

Tarot & Intuition: Class-2

Scriptural Support of Intuition

- “*Hear my words: If there be among you a prophet of the Lord, I will appear to him in a vision, or I will speak to him in a dream.*” Numbers 12:6

The Power of Symbols

- The power of symbols was recognized by older civilizations that incorporated them into religion, ritual, myth and art.

Simple Symbols & the Tarot

- Geometric shapes are one form of simple symbolism that can convey an immense amount of information
- The Brotherhood of Light Egyptian Tarot Cards are filled with geometric symbolism

Simple Symbols – Point

- A point indicates position
- The commencement of something
- All things have a starting point
- Potentiality
- The germ of life

Simple Symbols – Line

- A point extended through space becomes a line
- A line has a beginning and an end
- One dimensional - length

Simple Symbols – Circle

- A circle has no beginning and no end
- It is the symbol of spirit
- The point within the circle represents the germ of life, or spark of deity within
- It corresponds to the Divine Ego, the spark of Deity in each of us

Simple Symbols – Square and Cross

- Represents the physical plane
- The realm where life gains experience through three dimensional form
- It is the symbol of realization

Simple Symbols – Triangle or Arrow

- Represents the direction in which energy flows
- Mind
- The trinity of Substance, Intelligence and Motion

Simple Symbols – Spiral

- The annual return of the Sun to the same position (Sol-annus = solemnis = solemn)

- The progressive movement of life
- Evolution

Complex Symbols

- More complex forms of symbolism include archetypes, allegories, and myths.

Archetypes

- An Archetype is a commonly inherited primordial symbol universally recognized by all
- In psychology, an archetype is a model of a person, personality, or behavior
- Dynamic, creative forces underlying all existence
- Present in folklore and mythology, archetypes are recognizable and typical patterns of behavior with certain probable outcomes
- Symbolic stories in myths and legends explore abstract concepts such as heroism, justice, love, mercy, truth, and wisdom
- Archetypes are primordial symbols in consciousness often portrayed as men or women
- Some examples of Archetypes are:
- Mother, seductress, imprisoned princess, witch, mediator, benevolent ruler, gallant hero, warrior, just law-giver, martyred hero, dragon, trickster, shadow, shape-shifter, deceiver, lord of mis-rule

Allegory

- **noun, plural**-allegories.
- Emblem
- A representation of an abstract or spiritual meaning through concrete or material forms; figurative treatment of one subject under the guise of another.
- A symbolical narrative such as a poem, play, picture, etc, in which the apparent meaning of the characters and events is used to symbolize a deeper moral or spiritual meaning
- The technique or genre that this represents
- Use of such symbolism to illustrate truth or a moral
- Allegory communicates its message by means of symbolic figures, actions or symbolic imagery
- Allegories have been used as educational aids throughout history due to their immense power to illustrate complex ideas and concepts in ways that are easily comprehensible and tangible to their viewers

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- Fables and parables are allegories rich in symbolism
- Allegory was used in late antiquity, the Middle Ages, and the Renaissance (the era from which the oldest extant Tarot cards are dated)
- Allegories explored the triumph of virtues such as charity, humility, hope over vices such as avarice, pride, and wrath
- Allegorical personifications were generally as women since Latin terms for abstract concepts are feminine (i.e. Justicia, Melancholia, etc)
- It is possible that the earliest European Tarot cards evolved from these allegorical images

Myths

- Myths often describe how the world and humankind assumed their present form
- Myths tell stories about what it means to be human and how to survive as a human
- Myths contain Jungian archetypes and are metaphors of our spiritual potentiality
- Mythic archetypes express as symbols
- *“A one sentence definition of mythology? ‘Mythology’ is what we call someone else’s religion”*
- Joseph Campbell (1904 – 1987)

Understanding Symbols

- Understanding symbols allows us to gain greater insight into human consciousness and how it works.
- One of the greatest challenges in intuitive work is discerning whether or not an insight is a direct perception or a symbol.
- *“Because of the difficulty experienced by the astral brain in impressing information perceived by it upon physical consciousness, it often makes use of symbols. Because of the association of thoughts, one thought, or image, suggesting another, the astral brain often finds much less resistance to presenting information in symbolic form than to presenting it as conversation or as an image of the happening. It is sometimes easier for it, for instance, to produce the sensation of smelling a strong pipe, to acquaint a person of the astral presence of someone who before death smoked a strong pipe, than to show a phantasm of the person, or to cause his voice to be heard. Symbolism is the easiest method, and the most common*

one, by which the astral brain transmits information to the everyday consciousness.”

