

# DIVINATION SYSTEMS

Written by Nicole Yalsovac

Additional sections contributed by Sean Michael Smith and Christine Breese, D.D. Ph.D.

## Introduction

Nichole Yalsovac

Prophetic revelation, or *Divination*, dates back to the earliest known times of human existence. The oldest of all Chinese texts, the *I Ching*, is a divination system older than recorded history. James Legge says in his translation of *I Ching: Book Of Changes* (1996), "The desire to seek answers and to predict the future is as old as civilization itself." Mankind has always had a desire to know what the future holds. Evidence shows that methods of divination, also known as fortune telling, were used by the ancient Egyptians, Chinese, Babylonians and the Sumerians (who resided in what is now Iraq) as early as six-thousand years ago.

Divination was originally a device of royalty and has often been an essential part of religion and medicine. Significant leaders and royalty often employed priests, doctors, soothsayers and astrologers as advisers and consultants on what the future held. Every civilization has held a belief in at least some type of divination.

The point of divination in the ancient world was to ascertain the will of the gods. In fact, divination is so called because it is assumed to be a gift of the divine, a gift from the gods. This gift of obtaining knowledge of the unknown uses a wide range of tools and an enormous variety of techniques, as we will see in this course. No matter which method is used, the most imperative aspect is the interpretation and presentation of what is seen.

The general consensus is that divination falls into three categories: interpretation of natural phenomena, (known as augury and includes such things as water, flight of a bird, shape of a flame, cloud formations, etc.); interpretation of artificial phenomena (casting runes, reading dominoes, Tarot Cards, numerology); and direct communication with a deity via dreams, visions or trances. These interpretations may not only foretell the future, but can also be used in determining a person's character and how it has been created by events of the past.

## Review Of Literature

*(Exam questions are not drawn from the Review Of Literature section.)*

*The Oriental Mystic Book Of Fortune Telling* (1967), by Plutonium, is an interesting and funny little book published in India, which refers to itself as "an ideal party book," because one can be the life of the party by telling everyone's fortunes. It describes at least 20 ways to predict the future and determine a person's character and includes many charts and illustrations throughout. It is fairly simply written with easy to follow instructions.

*The Prediction Book Of Divination* (1984) is written by Jo Logan & Lindsay Hodson. Although this book only describes eight forms of divination, it goes into great detail and instructions, including the history, about each one. It includes charts, lists and illustrations. The authors often interject their humor along with their personal experiences and opinions.

*Modern Dowsing* (1984), by Raymond C. Willey, is considered a handbook about how to dowse. There is very little history, and it consists mostly of techniques and applications. There are a few illustrations. The author speaks humorously about some of his personal experiences. It is a very comprehensive book.

*How Psychic Are You?* (2002), by Julie Soskin, is a well done book covering 76 different techniques to help develop and increase the powers we are all born with. It touches on meditation, chakras, colors, auras, talismans and more, in addition to some of the Divination topics covered in this course. It has excellent graphics, photos and illustrations. It also contains several little tests to determine a person's psychic abilities. The author is a medium, writer and teacher and in 1996 formed The School Of Insight And Intuition in London

*The Witch Book: The Encyclopedia Of Witchcraft, Wicca And Neo-paganism* (2002) by Raymond Buckland is a very interesting book. It covers over 200 topics related to witchcraft, both the historical and practical. Since some diviners throughout history were considered to be witches or have magical powers, many divination methods are included. All the subjects are listed in alphabetical order (as in any encyclopedia). There are many photographs and illustrations throughout. The author is a renowned expert on the occult, witchcraft, Gypsy magic and other aspects of the supernatural. He is credited with introducing modern Witchcraft into the United States. He was initiated into the Craft in 1964. He has published more than 30 books.

*The Fortune-Telling Book: The Encyclopedia Of Divination And Soothsaying* (2004) by Raymond Buckland is written by the same author as above, and another encyclopedia, the format is the same. Although hundreds of

divination methods are covered, the author attempts to give full explanations of each and how they are done. He also mentions numerous famous or infamous people associated with divination. There are some charts, illustrations and photographs. Of the resources that I used, I feel this book is the best overall book on divination.

*Numerology Has Your Number* (1988) by Ellin Dodge is an informative and precise book if you want to delve into numerology in detail. It is straightforward and well organized. The author is "America's foremost Numerologist."

*Charting the Future, Quest for the Unknown* (1992), a Reader's Digest Book, is a fascinating, coffee-table type book with almost as many graphics, photos, charts and sketches as there are text entries. It is full of interesting historical facts and stories, and examines the theories behind the more popular methods of Divination. It covers astrology, augury, tarot, palmistry, dream interpretation, I Ching, time travel and much more.

If you really want to learn all the aspects and details of Palmistry, *The Art of Hand Reading* (1996) by Lori Reid would be an excellent book to have, especially since the entire book is about this subject. It contains clear and precise drawings, charts and photographs. It is easy to read and understand. The author is an expert palmist who is consulted by people throughout the world, and has made numerous television and radio appearances.

*I Ching: Book Of Changes* (1996), translated by James Legge, is considered to be the oldest surviving text in Chinese culture. It has been used for the past three thousand years by various types of people, from philosophers and politicians and scientists to alchemists and sorcerers. Legge has translated the book in a very useable format for the English language reader.

*The Divining Rod* (1975), by Arthur J. Ellis, is a short work, but actually gets right to the point. This book mostly discusses the origins, case histories, and scientific controversies. This is a compilation done by the United States Geological Survey in 1917, trying to determine if it was worth government money to invest in using this type of divination system for water, oil, minerals and other such substances. This book has a huge bibliography of antiquated articles and books, dating back to 1532 AD. This book serves as an inexhaustible resource for those who wish to delve more deeply into the subject of the divining rod, or dowsing. If one wanted to find out all that has been written since the 1500's, this is the place to look.

*Reading The Past: Runes* (1987), by R.I. Page, tells the story offerings from the earliest inscriptions, from the Vikings to Anglo-Saxon times. Early civilizations used runes as a means of writing down history. It was actually a very early language, not just a divination system. This book goes into runes as an alphabet rather than a divination system. Page is a professor of Anglo-Saxon studies at the University of Cambridge. He has more books on English and Norse runes, and other aspects of early English language and society. This book also had some fascinating pictures of ancient inscriptions in the language of runes.

*The Complete Illustrated Guide To Runes* (1999, by Nigel Pennick is a very comprehensive book about runes. This book covers everything from how to cast and read the runes, how to use the runes in meditation, to runic yoga and runic numerology. No other book has been this creative and all the aspects that it covers around runes. Who would have thought of runic yoga? The author has studied the runes and practiced runic principles since 1960. He has written numerous books and papers on European folk traditions, customs, and beliefs. His work is translated into nine languages. He is the co-founder of the esoteric magazine *Arcana*, and has appeared on radio and television shows in the U.K.

*The Beginner's Handbook Of Dowsing: The Ancient Art Of Divining Underground Water Sources* (1974) by Joseph Baum is a small but excellent book on dowsing. It gets right to the point, has very useful pictures and by the end of this sure to read anyone would be able to begin to dowse for water in the various factions that are described in this book. The author is a graphic designer, with a successful advertising agency in Hartford, Connecticut, but he is also an eminent dowser, well known for his proficiency in this process. He learned dowsing on his 130-acre farm in the Berkshires.

*The Divining Rod: An Experimental And Psychological Investigation* (1968), by William Barrett and Theodore Besterman, looks at dowsing from a scientific point of view. This book has played an important part in making water divining intellectually respectable. The late Barrett was a physicist and a chemist. Besterman is a successful editor, author, librarian and bibliographer. He served for many years as Investigations Officer of the Society For Psychical Research in London. Their book makes a clear case for the reality of dowsing, and includes results of their thorough investigation of contemporary dowsers under closely controlled conditions. They show that dowsing can be solidly grounded in scientific procedure. This book was originally published in 1926, and remains a standard in the industry.

## DIVINATION WITH DOMINOES

Fortune telling using dominoes is a relatively recent method. It was originally used extensively in Korea and India and often combined with gambling. One source, *The Oriental Mystic Book of Fortune-Telling* (1967) by Plutonium, claims the game of dominoes was invented in Italy in the 18th century. Another book by Jo Logan & Lindsay Hodson, *The Prediction Book of Divination* (1984) states that these tile-like game pieces were originally from China in the 12th century B.C. At that time the pieces were said to be white with red spots and consisted of 32 pieces. By the time they migrated to Italy, the Domino game-pieces became black with white round dots and the complete set contained 28 rectangular pieces. It has remained consistently so since that time.

The dominoes can be made of wood, ivory, bone, or ceramic. Each tile is divided by a straight line. On each side of this line is a set of dots, although one side might be blank. The dots are arranged in numbers from one to six in different combinations.

In order to read the dominoes, lay them face down, then select three tiles at random. Some sources suggest shuffling them until they are well mixed. Select one after each shuffle until there are three. Another variation of choosing is to lay them face down in various shapes, i.e. circles, oblongs or squares, but always choosing just three tiles. There are differing opinions concerning the frequency of consulting the dominoes for divination. Some feel it shouldn't be done more than once in a week, others think no more than once in 28 days, but there is general agreement that excess use can reduce the power of the medium, which is true for all forms of divination. Once you have selected three dominoes, turn them face up to do the reading. In reading the three selected dominoes, if one tile predicts loss and another tile promises prosperity, they cancel each other out. Therefore ignore their indications and read the fortune from the third tile. The meanings of each tile are as follows:

**A six-blank tile.** Watch out for danger from water, avoid voyages at sea. Also be wary of gossip, scandal and treacherous friends. This domino could also indicate death in your group of friends or family.

**A six-one tile.** Foretells a wedding. Also warns of danger from fire. Pay attention to your health. Anticipate news, which could be good or bad.

**A Six-two tile.** This is a good time to start new projects, but with well thought out plans. Good luck is headed your way if you are honest. Take advice from friends with a grain of salt.

**A six-three tile.** Indicates a positive travel experience, during which you may receive a gift. Happiness coming your way. Also this tile is considered to be lucky for those in love.

**A six-four tile.** Expect success from speculation and investments. Watch out for disagreements on the domestic front.

**A six-five tile.** Symbolizes friendship and a benefactor. Stick to a project you are working on. Beware of some troubles approaching.

**A double-six tile.** This tile is considered to be a very lucky one, the best one of all. The future holds happiness and prosperity for you. Expect much joy, success and the realization of ambitions.

**A five-blank tile.** Decisions should not be made with haste. Keep a watchful eye on budgeting and curbing selfishness. A crisis may be looming, proceed carefully, not impulsively.

**A five-one tile.** Surprising invitations or unexpected money are likely. Beware of possible financial disappointment.

**A five-two tile.** A sign of a birth. Be wary of unexpected treachery from someone close to you. Be open to new friendships.

**A five-three tile.** Currently your life is running smoothly. Don't pass up a good opportunity. Good news and help from outside sources will come your way.

**A five-four tile.** Expect surprises, possibly a financial windfall. Take advantage of offers made to you.

**A double-five tile.** Indicates changes for the better. Be open to new career. Accepting an invitation will cause positive changes in your life.

**A four-blank tile.** Expect disappointments in love. May experience marital difficulties. Overcoming these difficulties will require tact.

**A four-one tile.** Financial difficulties are predicted. A blissfully happy marriage is likely, with many children as a result.

**A four-two tile.** Expect change in career, love life or financial situation. Be wary of whom you trust. Gossip and slander may be troubling to you.

**A four-three tile.** You will meet new friends and a person will influence your life greatly. Expect a comfortable lifestyle.

**A double-four tile.** This is a good sign for artistic, creative people. Signifies parties and events. Do not refuse invitations, as one of these parties may result in an important event in your life.

**A three-blank tile.** Expect quarrels and arguments. Neither financial affairs nor love affairs will prosper.

**A three-one tile.** Anticipate a sudden journey. As this is a negative sign, take heed in agreeing to anything, watch what you say to others.

**A three-two tile.** Points toward a good and happy marriage. Positive changes, new friends, and promotions are likely. Exercise caution with speculations and investments.

**A double-three tile.** Great financial wealth is indicated, perhaps through a legacy.

**A two-blank tile.** Mixed fortunes are likely with this tile, positive for travel or journeys, and negative, financially, for those who are honest. Be patient, your difficulties will dissipate with time.

**A double-two tile.** Expect success in business with this tile, but not great wealth. A good home life is predicted. A secret wish will be fulfilled.

**A one-blank tile.** Be prepared for a visitor, who may be a stranger offering interesting news. Be watchful of friends, one may be an enemy.

**A double-one tile.** No need to worry about a problem, as it will take care of itself. You may meet a long-lost friend, or receive unexpected news. Avoid borrowing money.

**A double-blank tile.** This is the unluckiest sign. Disappointments and unhappiness in all aspects of life lie ahead.

There is another method of reading the dominoes, called a "new method" from one source, *The Oriental Mystic Book of Fortune-Telling* (1967) by Plutonium.

In this new method remove all half-blanks and double-blanks from the set of dominoes, then put the pieces face down, shuffling them for at least three minutes. Next, choose one piece at random with your left-hand and discard it, then remove another piece at random with your right hand, discarding that. Continue to discard pieces alternately with the left and right hands until there are only three pieces remaining. Then, keeping these three pieces face down, shuffle them again and place them in a row. Turn the centerpiece over and note the number of dots on each side of the center line. Then read these two numbers in conjunction as follows:

**The smallest of the two numbers:**

**One.** No changes predicted in the near future.

**Two.** Don't anticipate good luck.

**Three.** Expect good luck soon.

**Four.** Not necessarily unlucky but nothing to get excited about either.

**Five.** Anticipate definite good luck.

**Six.** Expect prosperity, happiness and very good luck.

**The highest of the two numbers:**

**One.** Relates to married life.

**Two.** Concerns affairs of the heart.

**Three.** Has to do with financial matters.

**Four.** Relates to journeys and travel.

**Five.** Concerns friends and social life.

**Six.** Relates to career and business.

**The method of reading:**

For example, if the center piece of the three pieces, happens to show three dots on one side and six on the other side (a 3-6), then, according to the above, the reading would be:

**Three** (the lowest of the two numbers) - Expect good luck soon.

**Six** (the highest of the two numbers) - Relates to career and business.

Therefore, as these two tiles are read together, the final reading concludes that one should expect good luck in business or career.

Keep in mind that during the research process, it was discovered that some of the interpretations of the tile combinations are very different from one source to the next. In reading the tiles it would be advisable to average their indications and draw general conclusions, tailoring the reading to each individual client.

**Sources:**

Plutonium: *The Oriental Mystic Book of Fortune-Telling*, D.B. Taraporevala Sons & Co., 1967

Jo Logan & Lindsay Hodson: *The Prediction Book of Divination*, Blandford Press, 1984.

## DOWSING

Dowsing, according to *Webster's Third New International Dictionary*, means using a divining rod (as in search of water or ore)...to find (as water) by dowsing. A broader, less specific definition, from the book *Modern Dowsing* (1984) by Raymond C. Willey, states: "Dowsing is the exercise of a human faculty which allows one to obtain information in some manner beyond the power and scope of the standard human senses."

Dowsing with the rod is at least 400 years old. It was widely used until the 19th century, until it was rejected by scientists as mere superstition. It made a comeback in the 20th century, specifically in Great Britain and Europe, where it has been used successfully in archeological digs, searching for minerals and in medicine. Dowsing is considered an art or gift that certain people possess, which enables them to find underground sources of water. However, finding water is only one of many applications. Dowsing has also been successfully used to search for many things. For example, during World War I, dowsers helped locate mines and buried mortars for the military. It is used by some oil, gas and mineral companies to search for deposits, and by some water and pipe companies to locate buried cables and pipes. Some dowsers have the ability to find lost objects or people. In the early 1900s Alexis Mermet of France dowsed sites and found dozens of murders and missing persons.

In Europe in the 1930s, dowsing became known as radiesthesia, which comes from the Latin root for "radiation" and the Greek root for "perception," meaning a sensitivity to the radiations that emanate from everything around us, including people, minerals, water, and other naturally occurring substances.

There are various theories as to how dowsing works. One opinion is that human beings retain some primitive tracking instinct for water (like many animals) that is normally dormant, but then may become active. Professor Joseph B. Rhine of Duke University suggested that dowsing has more to do with ESP (extra-sensory perception) than with any phenomenon of physics. Some dowsers believe it is a psychic experience closely related to a kind of mental radar, and that the dowser psychically tunes in to the energy field of hidden materials, with the divining rod triggering the process. Another idea is that the divining rod emits waves of energy that are bounced back once the dowser finds the object being sought. Still others believe that one must be born with the ability to dowse, or inherit it. This gift has been known to pass from grandfather to grandson, mother to son, and mother to daughter. There are as many women as men who are dowsers. However, experiments have shown that anyone can learn how to do it. There are many handbooks and instructional guidebooks on the techniques of dowsing. You won't know if you are a dowser until you try it.

The tools used for dowsing vary. The most commonly recognized is the wood forked-branch rod, which can be made from hazel, ash or willow, or sometimes a metal, whalebone or plastic rod. Also used as rods are wire coat hangers, copper and nylon rods, pendulums, and, at one time even German sausages. Some skilled dowsers don't use any rod; rather they just use the bare hands. A good example is Uri Geller, the famous Israeli psychic and telekinetic, who holds his hands outstretched with palms down until he feels a resisting force or pull on his hands, indicating he is over water or an object. However, for beginners a freshly cut forked or wishbone shaped branch will do. It should be pliable so that it will bend but not break. The branch should be no thicker than a pencil and about 18" to 25" long.

Dowsing can also be done remotely, using a pendulum over a large-scale map. The pendulum is held over the map while a pointer is slowly moved around on the map. The pendulum becomes active and begins to swing when the pointer passes over the spot with water, or whatever object being sought. The pendulum has also been used extensively to detect health problems, by holding it over the physical body.

During the practice of dowsing at a specific site, when using a forked-branch, the dowser grasps the branch by the forked ends, pulling the hands to their hips and holding the point out, a little higher than level. A straight wand would be held straight out with both hands and a pendulum would be grasped with one hand at the top of the string. The dowser must walk slowly, evenly and with deliberate steps over the area to be dowsed. The dowser must avoid shuffling. Once they are over water or the object they are seeking, the dowsing tools will

move. The forked-branch or wand will be pulled downward forcefully and the pendulum will begin swinging back and forth or around in circles. Once the dowsing tool signals the spot, put a marker or stake at the point of the greatest pull. This spot is where the exploratory digging should begin. Often the strength of the pull on the tool determines the amount of water.

Dowsing can be a fun and fascinating outdoor activity, whether you are watching or participating. There are supportive and educational organizations for dowsers and non-dowsers alike. One such organization is the British Society of Dowsers, formed in 1933. In the United States, the American Society of Dowsers, founded in 1961 has more than 25,000 members in the U.S. alone and thousands of members from around the world.

**Sources:**

Raymond C. Willey: *Modern Dowsing*, Esoteric Press, (1984)

Julie Soskin: *How Psychic Are You?* Carroll & Brown Limited, Penguin Books, 2002

Raymond Buckland: *The Witch Book, The Encyclopedia of Witchcraft, Wicca and Neo-paganism*, Visible Ink Press, 2002.

## SCRYING

Scrying is an ancient method of divination involving gazing into reflective surfaces such as mirrors, crystals, spheres and water, until a vision appears. The scrying object is also sometimes referred to as a speculum. The term scry derives from the word “descry” which means “to succeed in discerning” or “make out dimly” or “to reveal.” Gazing meditatively at these objects enables one to focus and project imagery from within, for instance from the mind’s eye. The subconscious moves into a channeling state, thereby opening up the psyche, which is said to be influenced by phases of the moon. Some sources suggest that the visions seen are messages sent from the subconscious self to the conscious self. There are many purposes for the use of scrying. Among these are seeing into the future, answering questions, solving problems, tracking criminals, and finding lost persons or objects.

This practice has been traced back to near the beginnings of civilization. It may have started when man first gazed into a sacred pond or river. Witches and magicians, a Wise Woman or Wise Man, and the most common stereotype, the Gypsy fortune-teller using her crystal ball, have all used scrying. Additionally, the ancient civilizations of the Egyptians, Aztecs, Incas, Romans, Chinese, Arabs, and many others have all practiced this method of divination in some form. The Native American tribes, the Apache and the Cherokee use crystals, as do the Australian aborigines and tribes of Borneo and New Guinea.

One of the most renowned prophets of all time, Nostradamus, used scrying for more than one thousand predictions he made during his lifetime. His method was to set a bowl of water on a brass tripod next to a lit candle, then dip a wand into the water and anoint himself with a few droplets. He then stared into the water until he began having his prophetic visions. He predicted events not only for his day, but also for ten centuries into the future! To avoid the threat of the Inquisition, and skepticism, he wrote these predictions in rhyming verses (called quatrains), anagrams, and various languages, so they were not easy to interpret. Yet, over half of these predictions have come true.

In *A Pictorial Anthology of Witchcraft Magic and Alchemy*, (1931) by Grillo De Givry, the author suggests that Catherine de Medici possessed a “magic mirror” in which she studied the future of France. In the library of Christ Church, Oxford, there is a drawing by Leonardo Da Vinci of two witches using a magic mirror to see the future. In sixteenth century England, Queen Elizabeth I’s astrologer, Dr. John Dee, owned a “magic mirror” of polished obsidian, as well as a crystal ball, which he and his scryer, assistant Edward Kelley, used for predictions for various nobility and rulers throughout Europe.

As with any form of divination, scrying takes practice, dedication and a clear relaxed mind. The preparations, using numerous rituals and traditions, are almost as important as the scrying itself. Some are very elaborate, others brief and simple. These procedures are designed to create a feeling of personal commitment and awareness, enabling the scryer to be in the necessary frame of mind to receive psychic vibrations. Since psychic vibrations are more clearly received at night, most divination work is done after dark.

Some of these preparations may include meditation to clear your mind, making sure the room is dimly lit or candles are lit, and making sure the objects are very clean. Music or incense may also be used but this is a personal choice. Scryers often wrap their mirrors, crystals or bowls in cloth to protect them from dust, grease and scratches. Wrapping or boxing scryer objects not only protects them from dirt but also helps them retain the vibrations built up from continual use.

Just before you begin, you may ask your spirit guide for guidance or you may say a prayer and ask for the correct information that you seek. The time used for Scrying can vary from a few minutes to a half-hour. It is usually done alone, although another person can be in the room.

**How to scry:** when using a mirror for scrying, you should stand in a dark room and place a flashlight or candle a few inches below your face and stare into the mirror for a few minutes. Try not to focus on details. Watch for the shape of your face to change, it may appear to grow facial hair, you may see another face, and if you look off to the side you will see spirit. It is possible you may also see yourself in the past lives.

Using water, as the reflective surface for scrying is very common. It represents the collective unconscious, the flow of things in the universe back to one source. When using a bowl of water, it should be black or very dark; you may add India ink to the water to turn it black if you desire. Place the bowl on a table in front of you, make sure you are relaxed and the room is quiet and dim. Then close your eyes and take two long slow breaths, breathing in through your nose. Hold the breath for several seconds, then release it slowly through your mouth. Your body should be relaxed and your mind clear, open and receptive. Then open your eyes and gaze down into the bowl of dark water. You could ask a mental question or just watch for the cloudiness to appear. Then watch for random images or scenes.

When scrying with crystals, the most common object is the crystal ball, usually about to 2-3 inches across or about the size of an egg. However, the crystal does not have to be a sphere. The crystal should be clear quartz but it can also be white, blue, violet, yellow, green or transparent. Blue or amethyst is less tiring to the eyes. The crystal may have inclusions in it and some may develop cloudy areas after many scrying uses.

Again, as is standard preparation for all scrying, position yourself in a quiet, comfortable area with no distractions. Position the crystal on a black cloth in good light. You could put the crystal on a stand with a light under it or use a flashlight or candle. Place one hand around the object, and slowly turn it with the other hand. You will turn the crystal many times and see different things within it. Gazing deeply into it, focus your eyes on the images that appear and watch for shapes that call to you. As the crystal starts to connect its frequency with yours, listen to your thoughts. Crystals are communication devices that receive psychic energy and signals. In *The Prediction Book of Divination* (1984) by Jo Logan and Lindsay Hodson, the authors maintain that "crystals are known to embody natural, creative forces that lie beyond the reach of man's normal consciousness but which can be contacted by altering this state." The older the crystal the more frequencies it has experienced. Most true crystals have a few flat areas through which you can look; these are called windows or doors. Sometimes it may happen that you do not receive any messages or images. This means that perhaps this crystal is not in your frequency and you may need to try another crystal.

