

# Tarot & Intuition: Class-1

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***“If the doors of perception were cleansed every thing would appear to man as it is, Infinite.”***

– William Blake (poet, painter, printmaker, mystic 1757-1827)

## **Intuition**

- (From the Late Latin term *intuitiō* a contemplation, from Latin *intuērī* to gaze upon, from *tuērī* to look at)
- Direct perception of truth, fact, etc., independent of any reasoning process; immediate apprehension.
- Knowledge or belief obtained neither by reason nor by perception
- A keen and quick insight.
- Instinctive knowledge or belief
- “Intuition is due to a process similar to reasoning carried out by the unconscious mind; and because from the four-dimensional plane so many more facts are discernible than from the three-dimensional plane, if it is unwarped while coming through from the four-dimensional region of the unconscious, it is apt to be a far more reliable guide to truth than clumsy and ponderous Reason.”
- “It is well to cultivate the Intuition, not only because it now may be made to yield such accurate conclusions, but because, in a few years, it must chiefly be depended upon; for after we have left the physical body behind, Reason, which is dependent upon physical brain cells, can no longer offer guidance.”
- **Esoteric Psychology** - C. C. Zain

## **Extra Sensory Perception**

- All intuition generally utilizes EXTRA SENSORY PERCEPTION, usually abbreviated ESP.
- ESP is the act of acquiring information through channels other than physical senses and the commonly recognized processes of the mind.

- Active in the 1930’s and 40’s, The Church of Light ESP Research Department determined that there were three prominent methods of acquiring information from extrasensory sources.
- They are:
- Mediumship
- Feeling ESP
- Intellectual ESP

## **Mediumship**

- Mediums are psychic practitioners who mediate communication between human beings and the non-physical world.
- Throughout human history the practice has been associated with various religious belief systems such as: shamanic rituals of native Americans and Arctic tribes, Balinese pasupati ceremonies; West African Orisha traditions (which through the diaspora entered the New World as Voudun, Santería and Candomblé); and since the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, Spiritualism.
- It is quite likely that trance rituals are among the oldest forms of human ritualistic expression.
- Most trance rituals involve a disincarnate spirit possession of the medium or the use of the medium’s voice or body during a séance.
- Rhythmic dance or drumming is used in some traditions to induce a trance state
- States of trance are sometimes referred to as “channeling.”
- However, channeling does not always mean spirit possession, it can loosely refer to any psychic practice such as telepathy, spirit communion, automatic writing etc., where the individual becomes the medium or channel for outside information.
- A *séance*, which literally means “sitting,” is a assembly to produce paranormal phenomena.

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- During the late 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> century Spiritualism was a powerful cultural movement.
- Spiritualist celebrities were often at the vanguard of social movements such as, the abolition of slavery and women's suffrage.
- In spirit-trance states a wide variety of psychic phenomena can be produced such as apportations, automatic writing, ectoplasm, levitations, spirit-rappings, trumpet mediums, spirit slates and more.
- During the days when the greatest showmanship could attract the greatest number of followers, many mediums were shown to be fraudulent by debunkers.
- Harry Houdini, an active debunker of fraudulent séances, clearly stated that he did not oppose the religion of Spiritualism itself, but only the trickery by phony mediums that was being practiced in the name of the religion.
- Although mediumship can produce remarkable psychic phenomena it is not considered to be a "safe" method of psychic development: The Brotherhood of Light discourages its use.
- Over time mediumship can erode the individual will and cause the medium to be dominated by undesirable psychic influences.
- Another point of concern is that the medium cannot always select the non-physical intelligences that may want to occupy their form, which can lead to involuntary possession.
- Quality control can also be an issue. Just because someone has passed from the physical plane does not mean that they are immediately cognizant of all operations on astral and spiritual planes of existence.

