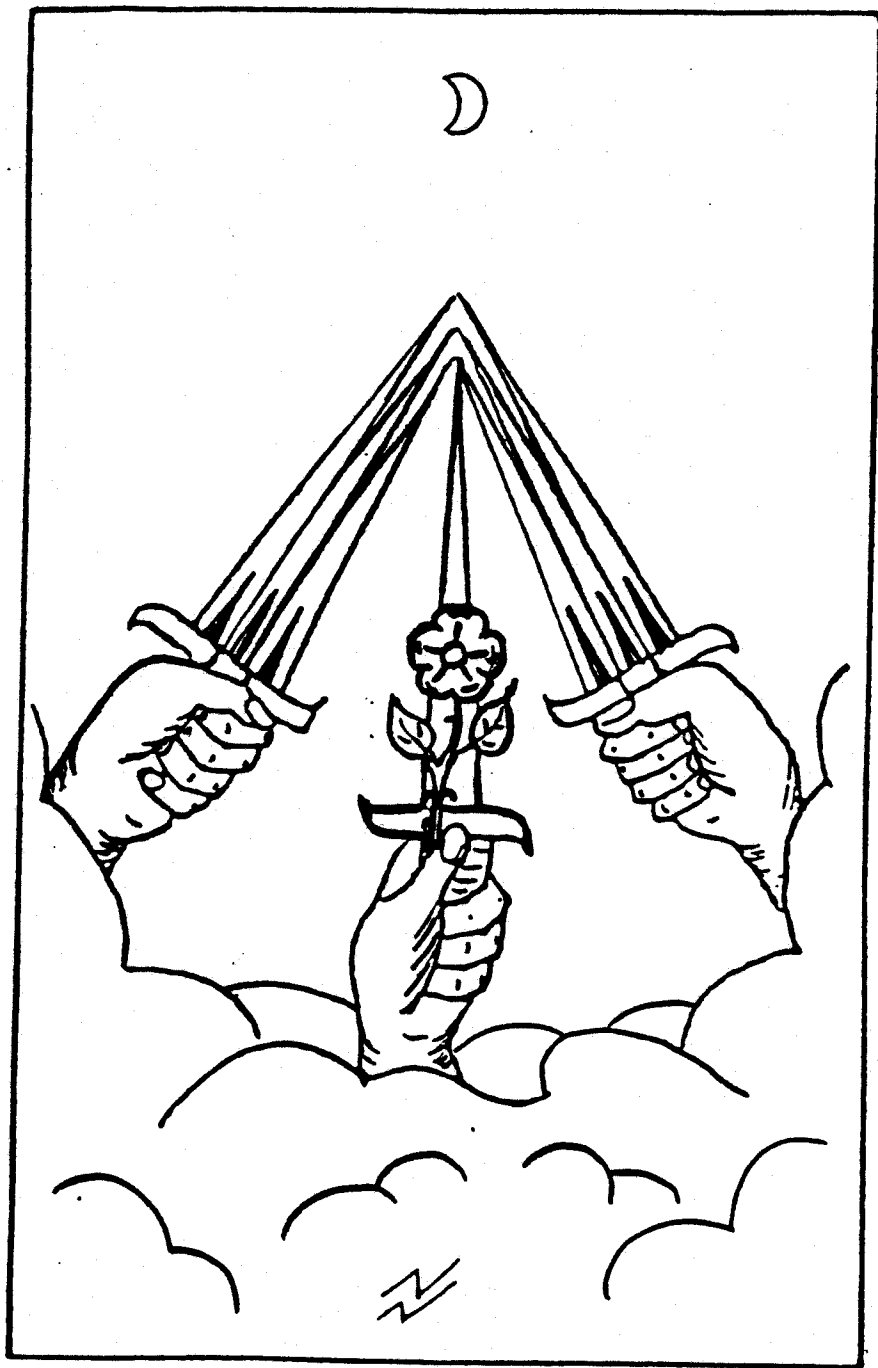


LESSON 78

SEVEN OF SWORDS




## LESSON 78

## 7 OF SWORDS

"Lord of Unstable Effort"

20 to 30 degrees Aquarius

D in 

Two angelic radiating hands as before, each holding three swords. A third hand holds up a single sword in the centre. The points of all the swords just touch each other, the central sword not altogether dividing them. The rose of the previous symbols of this suit is held up by the same hand which holds the central sword - as if victory were at its disposal.

The rose has not fallen but lies on the lower shaft of the central sword. This is the descention of the spirit (the rose) and the ascension of matter (the rising of the central sword). The rose shows an unconscious position of attainment (note its central position). The 7 of Swords, although called "Lord of Unstable Effort", is not considered a negative card, for it is still in touch with the higher forces. For example the 7 of Swords contains two tridents which represent the presence of the threefold power as it was in the 6 of Swords, but here the powers are not counterbalanced or held in check, showing that instability has entered a situation. Stillness and stability is only temporary, for the concentrated energy of the previous card is now, in this card, insisting on movement. The influence of the 7 of Swords is transient.