No matter which object, or speculum, you are using for scrying, it is imperative that you are in a relaxed, comfortable, clear-minded and receptive state. During scrying, one gazes steadily into the object, trying to look through it, not at it. Try not to be consciously aware of its boundaries. Your gaze should be relaxed, rather than an unblinking stare. You may not see anything right away, or even the first time you try this. Be patient, take a brief rest and try again. Eventually a milky clouding or fog will occur in the object indicating that a vision is coming. Soon you should be able to discern shapes or images in the scrying surface. They won't necessarily have the clarity of a photograph and may still appear hazy at first, or they may appear as crude sketches. They may be disconnected, vague images or have a clear sense.

Some images will be direct messages revealing a scene or incident played out in front of you, while others will be indirect or symbolic. If you do not see a clear scene or picture, but rather a mental image, allow your attention to focus on these images. Once you see the images, they will persist. Even if you turned away from the object they will still be visible. The images may begin to form in your mind's eye and no longer be projected onto the object's surface. When this occurs, focus and pay attention to the knowledge offered by the images you are viewing. You may need to seek interpretations for these images and symbols in reference books on dreams and mystical symbols, but with practice and dedication and trust in your hunches and intuition, you will be able to interpret them accurately.

**Sources:**

Jo Logan & Lindsay Hodson: *The Prediction Book of Divination*, Blandford Press, 1984.

Raymond Buckland: *The Encyclopedia of Witchcraft, Wicca and Neo-paganism*, Visible Ink Press, 2001.

DK Direct Ltd.: *Charting The Future*, The Reader's Digest Association, Inc., 1992.

Julie Soskin: *How Psychic Are You?* Carroll & Brown Limited, Penguin Books, 2002

## NUMEROLOGY

Just think of what a single day in your life would be like if you did not use any numbers at all. You would not be able to use your cell phone, banks would close, schools, hospitals and airports, would all cease to operate. Basically, life as we know it would revert to the dark ages.

The science of numbers (numerology) originated in Greek and Hebrew cultures. Although the significance of numbers dates back to prehistoric times when mankind was first able to sense numbers using pictures or by comparing a four-legged animal to four animal skins when trading. Simply put, by Ellin Dodge in *Numerology Has Your Number* (1988), "Numerology is a mystical arithmetic system that reveals character, personality, and experience through the sensible progressions of numbers." There is a powerful link between letters and numbers. Divination with numbers was first devised by the ancient Egyptians who assigned "magic" numbers to certain letters, using them to foretell the future. Mathematicians think the Egyptians must have had a special understanding of numbers and mathematics in order to build the pyramids. It seems quite natural that they also used numbers for divination purposes. Numerology was "modernized" in the sixth century B.C. by Pythagoras, a Greek born in 580 B.C. He is considered by most to be the father of modern numerology. Even though it has developed and evolved in current time, there are still varying forms of numerology practiced today. There have been a very large number of books published on the topic, according to *The Prediction Book of Divination* (1984) by Jo Logan & Lindsay Hodson, "This is considered to be one of the easiest occult subjects to learn and master."

Have you ever noticed that certain numbers appear repeatedly throughout your life, in addresses, phone numbers, license plates and so on. It is a well-known theory that everyone has a lucky number and an unlucky number. Think back to the happiest events in your life, and think about the dates. Does one particular number appear again and again? Then recall traumatic or unpleasant events in your life, and go through the same process.

Generally, odd numbers have been considered luckier and more powerful than even ones. Odd numbers are thought to be masculine, even numbers are feminine. However, according to the book *Oriental Mystic Book of Fortune-Telling* by Plutonium "Numbers are, strictly speaking, neither lucky nor unlucky for they depend entirely on expression of harmony that the person has with vibrations affecting them."

When we apply the meanings of individual numbers corresponding to the letters in our names, and the numbers from our birth dates, it provides a complete personality-lifestyle profile. Some who are knowledgeable in metaphysics maintain that the soul selects its name to prior to birth to reflect the sound of its capacities. Our universe contains millions of vibrations and every person coming into this world has a unique vibration. Our names can repel or attract depending on their vibrations. The original name chosen for you by your parents is significant, as it was created by the natural laws of attraction, or vibrations, and is more important than any other name you will have, even your married surname.

Although there are other methods of converting letters to numbers, such as the Hebrew Kabalistic system, the easiest and most common method for converting letters to numbers is the simplified modern Pythagorean system, using your name.

Keep in mind that in converting letters to numbers and finding the significance of each number, numerology uses only numbers 1 through 9. Numbers 1 through 8 are represented by three letters, and number 9 by two, as shown in the chart below: (examples: C, L and U have a value of 3; D, M, V have a value of 4)

<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	

The letters 1-9 are associated with and influenced by a ruling planet.

- |                       |                              |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. The Sun            | 6. Venus                     |
| 2. The New Moon       | 7. Neptune and the Full Moon |
| 3. Jupiter            | 8. Saturn                    |
| 4. The Sun and Uranus | 9. Mars                      |
| 5. Mercury            |                              |



As stated by Ellin Dodge in *Numerology Has Your Number* (1988), "The stages of growth during the nine months of pregnancy and the final perfection of the fetus in the ninth month are a prime example of the evolution of the numbers 1 through 9.

Your name number indicates your personality, your self-expression and the things that you were born knowing. The numbers in your birth date produces your life number, which represents your attributes, your objectives, explains the type of people you will meet, and the experiences you will have, in other words, your destiny.

Now in order to calculate your name number, using the chart above, add the number value to each letter in your first name. For example: *MARY* would be M=4, A=1, R=9, Y=7. Now total these numbers, which is 21. Always reduce the number to a single digit, so you add these two numbers together, i.e.,  $2 + 1 = 3$ . Some people use this number only, while others prefer to use the total of both their first and last names. You could try it both ways and compare the results. If a woman is married, she should use her maiden name. If *MARY*'s last name is *SMITH*, then, again based on the chart above the number values would be S=1, M=4, I=9, T=2, H=8, these numbers total = 24, and broken down to a single digit,  $2 + 4 = 6$ . So the total number values of *MARY SMITH* is 3 from her first name plus the 6 from her last name = 9.

To formulate your personal vibration number, known as your destiny, use your birth date in the following way. If Mary Smith's birth date is December 2, 1958, or 12/2/1958, add up each number. In this case the total would be  $1+2+2+1+9+5+8 = 28$ , then add both digits to achieve a single figure which is  $2+8=10$ , which reduces to the final figure of 1. Your birthday and name numbers are unique to you and these two numbers may work in harmony or be opposing. Any recurring number is considered to affect the personality. Check the meaning of these numbers from the list below. Keep in mind that each number has positive and negative aspects.

**Number 1:** independent, leadership, creative activity, ambitious, perseverance, self-reliant. Selfishness, stubborn, bossiness, conceited.

**Number 2:** placid, soft-hearted, passive, cooperative, dependable, responsive, adaptable. Moody, weak-willed, shy, indifferent.

**Number 3:** carefree, joyful, sociable, adventurous, talented, adaptable. Whining, impatient, over-confident, lacking stamina.

**Number 4:** loyal, serene, practical, frank, cautious, disciplined, organized. Rebellious, inflexible, crude, clumsy, conservative.

**Number 5:** strong, adventurous, courageous, active, enterprising, sensual. High-strung, rash, forgetful, thoughtless, pessimistic.

**Number 6:** charitable, conscientious, kind, idealistic, domestically concerned, faithful. Opinionated, smothering, impractical, discontented, submissive.

**Number 7:** freedom-loving, intuitive, mystical, introspective, enduring, meticulous, poised, wise. Aloof, anti-social, cynical, restless, hypercritical, moody, inactive.

**Number 8:** successful, powerful, efficient, self-reliant, decisive, industrious. Humorless, cold, controlling, blunt, militant, crude.

**Number 9:** intelligent, generous, artistic, loyal, compassionate, tender, active, tolerant. Jealous, dreamy, lethargic, bitter, aimless, indiscreet.

Numerology is also used for divination in predicting what you can expect in the coming year, by using your birth date. Adding up the number of the day, the month, and the coming year arrives at your vibrational number. Say you were born on October 5<sup>th</sup>, and you are predicting for 2004. First you must find the single number for the calendar year of 2004. This is achieved by adding together  $2 + 0 + 0 + 4 = 6$ . You would then add the month and day of your birth;  $1 + 0 + 5 = 6$  plus the 6 from above = 12. Again, remember that one of the basic rules in numerology is that all double numbers are added together and reduced to a single number by adding from left to right. Therefore, 12 would then be reduced to 3, by adding  $1 + 2$ . So the personal year number is 3, also referred to as the year vibration of 3. Now in order to determine the forecast for this "Year Vibration of 3" you would refer to the following Personal Year chart.

**Year-number 1:** Your career should strengthen. Focus on new schemes, branch out, break-ground for new long-term goals. Make new friends and welcome change. Do not hold back. Take advantage of opportunities to travel.

**Year-number 2:** Be cooperative, but not aggressive, be patient, calm and modest. This is a year of learning and adjustment, be introspective and analyze yourself, are you using your talents? Be attentive to details. Stay receptive but relatively inactive, any major decisions made should be done so with much deliberation. A good time to enroll in a self-improvement class.

**Year-number 3:** Efficiency will pay off. A good year to improve upon your appearance and social skills. Buy new clothes, attend parties. Ease up on your work schedule and take time to play and travel. Romance will flourish. Relieve tensions and burdens, laugh a lot, bring out the child in yourself.

**Year-number 4:** Tie up loose ends. Be frugal and attend to business, as it will not be expanding this year. A serious year, so prepare for the future. Stay down to earth, practice self-discipline and moderation. Exercise caution, but cultivate long-term ambitions. Do not complain, as everything is for the good. Grow within yourself, and take especially good care of your health and fitness.

**Year-number 5:** Be prepared for a very active year. A good year for change, so you will not want to tie yourself down. Stay active socially. A time for flirtation and love affairs. Travel for business or pleasure will be likely. A favorable year for creative endeavors. Break away from everyday routine, challenge the rules a bit.

**Year-number 6:** Time to focus on domestic affairs. Home life will be harmonious. Exercise a charitable and tolerant approach with family and friends. Stay attentive and devoted to loved ones. Study and learn about home improvements. Settle any differences at the end of each day.

**Year-number 7:** This is a year to rest and reflect, and may be a time of solitude. Do not rush anything but perhaps develop a skill that you have been interested in the last few years. Study and try to achieve a spiritual enlightenment. This is a non-material year so do not expect much growth in business or financial affairs, and do not attempt any new ventures. This is not a good year to make any major decisions regarding romance, such as getting married or divorced. Stay in touch with friends and relatives.

**Year-number 8:** Expect an active and productive year. You will feel empowered and strong. Now is the time to go after what you want. This is a favorable year to initiate business decisions, but the constructive and maintain a healthy attitude. You may think more of others less fortunate than yourself this year, so be generous with your donations or community work.

**Year-number 9:** Expect changes and fluctuations during this year. Reflect on the past eight years and congratulate yourself for the things that turned out well, but let go of the past. Look forward, not back. Spend time on improving relationships, and counseling or inspiring others. This is not a good year to start any new projects, rather focus on completing any that have been in the works. Be hopeful and enthusiastic.

**Sources:**

Ellin Dodge, *Numerology Has Your Number*, A Fireside Book, Simon & Schuster, 1988

Plutonium: *The Oriental Mystic Book of Fortune-Telling*, D.B. Taraporevala Sons & Co., 1967

Jo Logan & Lindsay Hodson: *The Prediction Book of Divination*, Blandford Press, 1984.

Julie Soskin: *How Psychic Are You?* Penguin Books, Carroll & Brown Ltd, 2002

## RUNES

Runes are the ancient method of writing using the Nordic alphabet. Although their origins are uncertain and shrouded in mystery and secrecy, it is thought that they were first used in Denmark in the third century. The word *rune* derives from the Norse word of *runar*, meaning mysterious, or magic sign, as well as from an ancient German word, *raunen*, meaning "to carve" or "to cut." The first runes that were discovered were carved or cut into rock faces.

According to legend, the runic alphabet was formulated by the mythological god known as Odin, who was the leader of the Norse deities. He was also known as the one-eyed god in the Scandinavian underworld. Odin acquired his knowledge of the runes after hanging upside down from the Yggdrasil tree for nine days and nights without food or water, and pierced with his own spear. At the end of this period he was able to bend down and lift up the magical runes, which he then used in his travels to protect and heal those he met. There are other theories that the runic alphabet did not originate in Scandinavia at all, but rather they came from an adaptation of Greek letters, or that they are associated with Phoenician ancestry.

The number of letters in the runic alphabet has ranged, over the years, from 16 to 31, depending on the variations. There are also Germanic runes, Danish runes and Swedish-Norse runes. However the most common form used now is based on the Anglo-Saxon runic alphabet, which contains 24 letters. Runic writing was in use

from the third century C.E. until relatively modern times, although this writing has never been a strictly utilitarian form of writing.

Originally, runes were carved on rock faces. However, as tribes started traveling they began to put the markings on small stones for ease of carrying. Later the letters were burnt or carved into small pieces of wood. Today runes are made from a variety of substances, including wood, clay or engraved metal. The letters are generally comprised of straight lines. Usually there are no curves or ellipses, and the letters only appear on one side of the rune. The names of the letters often refer to an animal or object in nature, such as a horse or tree, because at some point it was felt that the shape of the letters resembled these objects to a certain degree.

While historians and anthropologists are unclear exactly how divination was achieved by using runes, they have surmised that the runic letters are correlated with archetypal and other powerful forces in the human collective unconscious. In order to predict the future or cast a spell, the runes were “cast,” in other words, thrown down, and those that land with the letters up are then interpreted.

The casting of the runes may be done in a variety of ways; on the ground, on a table or other prepared surface such as a piece of cloth. Some rune-casters actually place the runes by hand, but whichever method you choose is a personal choice. The surface on which the runes are cast or placed is referred to as the “field.” This field is often divided into three areas or concentric circles. Today, however, the most common method is the clock formation, also known as the runic wheel.



The simplest runic wheel uses 13 of the runes. In order to protect the runes they are generally stored in a bag, such as a drawstring leather bag. When beginning a casting, the bag is shaken first. Then, reach in and draw out the specific number of runes that will be used. For example, if you're using 13 in the runic wheel, you would begin by placing, face down, the first rune in the nine o'clock position, the second at the eight o'clock position, and so on in a counterclockwise direction until all the runes are laid. The 13th rune would then be placed in the center of the runic wheel.















A more complex runic wheel consists of using all 25 runes. These runes are laid out in twos in a clockwise direction beginning with the one o'clock position, and continuing around the clock, placing the last rune in the center. (As mentioned earlier the standard runic alphabet is 24 letters, but for divination purposes a 25th rune is added, which is blank on both sides, and which also has a specific meaning.) Again, they are always placed face down until completion of the wheel. Once the runes are all placed they are then turned over and the reading can begin.











There are other methods for casting runes. They are the three-rune spread, a five-rune spread or a seven-rune spread. In addition, spreads used for Tarot Card reading can be adapted for runes, or use of the astrological chart by placing one rune on each of the 12 signs. A very simple method of rune divination is to hold the bag of runes in one hand and concentrate on a question you wish to ask, keeping the question simple. When you feel ready to receive an answer open the bag. Place a hand inside and move the stones around until one stone feels right in your fingers or seems to stick to them. This stone will give you the answer to your question, so draw it out of the bag and interpret it. If your question is more complex and you need a more detailed view then follow this same procedure but choose three runes and lay them out from left to right.

Once the method of casting has been decided upon, the reading is then based on the following symbolic meanings. Keep in mind that each letter can have two meanings, depending on whether it lands, or is placed, with the top facing up or down.

### Names & Modern Meanings of the Rune Letters:

	<p><b>KAON.</b> Torch or fire, indicates protection.          Upright: Seize opportunities that come your way. Pay attention to your intuition. Be receptive. A sign of a new relationship, whether business or romantic.          Reversed: indicates misplacing or losing something of value, or loss of a friendship.</p>
	<p><b>FEOH.</b> Possessions, goods.          Upright: Romantic fulfillment indicated. A sign for happiness and success, particularly financial. Share with others.          Reversed: frustration with romance. Lack of initiative.</p>

	<b>RIT.</b> Journey or riding. Union Upright: Signifies an enjoyable journey, perhaps a journey of the soul. Seek adventure, but with caution. Indicates communication with good news. Reversed: opposite of the above. Traveling may have to be cancelled or delayed. An expected communication may be late.	
	<b>BIRCA.</b> Birch twig. Growth and fertility. Upright: Development of close relationships. Pleasurable family events. Kindness and patience are required. May indicate pregnancy. Reversed: Anxiety about a relative or family activities. Be wary of obstructions.	
	<b>DAG.</b> Light, Prosperity, fruitfulness Signifies a sudden change in lifestyle, a breakthrough, but proceed gradually. You may “see the light” about something that was concerning you. No reverse reading for DAG.	
		<b>YER.</b> Year, harvest Expect recognition, rewards from efforts made in the past year. Could signify a promotion or job offer. Be sure to be patient in all areas of your life. No reverse reading for YER.
	<b>GIFU.</b> Gift. A good sign whether upright or reversed. Indicates a new friendship or partnership resulting in gifts. Adhere to advice from others. No reverse reading for GIFU.	
		<b>PEORTH.</b> Something hidden or secret. Upright: luck may come your way if you do not take any chances. Material gains may occur unexpectedly. Put external matters aside for spiritual transformation. Reversed: avoid negativity. Secret information may be misleading. High hopes may result in disappointment.
	<b>YR.</b> Avertive powers. Turn aside. Expect a change at work, which may not seem positive at first but will turn out to be good. A possible tough situation has been averted. Expect delays but be patient and maintain serene composure. No reverse reading for YR.	
	<b>ODAL.</b> Inheritance. Property. Upright: Indicates financial or material inheritance. Look forward, and gain strength by putting the past behind you. Be unselfish and patient. Reversed: Be careful of mechanical devices, which may cause damage or an accident.	
	<b>MAN.</b> Humanity or Man. Upright: Regarding the soul, the self, personal welfare. A sign of growth in change, the New Age. Stress should be avoided. Reversed: Beware of an enemy. May feel alienated.	
	<b>AKZI.</b> Elk. Rush plant. Protection. Upright: Control emotions. A new interest may be pursued. You may feel inspired and wish to share your experiences. Be decisive. Reversed: Stay away from those who may take advantage of you. You may feel unprotected and vulnerable.	
	<b>TIR.</b> Take action. Honor. Passion. Upright: Indicates a deep romantic love affair. Reversed: Attachments won't last. Beware of falsehoods and double standards.	
	<b>ING.</b> Fertility. A Hero. A problem that has been concerning you for quite a while will be solved. Be flexible. Can indicate a pregnancy. No reverse reading for ING.	

	<b>EOH.</b> A horse. Movements. Upright: signifies travel or transportation. Steady progress. Expect a change in job or residence. Reversed: Indicates a journey by sea. Anticipate arguments.
	<b>LAGU.</b> Flow. Water, Sea. Upright: Trust Your Intuition. Academic studies will have a lucrative result. Reversed: Beware, things are not what they seem. Stay within your personal limits, don't push yourself.
	<b>SIG.</b> Sun. Life Force. Concerning your health, so take care of your body. Get lots of rest and look within yourself. Consider your wholeness. Stay calm and try not to worry about anything. No reverse reading.
	<b>AS.</b> Odin, the one-eyed god of the occult. Messenger. Upright: Be observant. This sign is associated with the elderly, and indicates visits with senior relatives resulting in gifts, either material or financial. Reversed: Be wary. An older relative may become bothersome or ill. Be warned of a wasted journey. Uninspired.
	<b>WUNNA.</b> Joy. Light. Upright: a sign of happiness and joy, clarity, and new energy. Be thankful for what you have. Travel over water is favored with this sign. Reversed: Be prepared for disharmony or conflict. Be cautious and delay major decisions for at least three days.
	<b>UR.</b> Ox. Strength. Manhood. Upright: signifies opportunities and financial rewards if no risks are taken and willing to work hard. Reversed: indicates possibility of a missed chance. Weakness.
	<b>THORN.</b> Great spirit. Giant. Upright: Postpone pending decisions until all aspects are clear. Reflect on the past and what you have achieved. Not a good idea to take any risks. Reversed: hasty decisions would be regretted. Be wary of disruptive arguments and opposition.
	<b>NAWT.</b> Constraint. Necessity. Upright: proceed cautiously with carefully laid plans. Exercise plenty of patience. A luckier sign for older people rather than the young. Reversed: Anticipate struggles and fear. Avoid a risky venture.
	<b>HAGAL.</b> Hail. Natural forces that damage. Expect disruption, which may come in the form of illness, a death, a birth, or possibly even a war. You will have no control over any of these events. Rely on your inner strength in order to cope. No reverse reading.
	<b>IS.</b> Ice. That which cools or impedes. Indicates a cooling or ending of emotional relationships. Let go off whatever it is that is keeping you at a standstill. Watch out for disagreements or even separations amongst family or friends. Do not take any hasty actions. No reverse reading.
	<b>THE BLANK RUNE:</b> This has numerous meanings. It can represent Karma from a previous life. It can also indicate that the question needs to be rephrased. It is also interpreted as the unknowable, the inevitable, and something that is predestined and cannot be changed.

Bear in mind that when reading runes from the runic wheel, you need to study what comes before and after each rune and compare this to the one in the center of the wheel, as well as with the runes that are opposite, before finalizing your interpretation.

You'll find that in the many books on runes, the different authors have attributed various meanings to the runic alphabet letters. This is because no one knows exactly what each letter meant originally, as those meanings were lost in time. It has been suggested that you could take each individual rune and spend time with it, handle it and meditate upon it in order to arrive at its personal meaning for you. Also the runes are said to attain more powerful vibrations every time you use them.

**Sources:**

Jo Logan & Lindsay Hodson: *The Prediction Book of Divination*, Blandford Press, 1984.

Julie Soskin: *How Psychic Are You?* Penguin Books, Carroll & Brown Ltd, 2002

Raymond Buckland: *The Fortune-Telling Book*, Visible Ink Press, 2004

DK Direct Ltd.: *Charting The Future*, The Reader's Digest Association, Inc., 1992.

## THE OUIJA BOARD

The Ouija Board, also known as the talking board, is a flat smooth-surfaced board that can be rested on your lap or on a table. It is used to contact departed spirits and to receive answers to questions by spelling them out. It has the letters of the alphabet arranged into two lines across the center of the board, as well as numbers one through ten and the word *yes* and *no* in each lower corner of the board. A small heart-shaped platform with wooden pegs, called a planchette, is placed on the board and used as the pointer. The diviner or sitters gently place their fingertips on the planchette and begin by asking a question. The planchette will then glide over the board pointing to specific letters. Similar divination tools like this have been used for centuries. For example, in Rome and Greece a small table on wheels moved around to point to answers to questions. In some Native American tribes a very similar board called the *squidilac* was used to gain spiritual information.

The modern-day Ouija board derives its name from the French and German words for "yes." Although some sources state that the inventor of the modern Ouija board, E.C. Reiche, named the board Ouija because it meant good luck in Egyptian, but this word does *not* mean good luck in Egyptian, even though Reiche stated this information was imparted to him from a spirit via the board. Nevertheless, the name stuck. Reiche sold his invention to Charles Kennard who patented it in the late 1800s, subsequently. The patent was then sold to William Fuld in 1892. He manufactured the boards in record numbers and his sales were very successful. In 1966 a huge toy manufacturer by the name of Parker Brothers bought the rights to the Ouija board, and marketed it so successfully that the sales were in the millions and outsold the famous Monopoly game. Today they still produce it in large numbers and it is sold in toy stores throughout the country. Additionally, there are several other companies who produce a variation of the talking board.

There has been much controversy about the Ouija board. Some merely consider it an entertaining psychic "game," as it is often used by inexperienced people with no knowledge of psychic powers or training in communicating with spirits. Although psychic skills are not necessary, when using the Ouija board it is important to take it seriously and maintain a receptive attitude.

Your success in using the Ouija board can be achieved by prayerful meditation before beginning, creating a quiet soothing atmosphere, *and invoking only the highest and most benevolent spirits* through which to ask your questions. The boards are generally used by at least two people, with the board resting between them on their laps or on a small table. Only one person should act as the spokesperson. Begin by inviting a *willing* spirit to come through to speak. This is because it has been known to attract negative or lower spirit entities. The spokesperson may then enquire, "Is there anybody there?" This may need to be repeated until such time as the planchette moves to point to *yes* on the board. Then a question should be asked in a slow and deliberate manner, taking care not to make the question too ambiguous. It is imperative that the participants not push the planchette or press too hard on it, rather, allow the spirits to direct the force and guide your hands to the letters. Some experienced psychics believe that the movement of the planchette is actually powered by the psychic portions of the human mind.