## Feeling ESP

- Persons with prominent Feeling ESP utilize the hypersensitivity of their nervous system to tune in on the astral counterpart of persons or conditions about which information is sought.
- The nervous system of the individual with dominant Feeling ESP becomes a receiving set, much like a radio.
- With Feeling ESP the individual empathetically feels the condition of the object or other person with whom they have entered into rapport.
- Feeling ESP does not require the involvement of unseen intelligences and disincarnate entities.
- The disadvantages associated with Feeling ESP are:
- The individual using Feeling ESP experiences the pains, sufferings and other discords of the persons or conditions contacted.
- It can be difficult to disengage once an individual has psychically tuned into an unpleasant condition.
- Continued use of Feeling ESP can leave the subject physically, emotionally and psychically exhausted.
- To be successful with Feeling ESP, the practitioner, once he or she starts to feel mired in something disagreeable, must develop the ability to redirect his or her consciousness to more harmonious conditions.

## Intellectual ESP

- Intellectual ESP is the experience of being a detached, unemotional observer. It is similar to watching a movie without its sound score.
- Hypersensitivity plays no part in Intellectual ESP.
- Instead of becoming a receiving set (as in Feeling ESP), the electrical energies of the nervous system radiate high frequency vibrations which provide the

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intuitive senses of the unconscious mind with sufficient energy with which to perform their work.

- In the process of Intellectual ESP, the unconscious mind or astral brain functions on the inner plane to examine objects, thought-forms and communicate with other intelligences.
- The Church of Light considers Intellectual ESP to be the safest and most effective form of psychic development.
- In this class, Intellectual ESP will be alternately referred to as “Extension of Consciousness”
- During the practice of Intellectual ESP we extend our consciousness out from its normal seat in the physical brain to the inner plane.

## **States of Consciousness**

- In the study of psychology, the Human mind has three distinct parts:
- *The conscious mind,*
- *The subconscious mind* and
- *The super-conscious mind.*
- The subconscious and super-conscious minds are jointly categorized as the “unconscious mind” In the Brotherhood of Light Lessons

## **The Conscious Mind**

- The conscious mind is directly connected to the physical brain and the perceptions of our sensory organs.
- The conscious mind is responsible for logic, reasoning and voluntary perceptions—such as reading, writing, speaking, listening, etc.
- Anything we learn for the first time is through the action of the conscious mind.
- Our conscious mind can be a portal to our subconscious mind.
- Our consciousness goes to wherever we hold our attention.

## **The Unconscious Mind**

- The unconscious mind is comprised of both the subconscious and super-conscious minds

## **The Subconscious Mind**

- The subconscious mind is a storehouse of our learned behavior, beliefs, feelings and memories.
- It is the sum total of all our experiences with form.
- It comprises our character which can be both our strengths, skills and abilities as well as our neuroses, fears and negative habit systems.
- The language of the subconscious mind is the language of feelings (i.e. pleasure and pain) and emotions (anger, frustration, sorrow, joy, happiness,) as well as images or symbols.
- The subconscious mind is the portal to the super conscious mind.

## **The Super-Conscious Mind**

- The super conscious mind is the spark of the Divine within us.
- It can be alternately referred to as our Higher Self, or Higher Intelligence.
- The super conscious mind is often perceived as “I Am,” our sense of Self, minus the qualities that make up our personality.
- We can recognize it as the part of us that is a detached observer in our waking and dream states.

## **We Function in Two Environments**

- “Man has a physical body, and he has an astral body. The physical body, and through its nerve currents, which are electrical in nature, his mind, or soul, which resides on the inner-plane—the small emergent part being the Objective Mind and the submerged part the Unconscious Mind—are influenced by his outer-plane environment. His astral body and his mind, or soul, are

influenced by his inner-plane environment; and the thought-cells so affected in turn influence his physical body. Thus does man live in, and is influenced by, both an outer-plane world and an inner-plane world.”

- **Laws of Occultism** - C. C. Zain

## **Extension of Consciousness**

- The Inner Plane interpenetrates and has a molding effect over the physical
- To contact the inner plane we must extend our consciousness to the inner plane from where it normally resides on the physical plane.
- In order to do so we must have adequate electrification which can be generated through rhythmic breathing.

