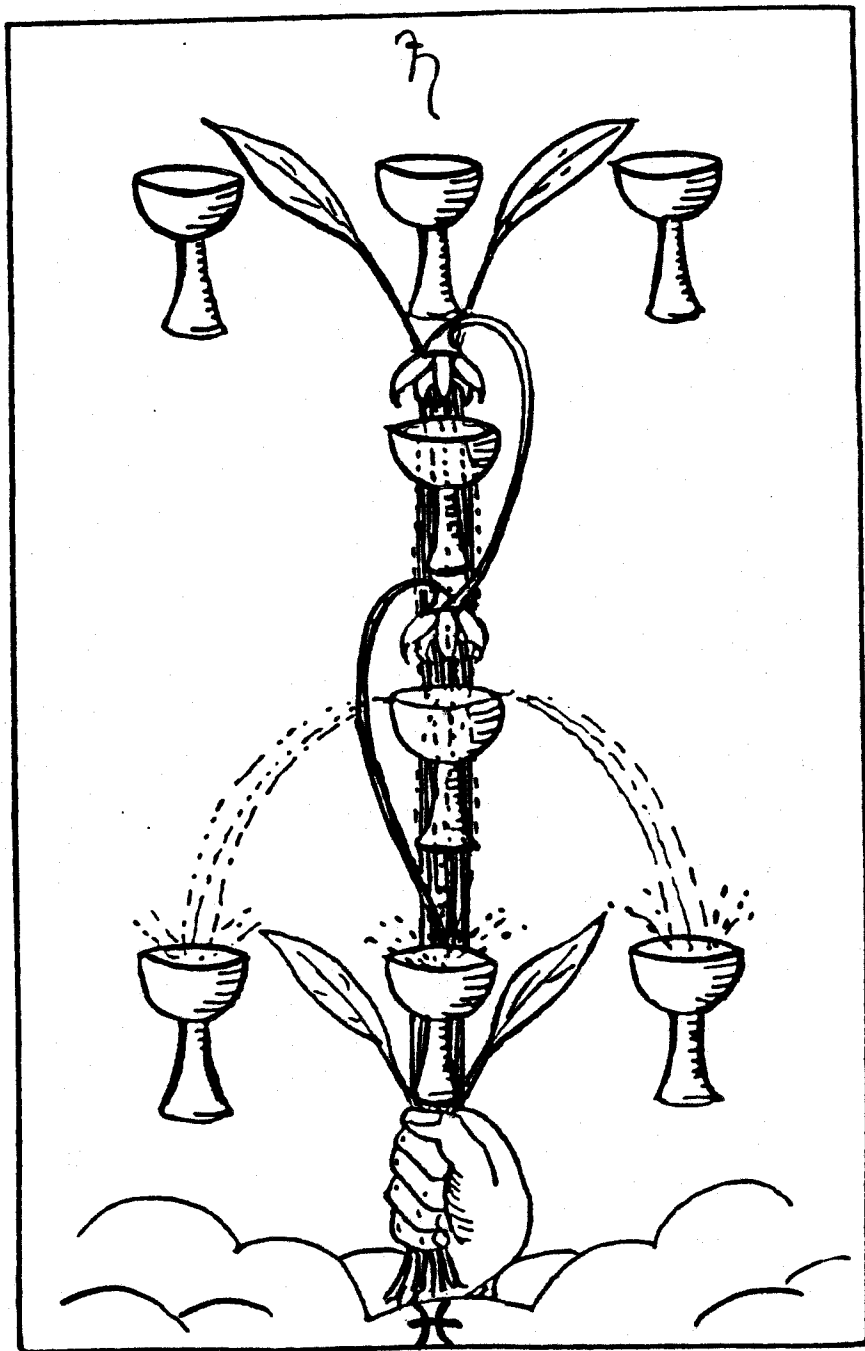


LESSON 69

EIGHT OF CUPS



LESSON 69

8 OF CUPS

"Lord of Abandoned Success"

0 to 10 degrees Pisces

♃ in ♆

A white radiating angelic hand holding a group of stems of lotuses or water lilies. There are only two flowers shown, which bend over two central cups, pouring into the three lowest, which latter are not yet filled. The three upper most cups are quite empty.