Since the spokesperson is also the one responsible for calling out the letters to which the planchette points, it is a good idea to have an additional person to record the letters as they are called out or use a tape recorder. It may then be necessary to study the message carefully as some of the words may run together or there may be confusion between similar looking letters. It helps to form at least some questions that can be answered just with a *yes* or a *no*. Just remember to be sensible when using the Ouija board, don't assume that it will answer

all of life's questions, as it is not an Oracle nor can it predict the entire future. Enjoy it, don't abuse it, and see what happens.

**Sources:**

Julie Soskin: *How Psychic Are You?* Penguin Books, Carroll & Brown Ltd, 2002

Raymond Buckland: *The Fortune-Telling Book*, Visible Ink Press, 2004

URLs: [www.prairieghosts.com](http://www.prairieghosts.com), [www.museumoftalkingboards.com](http://www.museumoftalkingboards.com)

## PALMISTRY

The art of hand reading, also known as Cheiromancy, is an ancient method of indicating a person's character, temperament, intellectual capacity and foretelling coming events in life by reading and interpreting the shape and size of the hands and the markings on it. Evidence indicates that it dates as far back as the Stone Age, based on paintings of hands found in prehistoric caves. Aristotle (384-322 B.C.E.) is said to have written about the subject of palmistry. His text, *Chiromantia*, is one of the earliest surviving works on the subject and was disseminated to scholars throughout Europe. Hand reading was also known to exist in ancient China and Egypt from at least 4000 BCE. However, the Christian Church banned the use of palmistry in 315 A.D., claiming it was rooted in paganism. This forced the practice to go underground, where it continued for the next thousand years in Europe. Elsewhere, however, the practice flourished and evolved, especially in the Arabic speaking world. In the 16th century there was a resurgence of interest and acceptance of hand reading throughout Europe. In the early 20th-century it became even more popular in the Western world. Even medical researchers claim there is a correspondence between unusual markings in the hand with specific diseases and abnormalities, such as Down's syndrome. Specific patterns of lines and ridges on the palm and fingers have been confirmed by scientists to be linked with heart disease and the development of cancer cells. Today you can find modern palmists in just about every major city throughout the world.

Modern palmists claim that they can gain more accurate knowledge about an individual by interpreting the entire hand, not just by analyzing the lines in the palm of the hand. This includes: the overall shape and size of the hand; the size, length, shape, and spacing of the fingers; the shape of the knuckles; the fingernails; and the raised, padded and fleshy mounds in the palm known as mounts. Obviously no two hands are alike, as they come in many shapes and sizes.

When assessing the hands it is essential to examine both the right and the left hands. This is because each hand reveals different facets of life. Modern palmists generally agree if you are right-handed your passive hand is the left-hand, which indicates the subjective self, your innate character and potential, what you were born with. Whereas the dominant hand (again, when you are right-handed) reveals your achievements, how you have used your talents, your objective self, and your public persona. Just reverse this if you are left-handed. The general consensus is that while the passive hand's features remain constant, the dominant hand's lines and characteristics will change and evolve over the years.

There are differing views on the number of categories of basic shapes of hands depending on your source. Some sources of palmistry information claim that the hand is classified into seven basic types, others state there are six or four types or shapes. In this course we will discuss seven basic types, and four shapes.

### Characteristics of the Seven Types of Hands

**ELEMENTARY HAND:** short wide fingers and large or wide palm. Can indicate a slow thinker, a practical person. This hand is the same as one of the four basic shapes, referred to as the *EARTH* hand. Often related to hard-working, levelheaded and sensible people. This type of hand frequently belongs to creative people.

**SQUARE HAND:** the palm appears as broad as it is high, fingers are longer than those of the Elementary hand, and rectangular shaped with either rounded or square tips. Reveals a matter-of-fact logical type person with an inquisitive mind. This hand is the same as the shape described for the *AIR* hand. Owners of this hand are often writers or a computer whiz, and like variety in their lives.

**CONIC HAND:** long tapering fingers shorter than the palm, with small thumbs and cone-shaped fingertips. This hand indicates impulsiveness, enthusiasm, creative and sensitive, and quick fluctuations in mood.

**SPATULATE HAND:** short fingers with a long palm that is broad at either the top or the bottom. Fingertips are wide compared to the rest of the finger. These hands belong to outgoing, lively, dynamic type of people, with a unique way of thinking. This hand compares to one of the four basic shapes known as the *FIRE* hand. Possessors of this shape are definite extroverts with infectious enthusiasm.

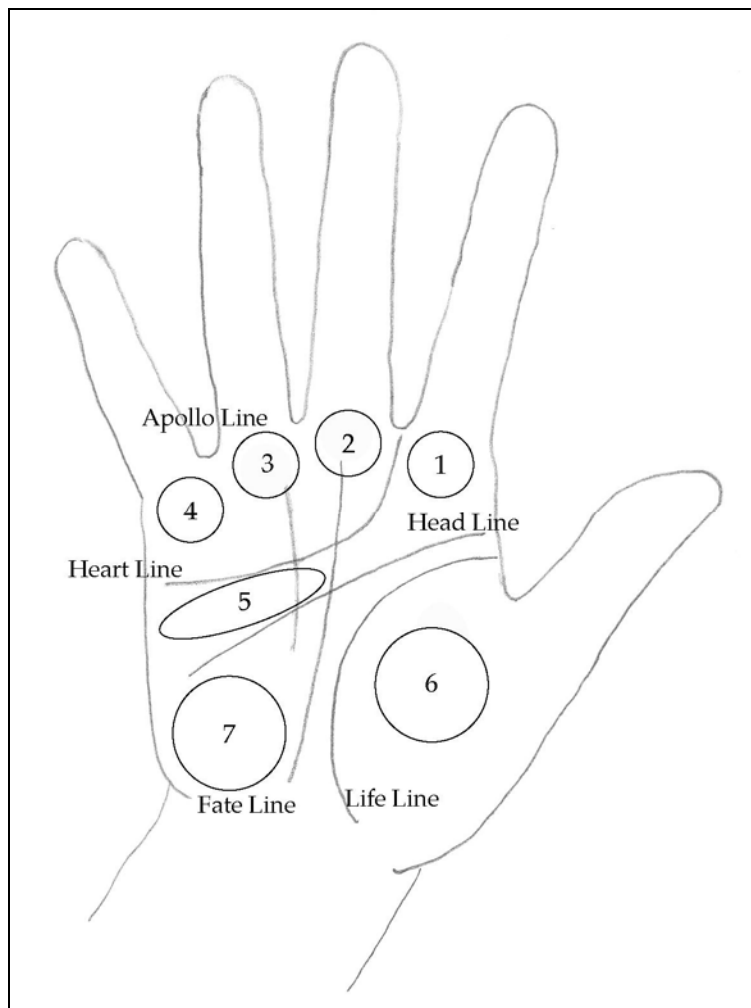
**PHILOSOPHICAL HAND:** tall slender palm and short uneven fingers with knotty heavy joints. Reveals an intellectual, analytical type person who requires solitude and prefers country life.

**PSYCHIC HAND:** long narrow tapering fingers and tall thin palm. Shows an idealistic person, who is gentle and creative and often involved in spiritual subjects, may be a visionary or psychic. This hand compares to the shape referred to as the *WATER* hand. People with these hands are usually refined and can be found in the world of art and music.

**MIXED HAND:** the palm and fingers are of equal length. Combines one or two elements from other shapes, so a person with this type would display a combination of tendencies. Denotes a flexible and resourceful person who may be multi-talented, possibly an inventor.

## The Major Lines of the Hand

Knowledgeable hand analysts believe that the lines in our hands are created by our nervous system and are connected to physiology and body chemistry, and not merely creases created by our hand movements, as some inexperienced people have suggested. Therefore each person's lines are unique and evolve over time, especially in the dominant hand. The major lines in the palm that indicate each individual's characteristics are the life line, the head line, the heart line, and the fate line. The Apollo line, a fifth line, does not appear on every hand. These major lines are formed before birth during the fetal stage and are genetically influenced. The other lines appear gradually as we grow and they usually evolve as we mature, influenced by our life's experiences.





### **The Life Line**

The **Life Line** starts at the edge of the palm between the thumb and index finger, curving down and around the raised fleshy mound, called the Mount of Venus, and ending close to the wrist. This line indicates the quality of one's life and the degree of vitality, energy level and general health, as well as strength of character, but does *not* refer to their longevity, as is often thought. It can show how your life will progress by analyzing the smaller lines that intersect it. But generally, a long, clear and deeply etched Life Line reveals a robust and resilient constitution. A faint Life Line containing breaks shows a weak constitution, very little physical activity and a low energy level. A long Life Line denotes physical strength and endurance. A short Life Line can indicate an uprooted life, such as moving to another country, or marrying someone of a different race.

### **The Head Line**

The **Head Line** denotes the intellectual capability of a person and how they use it. This line begins below the index finger and extends a little bit horizontally then diagonally down towards the other edge of the palm. A long Head Line indicates a curious mind with a variety of interests. A short Head Line reveals someone with a more practical mentality, a single-mindedness, such as a very specific specialist, or someone with limited intelligence. A faint or weak Head Line reveals poor concentration and lack of common sense, a daydreamer who can have unrealistic expectations. If the beginning of the Head Line is somewhat separated from the beginning of the Life Line, this can depict a well-balanced nature. On the other hand if these two lines are intertwined at the beginning, this can suggest a cautious and dependent nature, lacking self-confidence.

### **The Heart Line**

The **Heart Line** is an indicator of a person's emotional life, level of intuition, and their attitudes towards love, sexuality, and relationships. This line runs above the Head Line, beginning below the space between the first and second fingers and extending somewhat horizontally but curving down slightly to the far edge of the palm. Most people have a stronger Heart Line on the left, or passive hand, than on the right, or dominant hand. A strong Heart Line which is well-etched and clear suggests a warm and generous person who is comfortable with their sexuality, and may feel very deeply both joy and sorrow. However, if this line is the most dominant on the palm it can indicate impulsiveness, and letting emotions rule other aspects of life. A thin, poorly formed, faint Heart Line can reveal emotional coldness, insecurity in relationships, and emotional difficulties. Someone with a curved Heart Line would likely have a strong sex drive and feel that physical pleasure is of utmost importance in an intimate relationship. They would have a passionate and fiery nature. A straight heart line is associated with those who take a more cautious approach to relationships.

### **The Fate Line**

The **Fate Line**, also referred to as the line of Luck, varies substantially with each person more than any other major line. In fact, it is not uncommon that this line is entirely absent from an individual's hand. This line runs vertically through the palm from the wrist up to the middle finger. A person's degree of good fortune will be reflected by this line's length and depth. A clear and unbroken Fate Line indicates a successful career, a self-motivated individual with a strong character. Although in this day of changing employment demands and social mobility, interrupted and broken Fate Lines are common and don't necessarily indicate career failures. Although a very weak and faint Fate Line is associated with those who lack control and direction and are unsettled in their lives. Those with no Fate Line showing at all are often nonconformists who do not feel the need to put down secure roots. They may be colorful people who would rather live by their own rules and not be saddled with responsibilities.

### **The Apollo Line**

The **Apollo Line**, (also known as the Sun Line), although not apparent in every hand, usually begins higher up in the palm just above or below the Heart Line and runs vertically to just below the third finger. There are enormous variations of this line from person-to-person. It sometimes runs exactly parallel to the Fate line. This line is a protective sign and represents creativity and talent as well as happiness and personal fulfillment. An absence of this line could signify setbacks, a cynical nature or dissatisfaction. If this line is clear and straight it reveals good fortune and possibly fame. An Apollo Line that branches out from the Fate Line is frequently seen. This form suggests that the individual's talent

may be recognized at an early age resulting in success and fame. Some palms have multiple Apollo Lines, which are indicative of several different talents, a very versatile person.

## The Secondary Lines of the Hand

In addition to the major lines discussed above, there are many secondary lines and markings that may appear on a person's palm throughout life. By also interpreting these, an experienced Palmist can further enhance the hand-reading by giving a very detailed individualized analysis. In this course we will touch on these additional markings only briefly, but for more comprehensive information refer to other sources.

Imagine the hand as if it were a map, and then picture the major lines as main highways, the secondary lines as minor roads and the markings on the lines as obstructions along the way. These "obstructions" will come and go at different periods in one's life. But it is wise to pay attention to them as they can warn of events and difficulties. They can appear anywhere on the palm, on the major line, the secondary lines or on the mounts.

**The main markings that occur and their meanings are as follows:**

- Crosses:** opposition, worries, shock
- Squares:** restriction, also protection in a difficult time, neutralizes any negative effect.
- Triangles:** talent, success, peace & harmony
- Star:** intense energy, luck with money, wisdom
- Grills/grids:** illness
- Islands:** low resistance, hardships
- Chains:** a weak period, confusion
- A Break:** change of direction
- Dots & Pitting:** temporary illness or weakness (*usually occur at the end of a line*)

## The Fingers

As with all other parts of the hand, the fingers are highly significant in what they reveal about your personality. Each finger represents a different aspect of life and each are named after an astrological being representing their particular characteristics (these can be positive or negative depending on the length and shape of each finger), as follows:

- Venus–thumb:** associated with will power and strength of character, initiative, direction.
- Jupiter–index finger:** represents ambition, leadership, confidence.
- Saturn–middle finger:** relates to wisdom, degree of responsibility, common sense, restraint.
- Apollo–ring finger:** associated with sun, brightness, the arts, creativity, beauty.
- Mercury–little finger:** relates to communication, skill of self-expression, sexuality.

## The Mounts

The fleshy, raised contours of the palm are called Mounts. These are interpreted by Palmists based on their shape, size and color and suggest much about a person's strengths and weaknesses and overall personality. Along with all the other components of the hand, they are used as another component in the overall analysis of the hand. Each mount is associated with a specific characteristic of your personality. Again, these are named after the mythical, astrological beings. Their size and height vary with each individual, and can change in accordance with happenings in your life. In order to view your own mounts, gently cup your hand, as this will make the mounts stand out.

**Following are the Mounts and the aspects of your personality with which they are associated.**

*(Numbers correspond with the chart on page 16)*

- 1. Mount of Jupiter:** located at the base of the index finger, it represents your self-confidence, self-esteem, a rounded one reveals good-natured, confident, sociable, an underdeveloped one indicates arrogance, laziness and selfishness.
- 2. Mount of Saturn:** this is found at the base of the second finger, and is associated with your sense of responsibility, and your degree of common sense and caution. If this is overdeveloped it reveals a dismal disposition and inner chaos. If it is just slightly padded it is indicative of someone with common sense, who is serious minded.

3. **Mount of Apollo:** this is located at the base of the ring finger, and signifies the degree of artistic appreciation and creativity and represents the type of disposition. A rounded firm mount indicates a sunny disposition, a friendly and outgoing personality. If it is very prominent it reveals one who is conceited and egotistical, and if it is flat the personality could be introspective and disinterested in the arts.

4. **Mount of Mercury:** this is situated at the base of the little finger and is associated with one's ability to communicate. A warm, quick-witted, persuasive person would possess a gently rounded Mount of Mercury, while an underdeveloped mount indicates disinterest in others, and an overdeveloped one reveals a very talkative and selfish nature.

5. **Mount of Mars:** this extends horizontally across the middle of the palm and is actually divided into three sections; the Upper Mount, also referred to as Mars Negative, located on the outside edge of the palm, and reflects one's capability of coping with life's tribulations and integrity, if it's prominent the person may be stubborn. The middle section is called the Plain of Mars and this denotes how a person manages their passion and emotion. If this area is thick it's could mean a quick temper, but if it is lean the person may be dull. The third section is called the Lower Mount, or Mars Positive. This Mount is at the crease of the thumb and is associated with courage, will to succeed, and if prominent it can denote a cynical, reclusive and cruel nature. If it is flat, it indicates cowardice.

6. **Mount of Venus:** this is generally more padded than the other Mounts and is located between the base of the thumb and the wrist and reflects a person's degree of vitality, affection, sex drive and overall enthusiasm for life. If it is overdeveloped it signifies a large ego and unrefined character. If it is fairly flat it reveals coldness and delicate health. A well-rounded one indicates a person who is kind, warm and friendly.

7. **Mount of Moon:** this is also referred to as the Mount of Luna and is located on the outside edge of the palm close to the wrist. It represents a person's imagination, intuition and creativity. If overdeveloped it reflects a person who is anxious and moody. If flat, it indicates a person would lack imagination and be a conformist. This Mount has been linked with the psychic world. If it overhangs the wrist it can indicate psychic leanings in the person.

**Sources:**

Raymond Buckland: *The Fortune-Telling Book*, Visible Ink Press, 2004

Lori Reid: *The Art of Hand Reading*, Dorling Kindersley Ltd., 1996

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## READING TEA LEAVES

A form of divination, also known as Tasseography, is to study the patterns and shapes of the residual tea leaves left in a cup after the tea has been consumed. This method of divination is thought to have originated in China, but only gained popularity worldwide in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries.

For the most accurate results, the tea cup should be round and on the inside it should be a pale color or white, with a smooth surface containing no ridges or grooves. It should also have a handle.

Since the clustering of the leaves is what creates the patterns to be interpreted, it is essential that a large-leaf variety of tea be used rather than a fine-leaf tea. When making the tea, no strainer should be used nor should you add any milk or sugar or any other substance, and use just one tablespoon of the tea. The client then drinks the tea, taking at least three sips. While drinking it is advised that they concentrate on a question to ask the diviner. It is not necessary for the client to drink all of the tea, but there should be no more than a teaspoon remaining in the cup. Then the cup needs to be slightly tipped and rotated three times, in a clockwise direction if the client is a man, or in a counter-clockwise direction if the client is female. The cup is then turned upside down onto the saucer until the remaining liquid has drained away, and then placed right side up again.

With the handle of the tea cup turned towards the diviner, begin studying the tea leaves. The leaves near the upper rim of the cup relate to something happening soon. Those that are further down in the cup refer to further into the future. Those that are at the very bottom of the cup represent events a long way into the future. It takes imagination and skill to recognize symbols and shapes in the tea leaves because they are not *exactly* representational of an object. Rather they may just be a *suggestion* of, say, a chair or a tree. The tea leaves should, therefore, be viewed from different angles and positions until their shape and meaning can be determined. If

more than one shape is seen, their meanings should be balanced and a general interpretation then be given. The diviner may not interpret the shape in a literal sense, but rather use it as a trigger or focus for some physical feeling.

**Following are the general interpretations of the shapes and symbols suggested by the Tea Leaves:**

- ACE:** Expect changes. Powerful sources at work. Stay calm.
- AIRPLANE:** A promotion or unexpected journey. Surprising news.
- ANCHOR:** A lucky sign suggesting travel or romance. Putting down roots, staying home.
- ANT:** Hard work may result in promotions. Perseverance.
- ARCH:** Blissful love affairs. A happy married life.
- ARROW:** Expect bad news. Beware of danger.
- AXE:** Be wary of difficulties or separations. Your patience will be rewarded.
- BALL:** Be cautious of your acquaintances, don't let them use you. Anticipate ups and downs coming.
- BALLOON:** Good luck coming, you will receive a boost. An increase in your holdings.
- BANANA:** Good health is forecast. Sick loved ones will soon be healthy.
- BANNER:** Signifies prosperity and success.
- BARREL:** Relates to festivities. Your current ambitions may be in vain. Unfulfilled dreams.
- BEAN:** You need to work hard and save money. It will pay off later.
- BEEBLE:** Signifies security and contentment.
- BEEHIVE:** Financial wealth, success.
- BELL:** Brings good news, a lucky sign.
- BIRD:** Expect good news (observe other symbols nearby).
- BOAT:** A good or bad discovery may occur. You may be taking a trip or receive visitors from far away.
- BOOK:** Some beneficial revelation is represented by an open book, a closed book means research is needed.
- BOOT:** If this symbol is clear it means protection from danger. Anticipate an important change, which could be pleasant or unpleasant.
- BOTTLE:** Signifies bad luck, which may be associated with your health. See a doctor.
- BOW:** A positive sign. Love affairs will flourish. Hopeful feelings.
- BROOM:** Difficulties or scandal will be cleared up.
- BRIDGE:** Indicates sorrow. Meeting up with old friends, which may involve travel.
- BUTTERFLY:** Be careful of excess frivolity. Be attentive and true to your loved ones to avoid trouble.
- CANDLE:** Possible illness coming. Also refers to good deeds.
- CASTLE:** Signifies a marriage amongst your relatives. May achieve a high position.
- CAT:** Beware of arguments or dishonesty. A crafty nature.
- CHAIN:** Represents marriage for you or someone close to you.
- CIGAR:** A dreamer, unrealistic. Attempt more practicality.
- CIRCLE:** Indicates a happy marriage. Successful completion of work, with rewards or gifts.
- CLAW:** Watch out for enemies.
- CLOCK:** A sign of success in business. Concerns over family will dissipate, but may be news of death.
- CLOUDS:** Difficulties on the immediate horizon, so be prepared.
- CLOVER:** Signifies good luck, if four-leaved then great luck.
- COMET:** Surprising news, unexpected visitors, or something painful.
- CRESCENT:** Anticipate travel.
- CROSS:** Signifies inspiration, ideas to help overcome troubles.
- CROWN:** Overcoming problems. Honor and success.
- CUP:** Make a sacrifice or offering. Seize opportunities to gain advancement.
- CURVED LINES:** Indicates end of the peaceful life, expect highs and lows now.
- DAGGER:** Beware of troubles, and be on the lookout for danger from either an enemy or a friend.
- DOG:** Relates to friendship. Trust advice of friends.
- DOT:** Expect to make a new friend. Closely observe the symbols near this one.
- DRAGON:** Anticipate domestic bliss soon. New opportunities are on the way.
- DRUM:** Domestic disagreements will occur. Public disturbances.
- DUCK:** Expect good news and success.

**EAGLE:** Ambitions will be rewarded with success and fortune. A good sign.

**EAR:** Watch out for scandal. May receive surprising news.

**EGG:** A positive sign. Favorable changes. Hopes and dreams will come true.

**EIGHT (figure):** An unhappy sign. Reveals separation. Can signify inspiration.

**EYE:** Troubles and concerns will be overcome. Be wary of business dealings.

**ELEPHANT:** Signifies wisdom and strength. Be patient and success will come.

**FACE:** Unexpected news will be received. A full pleasant face indicates new discoveries.

**FAN:** Reveals good health. Also indicates possible indiscretion or dishonest friends.

**FEATHER:** Expect inconsistencies and discord with love affairs or marriage.

**FENCES:** Represents obstacles and restrictions, but success will come.

**FIRE:** Be guarded with your actions and words.

**FISH:** A fortunate sign, especially in regards to matters of the heart. Expect financial gain.

**FLAG:** Related to duty. Good news will be received via a letter.

**FLOWERS:** Single blossoms denote a favor granted. A bouquet signifies good things, a sign of marriage.

**FLY:** Small irritations, usually associated with domestic issues.

**FORK:** Indicates a confusing predicament, proceed with caution.

**FOUNTAIN:** Triumphant achievements and happiness.

**FOUR (figure):** A good sign, refers to completion of things, and victories.

**FRUIT:** A positive sign for happiness, reflects profits.

**GATE:** Indicates opportunities if open. A closed gate refers to a challenge.

**GIRL:** Success and happiness.

**GUN:** Take special precautions. Hurtful feelings from afar.

**HAMMER:** A difficult struggle for success, be persistent.

**HAND:** Friends or loved ones will offer assistance or an enjoyable experience.

**HAT:** A positive sign, a gift, or new projects.

**HEART:** Refers to romantic involvements, close friends and engagement or marriage.

**HORN:** Signifies abundance. Good news.

**HORSE:** Close friendships. Positive news from someone special.

**HORSESHOE:** Always a good luck sign.

**HUMAN FIGURE:** A sign of good fortune and luck.

**INSECT:** Difficulties and irritations.

**JUG:** Represents good health, and helpfulness. Also success in business.

**KEY:** Indicates problems will be solved and significant decisions will be made. Consider new directions.

**KITE:** Refers to unique goals. Be watchful for scandals.

**KNOT:** Shows confidence and sincerity of your beloved's feelings.

**LADDER:** Signifies that tenacity will result in fame and financial success.

**LAMP:** A pleasing discovery will be made.

**LEAF:** Indicates messages and letters will bring good news and happiness.

**LEG:** Symbolizes forthright nature and strength.

**LION:** Refers to leadership and supremacy.

**MOON:** Indicates possibility of romance. New projects.

**MOUNTAIN:** Represents achievement of success with much hard work. Large ambitions.

**MUSHROOM:** Relates to changes, not necessarily good ones. But advancement can happen through growth.

**NAIL:** Expect anxious moments from some jealous friends or enemies, possibly hurt feelings.

**NECKLACE:** A complete necklace indicates admiration received, a victory. Financial gains. An incomplete one reveals the possibility of lost love.