- **Laws of Occultism** – C. C. Zain

Origin of the Suits

- 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

- 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

Origin of the Suits – Scepters

- 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

Origin of the Suits – Cups

- 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 marriage, with the heart, have preferred to use them in picturing the corresponding suit of playing cards.”*
- *The Sacred Tarot* – C. C. Zain

Origin of the Suits – Swords

- 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

Arcanum 0 / XXII - The Spiritualist/Materialist

- Arcanum 0 / Arcanum XXII
- Separation from Angelic parents
- The Soul’s descent into matter
- The dangers which the neophyte encounters on the path of initiation
- Character – the sum total of our experiences
- The naïve soul
- The call to adventure
- At the edge of the abyss/unknown
- ♁ = Spirituality vs. Materialism

- *“Religion points to that area of human experience where in one way or another man comes upon mystery as a summons to pilgrimage.”*
- – Frederick Buechner

Arcanum I - The Magus/Magician

- Initiation
- Developing the volition of the will
- Self-consciousness realized.
- First step on the road to adeptship
- Guidance from the inner plane
- The use of the mind/imagination
- Awareness of inner/outer plane realities
- Will/Dexterity
- ♿ – Mercury: mind, thought, travel

- *“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.”*
- John 1:1

The Relationship of the Aces to Arcanum I

- Will/Dexterity
- ♿ – Mercury: mind, thought, travel
- The divinatory significance of the Ace of Scepters is news of a business opportunity; its inner interpretation is ACTIVITY.
- The divinatory significance of the Ace of Cups is a letter from a loved one; its inner interpretation is MOODS.
- The divinatory significance of the Ace of Coins is a short journey; its inner significance is POLICY.
- The divinatory significance of the Ace of Swords is news of sickness or death; its inner interpretation is ORGANIZATION.

Arcanum II – Veiled Isis/Priestess

- The knowledge of good and evil
- Analysis, science, labor

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- The differentiation of the twin souls of one ego into opposite polarities
- The entrance to the sanctuary of the Mysteries
- The Divine Feminine
- Science/Labor
- ♍ - Analysis, work, service, science and labor

- *“Seek a sanctuary,
Respect it, as it is holy,
Walk into it with a bare mind, bare feet and plain clothing,
Nurture your body, mind and spirit through a healing ritual,
Leave it with a pure heart until you find your way to it again.”*
- Master Jin Kwon (b. 1957)

The Relationship of the Deuces to Arcanum II

- Science/Labor
- ♍ - Analysis, work, service, science and labor
- The divinatory significance of the Deuce of Scepters is a business depending upon scientific methods; its inner interpretation is EXALTATION.
- The divinatory significance of the Deuce of Cups is a work of love; its inner interpretation is REVELATION.
- The divinatory significance of the Deuce of Coins is money acquired by hard labor; its inner interpretation is INDEPENDENCE.
- The divinatory significance of the Deuce of Swords is sickness through over-work; its inner interpretation is MARTYRDOM.

Arcanum III – Isis Unveiled/Empress

- Finding a suitable companion for spiritual development
- Cultivating relationships that promote growth
- Gestation/pregnancy
- Spirituality implies an exalted emotional development
- ♋ – Marriage, partnerships, alliances and open enemies

- *“When you make the sacrifice in marriage, you're sacrificing not to each other but to unity in a relationship.”*
- Joseph Campbell (1904-1987)

The Relationship of the Treys to Arcanum III

- ♋ – Marriage, partnerships, alliances and open enemies
- The divinatory significance of the Trey of Scepters is a business partnership; its inner interpretation is PROPAGANDA.
- The divinatory significance of the Trey of Cups is a marriage for love; its inner interpretation is RESEARCH.
- The divinatory significance of the Trey of Coins is a marriage for money; its inner interpretation is EXPIATION.
- The divinatory significance of the Trey of Swords is a lawsuit or a divorce; its inner interpretation is IDEALISM.

Arcanum IV – The Sovereign/Emperor

- Realization/accomplishment
- The exercise of authority
- Developing the psychic abilities
- Developing control
- Realizing your potential
- Sexual energies raised to more spiritual level
- ♁- Sex, death, other people's money, legacies and inheritances

- *“The whole history of science has been the gradual realization that events do not happen in an arbitrary manner, but that they reflect a certain underlying order, which may or may not be divinely inspired.”*
- Stephen Hawking (b. 1942)

The Relationship of the Fours to Arcanum IV

- Realization/accomplishment
- ♁- Sex, death, other people's money, legacies and inheritances
- The divinatory significance of the Four of Scepters is a legacy; its inner interpretation is RULERSHIP.
- The divinatory significance of the Four of Cups is an increase in the family; its inner interpretation is RESOURCEFULNESS.
- The divinatory significance of the Four of Coins is money received through a partner; its inner significance is ORIGINALITY.
- The divinatory significance of the Four of Swords is remorse for past action; its inner interpretation is DETERMINATION.