## **Accessing the Unconscious**

- “The unconscious and conscious exist in a profound state of interdependence of each other and the well-being of one is impossible without the well-being of the other”
- Laurens van der Post – forward to *Jung and Tarot*

## **The World-Line**

- When our consciousness is directed to the inner plane we tune into the astral counterpart of an object or individual and we tap into its “Life-Line” or “World-Line.”
- Past, present and future events are all perceived as memories.
- Since all is recorded as memories, it is dependent upon the skill of the intuitive to sort the past from the future.
- It can also take great skill to direct one’s consciousness to a narrow band of time in the future.
- “The soul, or unconscious mind of an individual, is the organization in finer than physical substance of the sum total of his past experiences. It and all

objects, move along this fourth dimension we call time. The line of movement of anything thus through time is called its World Line. All back of the Now point in each object’s or soul’s world line is fixed in the time dimensions; its place at any moment of the past cannot be altered. And when the consciousness is extended to an object or person on the inner plane, this world line can be perceived, and if the attention can be focused on any particular point in that world line, what happened at that time in the past, with details of the conditions affecting it can be perceived.”

- **Divination and Character Reading** – C. C. Zain

## **Feelings and Symbols**

- The subconscious mind or Soul most commonly communicates with the conscious mind through the use of feelings and symbols.

## **Esoteric Psychology**

- “One can hardly locate any point in the evolution of mind where symbols first were used. After all, concrete things cannot exist bodily in the mind, and as a symbol is that which stands for something, whatever mental images the mind holds are the symbols of its physical and mental experiences. Those symbols which are now in current use as the words of our language, are merely the more complex development of a process that is as old as life itself.”
- *Esoteric Psychology* - C. C. Zain

## **Symbolism**

- A symbol is that which represents something else.
- When we think of something we either think of its name or its image, often both.

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- If we are literate we may also think of the written form, either phonetically or as an ideogram.
- It is not the item that is in our mind, but its symbol.
- A word is a symbol that represents a person, place, object, action or abstract idea
- Written language is dependent upon symbols
- In pictograph writing a symbol or ideogram represents a word or idea
- In phonetic writing a symbol or letter represents a sound
- Human communication is dependent upon symbols.
- Based on the communication techniques of other primates, we can surmise that early humans communicated with sounds and gestures.
- The earliest art included symbols of animals and humans
- Prehistoric symbols are frequently found in the form of petro-glyphs (rock-carving), or picto-graphs (picture writing)
- “But here it is only necessary to trace it from its simple beginning as visual pictograph images to the next step, which is the visual symbolical pictograph. Yet the necessity is urgent to make clear at this point that pictographs and symbolical pictographs not only were the first visual images used by the race in the communication of ideas from one to another, but that, because they represent obvious associations, they are the images still employed by the unconscious mind.”
- *Esoteric Psychology* - C. C. Zain
- The American Southwest is filled with examples of symbolic art created by the ancestral Pueblo people and other groups
- They represent elements from the natural world as well as mythic creatures
- Gorillas can be taught to use American Sign Language and communicate at the level of a three year old human
- “In fact, the policy of the Ancient Masons was to mark every discovery of importance relative to the development of human character and the attainment of immortality with an appropriate symbol. Thus if the symbol should be perpetuated the discovery would not be lost, even though generations unable to read it passed; for to nature’s initiates a symbol is both a diagram and a description of the fact it was selected to represent. Though a universal symbol, such as the Ancient Masons employed, should be lost to sight for a thousand years, the first keen student of Nature’s laws to stumble upon it would be able to comprehend its meaning as well as those who used it first. The study of Ancient Masonry, then, becomes a study of such universal symbols.”
- **Ancient Masonry** - C. C. Zain
- The unconscious mind uses feelings and symbols to communicate with the conscious mind
- Personal symbols
- Universal symbols
- “Because symbolical pictograph is the language commonly employed by the unconscious mind to impart information too complex to be expressed merely as feeling, its appeal is universal. Pictorial symbols may be chosen, the common associations of which are the same the world over. In this manner, regardless of changes in arbitrary speech, or differences in nationality, an idea can be conveyed to

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any intelligent people in the world in spite of passing time.”