**NINE (figure):** A sign of good fortune. Also refers to enhanced spirituality.

**ONE:** Represents the sun. Contentment.

**OWL:** An ominous sign. Anticipate a new project failing.

**OX:** Expect financial gains as a result of a friendship with someone of high status.

**PALM TREE:** Reveals a satisfying and happy life & marriage.

**PARACHUTE:** You will get away from danger, everything will be okay.

**PIG:** A sign of good luck and abundance. Beware of eating to excess.

**PIPE:** Expect your troubles to disappear. Relief will follow, but reorganize things.

**PYRAMID:** Indicates that a secret will be disclosed. Expect growth financially.

**QUESTION MARK:** Proceed cautiously before making any decisions. Petty frustrations are likely.

**RABBIT:** Refers to shyness. A need to be more aggressive.

**RAINBOW:** Optimism and support.

**RING:** Indicates benevolence, friendship, success with romance.

**ROSE:** A marriage may be on the horizon.

**SAUCEPAN:** Indicates troubles on the way.

**SAW:** Refers to hard work. Possible difficulties caused by others.

**SCALES:** Expect happiness if you are fair and just. Others may be judging you.

**SCISSORS:** Expect some uncertainty. Use your common sense and intuition in future actions.

**SNAKE:** Beware of conniving and deceit among "friends." Also refers to healing and wisdom.

**SEVEN (figure):** Relates to wisdom, flawlessness. Be careful of being too altruistic.

**SHELL:** Expect surprising good luck.

**SHIP:** Anticipate good fortune and success from your diligent endeavors.

**SHOE:** Symbolizes happiness, good news, especially relating to relationship or marriage.

**SIX (figure):** Expect contentment and peace, and support within the next six months.

**SKULL:** Beware of danger, illness within family. Exercise caution in dealing with others.

**SPADE:** Avoid discussions, as they may lead to arguments. Expect steady work with deserved return.

**SPIDER:** A positive sign. Also refers to cunning.

**SPOON:** Indicates enjoyment and fun, energetic. Feeling at ease.

**SQUARE:** Shows that disappointment in romance may occur. May feel restrictions. Be guarded.

**STAR:** Signifies good opportunities, gladness.

**SUN:** Symbolizes good fortune and happiness.

**SWAN:** Expect luck with love. A positive sign.

**SWORD:** Signifies illness if pointing toward cup handle; and security if pointed away.

**TABLE:** Indicates a reunion, perhaps as a result of a wedding. If it's your marriage, you will be happy.

**TEN (figure):** A reward will be bestowed upon you.

**THREE (figure):** Beware of a possible accident or unpleasantness.

**TREE:** Expect honors to be received, you will be held in high regard. Your desires will be fulfilled.

**TRIANGLE:** Symbolizes extremely good luck and good health.

**TWO (figure):** Warns of dualism, avoid double games. Maintain honesty.

**UMBRELLA:** Refers to love affairs. If it's open, signifies security, if closed relates to annoyance.

**VASE:** Shows that your generosity and kindness will result in your wishes being fulfilled.

**VOLCANO:** Indicates a passionate, tempestuous person, need to control oneself.

**WHEEL:** Expect an inheritance. Advancement. Be tolerant.

**WINDMILL:** Signifies changes to come. Big plans may reap rewards.

**WITCH:** Take advantage of good advice and wisdom.

**WREATH:** A positive sign. Anticipate a peaceful contented life.

**ZEBRA:** Indicates that a friend needs you. Special honors.

**ZIG-ZAG LINE:** Shows that a situation may occur that will be tough to fix, but persevere.

## **TAROT DIVINATION**

Written by Sean Michael Smith

### **Image and Meaning of the Cards of Tarot**

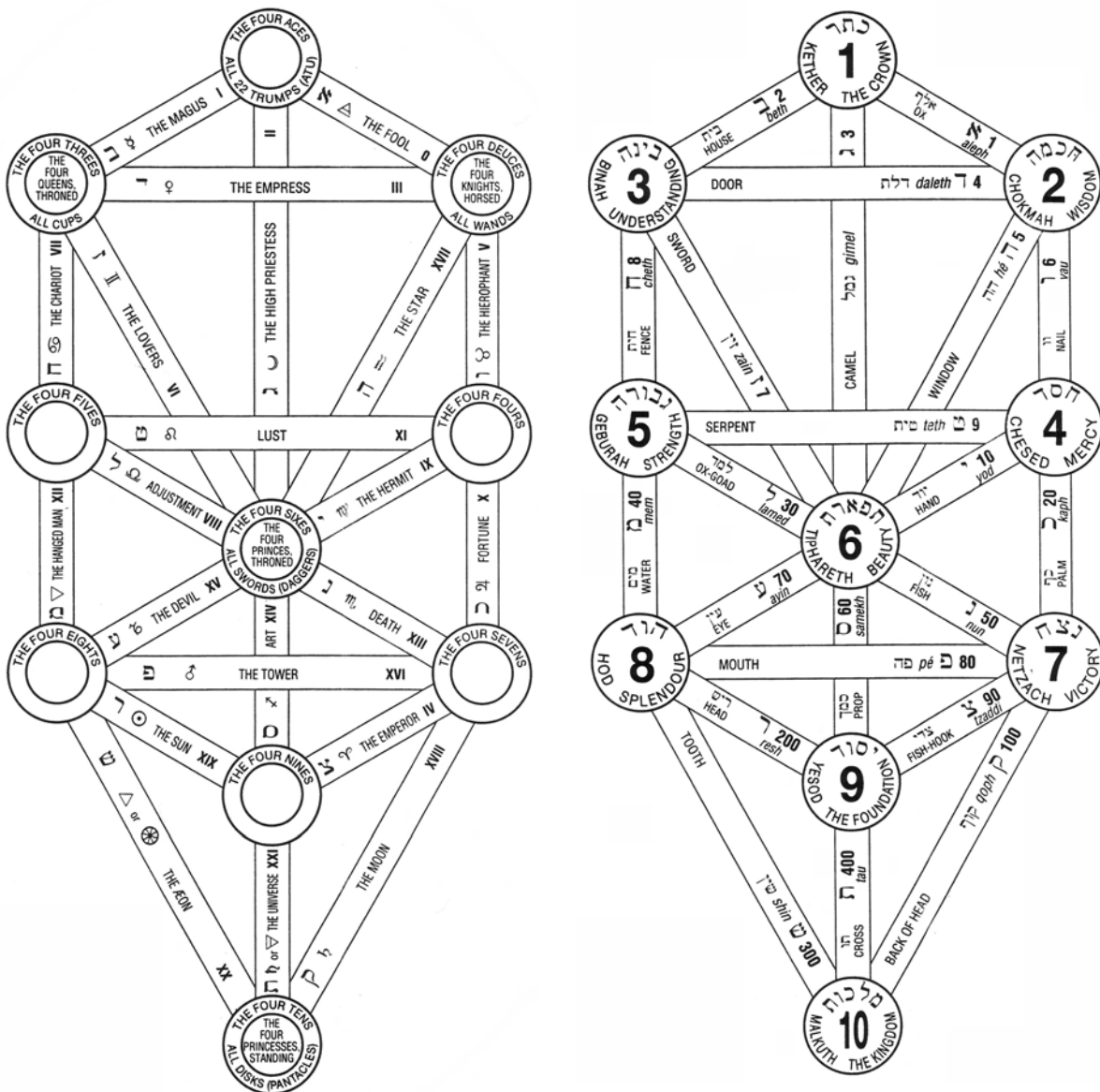
Tarot is one of the most powerful magical tools ever created for the benefit of humanity, with uses for divination and empowering meditation. The traditional Tarot consists of 78 cards: 22 Major Arcana, also called Trumps or Atu (hieroglyphics for "key" and still found in modern language in the French *atoui*, "superior"), 40 Minor Arcana, also called Pips, and 16 Court Cards. Each card has myriads of mystical correspondences enriching its meaning, the most crucial of which are the Qabbalistic, astrological, and elemental. Tarot's power and meaning are bound to the Tree of Life. Without astrology, which oversees the Major Arcana or Qabalah and gives

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structure to the entire divinatory system, there would be no Tarot. The student who comprehends the basics of astrology, the elemental forces and the Qaballah will be a good oracle. The Tarot is an excellent means to entertain and communicate with others while healing their problems and helping them through life. All divination with Tarot not only shows the most likely possible future, it empowers the querent to follow the highest and best possible future for the benefit of all.

The Tarot is formulated to correspond to the five occult elements of aether or akasha, fire, water, air, and earth in the cosmic scheme of the Tree of Life. The 22 Trumps depict primordial archetypes, each representing a path on the Tree of Life and possessing an astrological or elemental correlate. The 40 Minor cards represent the four elements of fire, water, air, and earth positioned on the Sephira of the Tree of Life. These elements are the four suits of the minor arcana, 10 cards for each elemental suit—staves for fire, cups for water, swords for air, and discs for earth. The 16 Court cards demonstrate different levels of manifestation of the situation in a Tarot divination, the maturity levels of the actual people involved, as well as the Celestial Forces manifesting influence in a querent's life. The attributions of the Tarot cards can differ slightly depending on the level of spiritual maturity the deck is aiming for. However all creators of the Arcana agree that Tarot's cohesion and divinatory powers rely upon its interconnectedness with astrology and the Tree of Life as it emanates in the world.

The figures below show the traditional format of the tree of life and how the Tarot cards bridge the various points:



**The Major Arcana And Their Predominate Correspondences**

<i>Arcana</i>	<i>Astrological Attribution</i>	<i>Tree of Life Placement</i>
0. Fool	A Air, Aeythr	Aleph, Chokmah to Kether
1. Magician	☿ Mercury	Beit, Binah to Kether
2. Priestess	☾ Moon	Gimel, Tipareth to Kether
3. Empress	♀ Venus	Daled, Chokmah to Binah
4. Emperor	♈ Aries	Tzaddi, Netzech to Yesod
5. Hierophant	♉ Taurus	Vau, Chesed to Netzach
6. Lovers	♊ Gemini	Zayin, Tipareth to Binah
7. Chariot	♋ Crab	Chet, Binah to Geburah
8. Justice	♎ Libra	Lamed, Tipareth to Geburah
9. Hermit	♏ Virgo	Yod, Tipareth to Chesed
10. Fortune	♃ Jupiter	Kaph, Chesed to Netzach
11. Strength	♌ Leo	Teth, Chesed to Geburah
12. Hanged Man	♊ Water	Mem, Geburah to Hod
13. Death	♏ Scorpio	Nun, Tipareth to Netzach
14. Temperance	♐ Sagittarius	Samech, Tipareth to Yesod
15. Devil	♑ Capricorn	Ayin, Tipareth to Hod
16. Tower	♂ Mars	Peh, Netzach to Hod
17. Star	♒ Aquarius	Heh, Tipareth to Chokmah
18. Moon	♓ Pisces	Kaph, Netzach to Malkuth
19. Sun	☉ Sun	Resh, Hod to Yesod
20. Judgment	♌ Fire	Shin, Hod to Malkuth
21. Universe	♄ Saturn, Earth	Tau, Yesod to Malkuth

**The Minor Arcana And Their Predominate Correspondences**

<i>Card</i>	<i>Suit</i>	<i>Element</i>
Ace of Wands	Wands	Fire of the Crown
Dominion	2 Wands	Fire of Wisdom
Virtue	3 Wands	Fire of Understanding
Foundation	4 Wands	Fire of Mercy
Strife	5 Wands	Fire of Strength
Victory	6 Wands	Fire of Beauty
Valor	7 Wands	Fire of Victory
Swiftness	8 Wands	Fire of Splendor
Great Strength	9 Wands	Fire of the Foundation
Oppression	10 Wands	Fire of the Kingdom
Ace of Cups	Cups	Water of the Crown
Love	2 Cups	Water of Wisdom
Abundance	3 Cups	Water of Understanding
Luxury	4 Cups	Water of Mercy
Disappointment	5 Cups	Water of Strength
Pleasure	6 Cups	Water of Beauty
Delusory Success	7 Cups	Water of Victory
Indolence	8 Cups	Water of Splendor
Happiness	9 Cups	Water of the Foundation
Satiety	10 Cups	Water of the Kingdom
Ace of Swords	Swords	Air of the Crown
Peace	2 Swords	Air of Wisdom
Sorrow	3 Swords	Air of Understanding
Truce	4 Swords	Air of Mercy
Defeat	5 Swords	Air of Strength
Science	6 Swords	Air of Beauty
Futility	7 Swords	Air of Victory



Interference	8 Swords	Air of Splendor
Cruelty	9 Swords	Air of the Foundation
Ruin	10 Swords	Air of the Kingdom
Ace of Discs	Discs	Earth of the Crown
Change	2 Discs	Earth of Wisdom
Works	3 Discs	Earth of Understanding
Power	4 Discs	Earth of Mercy
Worry	5 Discs	Earth of Strength
Success	6 Discs	Earth of Beauty
Failure	7 Discs	Earth of Victory
Prudence	8 Discs	Earth of Splendor
Gain	9 Discs	Earth of the Foundation
Wealth	10 Discs	Earth of the Kingdom

The Tarot is several hundreds of years old in its present form. It emerged at the beginning of the 15th century when the Western secret societies of Europe became aware of the gypsy game Tarocco. It was composed of the initiatory symbols of Egypt, potentially a 10,000 year old system of initiation and divination. Several Italian tarocchi decks were produced in the years between 1420 and 1450, all containing the mystical allegory of the major arcana. The history of Tarot has its inception in Egypt, but subsequently spread across the world through the mystical societies such as the Golden Dawn, and new age worldwide Neo-pagan movements up until today. During this time the full range of mystical correspondences relating to every aspect of the tarot have been charted as on our diagrams of the Tree of Life above. Our pictorial descriptions concerning the Atu are found in the Golden Dawn inspired *Rider-Waite Tarot* (US Games 2004) and the *OTO Thoth Tarot* (US Games 2004). The entire range of metaphysical and yogic science is contained within Tarot's ancient symbols.

These are the source texts for UMS Basic Tarot and recommended reading for the serious student: *The Handbook for the Rider-Waite Tarot* by Arthur Edward Waite (1976, Magic Press), *Art and Symbols of the Occult* by James Wasserman (2000, Destiny Books), the *Book of Thoth* by Aleister Crowley (Weiser, 1990), *Book 4* edited by Hymaneus Beta, Magister Templi (Weiser 2000) and *The Herbal Tarot*, by Michael Tierra (US Games, 1993).

As we proceed toward divination and healing practices with Tarot, remember that all is set before us, yet nothing is completely pre-ordained, as the Creator makes us, we create the beautiful abode where the Creator lives. While the gods assist us we give them life by acknowledging their ancient existence. Let us now look at the meaning of each card in the tarot deck...

## Meanings Of Each Card

### The Major Arcana

**Atu 0. The Fool, Spirit of Aethyr.** The fool wanders the high cliffs with a tiger or wild dog clipping at his heels blissfully unaware of danger. He holds the myriad worlds in his bag and is usually dressed in green or the harlequin's motley vest. He represents the prescient void that contains all potential. His consciousness is at one with the cosmic aethyr, the universal ground of being; due to this he can see all possible futures and knows each being's specific past. It is said that ultimately the Fool's path alone completely attains dissolution into the Crown of Creation and oneness with the Creator. Hebrew correspondence: Aleph. Astrological correspondence: Elemental Air and Ether. The fool grants the initiation of divination, spontaneous comprehension of interdependent causes, and foresight.

When receiving the Fool in a divination, if it concerns spiritual or creative matters it is extremely positive. It is a possible cusp of enlightenment at hand. In affairs of society or politics; the Fool can mean folly, and even madness. The Fool is the impulse to change or spontaneously create using the infinite resources of the world's energy, so is usually well dignified if this creativity is appropriate to the situation and ill-dignified when it is not.

**Atu 1. Magician, Magus of Power.** The Magician is depicted as a Physician or Adeptus standing behind his table of tools, vials, and medicines. The image is that of the Great Adept or Shaman who communicates with the powers of creation and can manipulate reality for the benefit of the world. Upon his table are emblems of the four occult elements, which are also the four suits of the Tarot. He has an empowered staff, a ritual chalice, a consecrated sword, and a magical pentacle or disc along with his hidden formulas, medicines, and secret magics

of all kinds. The Magus of Power is often depicted with one hand uplifted pointing to the sky, one hand pointing to the earth, depicting the foundational adage of mysticism from Hermes Trismigistus, "As Above, So Below." The Magician is able to manifest this principle literally, manifesting realities in order to attain what is sought with the power of the word given from on High. Hebrew correspondence, Beit. Astrological correspondence: Mercury. The Magician grants the initiation in the healing arts. The highest, most profound magic anyone can use is to truly heal a sister or brother suffering in this life.

When receiving the Magician in a divination it is time to use your finest skill and wit, work using your wisdom and ability to adapt to people in various situations. Be savvy in business and use subtle psychic and spiritual powers if doing work of a beneficial nature. Be wary of cunning, deceit, or theft through manipulation. If this is an opportunity to heal another Atu 1 is very auspicious.

**Atu 2. The Priestess, Goddess of the Silver Star.** The Priestess is depicted as a radiant woman sitting between two pillars, those of Severity or Mercy upon the Tree of Life. She is clothed in the blue of the night sky, with her foot upon the waning moon, her crown is made of the constellations where life arose in the universe. She holds the original Book of Life. The Goddess of the Silver Star is the veil between the upper Supernals of the Tree of Life and the lower Sefira. She sits in the figure of Isis and beyond her are only the unsayable mysteries of the universe. Hebrew correspondence, Gimel. Astrological correspondence: Moon. The Priestess grants the initiation in clairvoyance, dream vision, and the realization of the Light Body.

When receiving the priestess in a divination, a gracious and divine force has entered the situation and is causing fluctuation. Change is arriving, most likely for the better. Take note of warnings and visions given in dreams. Meditation and astral travel will reveal blessings and guidance. In worldly affairs humility with proper dignity will be helpful.

**Atu 3. The Empress, Daughter of the Mighty Ones.** The Empress is depicted as the supreme female figure upon her throne overlooking her natural Queendom. Her colors are those of water and earth. She is often shown as a pregnant representative of the impulse of love and fecundity that pervades nature. The Empress is incarnate womanhood in all aspects. Her riches are given from the bounty of nature and she enjoys her wealth with love and compassion. Hebrew correspondence: Daled. Astrological correspondence: Venus. The Empress grants initiation in herbalism, love-philters, and healing through natural means.

When receiving the Empress in a divination, beauty and happiness are ordained. Love and pleasure are entering your life, so enjoy. Generally, wealth and good fortune should come to you with relatively little effort. Elegance in compassion and gentleness toward all beings surrounds you. Realize the goodness of this fruitfulness and the higher meaning of womanhood. Beware of debauchery and dissolution into emotion.

**Atu 4. Emperor, Sun of the Morning, Chief of the Mighty Ones.** The Emperor is shown as the primal male upon his throne. His colors are predominately those of fire and of air. He is shown with his scepter of power and sits in a posture denoting strictness in relation to the law. The Emperor is balanced and tamed by the Empress, as he would be a tyrant without her gentle influence. Hebrew correspondence: Tzaddi. Astrological correspondence: Aries. The Emperor grants the initiation empowerment in consecrating places and things.

When receiving the Emperor in a divination, war, conquest, and action wrought with force are ordained. In questions concerning law or government, stability and the need for strict adherence to the rules of the land is indicated. Generally, ambition being rewarded due to hard efforts and application of personal energy is shown by the Emperor. Beware of rashness and ill temper.

**Atu 5. Hierophant, Magus of the Eternal.** The Hierophant is shown as a wizened Priest or Teacher before the columns of a temple. He wears the ritual garb of the High Priest and bears a staff marked with a triad of concentric circles implying the primordial trinity of father, mother, and child, or male, female and messianic aspects of the divine. He stands before the temple which exists at the level of social authority and religious teaching whereas the Priestess stands before the temple as a veil on the cosmic level of actual creation. Hebrew correspondence: Vau. Astrological correspondence: Taurus. The Hierophant grants the initiation in physical vitality and immortality.

When receiving the Hierophant in a divination, help from superiors and elders has arrived. Divine wisdom is guiding current happenings and you will find success if employing stubborn persistence and focus upon your goal. The Hierophant also invokes goodness of heart, patience, knowledge through diligent learning and peace of mind. In spiritual and magical matters he represents occult forces being intentionally invoked to assist with the situation.

**Atu 6. Lovers, Children of the Voice, Oracle of the Mighty Gods.** The Lovers are traditionally shown as Adam and Eve at the Eastern edge of Eden, the Tree of Life behind the male and the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil behind the female. Overhead, archangel Gabriel is seen either welcoming them or banning the couple from Eden, depending upon the view of the querent. The Lovers have also been shown depicting the alchemical marriage of opposites that synthesize into a greater, more unified reality. In this aspect the archangel that hovers above the Lovers could be seen as a Higher Self, or Deity version of the Children of the Voice. Hebrew correspondence: Zayin. Astrological correspondence: Gemini. The Lovers grant the initiation of simultaneously existing on the material and astral planes as deified Light-beings.

When receiving the Lovers in a divination, the situation calls for openness to inspiration. Use your intuition, intelligence, and qualities of attraction to gather beautiful life circumstances. Love relationships may be beginning, be patient and wary of childish infatuations, indecision or instability.

**Atu 7. Chariot, Child of the Power of Waters, Lord of the Triumph of Light.** The Chariot is often shown as a youthful warrior holding the Holy Grail while riding his Chariot through the wilderness beyond the city. The Charioteer's helmet is often marked with the sign of the Crab, emblem of meditation. The canopy of the Chariot is composed of the starry heavens and his black and white horses symbolize the symmetrical forward impulsion of reality's elemental forces. The armor worn by the Charioteer represents the protective quality of manifesting true meditation, while his grail is emblematic of the source of existence. Hebrew correspondence: Cheth. Astrological correspondence: Cancer. The Chariot gives the initiation in enchantment, especially in manifesting the Merkabah vehicle as a means for spiritual ascension.

When receiving the Chariot in a divination, hopes are finally paying off with triumph. Strategic planning and self-reliant resourcefulness are granting their boons right now. Healthy and in the proper position, there will be success in faithfulness to superiors and those in authority in relation to the query. Beware of being overly dogmatic in maintaining traditional ideas. Fanatical obedience can only lead to unnecessary waste and destruction.

**Atu 8. Justice, Daughter of the Lords of Truth, Ruler of the Balance.** Justice is depicted as the blindfolded woman with scales of judgment in her left hand and a sword of wrath in her right hand, "la justise" in the style of the French Renaissance. In the highest grades of the Order of Melchizedek Justice is numbered Trump 8 as in the OTO deck and in the initiatory and middle grades is numbered Trump 11, such as in the Rider-Waite Tarot. Either number represents versions of rebirth, balance and the eternal return for actions done. Justice represents most broadly cosmic balance and the reciprocity of the cosmos. Many times this Atu is called Balance or Adjustment, in the sense of the highest causal plane, beyond even the manifestations of karma, endlessly readjusting the universe to maintain harmony and life. Even within subatomic particles this balancing quality of Justice is present. Hebrew correspondence: Lamed. Astrological correspondence: Libra. The initiation given by Atu 8 is the ability to do administrative works and acts of Justice. There is also a consciousness aspect being enhanced with clear discernment and right attitude.

When receiving Justice in a divination it will refer to possible court dates, law suits, legal obligations, state treaties, corporate mergers and the like. In extreme circumstances (especially in combination with the 5 of Swords) it could mean impending vendetta or the implementation of cosmic justice in one's life. Also it denotes a suspension of action while making important decisions. If a life changing situation is the nature of the query the meaning is to wait and think it out before acting.

**Atu 9. The Hermit, Prophet of Eternity, Magus of the Voice of Power.** The Hermit stands lit by his solitary lamp on some lofty precipice. Ancient in appearance, and eternal in spirit, he is the keeper of all the secret names and angelic languages of the universe. Hebrew correspondence, Yod. Astrological correspondence: Virgo. The initiation given by the Hermit is parthenogenesis by creating a Golem, invisibility, and knowledge of secret initiation.

