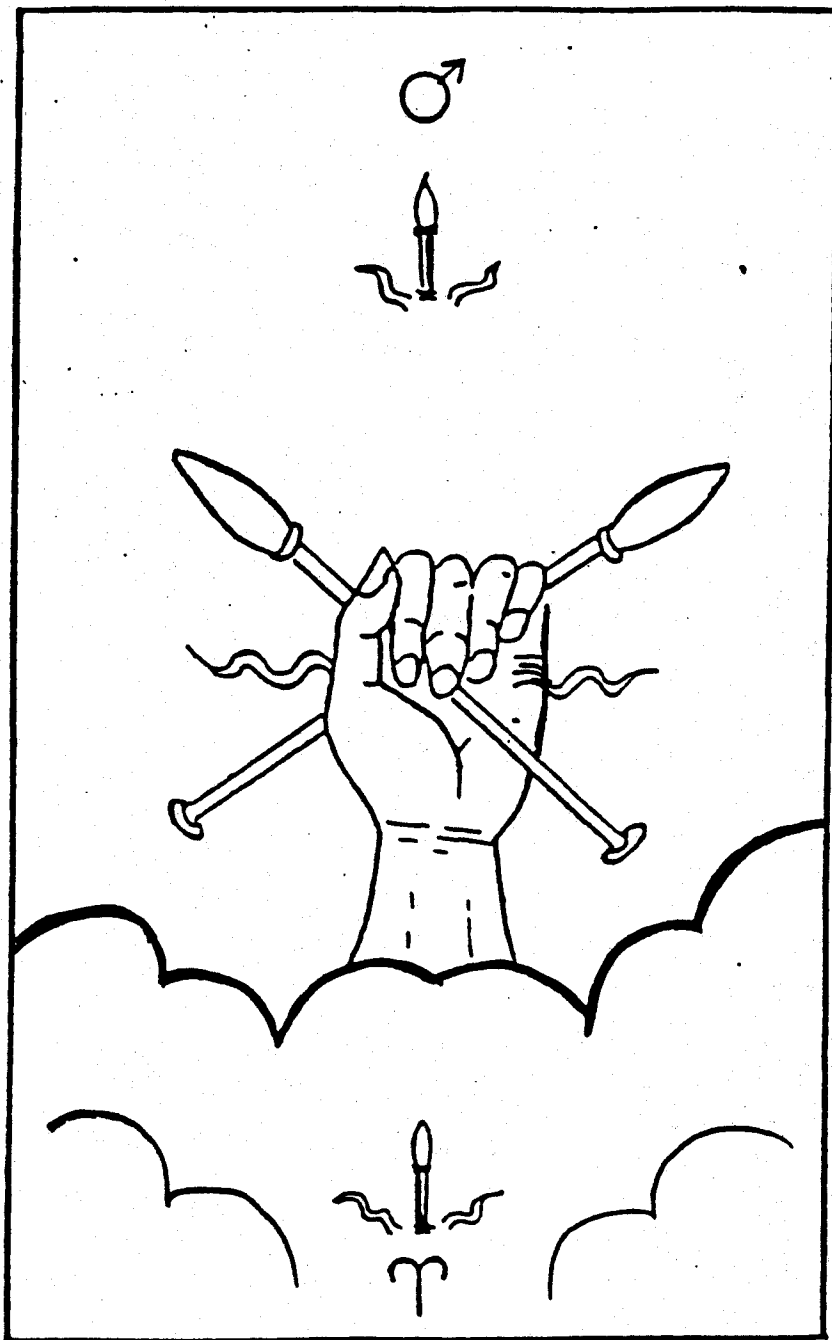


LESSON 53

2 OF WANDS



## LESSON 53

## 2 OF WANDS

"Lord of Dominion"

0 to 10 degrees Aries

♂ in ♈

A white radiating angelic hand, issuing from the clouds, and grasping two crossed wands, flames issue from the point of junction. On two small wands above and below are the zodiac symbols, with flames of five issuing therefrom.

This shows man grasping two batons which are held firmly in a single grip, showing application of the energy held in the Ace of Wands. The concept of both power and application but under control of the power holding them. From the unity of the Ace of Wands the two wands represent the split of power thereby creating duality; the higher and the lower, the positive and the negative.

This split nature in relation to the fire element representeth light and dark. This is shown by the X given by the position of the 2 of Wands. If you look at the centre point of the X you will get two V's meeting in the middle one descending and one ascending, the centre being the concentration of energies. Two polarities are formed but as yet undivided. As a point of manifestation it is an archetypal perspective of the powers of the opposites meeting at a halfway point, the conscious and unconscious, the inner and outer. The power of this card therefore

meets; it has been described as mastery of technique. A division has been made of the waters of creation of above and below, one being the reflection of the other, as it is said in the "Emerald Tablet" of Hermes (Trismegistos):

"In truth certainly and without doubt, whatever is below is like that which is above, and whatever is above is like that which is below, to accomplish the miracles of one thing."