- *Esoteric Psychology* - C. C. Zain
- The unconscious mind communicates to the conscious mind through symbols and feelings
- Pictographs most closely allied with language of feeling
- The tarot is written in the language of universal symbolism using symbolical pictographs
- “As thought is impossible without the use of symbols, it will be seen that the study of symbolism is the study of the counters of thought. The study of Masonic Symbolism, then, becomes the study of the thoughts and ideas of the ancient Master Minds as expressed by them in the language of universal symbolism. Well knowing the transitory nature of arbitrary language, the words of one generation often having an opposite meaning in the next, these sages spoke and wrote in a language the words of which never change their import, thus preserving their thoughts in their original purity for all time.”
- Ancient Masonry - C. C. Zain

## Tarot Cards

- “These mystic Cards would lift the veil, and bid us take a look within,
- They show us Love, Ambition, Hope, with Marriage, Luck, Despair and Sin.
- Pope, Empress, Justice, Temperance, even Death who mows down all,
- Showing our life is but a dream, a breath, whose scythe on all must fall.”
- **Author Unknown – from *Old and Curious Playing Cards* p. 48**
- Will somebody please pronounce this word?
- Does anyone know where this word comes from?
- Tarot entered English from the French.
- It comes from the Italian *Tarocchi*, plural for *tarocco* for which the origin is unknown.
- The original name for these cards was *trionfi* (triumph) from which we get the English derivation “Trumps”
- Tarot historians claim that tarot was originally designed as a game and that the history of Tarot cards and playing cards is inseparable.
- When exploring the origins of the tarot we must juggle the folkloric tales against the historic evidence.
- The Tarot first appeared in Europe during the late Medieval and early Renaissance
- A common tarot deck is comprised of 78 symbolic cards
- The 22 Major Arcanum possibly evolved from the allegorical symbolism of the Hermetic Reformation
- The 12 Court Cards, 36 Minor Arcanum, and 4 Tens were derivative of older Islamic decks of cards prevalent in Turkey, Spain and North Africa
- The earliest known tarot cards or *tarocchi* appeared in Italy in the mid-15<sup>th</sup> Century
- The Visconti-Sforza deck from the mid-15<sup>th</sup> Century are the oldest existing tarot cards
- Hermetic oral tradition suggest that the tarot originated as bas-reliefs in the Egyptian temples of initiation.
- In his book *Le Monde Primitif*, Antoine Court de Gébelin (1719[?] -1784) first introduced the Ta-Ro as meaning Royal Road
- He described the Tarot as a repository of Egyptian esoteric wisdom.
- Historians tell us that around 1370 playing cards of four suits (swords, wands, cups, & coins) first appear on the scene in Europe.
- These were packs of 52 - 56 playing cards

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- Speculation exists that they were an Islamic invention that may have entered Europe through crusaders returning home from the Holy Land
- The last Crusade, however, was over by 1291 – almost 80 years before European cards were first mentioned by historical documentation.
- The theory that the cards came from the Mamluks of Egypt is now generally accepted based on historical evidence.
- In 1939, Leo Arie Mayer discovered in the Topkapi Sarayi Museum in Istanbul a complete pack of cards, which could be traced to the 12<sup>th</sup> or 13<sup>th</sup> century.
- Early 14<sup>th</sup> century Italian packs are almost identical to Mamluk cards.
- They consist of 52 cards of 4 suits of swords, polo-sticks, cups and coins.
- The cards include numerals from 1 to 10 and three courts – King, Deputy-King and Under-Deputy.
- The question is – did the cards enter Europe through Italy or Spain?
- It is likely that cards were brought into Spain by the Moors. Uncut sheets of cards discovered in Barcelona and dated to the 15<sup>th</sup> century show a close similarity to Mamluk cards.
- Italy remains a possibility as cards, like any other goods, followed major trade routes and Venice was the main trade gate into Europe.
- Another argument for Italy is that early Italian cards strongly resemble Mamluk cards.

## **Numeric Ordering of the Cards**

- The earliest Trionfi are not numbered.
- The current accepted order of the Major Arcanum was not established until the Tarot of Marseilles.
- Prior to the XVI Century, Spanish, Italian, Persian and Indian cards had a curious ranking;

- Swords and wands (spades and clubs) were ordered King, Queen, Knight, Jack, 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, and ace.

