

LESSON 110

THE MAGICIAN

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MAGICIAN

The Magician, as the matured Fool, has found his way to stability and growth, slowly conquering the negative aspects of the self until he is in total control of the forces of the godhead to manifest through him. His body reflects the light of Kether on to the total elemental weapons on the altar of Assiah in front of him.

As a Magician he recognises that he is but a vessel of the higher forces who utilise their power through the tools on the altar, but manipulated by him. The weapons on the altar are placed in their related directions and form the cross of the 4 elements. Each weapon is not only related to an element, but a fixed state as well. They are finely balanced, each in its correct place so that the Magician can begin his work in harmony with his surroundings. Each weapon is also analogous to the 4 Worlds of the Kabbalah. This relates to the heirarchy and structure from which the Magician invokes his power from and sends his devotion to. The 4 weapons also formulate the name YHVH, in its complete essence, which shows the source from which his power is drawn.

Levi says of the Magician: 'To govern the elementary spirits and thus become King of the occult elements, we must first have undergone the four ideals of ancient initiations....A man who is timid in water will never reign the Undines; one who is afraid of fire will never command the Salamanders; so long as we are liable to giddiness we must leave the Sylphs in peace and forbear from irritating Gnomes; for inferior spirits will only obey a power which has overcome them in their own element. When this incontestable faculty has been acquired by exercise and daring the word of our will must be imposed on the elements by special consecrations of air, fire, water and earth.' Related back directly to this trump we find that the elemental weapons represent part of the Magician's own nature that he must control and direct by conscious application of direct will.

The altar on which the elemental weapons are placed is the cube of the Universe, representing not only power over matter but control of the terrestrial forces as well. In the Neophyte ritual of the Golden Dawn, the Hierophant says: 'The Double Cubical Altar in the centre of the Hall, is an emblem of visible Nature, or Material Universe, concealing within herself the mysteries of

all dimensions, while revealing her surface to the exterior senses. It is a double cube because, as the Emerald tablet has said "The things below are a reflection of the things above." The world of men and women created to unhappiness is a reflection of the World of Divine Beings created to happiness. It is described in the SEPHER YETSIRAH, or The Book of Formation, as "An Abyss of height" and as an "Abyss of Depth", "An Abyss of the East and "An Abyss of the West", "An Abyss of the North" and "An Abyss of the South".

Under the old meaning of this card the Magician was called the Juggler. This applied to man, was meant to show how he balanced the forces of nature, which implied control over them. Another meaning of this old version was called the Conjuror or Illusionist. The Golden Dawn version of this card is radical in its departure from these main two themes. Here we have the silent worker. His actions are redirected inward instead of outward. Subtlety is the key framework in which he now operates.

The shape of the Magician is that of the caduceus and shows the harmonising and balancing aspects of the Macrocosm. The caduceus emblem on his chest shows the microcosm and the power coming through the Tiphareth centre in a balanced manner. This symbol is very much like the Wand of the Chief Adept, who controls the elemental forces beneath him.

The Magician must recognise that he is a tool or channel of the Higher Forces to flow through. His closed eyes show that he is meditating on receiving emanations from above and as such places his work under the sanction of the Higher Powers. His hands are in the grip of the Air Grade which shows the influence of this element.

Primrose Yellow is the colour of the Magician himself and that of his elemental weapons, which bathe in his reflected auric light and are essences of his own nature. His aura glows with this colour as the spiritual power emanates from him. The caduceus on his chest is white which shows the purity of its perfect balance. Greyish Violet is the colour of the hat and clothes of the Magician and relate to his airy nature and the nobility of his quest. The Greyish Purple Green of the background shows the framework of the Astral Light from which he manipulates his magnetic charge. The Greyish Purple Green with Primrose is the colour of the altar which shows the stability from which his base is built.