The X is also a symbol of the disciple Andrew and has been called 'St Andrew's Cross' representing the Union of the upper and lower worlds which fittingly describes the last stage before the union of the Ace of Wands. St. Andrew, by the way, represented the Astral Self. The X of the wands shows the binding factor, a unified force of strength and balance. This shows also that Mars rules, bringing about abundant energy, direction and leadership.

The suit of Wands has been painted in the colours of the King Scale. In the 2 of Wands the wands are in the colour of the planet (Mars) which is Scarlet (a vivid Red); the backdrop of the card is in the colour of the zodiac sign (Aries) which is Blood Red. The complementary colour, Yellowish Green, is the colour of the issuing flames, outlining and shading. The hand and clouds are brilliant White with a reflection of Red around the edges, showing spirit manifesting through the fire element.

The Scarlet shines through the vibration of the Blood Red

thereby emanating from the card a deep Red vibration making it purely an Aries of Aries, or as it is, a Mars of Aries vibration. This gives a powerfully commanding vibration, one of great drive, energy and desire to improve. An initiative force comes from these colours. This force is of action, and when unhindered it is forever seeking new things, it soars to the highest showing the potential for a leader of thought. The colour is martial and on a negative side destructive energies predominate with misuse of power; a warrior, and a ruthless avenger. These colours show no mercy.

The planet Mars, shown as the symbol of Spirit constrained by Matter, is associated to the 2 of Wands in the zodiac sign Aries. "Lord of Dominion" is the name of the 2 of Wands but it seems more appropriate, when considering its astrological association, to call the card "Lord of Action". Nevertheless both characteristics are very predominant. Mars in Aries represents abundant energy, and is very strong willed with a capacity for direct action. Its qualities are courageousness, initiative and inspiring. This position can lead to success but generally it refers to the beginning, not the end. The vices of Mars in Aries are shown through the application of the energy it provides, just as its qualities. It is a very high ego projection which the ethics and beliefs are filled with fantasy. Its aggressive attributes react in attack rather than approach, or reactions of defensiveness. Its nature is autocratic and dominant which can be turned from the best application to the worst through lack of compromise. Its competitiveness is a good attribute providing it

doesn't become an obsession. The application of the energies of Mars in Aries depends entirely on the individual. From a psychological approach the excessive aggressiveness of Mars in Aries can be a front for an unconscious inferiority complex, hence constant action for reassurance. The lesson for Mars in Aries is to think before you act.

As the Ace of Wands represents the fire element in its incorporeal form, the 2 of Wands represents the fire element in its last stage of purity - or the first stage of purity if looking in the opposite direction to manifestation. Hence the interpretation of the 2 of Wands is generally taken from a positive and purely creative point of view. The 2 of Wands is a card of "incessant activity", the opposites it represents by the cross in the wands (the cross in fact shows four divisions) cannot act as form until polarisation takes place and each division acts on the other. If this does not take place the activity ceases and the card's influence falls away. Therefore the energies of the fire element through the 2 of Wands is interpreted in its highest form, or rate of activity, and on all matters spiritual or physical the key word is action; its mode of action is dominion.

Chokmah of Yod (influence over others, authority - power).

## DIVINATION

ON MATTERS OF the Physical Body; Selfhood; Self Projection; new ideas; new beginnings; reactions to outside stimuli; the life force; first encounters:

When the 2 of Wands turns up on these matters it strongly advises projection and a state of direct confrontation of the person to the matter in concern. The 2 of Wands in fact advises that this is the best way to handle a situation, and the most probable. But it can also indicate that such action can be ones downfall if surrounding cards indicate this. The life force portrayed in this position is abundant energy, stamina and excessive vitality, always resulting in physical exertion. Personal projection is with confidence and positivity. Generally this position is very fortunate for the 2 of Wands and any misfortune only comes about through ones own actions. Physically there is usually good health and vitality (or news of good health to come), but at the worst one can expect a feverish type of individual prone to infections. The key word for the 2 of Wands in this position is "Confrontation", no matter what the question, something must be confronted.

