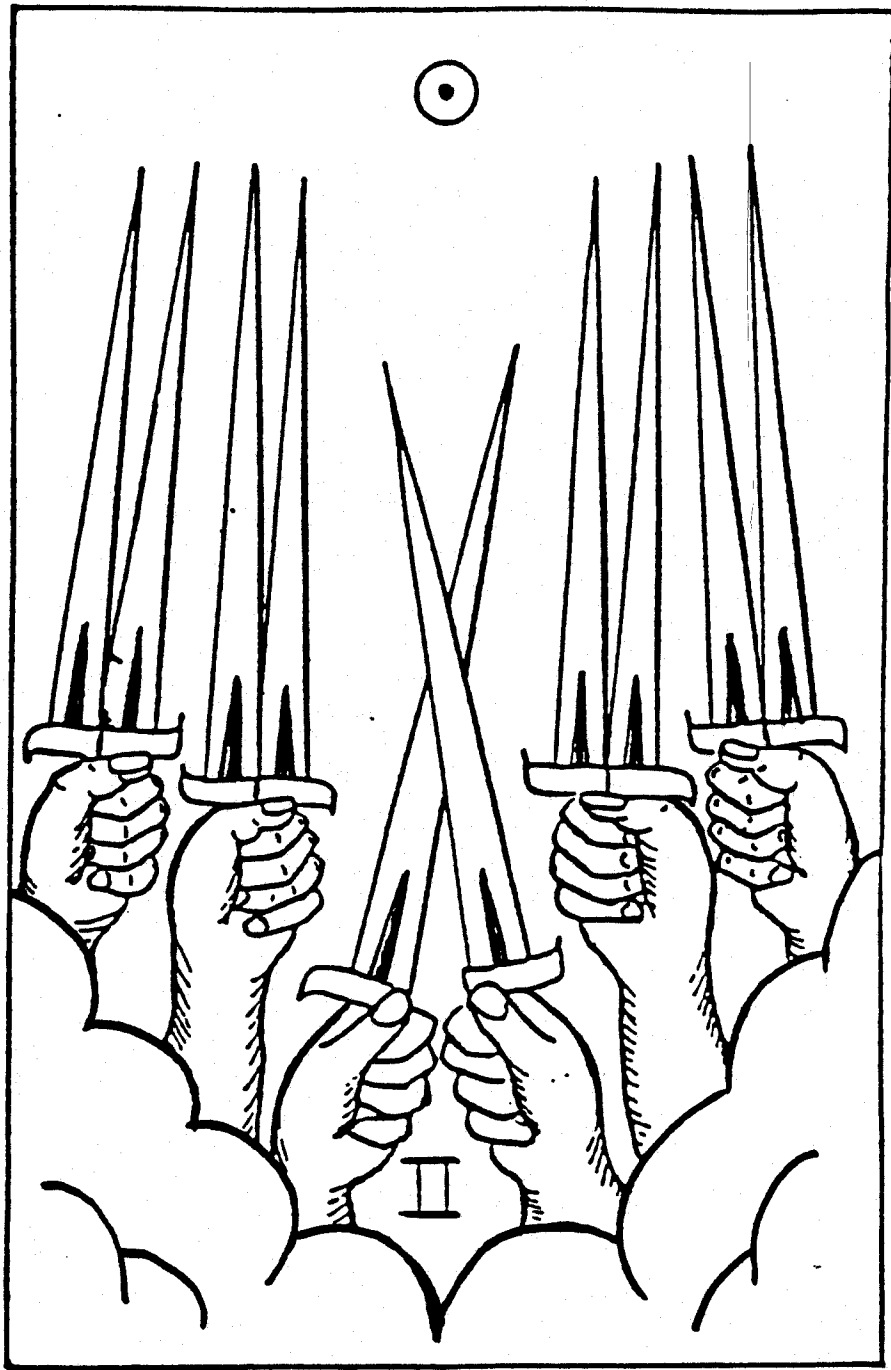


LESSON 81

TEN OF SWORDS



LESSON 81

10 OF SWORDS

"Lord of Ruin"

☉ in II

Four hands holding eight swords, as in the preceeding card; the points falling away from each other. Two hands holding two swords crossed in the centre, as though their junction had disunited the other. No rose, flower or bud is shown and the clouds have sunk to the earth in the centre.

This shows even more force than the 9 of Swords but instead of being scattered this energy is in fact in some instances turned against one another. The Gemini aspect is still manifesting while the force of unification of Malkuth, which joins or cements, has got some of its energy joined - but in combat. A worsening situation than that of the previous card. However, there are 4 swords on each side of the card which shows a form of balance or equilibrium, while in the middle there are two swords clashing in combat, which shows equal forces locked together into infinity unless some other element enters the situation to cause a much needed change. This additional element is created through the compression of the powerful combatting energies, thereby giving a solidification. The 10 of Swords possesses a dual nature, the first being a concentrated force turned inward on itself forming a transformation and a separation from a previous state. The second nature shows matters will not be resolved

before complete destruction is attained, and here it is given the name "Lord of Ruin".