The success of the previous card is at it's limit and the detente of the opposing forces is altered with the introduction of a neutral force whom both parties reluctantly agree to let guard the rose and learn of its mysteries. This force however, is an interim one and only exists at the agreement of the other two parties. The rose may be snatched back from its central position at any time.

The clouds have thickened yet still remain like the 6 of Swords. Socrates says: 'When the heat penetrates, it makes subtle all earthly things, that are of service to the matter, but come to no final form while it is acting on the matter'. Seven times you distil and there the destructable moisture is separated, then the heat is modified by the coldness of the Moon.

The Peacocks Tail, Caudu Pavonis, has finally turned into the Swan: 'For we have Cygnus, the Swan, flying in midheaven. The swan of eternity, flying in time and space, is the symbol of life itself, the cleansing, purifying "living waters" of Aquarius. (The Labours of Hercules by Alice A. Bailey).

The 7 of Swords is coloured in the Prince Scale. The background is the colour of the sign, Light Amaranth. The swords are the colour of the planet, Turquoise White. The rose, hands and clouds are Brilliant White and the stem and leaves of the rose are the complementary colour to the background, Apple Green. The background is made more translucent around the central sword

and hand, and rays upward from the points of the swords.

The overall vibration from the colours of this card is healing and soothing, and causes an unfolding of inner power. Its effects are helpful yet the Turquoise White alludes to immaturity. Depth is lacked although it's path is towards maturity, activated by the Apple Green (the active mind), and bathed in the deeply healing rays of the Light Amaranth. Thus we have here a mind that is unstable in it's efforts due to its immaturity and not for any misgiving of its own.

The Planet and Sign associated to the 7 of Swords is the Moon in Aquarius. Emotions that are deep within the individual are expanded out in the framework of cosmic awareness. Ideas are independent and original, and interests are unusual and novel, at times eccentric, and are inclined towards occult pursuits. Moon in Aquarius is very humanitarian and enjoys social gatherings with those of similar interests. It is very sympathetic in nature but at the same time impersonal. Freedom in expression and to come and go as they choose is of importance and sometimes they will go to great ends to obtain freedom. The intuition and imagination is increased by Moon in Aquarius. It is not favourable for the nervous system or eyesight as there is great sensitivity. This sensitivity is attuned psychically and produces some mediums. This nature thrives on unconventionality and unorthodox ways of thinking, yet social conditioning plays a very strong part in the Moon in Aquarius nature, leaving it a hard road to break restricting forms of past conditioning.

Netzach of Vau (Journey by land, in character untrustworthy)

#### DIVINATION

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

Dwelling on the future makes you feel apprehensive, but this is only a projection of feelings of inadequacy. The 7 of Swords advises you to establish easy goals at first, then you may be assured to succeed. Taking on more than you can handle will always appear as if your efforts are unstable. This position shows changeableness, and emotional impulsiveness and sensitivity to outside influences with a tendency to over-react. There is mistrust of other people and a delay in any project or decision. Under negative aspects personal strife and confrontations prevent advancement which causes some, at times, to "throw in the towel". The Key words are "Small Undertakings".

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:

Personal resources are more than you realise. Put yourself

in a position where you will be forced to utilize your talents and you will be well rewarded. However, the 7 of Swords, under normal circumstances depicts that one yields at the point of success, thereby losing the golden apple. There is love of abundance, financially, materially and physically though this may not necessarily come up to your expectations in your lifetime. The nature of the 7 of Swords under the above matters is partial success, so do not despair when you receive this card here. Use prudence and foresight, and avoid direct confrontations, and victory can yet be gained. "Partial Success"

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

On matters of short journeys the 7 of Swords represents a journey over land. Forms of education are attempted spasmodically - a lack of concentration and effort. Family members and neighbours are inclined to betray your confidences, although not always intentionally. Books may not be finished - writing, reading or correspondence neglected when halfway through. One must learn persistence to achieve anything. Identity is with how and what people think of you, and what worth they give to your work. This position also shows a dry wit. "Spasmodic".

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; con-

cerning the soul; the occult in its practical terms; divination:

In your early years you were probably conditioned to sacrifice all your energies to your family and home business or activities. Once you are free from this obligation, which should take place in the early to late twenties, you must then devote your energies to your own development. The 7 of Swords shows that this later devotion to the self is not a constant one, for early conditioning causes an ever present guilty conscience. You may be inclined to commit yourself to a similar situation elsewhere to console your guilt. The answer is to try to reach your own inner centre - be loyal to the self and only the self first. Try to remember that you are not answerable to anyone else, for each individual is responsible for themselves and commit a cosmic crime when engaging others in the ownership of responsibility. "Fealty".

