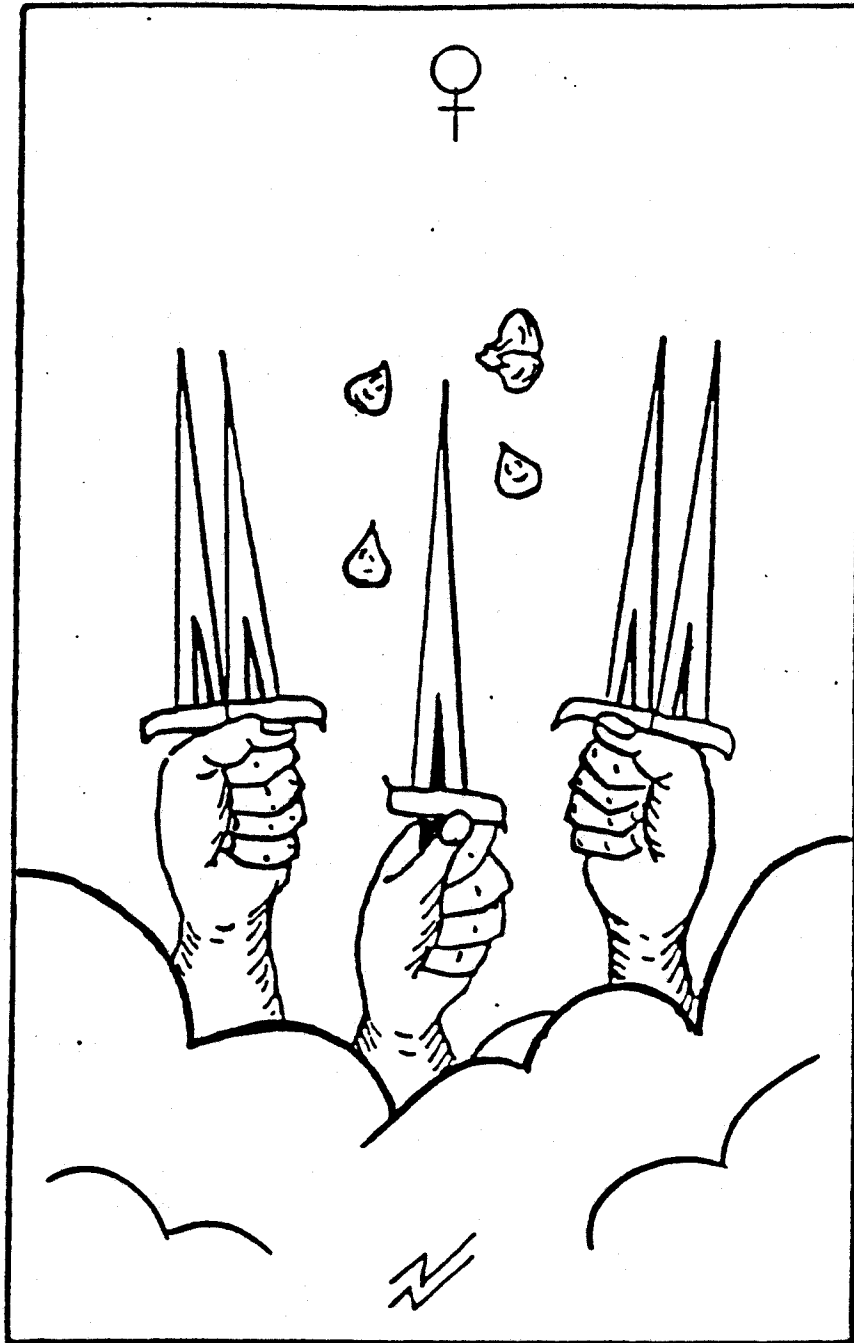


LESSON 76

FIVE OF SWORDS

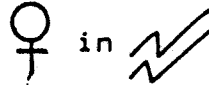


LESSON 76

5 OF SWORDS

Lord of Loss in Pleasure

0 to 10 degrees Aquarius



Two rayed angelic hands, each hold two swords nearly upright but falling apart of each other, right and left of the card. A third hand holds a sword upright in the centre as though it has disunited them. The petals of the rose, which in the 4 of Swords was reinstated in the centre, are now torn asunder and falling.

The balance of power of the previous card has been upsurged for the swords which protected the rose are thrown asunder as the sword from the bottom of the card comes out of the clouds and pierces the rose, with force, and knocks away the harmony of the other four swords. This upsurge of direct energy is necessary to break the stalemate of the 4 of Swords giving much force to a situation, and although appearing to scatter the other four swords is in fact spreading the area of concentration. This shows someone or thing has blundered into a situation for the gratification of self without considering the consequences - irrationality. "Lord of Loss in Pleasure" is the Key phrase for the 5 of Swords, and at first sight this phrase does not appear appropriate - Lord of Defeat seems more appropriate. However, when you consider the psychological and emotional result of defeat, loss, interference or as the recipient and of malice,

loss of pleasure seems very much the end result.