ON MATTERS OF possessions and personal attitude towards such; personal estate and resources both physical and material; principles and feelings; management and projection; commerce, personal, commercial, governmental and national financial affairs directly relating to the self:

A constant search for ways of building ones material and financial resources and drive to improve ones own abilities. The 2 of Wands in this position shows that risks are taken for the sake of gain, but more often than not what is attained slips out of ones grasp due to recklessness. Money comes and goes quickly. Although the suit of wands does not relate directly to possessions and money, it does relate to the activity and energies involved, so please read on with this concept in mind so that the words are not misunderstood. The 2 of Wands in this position concerning the above listed matters shows two main actions. The first is impatience in handling ones affairs and the other is enterprise and rapid gain through enterprise - or speedy action, (this of course depends on the question. The key word for the 2 of Wands in this position is "Enterprise".

ON MATTERS OF short journeys; communications; relationships; brothers, sisters, neighbours; humour; identity; early education; books; correspondence; enlarging ones field of activity:

In this position the 2 of Wands indicates an active intellect and aggressive assertion in communication. The expression given on matters of relationships and communication is dominance. People are spurred into action through some form of communication but at the same time this can create disputes. Whatever the intermediary reaction, people are woken up. On literary concerns this card shows creativity, writings attended to on a fairly intensive scale. These writings are at times impulsive, driven



from a higher source. Many inspirational writings are indicated by the 2 of Wands. Concerning relationships the 2 of Wands generally indicate a loner and this is due to the intensity of the energy depicted. The answer this card will give to such questions, depending on how the question is worded and on the surrounding cards, is either: 1. The relationship will be inspiring but frenzied, or 2. There will be arguments or disputes. The lesson here is "Application".

ON MATTERS OF the end of one stage and the commencement of another; the home and private life; buildings; land; parents; security; emotions; significant shifts in lifes directions; concerning the soul; the occult in its practical terms; divination:

When the 2 of Wands turns up on these matters it strongly advises the querent to establish his/her own roots so that future efforts can be built on. A state of indifference is shown, towards the home environment and in most instances restlessness leading to a sudden break-a-way (physical or psychological) from the home and parents. The energies shown here, if used creatively, can fill the soul and provide a solid base for an individuals personality to grow from when aspiring to the highest, and the highest is what one aspires to if the 2 of Wands has any say in the matter. More importantly the 2 of Wands shows that aspirations and application of energies are not necessarily external, but are also internal and can be directed to activities in the home. Great productivity no matter what the venture. The key word and lesson here is "Self-Containment".

ON MATTERS OF love given; creativity of selfhood; the creative will; children; entertainment; recreation; speculation; sports; the arts; gambling; fulfilling potentiality:

On the above matters the 2 of Wands expresses raw talent. Concerning sports the card depicts a lot of activity and competitiveness. It depicts the Athlete. Impulsiveness is the expression which is applied in a creative fashion, and the card shows a strong will, sometimes too forceful for the surrounding influences. This can lead to arrogance. In matters of love, the 2 of Wands denotes a binding factor where two work in unison. It certainly isn't a quiet relationship as much energy is spent creating. Each is constantly acting as a catalyst for the other. Recreating and entertainment is sought through great expenditure of energy, usually in the direction of sport. Although a courageous card it is one also of temptation therefore representing weakness to temptation in the above matters. In relation to children, unwanted pregnancy can occur as the 2 of Wands is penetration - loss of maidenhood. The key word for the 2 of Wands here is "the Competitor".

ON MATTERS OF sickness (generally due to work problems); employment; employees; relationships within the work environment; conflicts; service; ones sense of service; the acquiring of skills; psychology:

This is a strong position for the 2 of Wands as it repre-

sents skill and energy expressed through work; the leader of many as through its power it unites. It is a driving force which can quickly sap ones vitality and this would be so, but for the procreative powers united. High expectations are made of employees and other forms of relationships which leads to impatience. Tolerance must be learned along with the understanding that not all possess such vitality and drive. With the 2 of Wands in this position prominence and respect can be earned through ones achievements. Health is affected through overexpenditure of energy and susceptibility to head injuries, sinusitis and the like. This is a card of truth, therefore any psychological problem will be brought to the fore and penetrated to its core essence. If the querent or subject of the query can face the truth the problem can be resolved. If not, the problem is likely to cause an explosion then be buried deep again. The key word for this position is "Accomplishment".

ON MATTERS OF marriage and divorce; contracts; the other party; competitors, adversaries, and known enemies; partnerships; public relationships; social interaction; the law of compensation; what is lacking; the workings of karma:

This is a weak position for the 2 of Wandr. The individual wishes to function alone and not in groups - isolation is desired. This position is one of compensation and the influence of the 2 of Wands does not compensate, but works in a direct fashion. In answer to the success of any matter, great energy must be expended. You must try harder than you would in any

other position. This mode of action applies to all of the above matters. Contracts, partnerships and marriage are gone into hastily and activities concerning such are approached aggressively. In the workings of Karma the 2 of Wands shows one of a martial character who took what they wanted no matter what the consequences. The lesson to be learnt is to share and to care with people, not loosing sight of the end result for all that matters is the interrelationship with people and what you can give by your presence. "Take Care".