When receiving the Hermit there will be inner illumination and divine inspiration. Wisdom pervades consciousness, one realizes the prudence of retiring away from the bustle of mundane affairs. Use circumspection and insight when dealing with anyone.

**Atu 10. Fortune, Lord of the Forces of Life.** The Wheel of Fortune has a majestic Sphinx on the top, Hermanibulus the Crazy Ape of natural Genius in the middle, and Typhon the Serpent Monster at bottom. It is also represented by the medieval depiction of the Wheel of Luck, whereas a King, a Knight, and a poor Fool are in the various positions. Each being at top, middle, and bottom of the Wheel represents one of the three ayurvedic

elements, sattva (cosmic space), rajas (primal fire), and tamas (ancient earth). The Wheel is the wheel of karma and represents the utter changeability of fortune. Wealth, poverty, and in-between are appearances of the Wheel, as are health and sickness, or any dualistic conception. Reality is a series of cycles in which all forms become their opposites and variations thereof over the long body of cyclic time. There is an endless sense of eternal return related with the Wheel of Fortune. Hebrew correspondence: Kaph. Astrological correspondence: Jupiter. Atu 10 gives the empowerment of upward social mobility and better communication skills with others.

When drawing Fortune in a divination it usually means an upswing in one's personal destiny. Almost always has this been an indicator of positive change and doesn't usually bode ill.

**Atu 11. Strength, Daughter of the Flaming Sword.** This card has been called Lust, Joy in Power, and the Chiefs who Guard in various Tarot decks. The traditional form of the arcana, also called the Templar or Golden Dawn form, is a lovely woman affectionately petting a lion. She places flower garlands and a rose covered yoke upon the lion. In the Golden Dawn form there are sometimes seven flowers depicted on the lion's yoke denoting these qualities as emblems of Christ. This is representative of using the body's impulses toward blissfulness and spiritual ends. The life force itself is utilized to enact spiritual ascension and healing magic. In the version entitled Lust, within the OTO Deck rendered by Lady Freida Harris, a great Adept in her own right, there is a depiction of Lady Babylon upon the seven headed beast as spoken of in Revelations. She holds the primordial womb as the Holy Grail and rides the Beast with great vehemence. The seven heads are seven personalities for the seven seals of the great book: an angel, a saint, a poet, a warrior, a bacchante, a shaman, and a lion-serpent. Hebrew correspondence: Teth. Astrological correspondence: Leo. Atu 11 grants the initiation of empowered voice, mind, and body. It also helps in overcoming inner emotional afflictions and outer obstacles that specifically hinder spirituality.

When receiving Strength in a divination, courage is portended for the situation. Harness the life force itself to attain success. Joy, energy, reverence and mental and physical strength are crucial to the query asked. A great love affair could be right around the corner. In spiritual or occult matters there is a deliberate resort to magic and subliminal influence whether used by the querent or someone close to the situation.

**Atu 12. The Hanged Person, Spirit of the Mighty Waters.** The Hanged Person is most often pictured as an inverted man crucified or tied to a tree. Sometimes he will be drowned in the waters of affliction in the image. This is the upside down manner of crucifixion Apostle Paul suffered at the hands of Rome. Sometimes this Atu is represented by Osiris or Jesus the Nazarite. The Hanged Person's body is in the form of the fylfolt or double cross, as well as the upward turned pentagram. He has a serene, enlightened look on his face, devoid of any fear. The hanged man has accepted himself as a sacrifice, realizing that physical death is not the end of life and that one's existence is eternal. He most represents the condition of perceiving the hidden world and true nature of reality, while still being bound by the confines of material, dualistic existence. Often the Hanged Person is called the Dying God because he represents the image of the patriarchal ideal of affliction to attain spiritual redemption. Hebrew correspondence: Mem. Astrological correspondence: Elemental Water. The empowerment granted by the Hanged Person is completion of the Great Work, talismans, and ritual magic, and crystal healing.

When receiving the Hanged Person in a divination, sacrifice is called for. Suffering and enforced sacrifice are going to occur, so ready yourself. Usually there is redemption or realization involved with this suffering, yet if Atu 12 is particularly ill-dignified it simply means defeat, failure, torture, and loss.

**Atu 13. Death, Child of the Great Transformers, Lord of the Gates of Death.** A reaping skeleton, the traditional medieval plague inspired image, is cutting down all in his path regardless of rank, dignity, age, or social arrangement. Death's banner is the White Rose of spirituality without the Red Rose of materiality. He represents transformation based upon the natural process of decay and regeneration. Spiritually, death is the attainment of nirvana beyond the sufferings of this life, and represents the in-between state that follows every moment before the next moment has begun. It is the interim between the last breath and the body's ceasing, the visionary space between the body's demise and rebirth into a higher or lower realm. Be not afraid, remember that Death alone creates the space and resources for new life by cleaning up the remnants of the past, returning the fleshly gift that was given back to the Earth Mother so new forms of life can emerge. The seed of the peach-fruit of immortality decays in the ground amidst rot and humus yet flowers forth to new life from such decay. Some people with certain physiological peculiarities can only attain the peacefulness of nirvana through Death and most spiritual traditions have teachings to cover this transformation. Death is also represented by the scorpion, deep sea fish, centipede, beetle, and other alien and threatening non-mammalian animal totems. Hebrew

correspondence: Nun. Astrological correspondence: Scorpio. The initiation and empowerment given by Death is in necromancy emphasizing communication with the souls of the departed. Any student of mysticism or magic from any cultural trope has been trained at least once in how to deal with the dying, their soul's penultimate destination, and comforting their families. As an Adept, one will be called upon often (more than anyone would think) to assure the dead safe passage to the higher realms or a rebirth of their choice.

When receiving Death in a divination, deeply transformative change is going to occur. It may be unexpected and may seem terrible yet afterward one realizes it was for the best. Every now and again this card means actual death of either a person or the plans of the querent in relation to the situation.

**Atu 14. Temperance, also called Art. Daughter of the Reconcilers, Bringer forth of Life.** Temperance is pictured as the Angel of the Little Scroll haloed in rainbow light balancing a light sphere with a dark sphere. One of his feet is upon the bank, one dipped in the flowing rivulets of water in the heavenly river. Art is depicted as the further development of the alchemical theme of union in the Lover's card. The Lovers are united in a singular figure, now an androgyne, interconnected with the cosmos through the lapis philosophorum which is being created in the alchemical crucible set before the androgenic mutant alchemist. The seething cauldron represents the destruction of the male and female elements (salt and sulphur symbolically) to create a luminous third element by transmutation. Rainbows of light surround the whole experiment and behind the alchemist the inscription appears which says, "*Visita interiora terrae rectificando invenies occultem lapidem.*" Translated, this means "visit the interior of the earth in the proper way to attain the occult stone." Hebrew correspondence: Samech. Astrological correspondence: Sagittarius. The initiation given by Temperance is the gift of transmutation, especially transmuting the material elements into the Light Body. The actualization and trained use of the Light Body introduced by the Priestess is further enhanced and empowered.

When receiving Temperance in a divination a combination and unification of varied forces, whether elemental, psychological, political, or social depending on the query is foreshown. Realization of goals after elaborate planning and accurate calculation will occur based on the actions of the querent. The forces of life combine to assist the querent in their tasks. Spiritually the Light Body will manifest in its fullness. In relation to family it can mean a child will be born, especially if shown along with the Empress. One who is in trouble will escape from oppression.

**Atu 15. Devil, Lord of the Gates of Matter, Child of the Forces of Time.** Atu 15 is variously depicted as Baphomet holding in chains fallen Adam and Eve, the Gnostic Sabbath Goat, third eye ablaze with hidden wisdom, and IO Pan from Greek lore. The Baphomet image of the knights Templar is used in the Rider-Waite Tarot; it depicts the horned figure crowned with an inverted pentagram meaning malediction and negativity. He is clutching chains bound to horned Adam and Eve. They are in a fallen condition bound by obsession and desire. The Devil is making the sign that shows the inverted diabolical version of the magical tenet with his hands, denoting "As Below, So Above" or "solve and coagula"—the strictly material version of the alchemical union. As the Gnostic Sabbath Goat image such as used in the OTO Tarot deck, the Devil is pictured with a huge third eye and garland crown of flowers. His twisting horns emerge from infinity down into the flesh of genitalia symbolizing the axis mundi. He has an ironic or sardonic grin on his face. IO Pan is used in several Tarot decks and is the inspiration for the Devil's horns and goat hooves. Pan is the woodland demi-god of procreation and naturalness. He wanders the forests with the worshippers of Dionysus playing his flute for the drunken revelries. Pan reminds us that the smallest to the greatest thing has its place and is sacred. The Devil is the unrestrained impulse toward lust that left unchecked leads to all manner of obsessions and addictions. What begins as the excess of pleasure and vision can become a trap, chained to the cruel hands of lesser time and demonic will of petty desires. Hebrew correspondence, Ayin. Astrological correspondence: Capricorn. The initiation of Atu 15 is the Gnostic Sabbath, and powers of the "evil eye." Empowerment in Goetic Magic is also given by the Lord of the Gates of Matter.

When receiving Atu 15 in a divination there is blind impulse and overweening ambitious desire at the root of the query. The Devil represents all psychological obsessions and perversions, abuse, addiction, and acting solely out of self centered motives rather than even the most remote altruism. The devil also can mean one is involved in secret plans that are about to happen, perhaps another is plotting the querent's demise. Raw greed and materialism is predicted in social affairs. In the family, infidelity and troubles.

**Atu 16. Tower, Lord of the Hosts of the Mighty.** The Tower is falling, being struck by lightning, thunder and brimstone from the sky. The great Udjat Eye of the Otherworld opens above the Tower, the primordial

dragon awakes from below and primordial reality emerges from the breaking material rubble. The inhabitants of the Tower are falling to their doom through the night sky. The Tower is the artifice of man that must always fall. Reality reminds us that even the grandest designs are subject to disaster. Hebrew correspondence: Peh. Astrological correspondence: Mars. The empowerment given by Atu 16 is the ability to perform acts of revenge and wrath, spiritually and militarily.

When receiving the Tower in a divination, quarrel, combat, in-fighting, and danger surround the querent. The query will not be successful, all plans are coming to ruin. Courage will lead to escape from current limitations. Spiritually the Tower can be positive in that old systems and limits are torn asunder and the realization of primordial reality can come forth.

**Atu 17. Star, Daughter of the Firmament, Dweller Between Waters.** The Star is pictured as an attractive woman equaling out two pouring bowls in the celestial river of the milky way. Above her rests the formation of the Pleiades as the stars of the spirit, the eighth culminating star is the Silver Star of the A.:A: She is bringing forth the newness of the cosmos. Dogmas of the past are the crystallized ground she rests upon. In the highest school of the Order of Melchizedek the Star is placed very high on the Tree of Life and her correspondence is Aquarius. There she represents leaving the Euclidean nature of the lower spheres behind for highest communion with the Creator's wisdom, visualized as merging with the Star-Gods in the celestial constellations. In the middle and initiatory schools of the Order of Melchizedek she represents initiation into the ancient mysteries that were already thousands of years old at the time of the Egyptian civilization. Hebrew correspondence: Heh. Astrological correspondence: Aquarius. The Star grants initiation into Astrology.

When receiving the Dweller Between Waters in a divination, unexpected help will arrive just in time. Deep spiritual insights are being realized by the querent, advise them to keep faith and hope during the current changes. They will receive clarity of vision unmatched up until now in their lives.

**Atu 18. Moon, Ruler of Flux and Reflux.** The Moon is nearly waxing full above a night time landscape. The ominous looking palace tower on the moonlit horizon represents the gate between this world and the astral world where we go in dreams and for awhile after death. The wolves and wild dogs howl beneath the moonlight, while the oceanic reflux is pulled the way of the Moon. The Moon represents the unconscious impulses that drive action. It's the bridge or unity between our conscious endeavors and hidden psychological causes which slowly emerge then recede, just as the ocean tide does, with the cycle of the Moon around the Earth. Hebrew correspondence: Koph. Astrological correspondence: Pisces. The initiation given by the Moon is the power to cast illusions and spells.

When receiving the Moon in a divination, beware of illusion, bewilderment, deception from others, and hysteria. Madness could be portended in extreme cases. Atu 18 is extremely sensitive to dignity and has many shades of meaning along these lines. A very important change may be about to occur that could be positive or negative.

**Atu 19. Sun, Lord of the Fire of the World.** The Sun is in its fullness over a garlanded boy upon a white mare as they ride through sunflowers. The boy smiles with enjoyment and the entire scene invokes the gentle enjoyment and uprightness of a lovely summer day. The Sun represents worldly enjoyments created in right relation to one's society and the natural world. The Sun originated all life on the Earth. It provides the unending sustenance for all plants and in turn all creatures. This primal creativity is an attribute of Atu 19 in its orchestration of the joys of the day. Hebrew correspondence: Resh. Astrological correspondence: Sun. The initiation given by the Sun is perfection of the body and the power of spontaneously acquiring wealth.

When receiving Sun in a divination, glory and gain will happen for the querent. They are going to become wealthy in the near future. Pleasure and the sense of triumph reward the querent at this time. Enjoy the pleasures of life in uprightness and compassion. If asking about illness, a sudden recovery is enacted. However, in the case of terminal diseases, it can mean entering into the higher abodes at the point of death. Beware of arrogance and extreme vanity, but otherwise enjoy the wealth you are given, the prosperity is created by oneself and is deserved.

**Atu 20. Judgment, also called Aeon, Spirit of Primal Fire.** Archangel Israfel blows the trumpet of the Apocalypse. God is revealed to man and the dead arise, resurrected from their graves in order to face judgment by the Most High. In the version called Aeon, rather than Angel Israfel we see the child god Horus emerging with the good news of the new age. He holds one hand empty symbolizing that the old universe is annihilated and the other hand in the sign of the enterer, meaning that he has not formulated a way to create the new universe. This,

the cosmic silence that precedes such a grand creation. At his core is his own inner nature as Ra-Horakty, his adult empowered form as primal ruler of all the gods. This elder god rules the new age and our current aeon. Around him is the infinite cosmic expanse, Lady Nuit and beneath him is the primordial principle of life, the winged aten disc, Hadit. Utterly powerful, yet disoriented, the unending galaxies of the worlds swirl at the new god's feet. Hebrew correspondence: Shin. Astrological correspondence: Elemental Fire. The initiation given by Judgment is the power of evocation; the initiate is able to control the elemental and hidden forces of reality, evoking at will. The creation of purifying spiritual fire is also given by Atu 20.

Receiving Atu 20 in a divination means the taking of a definite step in life. After this upcoming decision, everything will forever be different. New life and new views bless a new world for the querent to make due with as they will.

**Atu 21. Universe, the Great One of the Night of Time.** The great circle of time shown as a garland surrounds a central figure, usually depicted as a woman, who holds wands of positive and negative creation. The four cherubim of YHVH, like a lion, bird, man, and ox surround the great magical circle at each corner. The elements have come together to form the universe as a perfected holistic organism that moves outside the conception of lesser time. The ages of humanity and the gods move forward in the totality of creation. What can be created has been and all possibilities have found their ultimate manifestation. Spiritually, holistic Unity between consciousness and the Infinite is attained. Hebrew correspondence: Tau. Astrological correspondence: Saturn and Earth. The empowerment given by the Great One of the Night of Time is the making of spiritual talismans, pentacles, artifice for ritual work, geomancy, crystallography, and all Earth-magics are empowered in the querent.

When receiving Atu 21 in a divination, all has found completion. This is the end of the matter and it has found total inertia. There will be a great synthesis of all opposing and assisting forces; unseen parties may be trying to block forward progression if the Universe seems as if it indicates stagnation. Perseverance rewarded in any outcome is also indicated.

## **The Minor Arcana**

At this point let's remember that the lesser arcana are arranged to correspond with the occult elements fire, water, air, and earth. There are 10 cards for each element accompanied by 4 Court Cards: a King, a Queen, a Prince, and a Princess. Each numbered card corresponds to that respective Sephira in the Tree of Life. The Ones (of fire, water, air, and earth) make up Sephiroth One, Kether, Crown of Creation. The Twos of each make up Sephira Two, Binah, the Wisdom of Jah and on and on, Threes making up the Third Sephira all the way to the Tenth Sephiroth, Malkuth the Kingdom Zion. Take a look at the charts of the Tree of Life and the Astrological correspondences of Tarot which contain all this information in concise detail; they are very helpful. Visualizing and doing meditative work on all these things is informative, but here we will cover them in brief explanations in words.

In general, the Kings correspond to the archetypal wisdom of the Divine, and on a level of personality, worldly experience. The Queens correspond to the receptive Understanding of the Divine Mother and on the level of personality demonstrate wizened experience of life matters in their depth. Princes correspond to the active Beauty of the Divine, and on the personality level demonstrate ambition and creativity, the active transition between idea and manifestation. Princesses correspond to the Kingdom of the Divine and on the personality level demonstrate the yearning for manifestation, as well as naivety, still aware of the secret of youth.

### **Suit of Wands, Elemental Fire.**

1. **Ace of Wands.** Unio Mystica of Fire. Quantum Creative energy ready to manifest anything imaginable in the divine mind. Natural force of creation rather than the invoked force of some magic and science. Unio Mystica of Fire is the Raw Energy from the first churning super novae that birthed the elements, suns, and stars.
2. **Dominion.** Creative energy initiating a current of force that alters the outer world. Often called fire in its highest form and represents the rule of natural justice and harmony. Often it can mean being influential over another in a proper relation. Generally it always represents courage and strength. Ill-dignified: Petty restlessness, turbulence of the inner self, and obstinacy, especially from rulers or those in a position of authority.
3. **Virtue.** Realization of hopes after a long struggle. Established strength in the matter asked about. Pride in success. Ill-dignified: Conceit, backbiting, and betrayal.

4. **Completion.** Settlement, perfected work, a foundation is set for the future. Also indicates rest, subtlety and cleverness. The learning of the past has amassed and given the querent helpful skills they use with great ease and adeptness. Ill-dignified: Over-anxiousness makes one unreliable and hurriedness of action makes one prone to errors.

5. **Strife or Combat.** Fighting and quarreling are indicated. One is surrounded by very competitive people who will use even violence to attain their lusts and desires. If well dignified, could indicate a peacemaker or a favored prodigal who could return.

6. **Victory.** Triumph after suffering is over. Balanced manifestation of reality. Gains and success are finally achieved. Ill-dignified: anger and insolence toward others.

7. **Valor.** Possible victory, but only through intense efforts. There will be obstacles yet the querent has courage and ability to meet them. Energy is about to give out so wrap up current projects and rest. There will be victory in small things. Ill-dignified: quarrelling and fighting due to boredom.

8. **Swiftness.** The ability to communicate extremely well is given to the querent in the situation. Light energy and the electricity of the Astral Body empower the querent. News will come from afar. Merkabah meditation in its inception. Rapid progress toward one's goal. Ill-dignified: rashness and pushiness.

9. **Great Strength.** Health of body and mentality, tremendous force to attain what is necessary. The only stability is change. There is finally overcoming after long struggle.

10. **Oppression.** This is fire in its most destructive form. Here fire is used as an oppressive threat. Force has become detached from spiritual sources. This card can indicate lying, repression, slander, malice. If well dignified can mean self sacrifice that completes work that is normally seen to be beyond the pale of human endeavor.

**King of Wands.** Fire of Fire. Fire of Chokmah. The qualities of great activity. There is swift judgment and rapid activity. The King of Wands knows how to get things done! Extremely active and creative person, very generous to friends and swift to destroy enemies..

**Queen of Wands.** Water of Fire. Fire of Binah. A gracious adaptable woman of calm authority and persistent energy. She will be in good health and like a lioness, fiercely protective of her friends and family. She is a great ally and to be feared as an enemy.

**Prince of Wands.** Air of Fire. Fire of Tipareth. A young man, spontaneous, swift and strong. Concerned with righteousness, yet impulsive. He will be noble, generous and possess a good sense of humor.

**Princess of Wands.** Earth of Fire. Fire of Malkuth. A lovely woman, individualistic, brilliant and courageous with endless reserves of energy. Sudden and violent in love and anger.

#### **Suit of Cups, Elemental Water.**

1. **Ace of Cups.** Unio Mystica of Water. The eternal fertility, happiness, unbound pleasure and productiveness of the endless oceans. Pure all pervasive Love.

2. **Love.** Harmony of male and female in all senses A relationship of harmony radiating intense joy and ecstasy. Can also mean a warm friendship and pleasures. Ill-dignified: dissipation, folly and wasting time.

3. **Abundance.** Spiritual basis of fertility and love. Plenty, hospitality and the good things of life are received and given in kind. The bounty of life is enjoyed, but understood to be transient in their sensuality.

4. **Luxury.** Abandonment to desire. Pleasure mixed with anxiety. A sense pleasures and success may quickly end. There are always the seeds of downfall in excess.

5. **Disappointment.** End of pleasure and disturbance when least expected. Misfortune and disappointment in love relations. Unkindness from friends and treachery is portended. There is sadness, regret, ill will, and vanity expressing itself as depression.

6. **Pleasure.** Cosmic harmony of all forces without effort or strain. Success in personal endeavors. Sexual fulfillment and the beginnings of true happiness. Ease and well being. Ill-dignified: Vanity and thanklessness.

7. **Illusory Success.** Deception of self and others. Guilty intoxication and possible drug addiction. Lust and fornication mixed with intoxication; there is also a lot of lying and deceit going on.

8. **Indolence.** abandonment of all that one once followed. Decline of outward interests and instability. Marginal success then nothing further. Moving around place to place. At worst is means misery and regret and well-dignified it could mean leaving material success for spiritual fulfillment.

9. **Happiness.** Happiness to the point of perfection, yet perhaps temporary. The there is emotional and physical health. Ill-dignified: danger of vanity causing great delusions and overindulgence of selfish pleasures.



10. **Satiety.** Matters have occurred as wished.. There will be lasting success. In social affairs there will be peacemaking and contentment amongst different parties. The pursuit of pleasure is crowned with success. Ill-dignified: dissipation and stagnation.

**King of Cups.** Fire of Water. Water of Chokmah. A man of grace and gentleness who is amiable and sensitive to the world. He is quick to respond to attraction and is easily enthused.

**Queen of Cups.** Water of Water. Water of Briah. A poetic woman who reflects her partner. She is dreamy, tranquil and kind, but not willing to go to far out of the way for another. She is very affected by outside stimuli so is very dependent on dignity and the other cards/personages around her.

**Prince of Cups.** Air of Water. Water of Tipareth. A poet whose qualities are subtlety, craft, secret violence, and a calm exterior that hides seething, overwhelming passion. He cares intensely for wisdom and power, and will be ruthless toward these aims.

**Princess of Cups.** Earth of Water. Water of Malkuth. A sweet voluptuous woman who is romantic and extremely lovable. A great lover and good mother, gentle and appreciative of the musical arts.

### Suit of Swords, Elemental Air.

1. **Ace of Swords.** Unio Mystica of Air. Invoked rather than natural force. Represents great energy to do good or evil, yet it must be accessed by will through magic or science. There is strength in the whirling force of the cosmos as channeled through the will.

2. **Peace.** Sacrifice and trouble giving rise to strength and mental clarity. There are contradictory aspects within the querent. There is a tense peace between quarrels that in the greater scope are not totally settled. There are both truth and untruth in the situation.

3. **Sorrow.** Melancholia and unhappiness. Love triangles are possible and will cause harm to everyone involved. There is delay in completion and separation in family matters. Well-dignified: singing arts, faithfulness in promises and vows, including in relation to money transactions.

4. **Truce.** Rest from sorrow and healing from injuries. Peace after a war. Refuge from mental chaos and emotional disorders. Change for the better after a long tribulation. In intellectual matters it is great authority. On all levels a relaxation from anxiety.

5. **Defeat.** There is a busybody casting dispersion among friends. Slander, backbiting, malice, and anxiety plague the querent. There is a two faced cowardly and cruel intention to be dealt with. Well dignified it can be a vendetta upon an evil person with these qualities.

6. **Science.** Intelligence and knowledge of spiritual matters and all forms of science. Passage from difficulty due to one's own mental faculties and abilities. Labor and work, especially in the scientific, teaching, or research fields. Can mean travel by water or a distant journey to be undertaken. Ill-dignified: Selfishness, and intellectual conceit. Intellectualism devoid of any basis in reality.