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

Creativity is focussed through children, who mean a great deal to you. However these are not just children of the flesh, but are children of the mind and soul as well. So much attention is focussed in their direction that a conflict arises with your personal needs weakening your level of tolerance. These children will not be there forever, so try to give yourself a little attention too. In matters of love the 7 of Swords shows one



seeking freedom of emotional expression, but no matter how much emotion is involved the individual has intellectual control over his/her actions. At times it represents a dark girl and is generally a good card with the promise of a better life.

"Personal Needs".

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:

To gain the type of security you need in later life, you find you will have to concede to working long and hard. However, distraction from your objective becomes more frequent when friends prevail on you for favours. Your workload then becomes far greater than you can handle, causing your work and personal life to suffer. The seven of swords shows here frequent changes in your employment, and encounters of moody co-workers. There is a lot of medically unexplained illness hindering advancement in your personal life. Look at your employment - are you really happy?, the answer probably will be no and that will be why you are not well. You may have outwardly conceded defeat and have accepted your lot in life but inwardly you are still fighting.

"Concede".

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 seven of swords in this position shows the hard worker forever trying to please their partner and inevitably running out of energy in the attempt. Do not despair, your partner already understands and is ready to give you all the support required. Domestic affairs and personal relationships become the major concern, and interaction with women play an important part in your life. Under stressed conditions there are arguments and emotional upsets. If you are unmarried a decision in that direction is difficult and may lead to much indecisiveness. Known enemies are disarmed before confrontation. The keyword for this position is "Indecisiveness".

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:

Here the seven of swords warns that someone may walk away with something that does not belong to them, though without conscious intent on their part. It also shows someone being let into confidence who betrays. In street language it is analogous to the 'con'. The person who forces himself into a situation to take advantage of the internal factors (whether stable or unstable). It shows an individual intruding into an area that they do not belong in. They are clever enough to extract relevant information so that they can fit into a situation on a temporary

basis, but do not have the staying power nor the intent to remain there. It is the card of the dabbler in spiritualism, someone who is out of his element. But on a more evolved level this card shows an unfolding of spirituality. "Intruder".

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:

On educational matters we have the person who will not succeed in his final goal. A person of limited education and abilities. In areas of travel only short journies are indicated, while in the communication field there will be a flurry of intense interaction with a stranger though it will be shortlived. Fear of the unknown prevents advancement in the above matters. If you are aware of your fears you will find furthering your education will help overcome them. You may be religious in values but your scientific beliefs interfere with religious concepts causing a static state of fluctuation, ideas and general confusion. For the more evolved individual the 'great secret' is contained and protected by an outer shell which acts as a veil. "Shortlived Efforts".

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

Although you may receive good advice and counsel in the above matters you will find that you may have only partial success. However, there will be a certain satisfaction in the return for your efforts in your career, but you will be better off if you extend yourself and capitalise on your resources of knowledge. In business there will be a change in management and publicity, and in these areas the 7 of Swords shows an increase in concern for public reputation and status. There is public exposure and appearances, and general recognition for your efforts. Under stressed aspects publicity is unfavourable - possibly law suits due to unwise words spoken or slanderous writings. There are frequent dealings with women in social and professional circumstances. The keyword is "Exposure".

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:

Feeling like a stranger to this world, asking 'why am I here, I don't belong', wanting to escape but you cannot! You feel that all is futile! Yes, this is the general feeling when the seven of swords turns up here. The seven of swords also shows sacrifice to humanitarian causes. Life seems to be a struggle with early life difficulty in the above matters. Let go of the past and let your future unfold; put aside your apprehension as it causes you to resist change, limiting your ability to take advantage of opportunity. Until you do this all your efforts and

achievements will appear futile. The keyword for this position is "Futility".

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:

Karmically one feels responsible to others and contributes to enrich them and improve the quality of their life. The seven of swords shows that there is temporary resolvment of problems. This is because the unconscious roots of your problems have not yet been reached. There are many unknown enemies and a tendency to attract and give negative responses on first encounters. Ones self undoing is self pity: "O woe is me, the world is against me". Hospitalisation may occur due to an accident. You have a great many hidden resources but they need time to mature. Give yourself time and don't attempt too much too soon. "Hidden Resources".

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Z of Swords: "Lord of Unstable Force"

(Third Stage Multiplication - Cygnus)

|                   |                      |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| In 1st position:  | "Small Undertakings" |
| In 2nd position:  | "Partial Success"    |
| In 3rd position:  | "Spasmodic"          |
| In 4th position:  | "Fealty"             |
| In 5th position:  | "Personal Needs"     |
| In 6th position:  | "Concede"            |
| In 7th position:  | "Indecisiveness"     |
| In 8th position:  | "Intruder"           |
| In 9th position:  | "Shortlived Efforts" |
| In 10th position: | "Exposure"           |
| In 11th position: | "Futility"           |
| In 12th position: | "Hidden Resources"   |

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#### MEDITATION ON THE SEVEN 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.

---oo0oo---

#### exercise

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

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