ON MATTERS OF death and rebirth; accidents; effects of others; crime and retribution; legacies; wills; others estates and finances; joint resources; moods; sex; spiritualism; rejuvenation; mysticism; transformation; psychotherapy:

This position is one of power for the 2 of Wands. It shows the querent is - or can be - in control and have influence over others, and be liable to, through the powers of union, obtain fortune. It represents lasting effects of joint ventures and profit thereof. We must still look at this card in the fire element - one of energy and application and not interpret the produce of this card materialistically. One can reap riches on a spriritual level under the above affairs for it is a procreative force and must be looked at from that level. The 2 of Wands indicates extraordinary occurrences and the power "to cross over" and have a look; to be very much a part of two worlds. The 2 of Wands is the element of surprise hence whatever is going to happen will happen quickly and unexpectedly. The key word is the

"Unexpected".

ON MATTERS OF religion; metaphysics; philosophy; higher study and education; legal systems; morals; institutions of learning; long distance travel; exploration; public communications; the collective mind:

The 2 of Wands turned up under the above matter shows that if the querent gives him/herself the necessary education and/or training the querent will develop self-confidence and expertise. This is a powerfully dominating force but it is one that is not seen, it is sensed; it comes from within or from above, but not from without. The Will soars to the heights of philosophy and metaphysics, and an insatiable desire to learn is quite evident. In matters of undertaking and success or achievement thereof the answer would be "Yes" for this position is one of optimism. But, on these positive points it must be warned of speculation and long journies as one may fall short of the mark. There must be surrounding stable influences pertaining to stamina. The key word is "Optimism".

ON MATTERS OF public honour; status; ambitions and goals reached; achievements; profession; the other parent; causes for disgrace; recognition; identity:

The 2 of Wands is strong under the above matters. It shows the manifestation of a promising career and great energy pursuing such. One usually attains or holds a position of power. The

ability to bring not only fame but notoriety is evident but a person's downfall can be their desire for power at all costs. Generally there is grandure, and experience avoids difficult situations. The energy of the 2 of Wands flows freely here and all it represents as its base essence can be expressed. When enquiring about other people or organisations it usually implies a dominant influence weilding a powerful banner - one that can be quite formidable. The key word is "Ambition".

ON MATTERS OF friends; income; social alliances; legislation; ones attitude; group activities; government; counsellors; love received; spiritual and intellectual aspirations; ideals; fulfilment; what you yield and how you benefit others:

Freedom of expression is a prime issue when the 2 of Wands is applied in this aspect. We have a pure element in the 2 of Wands turning up under the above matters, giving a unified force of single minded intent. A vote in Government is unanimous and unions gain powerful positions. On a personal level one has the forces of light and dark at ones fingertips weilded through the Will. What direction the Will takes is up to the individual. Indulgence in social pleasures is indicated by the 2 of Wands combined with happiness and joy and companionship. The key word is "Unified".

ON MATTERS OF responsibility and contribution to others; humanistic concerns; karmic debts; unresolved problems; hidden

resources; the unconscious; sorrow; health afflictions; secret enemies; hospitals; secret societies; self undoing; total identification:

The 2 of Wands shows a situation of completion, yet with the final step as yet not taken. One more thing must be done now that all matters have been completed and carefully balanced out, and that is to "step over". To many the words "step over" would infer dying, but this is not so. It is the death of the past, but also the first step in new beginnings. These new beginnings are not as if you were newly born but as a rebirth taking with it all the accumulated knowledge of past experience, although the past, itself now superfluous, is pushed back into the subconscious. So, for all of the above matters the 2 of Wands represents the satisfactory completion and the penetration of new beginnings. The key word for the 2 of Wands in this position is "Penetration".

2 of Wands: "Lord of Dominion" - "Action"  
 (First Stage Calcination - Blackening)

In 1st position: "Confrontation"  
 In 2nd position: "Enterprise"  
 In 3rd position: "Application"  
 In 4th position: "Self-Containment"  
 In 5th position: "The Competitor"  
 In 6th position: "Accomplishment"  
 In 7th position: "Take Care"  
 In 8th position: "Unexpected"  
 In 9th position: "Optimism"  
 In 10th position: "Ambition"  
 In 11th position: "Unified"  
 In 12th position: "Penetration"

---ooOoo---

MEDITATION ON THE TWO OF WANDS:

Let the Student first study the overall picture of the card, then study each detail. Study the colours.

Now let the Student look at the card and feel its vibrations.

Write down your overall impression.

---ooOoo---

exercise

Now paint this card with the above described colours. An outlined drawing is supplied with this lesson.