The colours of the vapours from the 9 of Swords have now merged and we have here the pinnacle of the reddening (to the colour of blood). The 10 of Swords is the transition stage, it is the Malkuth of Yetzirah and the Kether in Assiah, and represents Philosophical Sulphur which is in itself an earth. Its nature opens and penetrates, and changes all to its own nature, but this is not the end of the work as so many have been deceived to believe.

The 10 of Swords is coloured in the Prince Scale. The swords are in the colour of the planet, Golden-Yellow Orange. The background is the colour of the Sign, Cinnamon Brown. The six hands and clouds are coloured Brilliant White, flourescent sparks of Cinnamon Brown emanating from the central swords. This is the final stage of Cinnamon Brown, which now depicts a firing of the solar forces (Golden-Yellow Orange). The presence of this colour against the backdrop of Cinnamom Brown alludes to an awakening or dissemination of values to wisdom.

These colours close ones sense of reality until the only hope is to follow ones instinct, for if one attempts to reason or intellectualise, their thoughts are turned in on each other creating disorder and confusion. The 10 of Swords teaches a very important lesson to all aspirants, and that is: Success on the path of the Great Work cannot be achieved until one transmutes

instinct into intuition, and only then can the intellect be interpreted and extended thereby formulating realisation.

The Planet and Sign associated to the 10 of Swords is the Sun in Gemini. This shows one who relies chiefly on his mental or instinctive faculties. His nature is dualistic and often expresses two conditions at the same time, showing that he could go in either direction (on an impulse). There is a great adaptability and versatility with a love for variety, travel and change. His outer shell often expresses a bold front but underneath he is shy and nervous. This character has deep sensitivity and is highly strung. To verbally communicate is very important to the sun in Gemini and invariably this is what he does. He is mentally impulsive, very inspirational but at times unreliable. Overall the Sun in Gemini shows ease of speech, an appetite for knowledge and a potential for high development - the messenger of the Gods.

DIVINATION

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

Receiving the 10 of Swords under the above matters on the one hand shows someone with abundant vitality, a strong will, someone who will not be swayed by the will of another; but on the other hand someone who is polymorphic, ruled by compulsiveness

and pride and who is allowed no tranquility. New beginnings are transient for they end in pain and sorrow, however, one can also achieve success but this is at the expense of something else. The 10 of Swords shows that one lets everyone know where one stands, no matter who is hurt or what it costs, and this costs a great deal as one takes a different stance whenever one attempts to analyse ones own thoughts. There is no logical reason to ones actions, one just acts on impulse to meet the occasion.

"Polymorphic".

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:

Here possessions become a curse - losses occur after temporary gain. Items may be repossessed. The economic climate causes hardship with everyone, even though you may not be personally effected. Beware of psuedo-hopes for matters will get worse. Well aspected, the 10 of Swords shows that affairs under the above matters can't get any worse, and can only get better. Although there are material limits though you will profit from your efforts. This card warns against conversations with others about financial concerns - you are well advised to listen rather than speak, and be wary of the misuse of money for personal gain.

"Psuedo-hopes".

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

Under the above matters the 10 of Swords shows sadness, tears and deceit. In the communication field reason becomes divorced from reality. There is estrangement in family relationships and rifts between neighbours due to quarrels. People will gather in groups against each other on an organised scale. Travel plans are halted due to communication problems. In the writing field the work becomes incomplete due to insufficient research. There are internal conflicts with a school (or any type of learning system) curriculums and an inability to accept the form of education provided. Any plans or projects started at this stage will not be completed. "Rift".

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:

In this position the 10 of Swords shows that the situation is not beneficial for a parent and that the querent should become aware of his own attitude towards his or her parents. Also under the above matters, in times of war there is ruination and desolation. In times of peace the influence shown by the 10 of swords operates on a more internal nature; ones soul is laid bare, or it represents the soulless state of things. On the mundane level

these can be shown in forms of insanity and death of the ego which relates to a significant shift in ones life and values. All occult practices are warned against when the 10 of Swords appears here as the person's ego is in no state to handle these energies. "Desolation".