7. **Futility.** There is vacillation right when there would be success. The querent gives up instead of following through. There is a tendency to feel guilty when one's plans work out. There may be a dangerous journey by land required of the querent. Plans are far-fetched and will encounter incredible odds against them. Unstable effort in dubious activities. Be wary of thieves.

8. **Interference.** Energy is wasted, one is blocked by elemental forces. Although ideas may be noble and grand there has to be a basis in reality. There will be bad luck. Lack of persistence in overcoming restrictions.

9. **Cruelty.** Agony of mind. Deep depression. Sadomasochistic attitudes that can only cause pain and suffering. There are nightmares and dark visions in relation to spiritual matters. There is subtlety, craft, lying and backbiting that is causing incredible tension. Madness and deep emotional scarring may occur in relation to the situation. If well dignified obedience, faithful servants, and secret plans fulfilled is portended in the situation.

10. **Ruin.** Reason is completely removed from reality. Dread logic that creates things like atomic bombs, failure, disaster, assassination, all covered over by denial and idle mental chatter. There is influence from a clever, selfish, yet eloquent person. They will have a sense of mirth and irony in their cruelty and divisive craft. Disruption on every level. Spiritually it can announce the end of mental delusion.

**King of Swords.** Fire of Air. Air of Chokmah. A man of action; daring, clever and cunning. Can be cold and unreflective in relation to the emotions, yet intelligent and sensitive in dealing with others. There may be tendencies toward tyranny and indecisiveness if the King is left without given duties.

**Queen of Swords.** Water of Air. Air of Binah. Represents feminine wisdom. A woman who is intensely

perceptive, she has wit and is a keen observer. She will be confident, graceful, and just in her judgments.

**Prince of Swords.** Air of Air. Air of Tipareth. A youthful, intellectual man full of a myriad of ideas and patterns, often domineering of others. He is intensely clever, but unstable of purpose, with an elastic mind that contains all manner of opposites, supporting various and contradictory opinions.

**Princess of Swords.** Earth of Air. Air of Malkuth. A woman politician skilled in managerial affairs. She is stern and revengeful with slaying logic. She is aggressive when following her wishes and very confident due to superior practical knowledge.

### **Suit of Discs or Pentacles, Elemental Earth**

1. **Ace of Discs.** Unio Mystica of Earth. Material gain and earthly power. Labor and wealth, the industrious activities of the world. "The spirit can not manifest without the flesh."

2. **Change.** Alternation of gain and loss in balance. Varying occupations are indicated. A pleasant visit to friends or a small scale change in one's life. It can indicate that the querent is an industrious but unstable person.

3. **Works.** Paid employment for skilled work. Commercial transactions bringing steady increase in wealth. Growth and development on all levels. Ill-dignified: Selfish person seeking fantasies.

4. **Worldly Power.** Earthly Power that brings gain of money. Skill at manipulating physical forces. Covetousness of the elemental nature of reality.

5. **Worry.** Intense strain with continued inaction. Loss of money or employment. Poverty and monetary anxiety. Intense strain for survival without much activity. If well dignified it means labor, land cultivation and building at its earliest stages.

6. **Success.** Gain in material things. Power and influence are given. There is nobility and riches bestowed upon the querent. Philanthropy and compassion to those poorer than one is indicated.

7. **Failure.** Sloth, labor abandoned. Promises of success or remittance left unfulfilled. Little gain from much labor. When well dignified there is delay, but growth. Can also refer to cultivation or work taken up for its own sake without expectation of material gain.

8. **Prudence.** Agriculture and intelligence applied to worldly affairs. Skill at building up material reserves. Hoarding and storing of food and wealth. Ill-dignified: Overly concerned with the minute at the expense of the greater.

9. **Gain.** Inheritance or good luck in relation to material affairs. Great increase in wealth. Completion of material gain.

10. **Wealth.** Material prosperity and riches. Old age. Complete success in accumulation of worldly protections and riches. Ill-dignified: beware of losses due to mismanagement or lack of acuity in investing one's wealth.

**King of Discs.** Fire of Earth. Earth of Chokmah. A farmer and warrior, clever and skilled in material things.

**Queen of Discs.** Water of Earth. Earth of Binah. Domesticated motherly woman, ambitious only in useful directions. She is affectionate and kind, charming, lovely and practical.

**Prince of Discs.** Air of Earth. Earth of Tipareth. A youth bringing great energy to material affairs. Resentful of spiritual types as impractical; he is bound to his senses. He is slow to become angry, but if angry the Prince of Discs is dangerous and difficult to abate.

**Princess of Discs.** Earth of Earth. Earth of Malkuth. A beautiful pregnant woman beholds wonders emitting from the Earth. Generosity, kindness, and benevolence are her qualities.

Now that we have all the significations for the Tarot and its placement on the Tree of life well established, we can do all manner of divinations for those around us and ourselves. Anyone can do a tarot divination no matter what religion or belief system a person has. The main component to performing an accurate Tarot is clarity and quiescence of mind while setting the cards in their divinatory arrangement. .

In using the tarot for a divination, the reader develops an essential familiarity with the symbols as well as an affinity with the aspects of consciousness that the cards represent. James Wasserman writes the perfect description of the state of mind appropriate to proper Tarot divination in the *Thoth Tarot Instruction Manual* (1987, U.S. Games), "Before beginning any divination, it is best to acknowledge the nature of the work. Traditionally the reader or querent will make an invocation which, on one level, is a prayer, a petition to higher forces from whom one is seeking understanding through the cards. On another level, the invocation is an exaltation of personal consciousness to a universal and higher, more Godlike state of mind." By affirming at once an identity with the

higher mind, one establishes what is “right relation” to self and universe. Only in this “right relation” will one's oracles be worth anything. As Tarot diviners we must always do our best to give proper readings. Remember, the querent is going to change life patterns in response to whatever advice is given by the reading

## Tarot Card Spreads

Written by Sean Michael Smith and Christine Breese, D.D., Ph.D.

Here are several divinations for beginners and those who are already familiar with the workings of the Tarot. They range from the simplest to the most advanced. All are accurate. The oracle should add all the texture of meaning and correspondence they know to give a correct and empowering Tarot reading.

Princes and Queens most often indicate real people connected with the matter. Kings usually mean the coming and going of the matter, while Princesses may show ideas, thoughts and opinions. In general, all the Court Cards represent psychological states. Court cards indicate meetings in society, and many people.

After laying out the cards, the first thing to look for is groupings of same suited cards. Wands indicate great energy, at worst quarrelling or opposition. Cups demonstrate love, emotions, and pleasure, at worst intoxication. Swords indicate intellectual matters at best, otherwise sickness and troubles. Discs represent material matters such as business, possessions and wealth.

A majority of Trumps indicates higher forces at work, querent may not have much control and there is definitely a spiritual nature to the matter at hand. Aces mean new beginnings, great energy and strength. Cards of the same suit strengthen.

### Preparing For A Spread

Shuffle the pack of cards and make sure that the cards are free of any previous influences before using them for your spread. The cards are always shuffled before every reading by the interpreter, and ideally by the person getting the reading as well. It is good to think of the issue at hand while shuffling the cards and asking for answers through the cards. If one is in touch with spiritual guidance, it is good to call on the guides and ask them to deliver answers through the cards.

If a Significator card is to be used, which means that it is representative of the issue at hand, it must be drawn first before any other cards, and set aside until the reading begins, and/or placed in the center depending on the spread being used.

The reader places the shuffled cards on the table and asks the person getting the reading to cut the deck into three piles. Then the person getting the reading is to pick one of those piles to be on the top. The interpreter puts the cards back together again with chosen pile on top.

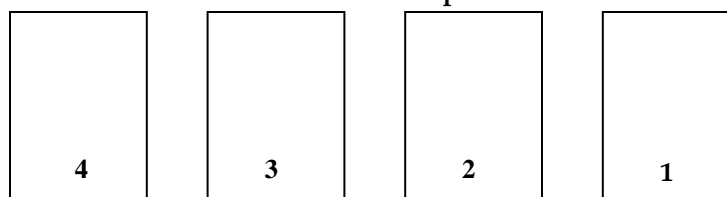
There are two ways to draw the cards. One way is to simply dispense the cards beginning with the top card put into the first position of the chosen spread. Another way is to fan the cards out or mix them together arbitrarily, and have the person getting the reading draw each card one by one, using intuition, and placing them in the spread pattern.

### Choosing A Spread

Consider the topic of the reading. Different spreads address different issues. For instance the Celtic cross is a good life situation spread, whereas the three-card spread is a good daily spread (card 1: past, card 2: present, card 3: future). The yes and no spread is good for immediate answers to specific questions.

You will most likely become comfortable with one particular spread and use it often with preference to another. You may even develop your own spread for reading, there is no wrong way or right way to lay out the cards. All the intuitive arts depend on the object of the reading and the abilities of the reader. No spread is better than another spread. They all have their purposes.

### The Four Card Spread



Shuffle the Tarot deck. Intone a prayer or request for guidance if you wish, or attain a clear and receptive

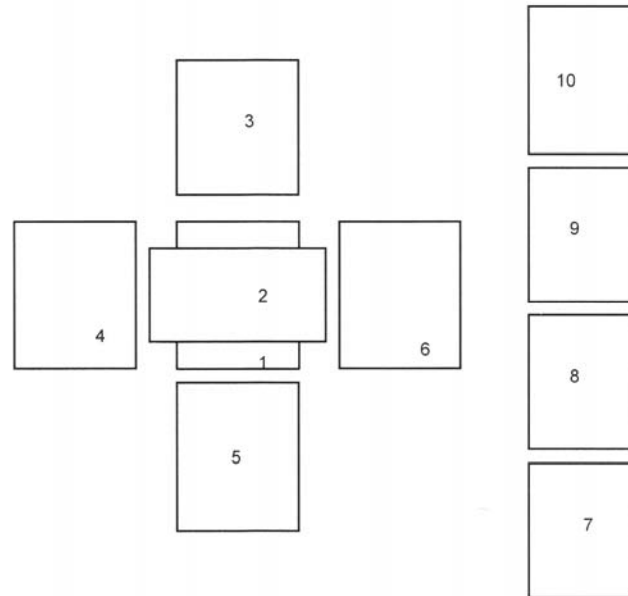
mind. After the cards are shuffled, place them image up in the positions 1 - 4.

*(Four Card Spread continued)*

1. This card relates to Fire and is the querent in the situation. It is the Significator for the querent.
2. Relates to Water representing past causes and conditions, the roots of the situation.
3. Relates to Air, what the situation is surrounded by and the current condition of the situation.
4. Relates to Earth and is the outcome.

The cards are ill or well dignified in this spread if they are matched, allied or opposite to the element of their position. Water and Earth are allies, Fire and Air are allies, Air fights Earth, but supports Water. Fire fights Water and supports Earth. For example, if a water element card is in the Fire position (1) then it will be ill-dignified. If a fire element card is in the Fire position it will be particularly well dignified; this holds true for all the elemental positions.

### Celtic Cross Spread



Have the querent shuffle the cards and choose a Significator. The querent should invoke guides and ask for a proper divination. The Significator is then placed in position 1. Cut the deck in half and from the middle, place cards 2-10.

1. The Significator card, determines what the basic situation at hand is.
2. What crosses the querent, the nature of the situation, possible allies and enemies, what helps or hinders the situation.
3. The crown of the querent, represents the highest manifestation the question can lead to, it also represents the conscious mind, and what is in conscious thought.
4. Represents the past influences and roots of the situation.
5. The foundation of the situation, the unconscious tendencies and inner impulses that have inspired the situation, also signifies what the unconscious is busy doing or is aware of.
6. The immediate future in the situation.

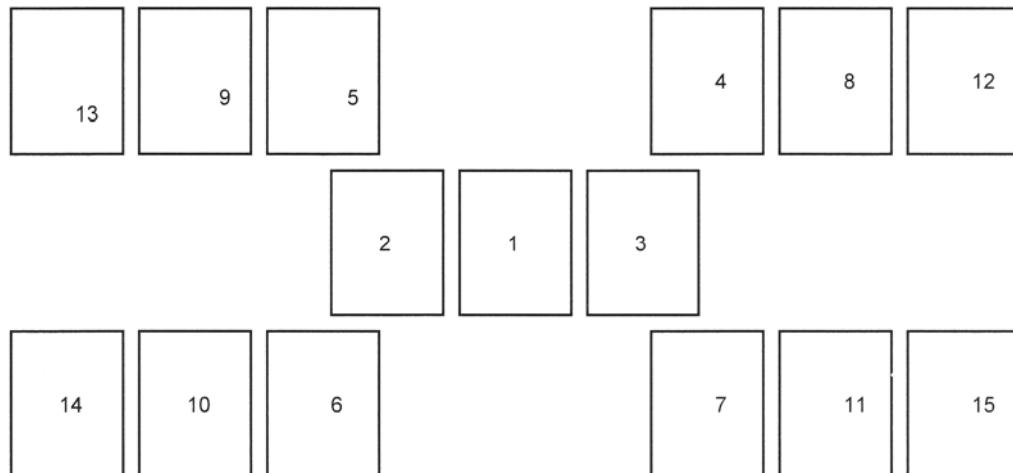
*Cards 7-9 are the course of destiny and the final outcome.*

7. Further elaboration of the personality of the querent and potentials in the situation, shows how querent sees oneself, and what one believes about oneself.
8. Demonstrates the surroundings of the situation, including others involved, obstacles and the like, determines what is coming toward the querent from the outside world.
9. Demonstrates helpers and guides that will assist the querent, also the perception the querent has of the situation, and can signify hopes and dreams, or fears and phobias.
10. The final outcome in relation to Cards 3 and 7.

The Celtic Cross is great for discerning life situation questions, it is also a good introductory spread to learn before trying more complex arrangements. This is a common layout used in Tarot readings, and is typically

what a reader will use when doing a reading for a client.

### Golden Dawn Spread

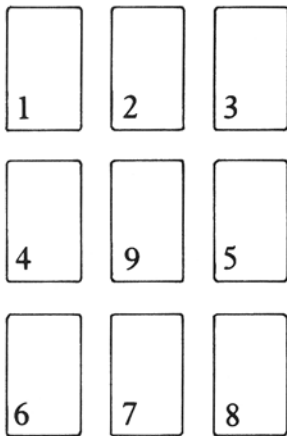


This arrangement has a specific invocation that is given after the cards are shuffled by the Adept and touched by the querent. The invocation that accompanies this spread is: *"Almighty One, send Hru, the great Angel that is set over the operations of this secret Wisdom, to lay his hand invisibly upon these consecrated cards of art, that we may obtain true knowledge of things hidden and revealed to the glory of the ineffable Name. Amen."*

- Card 1 represents the querent and the nature of the problem. All primary influences. Often a Court card in this position will represent important people in the situation or predominate psychological influence within the querent instigating the situation.
- Cards 2 and 3, in conjunction with Card 1, are the key cards describing the nature of the situation and the personality of the querent.
- Cards 13, 9, and 5—with 4, 8, and 12 in the upper left and right rows—indicate two potentials for the future. They may also compliment each other, in which case the cards on the upper left are a development of those on the upper right. If they are elementally in conflict, the cards on the upper right may be considered the course the querent's life will naturally flow unless action is taken to change its course. The cards on the upper left would then be the alternative possibility if action is applied.
- Cards 14, 10, and 6 assist the querent in whatever decisions may be necessary. They indicate the psychological basis and implications of the situation.
- Cards 7, 11, and 15 show the forces acting beyond the querent's control in relation to the situation. The querent can adapt accordingly to this destiny or karma, and in this sense institute advice given from the universe that can help.

A card in this spread is ill or well dignified by the presence of neighboring cards on either side. Cards of opposite nature weaken. Swords are hostile to Discs. Wands are hostile to Cups. Swords are friendly to Cups and Wands. Wands are friendly to Swords and Discs. A card falling between two contrary cards is not much affected by either. With this being understood, complete and accurate oracles are no problem.

### The Magic Square



Draw a Significator card and lay it in the center of the table before drawing the other nine cards.

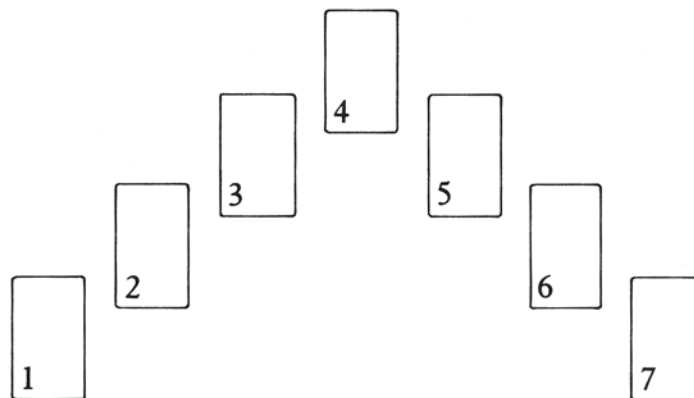
1. Individuality: personality and state of mind.
2. Outside influences in unexpected factors.
3. Environmental influences: friends, family, home, etc.
4. Hopes and fears in the matter under consideration.
5. Alternatives: opportunities, challenges, etc.
6. Aspirations and beliefs.
7. Negative, opposing or limiting factors.
8. Positive, constructive and helpful influences.
9. Potential: initiative, possibilities.

Cards are interpreted in two directions. The top row represents a general picture of the prevailing atmosphere. Current position and attitudes are represented by the middle row. The bottom row indicates the future possibilities.

When reading the cards downward, cards 1, 4 and 6 show three aspects of the person's nature. Cards 2, 9 and 7 show major factors that must be considered before decisions are made. Cards 3, 5 and 8 show the opportunities in a favorable outcome of the correct choice.

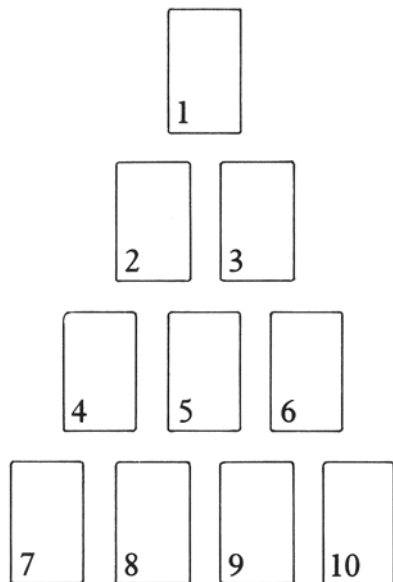
The key to the spread is the central square, card 9, which is laid over the Significator card. It signifies the potential of the person who is surrounded the possibilities within the cards.

### Bohemian Spread



This spread does not require a Significator card.

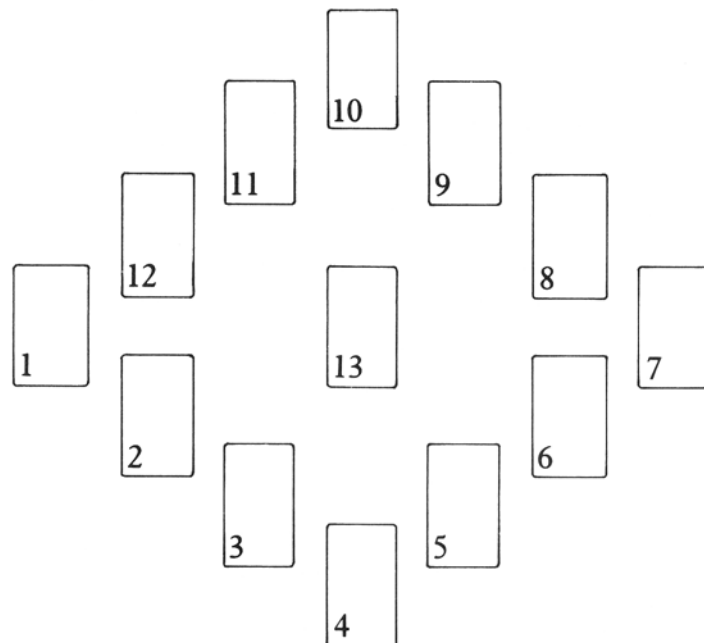
1. Home environment and domestic issues: household goods, renovations, removals, etc.
2. Current influences: those factors that relate directly to present circumstances, such as hopes and/or worries.
3. Relationships of all kinds: love, friendship, business, romantic partnerships, or rivals and enemies, etc.
4. Eventual wishes in the matter under inquiry: what this person hopes to achieve or wants.
5. Unexpected assistance or obstacles that are likely to help or hinder the aim signified by the preceding card.
6. Events that are likely to affect the immediate future, probabilities and possibilities.
7. Helpful influences or fortunate circumstances that the person can use to his advantage. Any chance of good fortune coming to the person.



### Pyramid Spread

No Significator card is required for this spread. This spread is useful when addressing specific problems, rather than for a general reading. Card 1 at the top of the pyramid represents the overriding aspect or influence. Cards 2 and 3 show the options and alternatives. Cards 4, 5 and 6 show the underlying forces at work which have given rise to the current situation or problem. The bottom row shows the best way to handle the situation or resolve the problem.

### Horoscope Wheel



This spread requires 13 cards. The first 12 are laid out in the same order and positions as the houses in a horoscope and the 13th card is placed in the center of the circle. Each position is associated with a specific aspect of the person's life, and the cards are interpreted in the following context, which corresponds with the meanings in the horoscope.

1. The person's physical energy, personal ambitions, and the image he or she presents to the outside world and the state of development he or she has achieved.
2. Material affairs: actual financial/material status or attitude to money and positions. Also hopes and wishes in financial and material matters.
3. Communication: education, written agreements, sure journeys, day-to-day contacts and chance relationships. Also mental capabilities.
4. Home: the personal and private life, place of residence, living conditions, family roots and childhood environment. Also property and real estate.

5. Creativity and self-expression: birth, children and their affairs, romance, artistic or creative activities, speculation and new undertakings.
6. Work, health and service to others: actual occupation as well as attitude toward colleagues, employers and/or employees.
7. Close relationships: love, marriage, business and personal partnerships but not relatives. Also "open" and known enemies, litigation, lawsuits, etc.
8. Wills, legacies and other people's money: big business such as banking, insurance, etc. Also transformation of energy, generation: death, rebirth, the occult and the Inquirer's attitude toward the occult.
9. Spiritual energy: religion, philosophy, the law, further education, morals, conscience, ideals and dreams, for people in places, long journeys.
10. External aspects of life: career, status, reputation, attitude toward responsibilities, professional achievements and authority.
11. Social relationships: friends, acquaintances and group activities, pleasures and pastimes, hopes and ambitions in the social world.
12. Internal aspects of life: fantasies, daydreams, fierce, secret enemies, limitations, inhibiting factors or karmic responsibilities.
13. Overall influence of the reading, the summation of the spread.

If one wants to know about certain specific time periods, instead of only using 13 cards, the whole pack is used. The first 13 describe the present situation. The next 13 are laid out exactly the same as the first 13, but on top of those already laid and so on. For instance, the 14<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, and 40<sup>th</sup> card will be laid on the first card. The 15<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, and 41<sup>st</sup> card are laid in position 2. The four cards in each house will correspond to a week or quarter and should be interpreted according to the timeline agreed on by the interpreter and the person receiving the reading. This reading can cover a month or year.



## GEOMANCY

Geomancy is an ancient Roman-Sabian form of divination composed of the Latin root "Geo" from Gaia, meaning Earth and "mancy," Latin for prophecy. Geomancy is Earth prophecy and is performed using randomly inscribed dots in different configurations each having a definite meaning. John Heydon writes in *Theomagia, Fundamentals of Geomancy* (1653), "All manifestations have an invisible spirit, a Genius that is a divine idea existing behind the veil of reality. We access this hidden rhythm of creation by Geomancy. Consider that every spot on Earth has its own occult forces and is an integral part of the whole, as is every event in time. From the view of old Genius, time is a misinterpretation of the Geomantic rhythm. When we cast our oracle, it must be correct, there could be no other pattern of manifestation because the result of the divination is a direct reflection of Earth's vibration at that very moment, bridge to all other moments." In the *Geomanica Astronomica* (1644) by Gerard Cambrensis it is written, "Among the divinatory arts, Geomancy is extremely thorough in that it functions by providing a full cosmology of good or ill fortune based upon the rhythmic, moving correspondences between Earth and the Heavens." The following guide to performing Geomancy uses these texts from John Heydon and Cambrensis, the *Geomancy Lecture* (1903) from S.L. MacGregor Mathers, and training given to the author by Frater L.O.A. 7 = 4 which informs the composition. Overall, Geomancy is an effective and comprehensive way of doing divination. It also leads to the creation of protective Rune-like Geomantic Talismans, which are used according to the augury.