Alchemically, the clouds that had risen in the 4 of Swords have now in the 5 of Swords been resolved into rain, snow and hail, and they fall, returning to their origin - the Bird has again lost its wings. The Eagle has thrown down the Dragon and the vapour then gently descends, just as the rose petals that were severely scattered by the central sword gently float down, and are likened to descending dew. The clouds are higher and thicker than in the 3 of Swords signifying more moisture so that a drying does not take place and any lost strength can be restored. Here the vapour and the Mercury are united and gold and silver are transmuted into spirit.

To extract a deeper understanding of this card we shall look at the five swords which are arranged from left to right, first 2 swords, 1 sword in the middle, then 2, which is compared with BAB. BB represents 'something hollow' and the A is 'to initiate'; therefore we have the intersecting A effecting the break in the swords (opening the gate of the 4 of Swords) and creating an opening. 212 also makes ZRH which means 'disperse scatter', or ChDR which means 'move swiftly', but it can also be GZBR which means 'a saver, treasuring', showing that the end result of such actions are not wholly destructive. In addition there are five rose petals. They allude to a reflection of the 5 swords. However the rose petals have been scattered into four separate directions showing that the stability of the 4 of Swords has been disturbed. But these directions in themselves allude to

some form of order by the virtue of the number 4.

The 5 of Swords is coloured in the Prince Scale. The backdrop is the colour of the Sign, Lightish Amaranth, and the swords are the colour of the Planet, Copper Green. There are translucent streaks of Lightish Amaranth flowing from the swords in the directions that their tips point. The rose petals, clouds and hands are coloured Brilliant White.

The Lightish Amaranth alludes to the lustre of the living soul, and the Copper Green represents the image of living. So from this card emanates the union of body and spirit through a sudden piercing of the spirit and the opening up of a channel through which it can fall, which is seen by the upraised swords and the falling petals of the pierced rose. However, the Lightish Amaranth is also encrusting in its action causing restriction, and the Copper Green shows the substance restricted which is matter. So the overall impression received from this card is the soul/spirit entrapped in matter, and the interference by matter in the rising of the soul/spirit. Meditation on this card is helpful in those cases who have an etheric and astral weakness for it provides a sedative and grounding effect.

The astrological association to the 5 of Swords is Venus in Aquarius. The Venus in Aquarius character avoids all close relationships for fear of loosing independence and projects an attitude of detachment. They would rather break up a relationship than be socially restricted, or restricted in any other way,

for they constantly need to be stimulated, intellectually and otherwise, and this drive causes constant changes in their lives and the lives of those they influence. Although with reasonably refined characters, they tend to take matters to the extreme, one way or the other in their way of living, place of living and personal attire. Some are even considered to be quite eccentric, as they tend to live outside the social structure, or idea of things. Venus in Aquarius also shows social popularity, fondness for children, the pleasant things of life, and appreciation of the arts or other refined forms of interest. This character is very much involved in organizations and group activities. The either wish to become lost in the crowd, or to stand out in the crowd, in either case Venus in Aquarius is involved.

Geburah of Vau (defeat, loss, malice, spite, slander, evil speaking).

DIVINATION

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

The 5 of Swords in this position represents someone who has extended themselves to their maximum. They enter situations through impulse that either improves or antagonizes situations - indications of which are read in the surrounding cards. They are sometimes likened to the avant-garde and the mentally quick. On

the negative side the 5 of Swords shows a hypersensitive situation containing great mental stress on one. It represents one whose thoughts race and shows an extreme is where a persons mind can blow as the energies received can be too much to handle. The physical appearance shown by this card is not beauty, but an unusually handsome quality in both men and women. They are socially outgoing and tend to be friends with all, close to none. Their tougue is sharp. "Antagonist".

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:

Money is generally made through governmental and/or social organizations but one tends to use up the profits on unusual enterprises. There is apprehensiveness about future investments which will cause a wrong decision to be made. The 5 of Swords in this position shows that one is likely to be unfortunate in the above matters. No matter which way you turn there appears to be a loss, either emotionally, physically, in personal possessions, or financially. This is due to the loss of the balance of power which you previously held. To regain your advantage you must act suddenly and with force, showing no sympathy. However, if you are already disadvantaged it is very likely that you used too much force in the first place. "Decline".

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

The 5 of Swords under the above matters shows one who loses happiness and harmony through villainess of nature. It shows that maliciousness, lying and spiteful tale bearing is afoot. Either you, or a member of your family (relations or neighbours) will create an interference, or be a busybody and separator of friends. However the 5 of Swords also represents someone who is quick in thought and speech and very clever. Someone who can pierce the root of all situations, but someone who must also always disrupt all situations. There is pleasure in chaos. The lesson here is not to emulate such behaviour in order to beat it, but to rise above it. "Malice".