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

Pleasure and pain go together in this instance as there is such a fine line between the two. Those receiving the 10 of Swords in this position are constantly, both consciously and unconsciously, in combat with their own ego. To the unaware, the ego invariably engages the person in all forms of activity of pleasure and pain to create diversions against a birthing of the "self". The "self" places a continuous flow of pressure causing an unconscious desire to give birth to itself. This sort of pressure can drive some out of their minds, but for others they engage in all forms of activity like beings possessed, in order to release their built up energies. This card is unfavourable for children and one should beware of cruelty towards them. "Combat".

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:

Illnesses of a short duration, pain, anxiety, nervous tension and asthma are health problems likely to occur when this card turns up in this position. In employment you will find that peoples' views differ from your own and a form of mental combat then develops, with neither party giving way. Other members of the staff may take sides which make ones working environment a small battleground. For those in the military there is victory. Ones sense of service is only for personal gain and to fulfill ones lust for power. No mercy is shown to you in working relationships no matter what your problem is. Mental anguish causes ill health due to work related problems. You may also leave your job before other suitable employment is arranged. "Anxiety".

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:

It is unfortunate to receive the 10 of Swords in this position, as there is jealousy and envy in relationships with the infliction of mental cruelty and pain. Contracts cannot be broken without the consent of the other party but uncertainty in enemies gives you ample opportunity to make your move which would break any deadlock in a situation. Karmically there are material limits to fulfilling your aspirations. These limits must be psychologically resolved before you can deal with them physically. Separation and matrimonial agreements become points of conflict

and disagreement. Custody cases draw much emotional pain. This is not a good card for social interaction or relationships of any kind as beliefs and ideas give cause for disruption. "Material Limits".

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:

When well aspected here the 10 of Swords shows an overthrow of negative forces and a personal involvement in joint business and corporate affairs. The querent's mind is involved in a large number of concerns at the same time. Negatively aspected, this card shows that involvement with the deeper mysteries of life could prove dangerous. For some, the lessons that are shown by the 10 of Swords could prove dangerous because of relationships that must be made and understood. This brings strife to those who close their inner eye, which makes life in this area a battlefield. This card also shows someone squandering the resources of others, settlements dodged and other unscrupulous traits. The attitude is "If I can't have it, I'll ruin it". "Ruin".

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 10 of Swords represents one who is eccentric; one who tries to force his ideas and beliefs on others; and it depicts brainwashing techniques. There is difficulty in obtaining a higher education and if one travels there will be problems in dealing with people involved and with travel arrangements, however it is unlikely that any travel will eventuate because of the obstacles involved. It would be unwise to make any travel arrangements when the 10 of Swords turns up here. Despair is expressed over legal systems and one is inclined to take the law into ones own hands. Public communications turn into a debate and there is a clash with the majority decision, but public debate brings more over to your side, equalising the vote. "Stalemate".

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

In this position the 10 of swords shows that amidst public and personal honour there are enemies. To maintain your position you will have to keep on fighting, for if you give an inch the other will take a mile. Ones profession requires mental dexterity and there is a strong need for worldly status. The 10 of Swords also represents the businessman archetype of the television who is intent on destroying his rivals and will stop at nothing to obtain his goal. There is no logic or reason for his actions, only a form of madness and need to destroy before he feels secure. "Tyrant".

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:

The 10 of Swords in this position represents take-over attempts of companies or organisations by another company or organisation. Friends become treacherous and factions form in groups. This card shows the entrance of a disruptive element in the above matters. This disruptive element does not originate from the outside of an organisation but from within. Its motives are to create disorder and disarray in the ranks for personal gain. A friend or acquaintance tends to dominate you for selfish ends although you could be the one that dominates. badly aspected, a community, city or even a country may become under siege, either through war or natural disaster. "Factions".

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:

For women the 10 of Swords in this position shows some form of psychological imprisonment. Diseases are those which affect the nervous system, the brain, and cause cerebral degeneracy. In some instances the 10 of Swords refers to the end of delusion in

spiritual matters although here is a great deal of difficulty in finding the right focus for your ideas and energies. The undercurrents of the 10 of Swords here are those not normally recognised as they remain in the depths of our psyche. From these undercurrents there is a great deal of mental torment and pain, which can manifest in the outer world as a very disruptive nature. Those receiving this card must first come to recognise the latter, which will be the first step to their own salvation. "Torment".

10 of Swords: "Lord of Ruin"
(Third Stage Separation)

In 1st position:	"Polymorphic"
In 2nd position:	"Psuedo-hopes"
In 3rd position:	"Rift"
In 4th position:	"Desolation"
In 5th position:	"Combat"
In 6th position:	"Anxiety"
In 7th position:	"Material Limits"
In 8th position:	"Ruin"
In 9th position:	"Stalemate"
In 10th position:	"Tyrant"
In 11th position:	"Factions"
In 12th position:	"Torment"

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MEDITATION ON THE TEN 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.

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exercise

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

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