Geomancy is composed of 16 talismanic figures that have definite meanings and are created through the geomantic divination process. These 16 figures are composed of odd and even points in four lines. These figures have Element, Zodiac Sign, and Planetary correspondences. Two figures are attributed to each of the seven alchemical planets, while the remainder are attributed to Caput and Cauda Draconis, the Head and Tail of the Dragon or the North and South Nodes of the Moon. In addition, each Geomantic sigil with its planet and sign have certain Genii of the astral plane attributed to them. Please see the chart on the next page.

An oracle utilizing geomancy begins by first creating a sanctified table where the primary divination will occur. The divination ultimately uses 12 of the figures, one for every one of the Sabian Houses of the Heavens. These are calculated from the primary divinatory ritual in which four Mother figures are created. From them will come the Daughter figures and from them the Nephew Figures, equaling twelve.

















In order to create the Mothers we first make a sanctified Tablet. The Tablet is drawn like this:



	mothers	daughters	nephews
	1	5	9
	2	6	10
	3	7	11
	4	8	12

left witness	right witness	judge
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*Geomantic Forms, Their Names And Elements*


<i>Geomantic Form</i>	<i>Element</i>	<i>Name and Meaning of Form</i>
	Fire	Puer, boy, yellow and beardless
	Earth	Amissio, loss from without
	Air	Albus, white, fair
	Water	Populus, people gathering together
	Fire	Fortuna major, greater fortune, aid
	Earth	Conjunctio, assembly, union
	Air	Puella, girl, beautiful
	Water	Rubeus, red, ruby
	Fire	Acquisitio, obtaining, comprehended within
	Earth	Carcer, a prison
	Air	Tristitia, sadness, a cross
	Water	Laetitia, joy, laughing, healthy
	Fire	Cauda Draconis, the lower threshold
	Earth	Caput Draconis, heart, upper threshold
	Fire	Fortuna minor, lesser fortune
	Water	Via, way, journey

To sanctify the oracular Tablet we draw an invoking pentagram at the top. Since the Pentagram is of Earth it is begun at the top point descending to the lower left, carefully completing the angle at its finish. While slowly tracing the Pentagram the divine name associated with Earth should be vibrated and intoned: Adonai ha-Aretz. Intone the God-name several times then inscribe the appropriate geomantic sigil in the middle of the Pentagram. While inscribing the sigil, use one-pointed concentration on the question being asked. Vocally and very specifically repeat the query again and again, invoking the Genius' name whose sigil is being inscribed within the Pentagram. In order to know which sigil to use, consult the following chart:

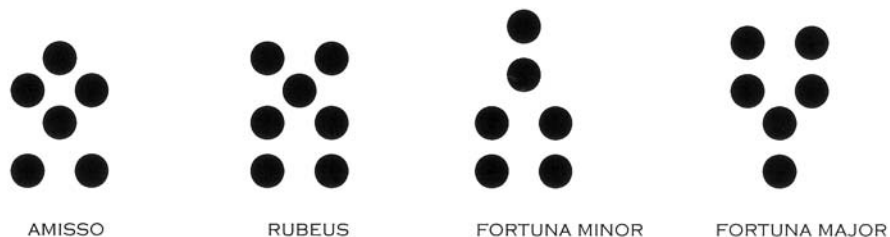
**Geomantic Sigils**

Sigil	Genii Ruler	Planet	Zodiacal Sign	Situational Use
♂	Bartzabel	Mars	Aries	Victory in battle or struggle
♀	Kedemel	Venus	Taurus	Love relationships
♿	Taphthartharath	Mercury	Gemini	Journeys, Healing arts, communicaton
♃	Chasmodai	Luna	Cancer	spirituality, fishing and gaming
♌	Sorath	Sol	Leo	power, authority, success
♍	Taphtharhareth	Mercury	Virgo	science, learning, cunning
♀	Kedemel	Venus	Libra	riches, emotional balance, love
♂	Bartzabel	Mars	Scorpio	Conflict, challenges, enemies
♐	Hismael	Jupiter	Sagittarius	Good fortune, feasting
♄	Zazel	Saturn	Capricorn	Agriculture, husbandry
♅	Zazel	Saturn	Aquarius	group projects, land management
♑	Hismael	Jupiter	Pisces	Social ascendancy, church preferment
♄	Zazel	Saturn	Cauda Draconis	Sorrow, afflictions, death
♂	Bartzabel	Mars	Cauda Draconis	Courage, obstacles to be overcome
♐	Hismael	Jupiter	Caput Draconis	Employment, promotion
♀	Kedemel	Venus	Caput Draconis	Lust, intense love affair

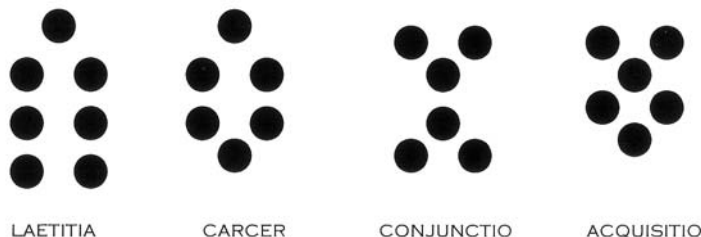
After the sigil is in place and the Tablet sanctified, continue to intone the particular Genii's name. Then, still in one-pointed concentration very quickly make 16 lines of dashes with a pencil on the Tablet, four lines inside every large section. Do not count the dashes until completely finished so the dashes per line are as random as possible. Now each of the 16 lines of dashes will have different amounts in each set. If the lines have an even number of dashes, place two dots in the Mother column for that section. If the line has an odd number of dashes then place only one dot in the Mother column. In this way all four Mothers can be found.

For example, let's say our four lines of dashes were counted as 14 in the first line, so an even two dots. Six dashes in the second line, so again, an even two dots. Nine dashes in the third line, odd, so only one dot. Three dashes in the fourth line, again an odd amount, so only one dot. This creates the first Mother, Fortuna Major:  Do this for all 16 lines of dashes in the sanctified Tablet and all four Mothers are revealed. From these four we can now extrapolate the Daughters and Nephews to complete our divinatory Tablet. To find the Daughters take the upper dots from the four Mothers and create the first Daughter. All the secondary dots of the Mothers create the second Daughter. All the tertiary dots of the Mothers create the third Daughter and the quaternary dots of the Mothers create the fourth Daughter. For example, let's take these four, Fortuna Major, Fortuna Minor, Rubeus, and Amisso.

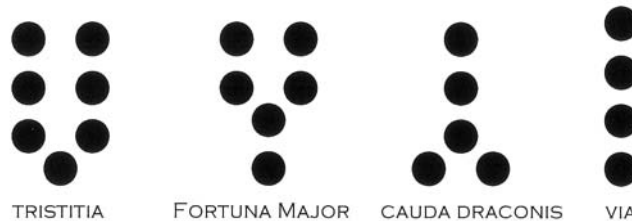
To show the calculation of the Daughters the Geomantic forms are written right to left:



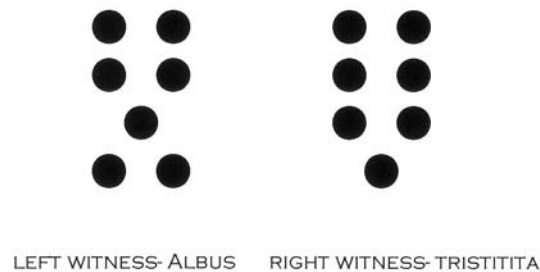
From these four Mothers come the four Daughters when extrapolated by the method just described:



Now, fill in the Mothers and Daughters on the Tablet, spaces 1 - 8 in their respective columns. To discern the resultant Nephews, the Mothers and Daughters are compared and combined. These resultant Nephews are placed in their respective column in the Tablet when they are completed in spaces 9 - 12. To create the Ninth figure and first Nephew, add together the first and second figures. The tenth figure is created by adding the third and fourth figures. The eleventh figure is created by adding the fifth and sixth figure and the twelfth figure is made by adding the seventh and eighth figures. If the dots in the same line are even numbered when added together two dots are given to the resultant figure. If they are odd numbered when added, then the resultant gets one dot. From our example above, the following Nephews are found by this method:



Place these Nephews in their place on the sanctified Tablet. To assist the diviner there is usually another permutation of the forms from these Nephews that create the final three figures of the divination, the right and left Witnesses and the Judge. These figures are placed in their allotted space on the sanctified Tablet. These are not as important as the twelve main forms that are discerned and only further help make the final judgment in the divination. The two witnesses have no overt importance to the divination except that they are the roots from which the form of the Judge will be created. The right Witness is formed from the first two Nephews by adding the dots and placing one dot for an odd sum and two dots for an even sum. The left Witness is formed in the same fashion from the last two Nephews. The Judge, who will influence the final divination is then created from these two. From our ongoing example the two Witnesses wrought by this method would be:



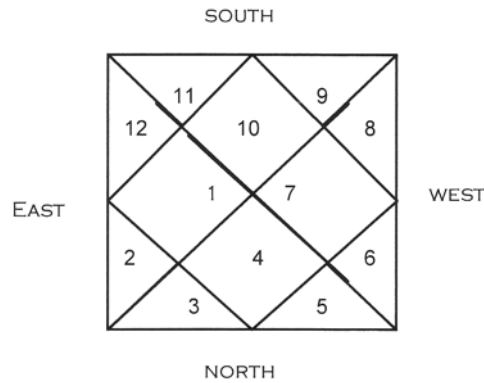
The Judge is then created in the same fashion from these two Witnesses and represents the permutation of the entire divination. If the Judge is favorable the divination will have a positive flavor and if the Judge is a negative form, the divination is given an ill-dignified slant. The Judge should always consist of an even numbered total when all its component dots are added together. This is a way to check the calculations made throughout the entire divination. In our example the Judge would be formed like this:



Now that our tablet is filled in, we can compare our geomantic figures to the Houses of the Heavens in the Sabian system and create an accurate divination for all 12 Houses and in this, the entire upcoming year for the querent. The results are marked upon a Geomantic Map, which is the basis for any divinatory advise to be given to the querent. The Geomantic Map is composed by dividing a square into twelve parts, each section corresponding to a House and given different directions as on an actual land map. The Eastern direction is the Ascendent and the divination is made by comparing the meanings of the 16 Geomantic forms in relation to what

houses they are in. Each house has a general meaning and each Geomantic figure has 12 specific meanings for when they abide in each House.

**The Geomantic map is composed in the following way:**



In each House place the Geomantic Form from the Sanctified Tablet that was filled in during the calculations that discerned the 12 needed figures. It is important to notice that the numbers of the forms from the Tablet, **do not** directly correspond to the number of the House, instead place the Geomantic forms in this way:

The first form goes in the 10th House.  
 The second form goes in the 1st House.  
 The third form goes in the 4th House.  
 The fourth form goes in the 7th House.  
 The fifth form goes in the 11th House.  
 The sixth form goes in the 2nd House.

The seventh form goes in the 5th House.  
 The eighth form goes in the 8th House.  
 The ninth form goes in the 12th House.  
 The tenth form goes in the 3rd House.  
 The eleventh form goes in the 6th House.  
 The twelfth form goes in the 9th House.

**The general meanings of the Houses are as follows:**

<i>House</i>	<i>General Meaning</i>
1. Ascendant East	Life, health, the matter at hand
2. upper Northeast	Money, property, personal worth
3. lower Northeast	Brothers, sisters, news, short distance travel
4. North	Father, landed property, inheritance, final outcome of the query
5. lower Northwest	Children, pleasure, feasts, speculation
6. upper Northwest	Servants, uncles and aunts, sicknesses, small animals
7. West	Love, marriage, husband or wife, lawsuits, public enemies
8. lower Southwest	Deaths, wills, legacies, anxiety, the estate of the deceased
9. upper Southwest	Long journeys, science, religion, art, visions, and divinations
10. South	Mother, rank and honors, authority, profession, worldly position
11. upper Southeast	Friends, hopes and wishes
12. lower Southeast	Sorrows, fears, punishments, secret enemies, dangers and limitations

**The specific meaning for each geomantic form in the Houses are as follows:**

***Acquisitio***

Generally good for profit and gain  
 Ascendant - Happiness, great success  
 Second House - prosperity  
 Third House - favor and riches  
 Fourth House - good fortune and success  
 Fifth House - good results  
 Sixth House - positive in harmony with the fifth house

***Amissio***

Generally good for loss and love, bad for gain  
 Ascendant - ill in all, except for prisoners  
 Second House - good for love, bad for money  
 Third House - ill end, except for quarrels  
 Fourth House - ill in all  
 Fifth House - evil except for agriculture  
 Sixth House - ill dignified and evil for love

Seventh House - reasonably good  
Eighth House - things OK, however the sick will perish  
Ninth House - good in all demands  
Tenth House - good in law suits, prosperous  
Eleventh House - good in all  
Twelfth House - evil, pain, loss, theft

### ***Fortuna Major***

---

Generally good for all things where a person hopes to win  
Ascendant - good except for matters of secrecy  
Second House - good except in sadness  
Third House - good in all  
Fourth House - good in all except in melancholy situations  
Fifth House - very auspicious  
Sixth House - very good except in debauchery  
Seventh House - good in all  
Eighth House - moderately good  
Ninth House - very good  
Tenth House - exceedingly good, go to superiors  
Eleventh House - very good  
Twelfth House - good in all manifestations

### ***Laetitia***

---

Good for joy, now and to come  
Ascendant - good, except in war  
Second House - sickly  
Third House - illness  
Fourth House - mainly good  
Fifth House - excellent  
Sixth House - evil generally  
Seventh House - indifferent  
Eighth House - evil generally  
Ninth House - very good  
Tenth House - good, rather in war than in peace  
Eleventh House - good in all  
Twelfth House - evil generally

### ***Puella***

---

Good in demands, especially those with women  
Ascendant - good except in war  
Second House - very good  
Third House - good  
Fourth House - indifferent  
Fifth House - very good, but be mindful of the aspects  
Sixth House - good, especially in debauchery  
Seventh House - good except for war  
Eighth House - good  
Ninth House - good for musical arts  
Tenth House - good for peace  
Eleventh House - good and love of ladies  
Twelfth House - good in all

Seventh House - good for love, otherwise evil  
Eighth House - excellent in all questions  
Ninth House - evil in all things  
Tenth House - evil except favor from women  
Eleventh House - good for love, otherwise bad  
Twelfth House - evil in all things

### ***Fortuna Minor***

---

Good when a person wants to proceed quickly  
Ascendant - speed in victory/love, tumultuous  
Second House - very good  
Third House - good, but wrathful  
Fourth House - haste, rather evil except in peace  
Fifth House - good in all things  
Sixth House - medium in all  
Seventh House - evil except in war or love  
Eighth House - evil generally  
Ninth House - good, but tumultuous  
Tenth House - good, except for peace  
Eleventh House - good, especially for love  
Twelfth House - good, except for law suits

### ***Tristitia***

---

Evil in almost all things  
Ascendant - good for treasure and fortification  
Second House - medium ill dignity  
Third House - evil in all  
Fourth House - evil in all  
Fifth House - very evil  
Sixth House - evil, except in debauchery  
Seventh House - evil for inheritance and magic  
Eighth House - evil, but secrecy is good  
Ninth House - evil except for magic  
Tenth House - evil except for fortifications  
Eleventh House - evil in all  
Twelfth House - evil, but good for treasure

### ***Puer***

---

Evil in most demands, except in war or love  
Ascendant - indifferent, best in war  
Second House - good, but with a little trouble  
Third House - good fortune  
Fourth House - evil, except in war or love  
Fifth House - medium good  
Sixth House - medium  
Seventh House - evil, save for war  
Eighth House - evil, save for love  
Ninth House - evil except for war  
Tenth House - rather evil, good for strategy  
Eleventh House - most things medium dignity  
Twelfth House - very good in all

### Rubeus

Evil in all that is good and good in all that is evil  
Ascendant - destroy the figure if it falls here! BEWARE  
Second House - evil in all requests  
Third House - evil except extreme medical cures  
Fourth House - evil except in fire and war  
Fifth House - evil save for love and sowing seed  
Sixth House - evil except for extreme medical cares  
Seventh House - evil except in war and destruction  
Eighth House - evil  
Ninth House - very evil  
Tenth House - dissolution into love and fire  
Eleventh House - evil except in acts of vengeance  
Twelfth House - evil is all pervading

### Conjunctio

Good with good, evil with evil. Recovery of all things lost.  
Ascendant - good with good, evil with evil  
Second House - commonly good  
Third House - Good Fortune  
Fourth House - good except for health  
Fifth House - medium  
Sixth House - good for immorality only  
Seventh House - rather good  
Eighth House - evil, disease, death  
Ninth House - medium good  
Tenth House - for love, good; for sickness, evil  
Eleventh House - good in all  
Twelfth House - medium, bad for prisoners

### Caput Draconis

Good with evil; evil with evil. Gives a good issue for gain.  
Ascendant - good in all things  
Second House - good  
Third House - very good  
Fourth House - good save in war  
Fifth House - very good  
Sixth House - good for immorality only  
Seventh House - good especially for peace  
Eighth House - good  
Ninth House - very good  
Tenth House - good in all  
Eleventh House - good for a group or church in gain  
Twelfth House - not very good

### Via

Good for journeys, yet hurtful of others in the situation.  
Ascendant - evil except for escaping prison  
Second House - indifference  
Third House - very good in all  
Fourth House - good in all except love  
Fifth House - voyages are good

### Albus

Good for profit and for entering into a place  
Ascendant - good for marriage, mercurial, peace  
Second House - good in all  
Third House - very good  
Fourth House - very good except in war  
Fifth House - good  
Sixth House - good in all things  
Seventh House - good except in war  
Eighth House - good  
Ninth House - a messenger brings a letter  
Tenth House - excellent in all  
Eleventh House - very good  
Twelfth House - marvelously good

### Cancer

Generally evil, binding, limitation, delay  
Ascendant - evil except to prepare for war  
Second House - good in Saturn's dignity only  
Third House - evil  
Fourth House - good only for melancholy  
Fifth House - a letter imparting bad news  
Sixth House - very evil  
Seventh House - evil  
Eighth House - very evil  
Ninth House - evil in all  
Tenth House - evil except in recovering treasure  
Eleventh House - much anxiety  
Twelfth House - rather good

### Cauda Draconis

Good with evil, and evil with good. Departure  
Ascendant -destroy figure if it falls here! Beware  
Second House - very, very evil  
Third House - evil in all  
Fourth House - conclusion of the matter  
Fifth House - very evil  
Sixth House - rather good  
Seventh House - evil, war, fire  
Eighth House - only good in magic  
Ninth House - good for science only, theft  
Tenth House - evil save in works of fire  
Eleventh House - evil save for favors  
Twelfth House - rather good

### Populus

Sometimes good or bad; good with good.  
Ascendant - good for marriage  
Second House - medium good  
Third House -rather good than bad  
Fourth House - good in all but love  
Fifth House - good in most things

Sixth House - Evil  
 Seventh House - rather good, especially for traveling  
 Eighth House - evil  
 Ninth House - good for journeys  
 Tenth House - good  
 Eleventh House - very good  
 Twelfth House - excellent

Sixth House - good  
 Seventh House - in war good, else medium  
 Eighth House - evil  
 Ninth House - look for letters  
 Tenth House - good  
 Eleventh House - good in all  
 Twelfth House - very evil in all

With knowledge of all these meanings attributed to the 16 Geomantic forms, the entire Geomantic Map can be completed and the destiny of the querent in relation to the question completely discerned. These meanings come from the interplay between the Geomantic forms with their corresponding elemental natures and astrological signs. The signs are assigned to the Houses just as in modern astrology, hence certain figures being well or ill dignified. This depends upon which residence they are in at the moment according to the divination. When a Geomantic Form is in its own House, it is said to possess its *Essential Dignity*. That means its most itself and strongest in that House. It is very strong in its *Exaltation*, strong in its *Triplicity*, very weak in its *Fall*, and weakest of all in its *Detriment*. A Geomantic Form is in its *Fall* when in a House opposite to that of its *Exaltation*, and in its *Detriment* when opposite to its own House. The Geomantic Forms when attributed to the planets and signs in the Geomantic Map, during the divination are dignified according to the rules of Astrology. This means they follow the dignities of their ruling Planets, considering the 12 Houses of the Sabian system as comparable to the 12 Signs of the Zodiac. The Ascendant House is Aries, the second House Taurus and so on for all 12 Houses and Signs. Dignities are created by planetary position, one planet to another, they are triune, squared, in harmony, sextile, or in triplicity. It is recommended the student see the Astrology section of the UMS course materials where these topics are fully described and explained. Here is a chart, using the Houses' Celestial positions, of the dignities in their modes that will suffice in order that the student make correct divinations using Geomancy.

*Dignities that affect the Geomantic Forms*

<i>Signs</i>	<i>Element</i>	<i>Planetary Ruler</i>	<i>Exaltation</i>	<i>Fall</i>	<i>Detriment</i>
Aries	Fire	Mars	Sol	Saturn	Venus
Taurus	Earth	Venus	Luna	--	Mars
Gemini	Air	Mercury	--	--	Jupiter
Cancer	Water	Luna	Jupiter	Mars	Saturn
Leo	Fire	Sol	--	--	Saturn
Virgo	Earth	Mercury	Mercury	Venus	Jupiter
Libra	Air	Venus	Saturn	Sol	Mars
Scorpio	Water	Mars	--	Luna	Venus
Sagittarius	Fire	Jupiter	--	--	Mercury
Capricorn	Earth	Saturn	Mars	Jupiter	Luna
Aquarius	Air	Saturn	--	--	Sol
Pisces	Water	Jupiter	Venus	Mercury	Mercury

With all this information a complete divination is now possible. We interpret the divination from our completed, sanctified Tablet and Geomantic Map in a few simple steps. Remember to throw out the oracle if Rubeus or Cauda Draconis fall in the Ascendent because the divination isn't worth consideration for the subject involved. Note to which House the demand or question belongs and look to the Judge to see how favorable the demand will be. This expresses well or ill-dignity throughout the divination. Note which Geomantic Form falls into the House desired to attain the wishes of the querent. Notice if this Geomantic Form occupies any other Houses simultaneously. These should also be considered in relation to the desired House. Look to the Strength, Dignity, and other qualities of the astrological and planetary influences in relation to the Geomantic Form. See if the figures surrounding the desired House's Geomantic Form are friendly or unfriendly in their aspects (see chart above), according to the meanings of their resident Houses. Finally, figure in the meaning of the Fourth House, which signifies the End of the Matter in all Geomancy divinations. All of these meanings put together give us the



final oracle judgment of the matter, and on the basis of “good” or “evil” give the prognostication.

For example let's say a querent was asking why he is losing money in his business. In the hypothetical divination Populus is the Judge, and we find that in money concerns, the Second House signifies only "medium good." The question as a whole is of the nature of the Second House, where Carcer has found residence. Carcer here is evil, extremely ill-dignified demonstrating delay after delay. The part of fortune is in the Ascendant House with Amisso, signifying loss through the querent's own mistakes and shortcomings. Amisso is in no other House, therefore there is no effect in this way on the question. Carcer in the Second House is neither strong, nor weak, its strength for evil is medium. The figures around the Second House are Conjunctio, Fortuna Major, Fortuna Minor, and Acquisito, all positive Geomantic Forms in their Houses, all helping the matter and friendly in nature. This signifies the help of friends. The figures in opposition to the second House are Fortuna Minor, Conjunctio, and Albus that are not hostile to Carcer, therefore demonstrating mild opposition, but not great. The figure in the Fourth House is Fortuna Major which shows a good end, but with continued anxiety. Now we can formulate the final judgment on the matter: the querent's losses in business are mainly due to himself and his own mismanagement. His obstacles will gradually give way. After much anxiety and better discipline he will regain his losses.

### Geomantic Talismanic Symbols

Drawn by G.H. Frater, S.R.M.D.

At the end of the divination often the Sabian oracles would construct an empowering Talisman from appropriate wood or metals. This is done by taking the Geomantic Form of the Judge, Second House, or Fourth House from the divination and connecting the dots to form new glyphic sigils. The Talisman can be worn as a necklace or held in the pocket. It carries all the associations as the Geomantic Form from which it is constructed. The ruler of the Genii that oversees the Geomantic Form on the Talisman can be invoked to assist the wearer.

PUER	AMISSIO	ALBUS	POPULUS
VIA	FORT. MAJ.	FORT. MIN.	PUELLA
RUBELIS	ACQUISITIO	CARER	TRIST
LAETITIA	CONJUNCTIO	CAPUT DRAC.	CAUDA DRAC.