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:

Under the above matters the 5 of Swords shows a state of poverty. If the querent is one who is far from poverishness the 5 of Swords depicts failure and defeat in some way in the affairs listed above. There is loss and mishandling of real estate; mishandling of a parent, or the parent of you; you can blunder into something which can create a whole turning point in your life; in matters of the occult there is an element of misuse and

misrepresentation. Any action in this instance is not one of intent but one of ignorance. One blunders into a situation without considering the consequences - from such blunders there is misfortune. The Key word for this position of the 5 of Swords is "Mishandling".

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

Unusual love affairs are depicted in this position by the 5 of Swords, and friends become lovers. There is over-indulgence in sexual involvements and the enforcement of one will over another. It shows one who hates to see peace and love between others. A contest is finished and decided against a person. Recreational events will be disrupted, sporting events postponed. Children become troublesome, and will bring sorrow. There are times when your children will make you feel a total failure in your efforts to bring them up. This card shows compulsion in the individual in the above matters. Someone who cannot help himself and ruins what he or she tries to save. "Compulsiveness".

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:

In health matters the 5 of Swords shows a turn for the

worst. A person will be the cause of his own undoing, unfortunately taking a few others down with him. A job may be lost; an employee may quit; a demotion may be in order. However, whatever the situation there is interference of one form or another defeating all aims. If enquiring whether to apply for a particular job or what the job will be like, this card warns that the job will cause unhappiness. There will be a loss of pleasure and a dissatisfaction in current forms of employment. Relationships will be difficult due to deceit, slander and a lack of loyalty in all parties. "Defeat".

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:

The 5 of Swords shows a person who (unconsciously and at times consciously) cannot abide free thought in those he/she is associated with. This person through mental manipulation whittles away at the protective shell of another until he/she has made that person totally moulded to his/her way of thinking. In social affairs a social blunder will be made (or has been made), along the lines of breaching etiquette or an indiscretion. Contracts and agreements fall through and your adversaries get the better of you through your own misdealing. The lesson here is to learn tact and patience. Don't plunge into affairs without prior consideration to who and what you affect by your actions. "Faux pas".

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:

Beware of accidents when the 5 of Swords turns up here. It also shows punishment for crimes, or if on the other foot a loss due to crime, sexual abuse and rape, vandalism and theft. Esoterically, any spiritual connection has been severed and can only be conceived on a distorted intellectual level. You could find that your financial affairs have been mishandled by others and suffer a loss, or it may be you that has mishandled others affairs. The above actions, though, are not intentional. A person just can't help themselves due to their own neurosis, psychological distortion of matters, or plain ignorance of what is happening. "Offender".

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 attain the type of formal education that you desire you will be fighting against all odds and will have to push through all interference. There is an innate desire for harmony and to indulge in various forms of cultures, but no matter what you do, disorder occurs and matters move out of your control. There is

likely to be failure in matters of study as one is unenduring. Too much passivity on the outset causes ones efforts to dwindle as energies scatter. Travel arrangements will be postponed due to interference, and breakdowns occur. You are warned by this card that now is not a good time to travel. "Interference".

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

There is an overall feeling that life has not offered what you want out of it, leaving an air of discontent which causes one to grab at all opportunities. However, such impulsive and behaviour tends to spoil all chances before they commence as one hasn't the necessary willpower and aggression to carry through. Nevertheless the 5 of Swords in this position tells that one will never be lacking in goals, for a great deal is desired. It shows a very materialistic mental approach to life. A person may be successful in their profession and on the outside appear like knights in shining armour through their clever manipulation of others, but on the inside they are likened to rotting apples. "Impetuous".

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:

Group activities and societies of all kinds are sought, yet close association in relationships is avoided. In this position the 5 of Swords shows one who is relatively interested in intellectual and spiritual achievements, and bathes in any conception that others may consider him/her 'knowing' in such areas, even though little knowledge possessed. Such ego-mania however can become his/her own downfall as it is magnified beyond conscious control. The 5 of Swords represents contemptuousness towards other people and their efforts in social activities. Anyone receiving this card in this position should take a second look at their own attitude, then consider carefully the attitude of those to whom they are associated. "Ego-Mania".

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:

Health afflictions are: blood disorders, varicose veins, it shows that any current ailment like a cancerous tumour will spread and will not be contained in one area, and/or any effort to remove the problem will only make matters worse. Danger of intrigues. An unglorified conquest is made by physical force, and a threat is made. There is a warning of treachery. Unavoidable events prevent early retirement. A sudden change in the balance of power arises under the above matters and an element of irrationality controls a situation. Whatever the question a loss

of pleasure results. "Dispirit".

---ooOoo---

5 of Swords - "Lord of Loss of Pleasure"

(1st Stage Multiplication)

In the 1st position: "Antagonist"
In the 2nd position: "Decline"
In the 3rd position: "Malice"
In the 4th position: "Mishandling"
In the 5th position: "Compulsiveness"
In the 6th position: "Defeat"
In the 7th position: "Faux pas"
In the 8th position: "Offender"
In the 9th position: "Interference"
In the 10th position: "Impetuous"
In the 11th position: "Ego-Mania"
In the 12th position: "Dispirit"

---ooOoo---

MEDITATION ON THE FIVE OF SWORDS:

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.

---oo0oo---