The Magician, being analogous to Mercury is also a symbol of forces that govern the elements, shown by the elemental weapons on the altar. He is such a governing force, that his modus operandi will differ and change so that as a force of power he

will be known, felt, but seldom recognised because of the Inner Plane nature of his work. The direct alchemical meaning of this card is that of a stage two or Fixed Mercury. The volatile nature of the Fool is now stabilised (through the actions of a solvent). This type of Mercury can be mixed with a great many other alchemical substances and has a very powerful regenerative effect and is sometimes known as the Secret Fire.

The mode of consciousness this card represents is Initiation, and from this independence is born. Here the individual grasps out with eagerness to his or her new found structure. He develops objectivity and discriminates against that which is useless to him. His conscious mind is slowly being manipulated and controlled through his perceptions and rationalisations as he grasps to learn the "Why" of things. The initiation process has made him look deeper into the Self in the hope of grasping the workings of the Inner Planes. Elaide says: 'To reduce the fluidity of Mercury is equivalent to the paradoxical transmutation of the Psycho Mental following a "static consciousness" without any modifications or length of time. In alchemical terms, to "fix" or to "kill" Mercury is tantamount to attaining to the Cittavrittirodha (suppression of conscious states), which is the ultimate aim of Yoga.'

The numerical association here is One, as the Monad, it is allotted to this trump in the form of a single unit about to extend and divide itself from the blueprint already contained in Zero. As the Magician already exists in the preconceived state and the emanations have already been laid down to grow in this direction. Being vertical and straight in nature, 1 shows the two extremes or opposite end of a subject. Applied Kabbalistically we have both Metatron and Sandalphon together in Kether and Malkuth which shows the perpetual motion cycle also found in the caduceus. This is a Prime Mover in both thought and action. Wynn Westcott says of the Monad: 'The number One or the Monad has been defined by the mathematician Theon of Smyrna as "the principle and the element of numbers, which while multitude can be lessened by subtraction, is itself deprived of every number and remains stable and firm"; hence as a number it is indivisible, it remains immutable, and even multiplied into itself only, since once one is still one, and the Monad multiplied by the Monad remains the immutable Monad to infinity. It remains by itself among other numbers, for no number can be taken from it, or separated from its unity;'

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## DIVINATION

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

Under the above matters the initial impetus of the Magician is control by will. This card shows a highly intelligent individual (or culture/society) who uses his mental faculties to guide his lifestyle and defend his beliefs. Though impulsive by nature, everything he does will have forethought. When his will is applied to a project very little will dissuade him from his position. He is a theorist and strategist of the unknown, one with foresight. Applied to the macrocosm, we have dominant systems, (which is how the Magician works) each step must be carefully planned before advancing to any other stage. Negatively aspected one blames the world for ones troubles.

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:

Under the above matters the key impetus the Magician has is the initiation of ideas. On a large scale of things this shows an urge to understand the nature of ones principles, feelings and attitude towards the outer business world, governmental projects and financial affairs. The Magician shows the formation of skillful manipulation of personal affairs and ones own mental and physical skills - high values are involved here. On a personal note there is (this card advises) flexibility and dexterity. There is probably more than one source of income, and if not, you are advised to arrange this. Security is found through learning and devising new techniques of earning and or production. Possible arbitration.

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

The key impetus of the Magician under the above matters is encouragement. On a large scale there is collaboration, from families to nations; scientific and technological research; communications between cities and nations. All minds work on different wavelengths but they are all just as equal. What is forming

is mental stimulation; communication with those of like mind; teaching and learning. Seeking of facts. On a personal note this card represents journalism, study, education, educational encouragement. There is a lot of talking and expressing of opinion. The surrounding cards dictates along which direction this card implies.

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 key impetuses here are to equilibriate and to will on a large scale, manipulation of the forces that control ones, or a nations, direction in life. Universally, knowledge of things are crystallising into actuality. On a lesser note many changes are taking place (business; environments); for some there may be occult study and ritual practice. There is a benefit of studying in the home environment. On a personal note this card shows the solving of domestic problems, dexterity in the home; intellectual activities with family members; developing skills; and travel rather than settling down is fortunate; on the negative side the Magician shows a tricky and elusive parent.