In the suits of cups and coins (hearts and diamonds) they were ordered King, Queen, Knight, Jack, Ace, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10.

- The Tarot of Marseilles is loosely based on an older deck the Tarot of Lombardy. The greatest difference is the ordering of four cards
- Perhaps the greatest numeric difference in contemporary tarot cards is the juxtaposition of Strength and Justice in the Golden Dawn tradition
- Spanish and Italian cards used the traditional suits of coins, cups, swords, & wands.
- The suits of swords, wands, cups, & coins used in Spanish and Italian cards were changed to acorns, bells, leaves and hearts by the Germanic engravers.
- German and Netherlandish engraving was to transform the art of card making.
- The Mediterranean cultures had left their suit cards unadorned for easy recognition; this was not so with German card-makers who covered the lower half of their cards with vignettes.
- Perhaps this was to later influence the work of A. E. Waite and Pamela Colman-Smith who would at the start of the 20<sup>th</sup> century reintroduce minor Arcanum with pictorial vignettes.
- In 1470, French card-makers introduced the contemporary suits of clubs, diamonds, spades and hearts
- These suits most widely used today were developed in 15<sup>th</sup> Century France by Etienne de Vignolle, better known as the Knight “La Hire,” an avid supporter of Jeanne d’Arc whose face is used for the Jack of Hearts.
- The French simplified the deck of cards into two colors (red and black) for the suits, thus making them easier to stencil, lowering production costs,

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making a more affordable and easily distributable deck.

- By the end of the 30 years War, German domination of the card market had declined.
- The French deck won out for gambling games that required quick recognition of the cards and speed in playing.
- This deck formed the basis of modern playing cards
- Cards first entered England between 1400 – 1463.
- By the 15<sup>th</sup> century, Belgium and French card manufacturers were exporting barrels of cards to England.
- The English adopted the French pips but called some of them by the older names.
- ♠ = *Piques* (spear-point) represents the suit of Swords, yet in English uses the name of spades from *espada* the Spanish for sword –
- ♥ = *Cours* (hearts) Cups
- ♦ = *Carreaux* (floor tiles) for coins and called diamonds in English
- ♣ = *Trèfle* (trefoil) called clubs in English after *bastoni* or cudgels
- As to the emblems by which the four suits are recognized, they were derived as universal symbols from the most important of natural phenomena, the passing of the seasons.

## Origin of the Suits

### **Coins (Disks, Pentacles)**

- Spring – New Life
- Element of Air
- Money, Social Exchange
- Evolved into the Suit of Diamonds
- (In the Golden Dawn tradition this is the element of Earth)
- “Even as heralded in the verses of Omar, the spring is signaled by the rose. In certain older cards the rose is sometimes found. The spring is the period of renewed life, and thus the rose, as representing it, in some

mystical orders, is the symbol of a renewed life. Spring brought a new food supply, which nourished life. But this food supply, by which life might be sustained also might be purchased. And thus we have the pieces of money, the coins of the tarot. But in later days a more commercial age decided that for sustaining life through trade, diamonds were even more precious than money. So in modern cards we have the suit of diamonds.”

- *The Sacred Tarot* – C. C. Zain

### **Scepters (Wands)**

- Summer, Heat
- Element of Fire
- Business, Reputation
- Evolved into the Suit of Clubs
- “The summer brought the trefoil, or three-leaf clover, which was important for forage to the flocks of a pastoral people. So the clover became associated with the heat of summer. A similar heat could be produced with wood. And thus scepters came to be the symbol of summer heat, and are so represented in the tarot. moderns, however, continue to picture the clover, but refer to the wood still, calling it the suit of clubs.”
- *The Sacred Tarot* – C. C. Zain

### **Cups**

- Autumn, Celebration
- Element of Water
- Love, Emotions
- Evolved into the Suit of Hearts
- “The autumn, when the wine was pressed from the grape, came to be the season of festivities, of dancing and of marriage. To represent the emotions then engendered, the cup, from which the wine was quaffed, came to be used, and thus is still one of the suits of the tarot. But moderns, associating the emotions of joy, and those that result in

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marriage, with the heart, have preferred to use them in picturing the corresponding suit of playing cards.”