Arcanum V – The Hierophant /Pope

- Mastery of ritual
- Mentor/protégé relationship
- The voice of the conscience
- Cosmic welfare

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- Responsibility to other life-forms
- Acts of selflessness
- Charitable action for society
- Religion/law
- ♃- Luck, fortune, abundance, blessings
- *“Ritual is necessary for us to know anything.”* – Ken Kesey

The Relationship of the Fives to Arcanum V

- Religion/law
- ♃- Luck, fortune, abundance, blessings
- The divinatory significance of the Five of Scepters is good fortune in business; its inner interpretation is REFORMATION.
- The divinatory significance of the Five of Cups is good fortune in love; its inner interpretation is RESPONSIBILITY.
- The divinatory significance of the Five of Coins is abundant wealth; its inner interpretation is INSPIRATION.
- The divinatory significance of the Five of Swords is escape from a danger; its inner interpretation is STRUGGLE.

Arcanum VI – The Two Paths

- Choosing direction
- Moral decisions
- Identifying those who help or hinder us
- Into the unknown
- Raising the vibratory rate to develop the divine soul
- Vice may be more attractive than virtue
- Trials and tribulations
- ♀- Love, romance, music and the arts, socializing
- *“We cannot freely and wisely choose the right way for ourselves unless we know both good and evil.”*
- Helen Keller (1880-1968)

The Relationship of the Sixes to Arcanum VI

- Choices, decisions
- ♀- Love, romance, music and the arts, socializing
- The divinatory significance of the Six of Scepters is music, art or the drama; its inner interpretation is AMBITION.
- The divinatory significance of the Six of Cups is a love affair; its inner interpretation is ATTAINMENT.
- The divinatory significance of the Six of Coins is a social event; its inner interpretation is REPRESSION.

- The divinatory significance of the Six of Swords is dissipation; its inner interpretation is MASTERSHIP.

Arcanum VII – The Conqueror/ Chariot

- Decisive victory over trials and tribulations
- The temptations of the material world surmounted
- Complete mastery of self
- The body is under the control of a disciplined will
- Spiritual knowledge obtained
- Physical initiation completed
- Proficiency in science and magic
- Travel/pilgrimage
- Philosophy, higher learning
- Victory
- ♃ - Success, teaching, publishing, travel, sports and the outdoor world
- *“The greater the obstacle, the more glory in overcoming it.”*
- Moliere (1622-1673)

The Relationship of the Sevens to Arcanum VII

- Victory
- ♃ - Success, teaching, publishing, travel, sports and the outdoor world
- The divinatory significance of the Seven of Scepters is success in teaching or publishing; its inner interpretation is DEVOTION.
- The divinatory significance of the Seven of Cups is a successful change of home; its inner interpretation is VERITY.
- The divinatory significance of the Seven of Coins is money earned through a journey; its inner interpretation is INTUITION.
- The divinatory significance of the Seven of Swords is danger through travel or sport; its inner interpretation is ACHIEVEMENT.

VIII – The Balance / Justice

- Truth and Justice
- The equilibrium between opposite forces
- Acting with enlightenment
- Repentance brings forgiveness
- Stilling our thoughts in order to know our inner self
- Justice and equilibrium
- ♃ - Career, status, honor, courts of law
- *“Justice and power must be brought together, so that whatever is just may be powerful, and whatever is powerful may be just.”*
- Blaise Pascal (1623-1662)

The Relationship of the Eights to Arcanum VIII

- Justice and equilibrium
- ⚔ - Career, status, honor, courts of law
- The divinatory significance of the Eight of Scepters is a political appointment; its inner interpretation is EXPLORATION.
- The divinatory significance of the Eight of Cups is extravagance; its inner interpretation is SELF-SACRIFICE.
- The divinatory significance of the Eight of Coins is a costly law suit; its inner interpretation is FIDELITY.
- The divinatory significance of the Eight of Swords is loss of honor, or business failure; its inner interpretation is EXPERIENCE.

IX – The Sage / The Pilgrim

- Receiving and sharing illumination
- Reducing the noise of the world through the process of interiorization
- Discovering one's teacher or mentor
- Teaching by example
- The practice of availability to others
- Meditation and contemplation as short daily periods of solitude
- Wisdom, prudence and circumspection
- ♁ - Friends, groups, organizations, hopes and wishes
- *“Therefore the sage works without recognition. He achieves what has to be done without dwelling on it. He does not try to show his knowledge.”*
- Lao Tzu (6th Century BC?)

