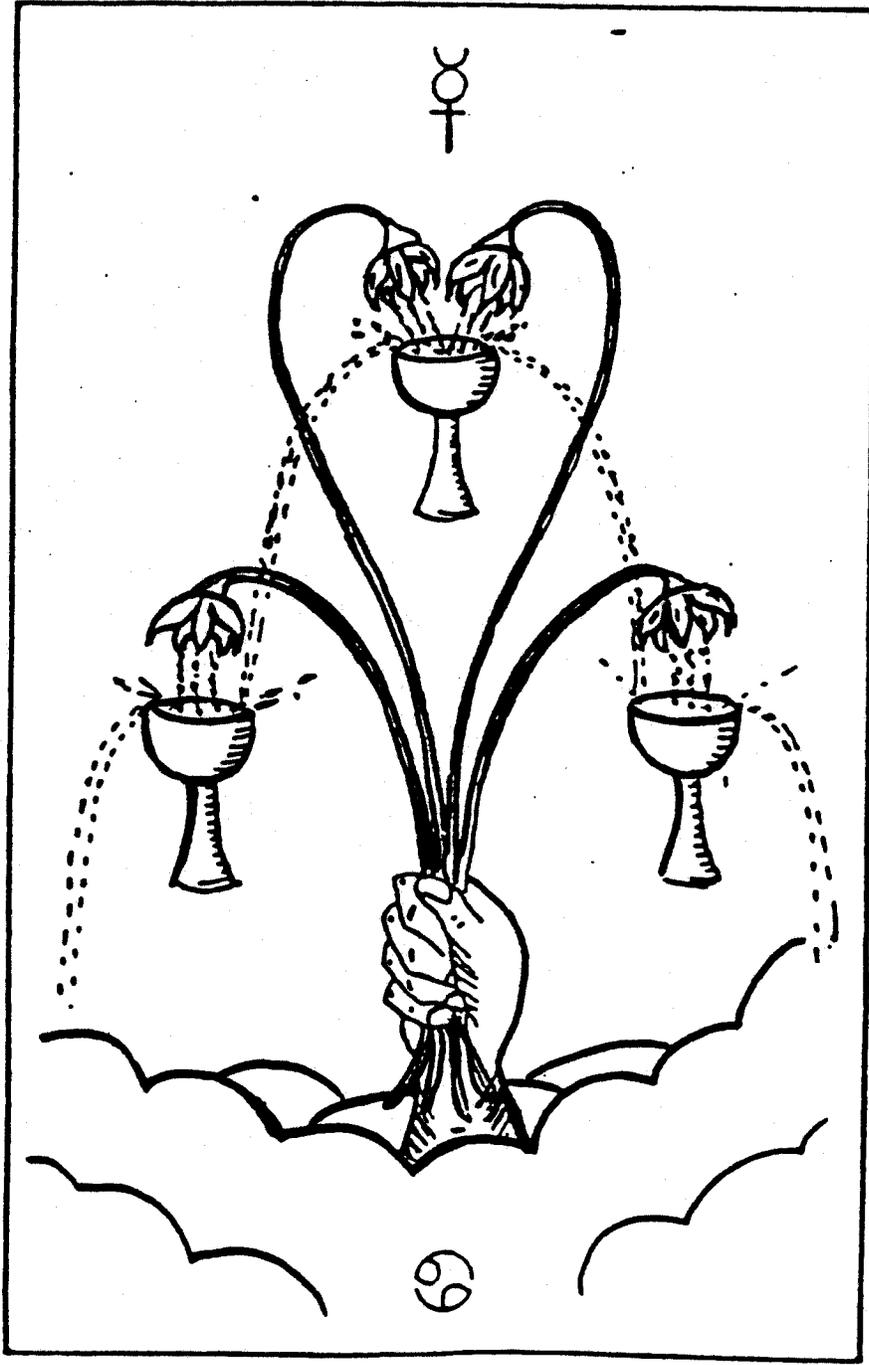


LESSON 64

THREE OF CUPS



LESSON 64

3 OF CUPS

"Lord of Abundance"

10 to 20 degrees Cancer



A white radiating hand, as before holds a group of lotuses or water lilies, from which two flowers rise from either side of, and overhanging the top cup, pouring into it the white water. Flowers in the same way pour white water into the lower cups. All the cups overflow. The topmost into the two others, and these upon the lower part of the card. The cups are arranged in the equilateral triangle.

This is a continuation of the previous card where the white water (pure quintessence) has had its polarity separated and an additional stem has grown to handle a third substance which mixes with the masculine and feminine aspects of the quintessence. This substance gives nourishment to the other two cups. The nourishment of the sea in the previous card, the masculine and feminine aspects have been remixed into an androgynous substance in the top cup (Spirit Mercury). This remixes by spilling over into the other two cups. The result is that each cup contains aspects of the other two though there are no impurities as yet.