The lotuses and stems of the 7 of Cups have fallen back into the sea but only two lotuses have grown to refill eight cups of Hod which gives the influence of splendour. The two lotuses have only enough essence to fill five cups. The flowers do not have the strength to climb higher to fill the upper three cups, for if they did, a great deal of their vital nourishment would remain in the stem and less cups would be filled. This shows success at lower levels only, the higher dictates have been neglected or completely overlooked. Success functioning only at a lower level cannot last without the blessings of the higher powers. It also shows the wisdom of remaining within the bounds of ones strength and not over stretching ones capabilities. You cannot be what you are not. Therefore the meaning of the Key phrase of this card "Lord of Abandoned Success" may not always mean abandonment in despair, but a timely abandonment. It also

giveth the illusion of abandonment, where something is turned away from due to foresight of failure. The 8 of Cups is nourishing within the boundaries it provides, but step out of these boundaries and there is starvation. The boundaries of success of this card are in fact short lived. The reason for this is because there is no spiritual sanction for the development, therefore success will function, but only for a limited period.

The alchemical stage of the 8 of Cups is the beginning of Projection. In "The Labours of Hercules" it says this:

'...the great Presiding One revealed unto the Teacher the Will of what Must Be. "Lost he is, and found; dead, yet vibrant with Life. The server becomes the saviour and homeward turns." The Teacher pondered; then he called for Hercules. "Before the last gate now you stand," the Teacher said. "One labour yet remains before the circle is complete, and liberation is attained...." He paused. "One caution I can give," he added slowly. "Invoke the aid of Helius".'

For Projection in Alchemy one must enlist the services of a Projecting Medicine. By a sudden egression, this medicine is projected over the matter to be transformed. The Projecting Medicine is called a Tincture, as shown in the card by the symbol of the "T". The top and bottom layer of cups with the connecting two cups along the middle stem of the lotus form an "I" which represents the Antimony Vitrum. The upsidedown half moon shape represents Water. Thus we have the tincture added to the water

within the vessel made of Antimony Vitrum. This is the nature of the 8 of Cups. An additional substance or force must be enlisted for a further lotus to grow to the top three cups, otherwise efforts would be folly. One must transmute (metamorphose) to ascend at this point.

Within its boundaries the 8 of Cups is stable. It is not abundance, but it nourishes. Contact with the Great Waters has been re-established, as shown by the clouds at the bottom of the card with the hand protruding from the centre, and the two top leaves of the lotus plant outstretching to encompass the top three cups. The potential powers of the 7 of Cups have been put successfully into use through the 8 of Cups where strength is gathered within its confines, and the Waters from the Great Sea are drawn forth and projected over the powder of the 7 of Cups for the metamorphosis that is to take place.

The 8 of Cups is coloured in the Queen Scale. The cups are the colour of the Planet, Chocolate Brown (very dark Violet Brown), and the background is coloured in the colour of the Sign, Signal Green. The lotus plant and leaves is coloured in the complementary colour to the background, Orange Red. The lotus flowers are coloured the complementary colour to the cups, Ink Blue. The water, clouds and hand are Brilliant White.

The Signal Green background gives a vibration of adaptability and change. Within this operates a state of depression shown by the Chocolate Brown, for although nourished in areas it

does not yet respond to the life given from the sea. The Orange Red lotus stems and leaves giveth forth the love of display, portraying the splendour of Hod as they draw forth the waters, but due to the lack of purity of intention and sanctioning of the higher powers the lotus flowers are a darkened blue (Ink Blue), pouring tinted solution into the cups. These colours emanate an introspective and meditative vibration. There is a strong link with the subconscious bringing forth subliminal impressions. They invoke brooding and dwelling on the past, but they also giveth an intuitive awareness providing forethought to any action.