The Relationship of the Nines to Arcanum IX

- Wisdom, prudence and circumspection
- ♁ - Friends, groups, organizations, hopes and wishes
- The divinatory significance of the Nine of Scepters is a wise and profitable friendship; its inner interpretation is ILLUMINATION.
- The divinatory significance of the Nine of Cups is that the hopes will be realized; it is the WISH-CARD; its inner interpretation is VICISSITUDES.
- The divinatory significance of the Nine of Coins is money spent on associates; its inner interpretation is REASON.
- The divinatory significance of the Nine of Swords is a quarrel resulting in enmity; its inner interpretation is RENUNCIATION.

X – The Wheel / The Wheel of Fortune

- The cyclical nature of things
- Periods of fortune and adversity

- The cycle of necessity
- The passage of time
- A change of fortune
- A sudden insight or discovery
- Intellectual ESP, Extension of Consciousness
- ⚔ - Invention, discovery, originality, eccentricity, unconventional, sudden or unexpected change
- *“The charm of history and its enigmatic lesson consist in the fact that, from age to age, nothing changes and yet everything is completely different.”*
- Aldous Huxley (1894 – 1963)

The Relationship of the Tens to Arcanum X

- A change of fortune
- ⚔ - Invention, discovery, originality, eccentricity, unconventional, sudden change
- The divinatory significance of the Ten of Scepters is an invention or discovery; its inner interpretation is ENTHUSIASM.
- The divinatory significance of the Ten of Cups is a decidedly unconventional affectional interest; its inner interpretation is EMOTION.
- The divinatory significance of the Ten of Coins is alternate financial loss and gain; its inner interpretation is ASPIRATION.
- The divinatory significance of the Ten of Swords is sudden loss of employment; its inner interpretation is PRACTICALITY.

Relationship of the Major Arcanum to the Minor Arcanum

- Exoteric/Outer Meaning
- Combines suit/element with numeric value of card
- Esoteric/Inner Meaning
- Derived from corresponding decanate constellation

Tarot and Divination

- *“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*
- 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.”

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- Divination often involves the use of symbolic or oracular objects which are randomly cast.
- In tarot card divination psycho-kinesis comes into play when the unconscious mind of the reader contacts the desired information on the inner plane. Through the process of shuffling and cutting the cards they are arranged in patterns that are meaningful to the reader.
- The conscious mind of the diviner draws correlations between the symbols, their positions and future events.
- When preparing for a reading the following steps are helpful:
 - Choose a calm, tranquil environment in which to conduct your work
 - Cultivate a strong desire to receive the truth
 - Formulate a specific question for which you seek an answer
 - Choose the type of spread through which you want your information revealed
 - Set a time parameter on your question
 - Develop adequate electrification in order to cross the etheric boundary line and extend your consciousness to the inner plane
 - Shuffle and cut the cards and lay them out in your chosen pattern
 - Turn the cards over one at a time and give a detailed explanation of each card
 - Once all the cards have been revealed go back and give a summary of the spread

Giving a Reading

- Our soul senses contact the astral counterpart of an individual, where events are stored as memories
- When giving a reading we must extend our consciousness to the inner plane to contact the desired information.
- Adequate electrification can be generated through rhythmic breathing.

Shuffling Cards

- *“While the mind is so occupied, the cards should be shuffled in such a manner as not merely to rearrange them in the deck, but to reverse the ends of some. They should then be cut into three piles and gathered again into a pack. This shuffling and cutting should be repeated three times; and then the cards dealt, face downward. They are turned over from top to bottom, but turned over only one at a time, as read.”*
- *The Sacred Tarot* – C. C. Zain

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- A good daily exercise is to practice shuffling your cards while visualizing lines of force moving down your arms and hands into the cards
- Over time this helps to build up the Psychokinetic effect

Giving a Reading

- Turn the cards over one at a time and give a detailed explanation of each card
- The symbolism on the cards will cause certain ideas, vocabulary and imagery to float up in your conscious mind
- For beginning students, writing keywords on your cards can be helpful in stimulating ideas and vocabulary
- Once all the cards have been turned over, give a summary of the spread in as much detail as possible making a coherent story

Yes or No Spread

- To answer a question Yes or No, five cards are dealt in a single row, from right to left. The middle card has a value of 2 points and the other cards each have the value of 1 point. A majority of the cards right side up is a “yes.” A majority of the cards upside-down is a “no.” If they are evenly divided, it is a draw, and the answer is undecided.
- This is the only spread where we turn cards over all at once to first determine if the answer is yes or no. Once the answer has been determined go back and focus on the meaning and details of each card
- Once all the cards have been interpreted go back and relate them to one another creating a more fluid story
- Pay attention to patterns such as: predominance of major arcanum, horseman, court cards, repetition of specific suits or numbers.

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Upcoming Classes

- September 19th – Major Arcanum XI – XI, Cultivating a Clear Channel, The Magic Seven Spread
- September 26th – The Court Arcana, Obstacles to Intuition, The Horoscope Spread
- October 3rd - TBD