From the mud of the concealed sea the lotus roots draw forth nourishment which travel up the stems to the lotus flowers that

pour forth the water of life into the cups. The water overflows from the cups cascading back into the sea where it is prepared to recommence its cycle. This is the "Lord of Abundance", continuous nourishment and regeneration. The stems of the lotus plant form the shape of the one organ that science has not yet fathomed, the heart, which fittingly describes the function of the lotus plant in this card. The heart is the prime regulator of the etheric and astral forces, of life and death, regeneration and degeneration, and yet on its own, without the soul, it is just a pump. Without these polarities working in harmony, morbid conditions set in. The heart is the seat of intelligence which the lotus stems allude to the 3 of Cups. The Egyptians regarded the heart as an indispensable centre of the human body which ensured eternity for the soul passing over. Due to this the heart was not removed from the dead body.

The Triangle shape relates to Yod and the world of Atziluth where the raw quintessence is not yet manifested into enough substance, to reach into the density or plan of matter of the next Kabbalistic world. The equilateral triangle depicts a state of completion. The 3 of Cups signifies a centre of illumination.

The four lotus flowers portray a hidden essence of movement behind the three cups: $3 \times 4 = 12$. This brings forth the capacity for achievement and speedy conclusion in all matters; it is the Creative Will operating in its fullest potential; but it is also subtlety.

The 3 of Cups is coloured in the Queen Scale. The backdrop is in the colour of the sign, Oxide Red. The Cups are in the colour of the planet, Greyish Violet. The lotus stems are complementary to the backdrop, Deep Green, and the flowers the complementary to the Greyish Violet, which is Greyish Yellow. The hand and clouds are Brilliant White and the cascading water is Brilliant White.

Here the channels of pulsating life (Deep Green) inspire higher thought (Greyish Yellow) which pours its emanations into impersonal love of the initiate (Greyish Violet). The insatiable appetite of the Oxide Red - the cradling womb - calls forth constant regeneration from the waters through the Will of the Spirit (Brilliant White).

As a combined force these colours give willpower and determination, relentlessness and unyielding. Tasks are accomplished thoroughly and with an underlying power; inner resources are endless. They allude to unusualness but conflict with superiors as they are very independent.

The Planet and Sign associated to the 3 of Wands is Mercury in Cancer. Mercury in Cancer gives an unusual potential, one of intuition and possibly genius if all other aspects harmonise. It is the investigation of the unknown, no stone is left unturned. Mercury in Cancer is favourable for interaction in groups, societies, companies, or anything that holds together like a family. In such circumstances ones best work can be achieved. It also

represents the servant - the committed worker for the cause of others. There is a tendency to be the wanderer - a fond traveler (preferably by water) and a dreamer. The mind is able to take hold of many subjects at a time, the memory is good and the mind is strong, not necessarily a quick mind but alert. Mercury in Cancer gives a person with an amenable disposition who can prosper through writings, travel and study, but a person who is also restless and prone to be changeable, as deep seated psychological and emotional patterns govern the unconscious. A great deal is absorbed on the unconscious level which then manifests consciously. This learning is through osmosis. Thinking centres around security and survival.

Binah of Heh (plenty, hospitality, eating and drinking, pleasure, dancing).

DIVINATION

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

With the 3 of Cups here we have the environmentalist. The beauty of the surrounding world is inescapable. Roots have been set down providing a constant source of reserves no matter where one is or how unstable current circumstances are. A person has a great deal of willpower and mental initiative but this takes place on a very subtle level, which fools a great many on first

impression. This inner strength projects into the outer world drawing one to all desired attainments. Tenacity is directed by thought and not emotion or desire. Selfhood is refined and the physical body is subtle and quick; new ideas are taken hold of and never released until they serve no purpose. The Key word is "Zealousness".

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:

For this position the 3 of Cups represents happiness. "My cup overfloweth" saith the 3 of Cups; "eat drink and be merry for your food is plentiful." This can lead one to forgetting oneself with the fortune of the moment, loosing all through extravagance. Too much of a good thing can also turn you sour. Take all in moderation, it won't run away, so don't gorge yourself. Your early life has given the experience on which a future can be built. Develop a programme for security for your later years. Such planning now will give peace of mind. The Key word is "Plenty".

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

In this position there is a lot of short journeys, some by water, some by air and over water. There is gathering of the family, reunions and a lot of talk. A lot can be expressed through writing and one can prosper through this. Benefit in education is obtained through group activity where one can absorb all interaction like a sponge. In later years the fruits of such gatherings ripen where one benefits the self by teaching others. A good education can be obtained if one can differentiate between reality and dreaming. The Key word is "Gatherings".

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 life's directions; concerning the soul; the occult in its practical terms; divination:

The 3 of Cups shows that one has been strongly conditioned into thinking the same way one's parents and society think. Yet knowing the importance of thinking for oneself is paramount to the direction you are about to take. You may resent the intrusion of the influence of others but you should benefit greatly. The 3 of Cups also represents emotional bias; and warns that an overflow of emotion can exhaust one, damaging health. It also represents spiritual fertility and possible wealth, an abundance of love and happiness. The Key word is "Conditioning".