The Planet and Sign associated to the 8 of Cups is Saturn in Pisces. Saturn in Pisces is a sad combination where a great deal of misfortune befalls one, such as unpopularity, loss of reputation, poor public position, public hostility, unsympathetic friends, criticism, or a severe downfall and loss of fortune. Anxiety and neuroses arises out of an overactive imagination. There is entrapment in past memories preventing the present from being handled satisfactorily, which causes more regrets and self-sympathy. Many illnesses are caused from the latter behaviour, and those with Saturn in Pisces may end up in hospital or in an institution. However, on a more pleasant note, if Saturn in Pisces is harmoniously or fortunately aspected the above can be overcome through an objective form of thinking. Personal worth and ability can be discovered through self-analysis. Affairs with institutions such as hospitals, asylums, universities, agencies etc., are play a role in ones life , and whether one is

a victim of, or a worker in them depends entirely on how Saturn in Pisces is aspected. When combined with the meaning of the card the 8 of Cups, we see Saturn in Pisces tempered to an extent that its hardship only falls outside this card's sphere of limitation. In short the combination of positive and negative aspects of the card itself overcome the astrological meaning and gives it more promise and hope for the future, providing discernment is utilised.

Hod of Heh (success abandoned; decline of interest).

DIVINATION

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

Only surety of success should encourage one to act when the 8 of Cups is in this position. If planning to follow a new idea be sure you will succeed or your efforts will be short lived. This card depicts a serious minded individual, meticulous in his ways. Vision may be shortened due to beliefs and prejudices. A lack of tolerance maketh one disliked, try to improve your sense of humour and understanding for mankind. With understanding you will develop tolerance. The 8 of Cups also shows a very deep feeling for the oppressed encouraging courageous efforts to aid those in need. It sometimes represents a youth of fair complexion, and slight of body. It shows a personality of cleverness,

that is sympathetic but strong. The Key word for the 8 of Cups in this position is "Efficacious".

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:

Others see you as self-disciplined, dependable and stable in your financial dealings; Why do you have such a low opinion of yourself? Why do you turn away from your achievements? Perhaps it is because you have not found what you are looking for! Under the above matters the ultimate aim or result is obscure, this is a time for patience to wait and see what arises out of the quagmire of materialism. Nevertheless the querent may find that one turns away from a situation and walks towards what is hoped are better opportunities before the final result is announced. The end result is not important. It is the effort to achieve that is the reward. A journey to self-awareness. "Abandoned Success".

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

A lack of aggressiveness in communication is made up for by persistence, but a lack of self respect invokes an expected,

almost welcomed, negative response from others. There is difficulty with a sister or sisters and dissatisfaction with neighbours. There are likely to be changes in the family. Youths may walk out of examinations, if they haven't already refused to sit their school exams; studies will be discontinued due to a lack of foresight as to their worth. A "what's the point" attitude envelops affairs in the above matters. There is much telephoning and writing and if the 8 of Cups is well aspected in this position, much hard work is put into career training. Travel of the body is not foretold but there is a great deal of travelling of the mind. "Pessimism".

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:

In this position the 8 of Cups shows one who should (or may) deliberately isolate himself from society and family for the purpose of developing talent, or to find a purpose in life. One must find independence in and from the above matters before a wholeness can be felt. The 8 of Cups represents a time when someone leaves the home, the parting of friends and family. There is a yearning for something else, whatever it is, and you must go out and find it. However, nothing is done and nothing is achieved out of the realms of your own capabilities. On the other side of the coin this position represents heavy family responsibility and the burden of managing property or

inheritance. "Parting".

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

In the above matters the 8 of Cups shows a careful, quiet mode of action with a preference to be alone. A great deal more can be achieved when you are left alone to co-ordinate things. Regarding children one has a great deal of responsibility in one form or another. If a birth is to take place there will be difficulty. Speculations that are made during the influence of this card are generally successful, but those made earlier may turn out to be unsuccessful. In matters of love there is disappointment, a parting of lovers. Let the querent learn to show more external warmth. Well aspected in this position, the 8 of Cups depicts joy and feasting, lots of gaiety cometh your way. The Key word for this position is "Seclusion".

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:

Here we have the secret agent, or the detective; a behind the scenes worker. A serious attitude is taken towards all of the above matters. You are concerned about the problems that afflict society, therefore attempt to improve conditions, even if

what you actually do does not have an actual bearing on them. If badly afflicted this card indicates chronic health problems caused through overwork and not having the opportunity to change matters. Relationships within the working environment can sway two ways. If the card is afflicted there are difficulties, and if the card is harmoniously aspected there is mutual respect between co-workers. You may feel that your current employment does not fulfil your needs. In that event there will be a parting of ways. "Ameliorate".

