s are less likely to be labeled a classic narcissist though introverted passivity and refusal to deal with normal life conflict and discomfort has its own destructive qualities. With that said, there are plenty of entitled 9s and this is sometimes because they've merged with socio-economic entitlement and/or have been treated as "princes" or "princesses" all of their lives. Teacher Tom Condon has called these "Prince/Princess 9s.")"