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

The key impetus for the Magician in this position is the essence of creativity put into action. It has poetic expression that one is not likely to find in daily activities; love is cosmic and it shows a growing consciousness of ones environment. On a large scale is shown nationwide affairs where all people communicate on a mass level - celebration. The Magician portrays an individual need to create for the sake of creating - artists - conveying ideas - expanding knowledge. He also represents the speculator, gambler, one with an active romantic life, a protector of children. In sports he is physically versatile.

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 key impetus for the Magician under the above matters is activity. He shows, on a large scale, collective work effort for a society, city or nation to grow. He warns to take heed when one

receives aches and pains without known cause. It is the unconscious despatching messages to the conscious mind - warning signs or attention seekers to some problem. A positive attitude aids health. This card shows human interests, the medical practitioner or researcher; clever management of daily affairs. On a negative note there is procrastination, stress and over-activity.

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:

Here the key impetus is harmonious relationships. On a large scale the Magician shows commerce between countries - international trade. Objectivity and detachment are required in dealing under the above matters. On more personal issues the Magician represents those who are difficult to pin down to specifics, non-committal. Partners must be intellectually stimulating. The Magician is also a counsellor, one who harmonises and balances relationships. Avoid arguments, for your opponents may be too quick witted. Problems cannot be worked through if approached negatively. Formation of contracts are also apparent here as well as the bringing together of karma.

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:

Curiosity is the initial impetus that the Magician represents in this position. He shows an inclination to cosmology - looking below the surface of things - an inquiring mind. Dreams cause anxiety and worry, but for some they can enlighten. Partnerships of mutual interest form, each giving benefit. Joint finances go well as one of the partners is very clever financially. This card shows corporate businesses, investments and moving interests from one area to another. There are short trips concerning relatives or partnerships. Beware of respiratory trouble and negative entanglements with relatives.

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:

The Magician's key essence here is to apply for admittance - he must belong. On a large scale the Magician shows prophetic

insight into cultural trends. One should try to understand the laws which govern the patterns of the cosmos. What is forming is perception from a distance, broadening of the mind, greater intellectual awareness and association with those of cultural distinction. On a personal note, travel is depicted; writing; publishing and lecturing. Negatively this card shows an inability to apply knowledge practically; gossip among in-laws.

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

The key impetus for the Magician here is to make decisions. On a large scale he shows political strategy and decisions to be made in governmental agencies by those in supervisory roles. The outcome should be favourable for the querent. Emulation of the mother on a large personal scale. What is forming is pursuing ambitions, being supportive in a relationship towards a career, concentration on one position in life, or recognition in a literary circle. He portrays diplomacy and on a personal note he shows a career of manual dexterity or the formation of agreements, a negotiator. Negatively, there can be communication problems between parent and child, policy decisions disagreed on, over-manipulation in ones position and abuse of what power you hold. However a person rises through life by mental power.

ON MATTERS OF friends; income; social alliances; legislation; ones attitude; group activities; government, counsellors; love received; spiritual and intellectual aspirations; ideals; fulfillment; what you yield and how you benefit others:

The key impetus for the Magician here is communication. He shows increased communication with friends, groups, organizations; humanitarian concerns and activity; an appeal to the occult or mysticism. Knowledge is enhanced through other people; formation of groups, meetings, seminars. He shows a strengthening of the intellect and cultivation of character. There is also sudden insight and intuitive realisations, shared intellectual interests. Negatively expressed there is erroneous advice and impractical ideas, or, problems communicating in groups.

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 key impetus for the Magician here is to bring into awareness hidden depths. On a large scale one goes into the depths of the unconscious - soul searching, psychotherapy. He advises that one should attempt to remove pre or early life debris to leave perceptions clear and warns if one doesn't take this course of action there is a danger of the mind breaking down. Negatively paranoia or distortion. However there is a person available to help you gain insight into your life. You have only but to ask. One lesson the Magician shows is care in speech and action, for this will override any problems or enmity that had or may occur.

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MEDITATION ON THE MAGICIAN:

Let the Student first study the overall picture of the card, then study each detail: Each symbol and image. 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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