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:

If negatively aspected the 8 of Cups represents stagnation of relationships, causing a drifting apart of people; an unsupported partner - marriage or otherwise; Separation and divorce; walking away from contracts. Again, the 8 of Cups shows a lack of self-worth, which does not encourage harmonious relationships. How can you show any worth for others if you don't have worth for yourself? The lesson in this position is to learn self-worth, then give yourself to your relationships. You may find you will be giving a valuable contribution to society and at the same time deriving much spiritual satisfaction. "Separation".

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:

Pleasures for the moment; satisfactory handling of others finances, inheritance, corporate monies, charities etc; short lived sexual pleasure; equilibrium of partnerships; these are all depicted by the 8 of Cups under the above matters. It represents the return to materialisation and disacknowledgement of a spiritual source. These lead to distressing dreams and psychic experiences together with a fear of death. There is burden of taxes, and/or financial settlements, for example alimony. It is a time of legal difficulties, and restrictions to ones ambitions. There is a general trend of reversal of fortune. This position also depicts the abandonment of material success for the following of a spiritual path. "Relinquishment".

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:

In this position the 8 of Cups depicts one who follows a career that has the objective of relieving social problems. One who has the strength to uplift those who are unable to solve their problems alone. Any religious interest taken up is one that works purely on the material side of matters; and/or one that can help us physically in the 'here and now'. Education is limited to the social structure and concepts that one was brought

up in. The mental approach to the above matters is conservative and traditional. There is limitation to any distant travel or exploration in any field. However, working within chosen confines brings a certain amount of success. In querying as to any change in any of the above matters, such as legal systems, there will be none for boundaries have been set and at present these structures will remain. The Key word for the 8 of Cups in this position is "Conservative".

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

In the above matters the 8 of Cups shows general success and solidity; a pillar of the community; one who is accepted by society; consolidation of achievements; the stable parent - but these are only states of being, not states of advancement, for one can advance no more. If one steps out of the boundaries which have been set there will be cause for disgrace. This is quite a good position for the 8 of Cups and the querent is advised that he has nothing to worry about in every day matters. Ones profession remains as it is with no advancement or retreat. There are those however, who will feel entrapped in such a situation, feeling overwhelmed with a staleness. This is where some of these people abandon their success in search for better things. The future then becomes obscure and unsecure. "Discontent".

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 8 of Cups depicts fear of the unknown, and as such one must try to be as well informed as possible. In doing this one draws many people around oneself, and goes out and becomes very involved in social and/or political activities. Such a person can be of great benefit to society with all his/her accumulated knowledge. However, freedom to do what you want, when you want, is limited to within the confines of your environment. Beware of betrayal. Those that are closest to you may not be who or what they seem. This position favours politicians and those on the path of justice and righteousness. The Key word for this position is "Betrayal".

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:

Illnesses depicted by the 8 of Cups are Scrofula, ulcers of the feet, consumption, gout, and rachitis. If the 8 of Cups is afflicted in this position the querent is likely to experience depression and loneliness; possible hospitalization or imprisonment, but only temporary. Punishment in some form or another may

be inflicted on the querent. Enemies are generally more imaginary than real, but you must be prepared to be abandoned when times get tough. It is not fortunate to get the 8 of Cups in this position, for it shows the weight of Karma upon ones shoulders. It hints at poisoning, or drowning. The link between the Higher and Lower Self has been severed. "Debasement".

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8 of Cups: "Lord of Abandoned Success"
(First Stage Projection - Transmutation)

In 1st position:	"Efficacious"
In 2nd position:	"Abandoned Success"
In 3rd position:	"Pessimism"
In 4th position:	"Parting"
In 5th position:	"Seclusion"
In 6th position:	"Ameliorate"
In 7th position:	"Separation"
In 8th position:	"Relinquishment"
In 9th position:	"Conservative"
In 10th position:	"Discontent"
In 11th position:	"Betrayal"
In 12th position:	"Debasement"

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MEDITATION ON THE EIGHT 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.

---oo0oo---

exercise

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

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