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

In this position the 3 of Cups represents the intuitive child; love is given and received. In the above matters one finds abundance of potential for indulgence but there is an essence of sadness here. After days, months or years of self indulgence what does one have? What has been achieved? ...a complete waste of time! A cycle of circles all beginning and ending in the same place. The querent must realize that cycles can become spirals on which you can walk. When so much is in the palm of your hands it would be a shame to let it slip through your fingers. "Indulgence".

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:

The 3 of Wands tells that your parents' teachings and contagion behaviour in your earlier years helps find job satisfaction and self expression through your chosen work. You are taught to accept responsibility for your ideas, to think for yourself in your endeavours to gain security. Through this you are able to acquire specialized knowledge and skills. There is concern with hygiene and diet which becomes a good tool for ones health if approached sensibly. Physical ailments shown by the 3 of Wands are Indigestion, flatulence, and other stomach/intestine orientated problems. This position also shows the intuitive; the ability to understand the reasons behind the workings of others

psyches. The Key word is "Determinism".

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:

Sincerity in relationships is favourable, insincerity will bring misfortune. You may find yourself in a personal conflict between the judgement of your mind in what is logical and your warm loving nature or your emotional needs, when deciding on the commencement, or continuance of a relationship. However, you have the ability to think and feel together, without the one distorting the other if you don't let your emotions get the upper hand, drowning your analytical power. The biggest problem you can come across shown by the 3 of Cups here is the negative influence parents and family may have on your decisions in personal relationships. This is a working of karma where you must learn to make your own decisions uninfluenced; this is where you find your own law of compensation. "Conflicting Emotions".

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:

The 3 of Cups in this position represents an easy passage into the astral; surrealism and imagination. In business and

handling of money there is versatility and cleverness, with the ability to attract fortune. Negatively aspected this card will represent trickery. Behind this card is a strong force which has a quality of flexibility and resilience. The 3 of Cups shows a stage in a person's life where the fruits of achievements begin to manifest. Happy outcomes are anticipated in all matters but there is an element of discontent, there always seems to be something amiss. The Key word is "Unfulfilled".

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:

To improve your life you are likely to seek education, but you'll find that all is not what it seems and falls short of your expectations. You'll probably have to pay your own way through your studies. There is a need to understand evolution and the workings of the social structure. This need may be the cause of extensive travel, especially overseas travel. The search for religious teachings is strong in this position as purpose in life must be affirmed to those who receive the 3 of Cups. One may be involved in legal concerns, elections and legislation. If so, the 3 of Cups fortells good fortune. "Voyager".

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

Personal goals are likely to be different to what you were originally trained for, although one feels the pull of achieving the aspirations of others (parents) for the sake of others, and not the self. This element of self denial goes hand in hand with meaningless achievement; do not lose sight of your own inner needs. If harmoniously expected events turn in your favour. This card is one of abundance and no matter what the concern of the above matters, you will reap in abundance, good or bad. The 3 of Cups shows ones position being behind the scenes. Public honour is not likely, as one isn't or doesn't stand in the limelight. "Self Denial".

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:

In this position the 3 of Cups represents humanitarian affairs, interest in astrology, and close knit groups of mutual interest are formed. A solid foundation is needed for all activities and an abundant amount of work must be done in order to form this foundation. Here one meets friendships, love and happiness in great quantities. What you give, you receive three fold; what fruits you reap ye child of fate where intent becomes content, yet ye remain distant in the heart. This shows an essence of detachment from surrounding influences which allows for objectivity to emotional involvement. "Abundance".

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 3 of Cups advises that your parents had more faith in you than you realize. You have the ability to achieve your goals, don't underestimate yourself. This card represents healing (recuperation) and good health. This is also a time for silence, a time to learn when to speak and when not to speak - a detail so often overlooked. This card is also possession of attracted power which lies beneath the surface, and the union of the self consciously with karma. The 3 of Cups shows a doorway through which the self can soar to touch the Higher. It shows regeneration and a constant source of creativity. The Key word for the 3 of Cups in this position is "Underestimation".

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3 of Cups: "Lord of Abundance"

(Second Stage Conjunction - impregnation)

In 1st position:	"Zealousness"
In 2nd position:	"Plenty"
In 3rd position:	"Gatherings"
In 4th position:	"Conditioning"
In 5th position:	"Indulgence"
In 6th position:	"Determinism"
In 7th position:	"Conflicting Emotions"
In 8th position:	"Unfulfilled"
In 9th position:	"Voyager"
In 10th position:	"Self Denial"
In 11th position:	"Abundance"
In 12th position:	"Underestimation"

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MEDITATION ON THE THREE OF CUPS:

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.

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