- *The Sacred Tarot* – C. C. Zain

## Swords

- Winter, Hardship
- Element of Earth
- Strife, Practicality
- Evolved into the Suit of Spades
- (In the Golden Dawn tradition this is the element of Air)
- “The winter was a time of dearth and want. To provide for this period when no food could be garnered, it was customary to work hard to gather and hoard a supply sufficient to last through until spring. And it was observed that the oak also thus provided a food supply which was similarly stored by the squirrels. Thus the acorn came to be used as the symbol of winter. But, in time, the afflictions of winter, and the struggle to sustain life, especially as it often led to strife among peoples, came to be depicted by the emblem of strife, the sword. Yet a still later people looked upon the unfruitful season as the cause of their unceasing toil; and to depict this, used the modern emblem of toil, the shovel, or spade as it is called in modern playing cards.”
- *The Sacred Tarot* – C. C. Zain

## Playing Cards

- Tarot decks have 78 cards
- Modern playing cards have 52 cards (they lack the 4 horsemen and the 22 major arcanum)
- When one is familiar with the symbolism of the suits and numbers, standard playing cards can be used in divination when tarot cards might not be available
- The Tarot – A Divinatory Tool
- Tarot cards as well as playing cards can be used as a divinatory tool.

- The word Divination comes from the Latin *divinare*, meaning “to be inspired by a god,” or “to foresee the future.”
- Divination often involves the use of symbolic or oracular objects which are randomly cast.
- The mind of the diviner draws correlations between the symbols, their positions and future events.
- “Divination is the act of foreseeing or foretelling future events or discovering information not accessible through the exercise of reason and the ordinary physical senses.”
- *Doctrine of Divination* - C. C. Zain

## Recommended Reading

- Doane, Doris Chase, **Blending Astrology, Numerology & Tarot**, 1997, Tempe, AZ. American Federation of Astrologers Inc., Publishers
- Doane, Doris Chase, **Secret Symbolism of the Tarot**, 1993, Tempe, AZ. American Federation of Astrologers Inc., Publishers
- Mitchell, Edgar D., **Psychic Exploration: A Challenge for Science**, 1974, New York, NY. G. P Putnam’s Sons, Publishers
- Peirce, Penney, **The Intuitive Way: The Definitive Guide To Increasing Your Awareness**, 1997/2005, San Francisco, CA, Tulsa, OK. Council Oak Books Publisher
- Rhine, Louisa E., **Hidden Channels of the Mind**, 1962, London, England. Victor Gollancz Limited Publishers
- Rhine, Louisa E., **ESP in Life and Lab**, 1967, New York, NY. The McMillan Co. Publishers
- Rhine, J. B., **New Frontiers of the Mind**, 1937, New York, NY. Farrar & Rinehart

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- Schulz, Mona Lisa, **Awakening Intuition: Using Your Mind-Body Network for Insight and Healing**, 1998, New York, NY. Harmony Books, Publishers
- Vaughan, Frances E., **Awakening Intuition: Greater Realization Through Your Intuitive Powers**, 1979, New York, NY. Anchor Books – Doubleday Publishers
- Vaughn, Alan, **The Edge of Tomorrow: How to Foresee & Fulfill Your Future**, 1982, New York, NY. Coward, McCann & Geoghegan Publishers
- Vaughn, Alan, **Patterns of Prophecy**, 1973, New York, NY. Hawthorn Books Inc. Publishers
- Zain, C. C., **The Sacred Tarot**, 2005, Albuquerque, NM. The Church of Light, Publishers
- Zain, C. C., **Divination and Character Reading**, Albuquerque, NM. The Church of Light, Publishers

### **Upcoming Classes**

- September 12<sup>th</sup> – The Psychic Senses, Major and Minor Arcanum I – X, Giving a Reading
- September 19<sup>th</sup> – Major Arcanum XI – XI, Cultivating a Clear Channel, The Yes or No Spread
- September 26<sup>th</sup> – The Court Arcana, Obstacles to Intuition, The Magic Seven Spread
- October 3<sup>rd</sup> - TBD