Geomancy is a difficult divination that requires further study to use and understand fully. This is only an introductory description of Geomancy. If you would truly like to practice Geomancy, much more study is needed.

# I CHING

Written by Christine Breese, D.D., Ph.D.

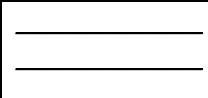
The I Ching is also known as the Yi Jing, or Yijing, and sometimes I Ging. Most of the following interpretations and descriptions of the symbols of the I Ching, the most ancient of Chinese divination systems, come from the book *I Ching: Book Of Changes* (1996) by James Legge. This book is the oldest text from Chinese culture on the I Ching, and is believed to be the most accurate. It is considered one of the five Chinese Classics, a must read for all spiritual aspirants.

The I Ching is taken by the Chinese to be extraordinarily accurate. Unlike Tarot, Astrology and other divination systems, the I Ching addresses action and reaction scenarios. It is widely used today, and is believed to be a very useful guiding source. Symbols from the I Ching can be noticed everywhere in China, even in the storefront signs of a common market. It is consulted regularly in China and other Asian cultures. It is gaining a growing following in Western cultures like the USA and Europe. The I Ching is over 3000 years old, some scholars believe the symbols are over 5000 years old, making it one of the oldest divination systems in the world.

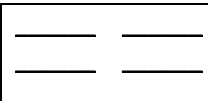
There are many ways to cast the I Ching and there are more aspects to the I Ching than the simple divination method described below. If you plan on using the I Ching extensively, or giving readings to others, it is highly advised that you purchase *I Ching: Book Of Changes* for further study and comprehension. The interpretations of the I Ching were written by King Wan, a respected historical figure. Many of the interpretations in this book pertain to the political and military concerns of a king, but can be used for navigation through life by the common man as well. Below is a method you can use right now for any question you may have about your life, desires or present situation.

## Casting The I Ching: A Simple Method

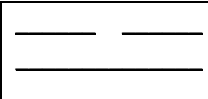
Ask a specific question. For instance: "Will I get a promotion this week?" is more specific than, "Will I get a promotion?" Toss three coins six times. Each time the coins are tossed represents one line, and there are six per symbol, thus each symbol of the I Ching is called a hexagram, hex meaning six. The coins must all be the same denomination, for instance three pennies, and it must be decided beforehand which side of the coin will be considered yin or yang. Heads are usually considered yang and tails are usually considered yin. Heads are given the number 3 and tails are given the number 2. Write down your lines with each toss of the coins. The following four possible configurations can be made:

H (heads)+H+H= 9	
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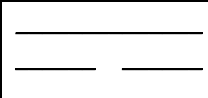
This is an "old" yang line, which means that it is changing into a yin, a solid line becoming a broken one.

T (tails) +T+T= 6	
-------------------	--

This is an "old" yin line, which means it is changing into a yang, a broken line changing into a solid one.

H+T+T= 7	
----------	--

This is a "young" yang line considered to be solid and unchanging.

T+H+H= 8	
----------	--

This is a "young" yin line, considered to be broken.

This will predict your present situation and the outcome in the near future. If you want to predict the far and distant future, change your "old" lines into their opposites, and you will have your answer. The "young" lines stay the same.

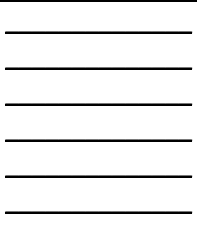
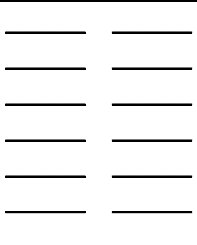
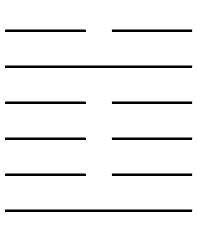
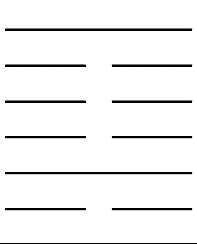
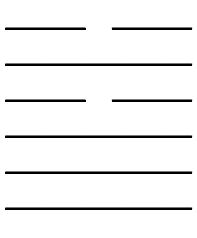
On this page is the table of the 64 hexagrams (six coin tosses equal a "hexagram")

## TABLE OF THE 64 HEXAGRAMS

8  pí	7  sze	6  sung	5  hsiú	4  mǎng	3  kún	2  khwǎn	1  k'ien
16  yü	15  k'ien	14  tâ yü	13  thung zǎn	12  phí	11  thâi	10  lí	9  hsiáo k'ü
24  fú	23  po	22  pí	21  shih ho	20  kwǎn	19  lin	18  kú	17  sui
32  hǎng	31  hsien	30  lí	29  khan	28  tâ kwo	27  í	26  tâ k'ü	25  wú wang
40  kieh	39  kien	38  khwei	37  kiá zǎn	36  ming í	35  jín	34  tâ kwang	33  thun
48  jǐng	47  khwǎn	46  shǎng	45  j'huí	44  k'áu	43  kwái	42  yí	41  sun
56  lü	55  fǎng	54  kwei mei	53  kien	52  kǎn	51  kǎn	50  ting	49  ko
64  wei jǐ	63  kí jǐ	62  hsiáo kwo	61  kung fú	60  kieh	59  hwǎn	58  tui	57  sun

## Brief Interpretations of the 64 Hexagrams of the I Ching

The following are simplified descriptions of the symbols and their meanings. The I Ching is more complicated in its interpretations of the symbols than is represented here. These are quite generalized descriptions of the symbols and will not be inclusive of all the aspects of their meanings. This is only a beginner's view of the I Ching and are not an accurate representation of the true scope of the I Ching. Further study to become truly knowledgeable about the I Ching is most definitely needed if one is to become a reader for self or others. Each line of the hexagram has its own meaning within each hexagram, and placement of the symbol in the layout is also pertinent to its true meaning, of which there is only a sampling of these inserted into the descriptions below. Layouts are too in depth for the purposes of this course, but they are used in many different ways for various life purposes, including prediction of the future of a child, decisions about business and politics, and the possibility of success in relationship combinations. Using the simple casting method described previously by asking a question and tossing the coins six times, referring to the interpretations below, is for entertainment only and cannot be considered a perfect or masterful interpretation. For a true, accurate reading using the I Ching, consult someone who has been trained in this divination system.

<p><b>1. Khien or Ch'ien</b> The Creative</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sky Sky</p>		<p>Represents greatness, origins, correctness, firmness, unmoving, penetrating, advantageous, full power is available, green light, perseverance brings success.</p>
<p><b>2. Khwan</b> The Receptive</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Earth Earth</p>		<p>Receptiveness brings about success, by trying to lead will go astray, by following will find guidance, find friends in the west and south, let go of friends in the east and north, perseverance brings good fortune.</p>
<p><b>3. Kun or Chun</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Difficulty at the Beginning Water Thunder</p>		<p>Difficulty at the beginning, but success will follow, further goals through perseverance, nothing should be undertaken in some instances, any advancement should not be taken lightly, it would be very useful to appoint helpers, his symbol represents the struggle to rise out of disorder, or from under the surface, into a great revolution.</p>
<p><b>4. Mang or Meng</b> Youthful Folly</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Mountain Water</p>		<p>Youthful folly will bring success, do not seek the young fool, the young fool will seek you and be of use, at the first oracle (prediction) inform the young fool, if he or she asks for more, he or she importunes, give no further information, perseverance furthers goals, punishment of childish folly does not further goals, childlike folly can bring good fortune.</p>
<p><b>5. Hsu</b> Waiting, Nourishment</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Water Sky</p>		<p>Wait, if you are sincere success will come, perseverance brings good fortune, travel may be in order (or cross the great water). It furthers one to wait in what endures and presently exists, stay in good cheer.</p>

<p><b>6. Sung</b> Conflict</p> <p>Sky Water</p>		<p>Conflict, you are being hindered or obstructed, halting halfway brings good fortune, going through to the end brings misfortune, there may be gossip, seek guidance from a wise man, do not travel (or cross the great water), the superior man carefully considers the beginning.</p>
<p><b>7. Sze or Shih</b> The Army</p> <p>Earth Water</p>		<p>The superior man increases his masses by generosity to the people, be a strong leader, an army is needed, must be set forth in proper order or misfortune will be the result, enlist people on your side, good fortune will result if no blame is applied to either side.</p>
<p><b>8. Pi</b> Holding Together, Union</p> <p>Water Earth</p>		<p>Holding together brings good fortune, seek the advice of the oracle again, stay constant and perseverant, those who are uncertain or undecided will gradually join, whoever tries to join too late meets misfortune.</p>
<p><b>9. Hsiao Ch'u</b> The Taming Power of the Small</p> <p>Tree Sky</p>		<p>The taming power of the small brings success, the superior man refines the outward aspect of his nature (personality), no blame, there is lasting effect in taming the small self.</p>
<p><b>10. Lu</b> Treading, Conduct</p> <p>Sky Lake</p>		<p>Treading on the tail of tiger, conduct the self properly, discriminate between high and low, tiger does not bite the man, success will come, tread a smooth even course, persevere with awareness of danger.</p>
<p><b>11. Tai</b> Peace</p> <p>Earth Sky</p>		<p>Peace, the small departs, the great approaches, success, good fortune will come, aid the people, bear with the uncultured with gentleness.</p>
<p><b>12. P'i</b> Standstill, Stagnation</p> <p>Sky Earth</p>		<p>Standstill, the great departs, the small approaches, evil will not further goals, heaven and earth do not unite, the superior man falls back on inner worth in order to understand and escape difficulties, does not allow himself to be given revenue.</p>

<p><b>13. T'ung Jen</b> Fellowship with Men</p> <p>Sky Fire</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Fellowship with men brings success, travel is beneficial (across the great water), perseverance furthers goals, the superior man organizes the people and makes distinctions between various things.</p>
<p><b>14. Ta Yu</b> Possession in Great Measure</p> <p>Fire Sky</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Possession is tantamount to success, superior man furthers good and abstains from evil, obey the benevolent will of heaven, have no relationship with what is harmful.</p>
<p><b>15. Ch'ien</b> Modesty</p> <p>Earth Mountain</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Modesty brings success, carry things through to conclusion, reduce what is too much and augment that which is too little, weigh things and make them equal.</p>
<p><b>16. Yu</b> Enthusiasm</p> <p>Thunder Earth</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Enthusiasm will resound like thunder, will set armies to marching, it furthers goals to gain helpers, enthusiasm will attract them, be careful for enthusiasm can be deluded, so be sure it is the right thing to do.</p>
<p><b>17. Sui</b> Following</p> <p>Lake Thunder</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Following brings supreme success, perseverance furthers goals, no blame should be assigned to anyone, rest and recuperate at nightfall.</p>
<p><b>18. Ku</b> Work on What Has Been Spoiled, Decay</p> <p>Mountain Tree</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Working on what has been spoiled, is decaying, or falling apart will bring success, travel will further goals (cross the great water), before the starting point: three days, after the starting point: three days, the superior man stirs up the people and strengthens their spirits.</p>
<p><b>19. Lin</b> Approach</p> <p>Earth Lake</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Approach brings success, perseverance furthers, when the eighth month comes, there will be misfortune, the superior man is inexhaustible, without limits in tolerance and protection of the people, joint approach to issue is helpful, approach wisely.</p>

<p><b>20. Kuan</b> Contemplation, View</p> <p>Tree Earth</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Contemplation is in order, decide whether to advance or retreat, contemplate your life, contemplate the self and the people around you, give further instruction if needed, others trust and look up to you, exert your influence after contemplation.</p>
<p><b>21. Shih Ho</b> Biting Through</p> <p>Fire Thunder</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Biting through brings success, favorable to let justice be administered, make firm and uphold laws and policies through clearly defined penalties for transgressions.</p>
<p><b>22. Pi</b> Grace, Adornment</p> <p>Mountain Fire</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Grace brings success, favorable to attend to small matters, clear up current affairs, do not make decisions on controversial issues at this time.</p>
<p><b>23. Po</b> Splitting Apart</p> <p>Mountain Earth</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Splitting apart, let things or people go their separate ways, it does not further one's goals to go anywhere right now, do not persevere or misfortune will come.</p>
<p><b>24. Fu</b> Return, The Turning Point</p> <p>Earth Thunder</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Returning brings success, going out and coming in without error, on the seventh day comes return, it furthers goals to have somewhere to go and return from, once returned, do not go anywhere, return quietly.</p>
<p><b>25. Wu Wang</b> Innocence, The Unexpected</p> <p>Sky Thunder</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>The natural state of innocence brings success, perseverance in innocence furthers goals, if one is not as he should be misfortune comes, innocent behavior is tantamount to bringing good fortune.</p>
<p><b>26. Ta Ch'u</b> The Taming Power of the Great</p> <p>Mountain Sky</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>The taming power of the great brings good fortune, further heaven on Earth, strengthen the character and review great deed of the past and the sayings of antiquity, learn from those who have come before you, be aware of danger and educate yourself about the great.</p>

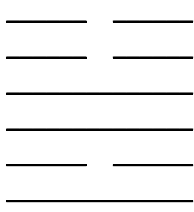
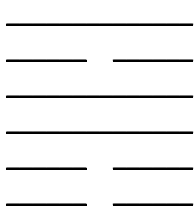
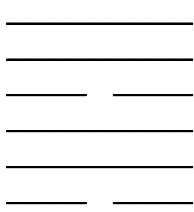
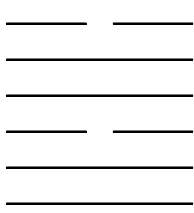
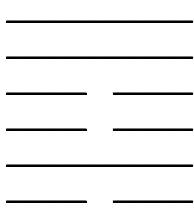
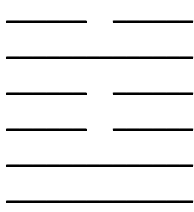
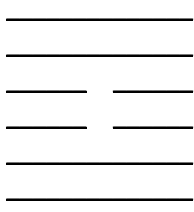
<p><b>27. I</b> The Corners of the Mouth, Providing Nourishment</p> <p>Mountain Thunder</p>		<p>Nourishment is in order and perseverance in nourishment brings good fortune, be careful with words and be temperate in eating and drinking, recharge yourself, provide a good base to operate from, nourishing from within and from without, do not turn away from nourishment.</p>
<p><b>28. Ta Kuo</b> Preponderance of the Great</p> <p>Lake Tree</p>		<p>Preponderance of the great, something sags at the breaking point, brace that which is at the breaking point, having somewhere to go will further goals, when standing alone, be unconcerned, if one must renounce the world, be undaunted.</p>
<p><b>29. K'an</b> The Abysmal, Water</p> <p>Water Water</p>		<p>The abysmal, the abyss is dangerous, falling into the abyss brings misfortune, strive to attain small things only, pause and wait or a fall into the abyss will happen, walk in lasting virtue.</p>
<p><b>30. Li</b> The Clinging, Fire</p> <p>Fire Fire</p>		<p>Clinging, fire, perseverance furthers and brings success, by perpetuating brightness the world is illumined, take care of the cow and success will come, that which is bright rises twice.</p>
<p><b>31. Hsien</b> Influence, Wooing</p> <p>Lake Mountain</p>		<p>Influence, use your influence to further your goals, perseverance brings success, to take a maiden as wife brings good fortune, the superior man encourages others to approach him by his willingness to receive them.</p>
<p><b>32. Heng</b> Duration</p> <p>Thunder Tree</p>		<p>Duration, stay in it for the duration, stand firm and do not change direction, perseverance furthers goals, it is good to have somewhere to go, travel is beneficial, disgrace if duration of character is failed.</p>
<p><b>33. Tun</b> Retreat</p> <p>Sky Mountain</p>		<p>Retreat equals success, the superior man keeps the inferior person at a distance—not with anger but with discernment and reserve, perseverance in what is small furthers goals.</p>



<p><b>34. Ta Chuang</b> The Power of the Great</p> <p>Thunder Sky</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>The power of the great is like thunder in heaven above, do not walk paths that do not match established order, stay with what is great, strive to match the great.</p>
<p><b>35. Chin</b> Progress</p> <p>Fire Earth</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Progress is happening, the superior man is brightened with bright virtue, the powerful prince is honored with horses in large numbers.</p>
<p><b>36. Ming I</b> Darkening of the Light</p> <p>Earth Fire</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Darkening of the light, in adversity it furthers one to be persevering, remember that the light is veiled but still shines whether or not one sees it.</p>
<p><b>37. Chia Jen</b> The Family, The Clan</p> <p>Tree Fire</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Family is the focus right now, have substance in words and duration in way of life, tending the family is tantamount to success, or tending to the clan, if not family.</p>
<p><b>38. K'uei</b> Opposition</p> <p>Fire Lake</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Opposition is afoot, retain individuality, if you lose something do not run after it for it will come back of its own accord, when you meet evil people, guard yourself against mistakes, dot i's and cross t's.</p>
<p><b>39. Chien</b> Obstruction</p> <p>Water Mountain</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Obstruction, southwest furthers, northeast hinders, it will further goals to see the great man, wise man or person in charge, perseverance brings good fortune, the superior man turns his attention to the self and enhances his character.</p>
<p><b>40. Hsieh</b> Deliverance</p> <p>Thunder Water</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Deliverance is at hand, southwest furthers, if there is no longer anything one must do or somewhere to go, return brings good fortune, if there is still something one must do or somewhere to go hastening brings good fortune, pardon mistakes and forgive misdeeds.</p>

<p><b>41. Sun</b> Decrease</p> <p>Mountain Lake</p>	<p>____ _</p> <p>_____</p> <p>____ _</p> <p>____ _</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Decrease combined with sincerity brings about good fortune, undertake something and persevere, sacrifice will help, superior man controls anger and restrains primal instincts, reflect on how you decrease others if you are experiencing decrease.</p>
<p><b>42. I</b> Increase</p> <p>Tree Thunder</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>____ _</p> <p>____ _</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Increase, undertake something that furthers goals, travel helps (cross the great water), when you see good imitate it, if you have faults, rid yourself of them, accomplishing great deeds furthers one's character.</p>
<p><b>43. Kuai</b> Breakthrough, Resoluteness</p> <p>Lake Sky</p>	<p>____ _</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Breakthrough, one must bring the matter to light and have it resolved in the king's court, announce truthfully the matter, danger, notify others, do not resort to arms, dispense riches downward and refrain from resting on possessions.</p>
<p><b>44. Kou</b> Coming to Meet</p> <p>Sky Tree</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>____ _</p>	<p>Coming to meet is integral, do not let things take their course or misfortune will be the result, fish in the tank means good fortune, no fish in the tank leads to misfortune, if coming to meet with his horns humiliation will be experienced, state demands and act when meeting.</p>
<p><b>45. Ts'ui</b> Gathering Together, Massing</p> <p>Lake Earth</p>	<p>____ _</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>____ _</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Gathering together brings success, it furthers one's goals to see the person in charge, to bring great offerings brings good fortune, undertake something and it will work, the superior man renews weapons in preparation for meeting the unforeseen.</p>
<p><b>46. Sheng</b> Pushing Upward</p> <p>Earth Tree</p>	<p>____ _</p> <p>_____</p> <p>____ _</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Pushing upward has supreme success, see the person in charge but don't fear, bring something in offering, departure to the south brings good fortune, focus on small things will cause one to achieve something high and great, push upward by steps, be persevering.</p>
<p><b>47. K'un</b> Oppression, Exhaustion</p> <p>Lake Water</p>	<p>____ _</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Oppression, success from perseverance, the person in charge over you brings about good fortune, when one has something to say it is not believed, it furthers one's goals to offer sacrifice.</p>

<p><b>48. Ching</b> The Well</p> <p>Water Tree</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>The town may change but the well cannot be changed, neither an increase nor a decrease, if one gets down to the bottom of the well and the rope breaks it brings misfortune, encourage people at their work and ask them to help each other, do not drink the mud of the well, in the well is a clear, cold spring with refreshing drink, the well is dependable and brings good fortune in the long run.</p>
<p><b>49. Ko</b> Revolution, Molting</p> <p>Lake Fire</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Revolution, your words are believed, supreme success, remorse disappears, furthering through perseverance, set calendar in order, change like a tiger, starting brings misfortune, persevere only.</p>
<p><b>50. Ting</b> The Caldron</p> <p>Fire Tree</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>The cauldron is a place of creating, consolidate one's fate by making one's position correct, when vulnerable further removal of stagnating stuff, colleagues are envious but they cannot harm one, if prince's meal is spilled misfortune will come, there is food in the cauldron, take the concubine for the sake of the son, good fortune comes in the end.</p>
<p><b>51. Chen</b> The Arousing Shock, Thunder</p> <p>Thunder Thunder</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Shock brings success, terrifies for a hundred miles, do not let the sacrificial spoon and chalice fall, set life in order and examine the self, shock comes and then laughter, lose treasures but do not pursue them because after seven days they will return to you, nothing is lost, danger, going ahead brings misfortune, shock brings something to talk about for all.</p>
<p><b>52. Ken</b> Keeping Still, Mountain</p> <p>Mountain Mountain</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Keep still, stay secluded and do not see people, do not feel the body or indulge the thoughts that go beyond the situation.</p>
<p><b>53. Chien</b> Development Gradual Progress</p> <p>Tree Mountain</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Development, maiden is given in marriage, good fortune, young son is in danger, wild goose draws near the cliff, woman carries child but does not give birth—she may later, feathers of the wild goose can be used for sacred ritual and dance.</p>
<p><b>54. Kuei Mei</b> The Marrying Maiden</p> <p>Thunder Lake</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>The marrying maiden, undertakings bring misfortune, nothing can further goals at this time, understand the nature of transitions in the face of eternity, if the lame man is able to walk undertakings bring good fortune, perseverance of the solitary man furthers goals, the garments of the princess are not as gorgeous as those of the serving maid.</p>

<p><b>55. Feng</b> Abundance, Fullness</p> <p>Thunder Fire</p>		<p>Abundance has success, the king attains abundance, be like the sun in mid afternoon, be not sad, decide lawsuits and carry out punishments, blessing and fame draw near, if house is in a state of abundance and one screens off family but no longer perceives anyone else misfortune will come.</p>
<p><b>56. Lu</b> The Wanderer</p> <p>Fire Mountain</p>		<p>The wanderer, success through smallness, good fortune comes to the wanderer, the superior man is cautious and levelheaded when imposing penalties and protracts no lawsuits, through carelessness one can lose the cow.</p>
<p><b>57. Sun</b> Wind, Tree</p> <p>Tree Tree</p>		<p>Be gentle like the wind, success through what is small, have somewhere to go and see whoever is in charge, spread commands abroad and carry out undertakings.</p>
<p><b>58. Tui</b> The Joyous, Lake</p> <p>Lake Lake</p>		<p>Being joyful will bring success, join with friends for conversation and practice, sincere joyousness brings good fortune, remorse disappears, joyousness is coming after ridding oneself of mistakes.</p>
<p><b>59. Huan</b> Dispersion, Dissolution</p> <p>Tree Water</p>		<p>Dispersion and dissolution brings success, approach the temple, traveling (crossing great water) furthers goals, bring help with the strength of a horse, departing and keeping at a distance is without blame, hurry to that which supports upon dissolution, dissolving bond with a group brings good fortune.</p>
<p><b>60. Chieh</b> Limitation</p> <p>Water Lake</p>		<p>Limitation can still bring success, examine the nature of virtue and correct conduct, he who knows no limitation will have cause to lament, contented limitation equals success, remorse disappears.</p>
<p><b>61. Chung Fu</b> Inner Truth</p> <p>Tree Lake</p>		<p>Inner Truth, good fortune, it furthers goals to travel (cross the great water), perseverance furthers causes, discuss criminal cases in order to delay executions, being prepared brings good fortune, secret designs are unsettling, share the good goblet, beats the drum now he stops, now he sobs and now he sings.</p>

<b>62. Hsiao Kuo</b> Preponderance of the Small	____ _ ____ _ ____ _ ____ _ ____ _ ____ _	Preponderance of the small brings success, small things may be done but not great things at this time, do not strive upward for it is better to remain below, in conduct give preponderance to reverence, in bereavement give preponderance to grief, in expenditures give preponderance to thrift, going brings danger, be on guard and do not act, yet persevere.
<b>63. Chi Chi</b> After Completion	____ _ ____ _ ____ _ ____ _ ____ _	After completion comes success in small matters, at the beginning good fortune but at the end disorder, take thought against misfortune and arm against it in advance, inferior people must not be employed, finest clothes turn to rags.
<b>64. Wei Chi</b> Before Completion	____ _ ____ _ ____ _ ____ _ ____ _	Before completion is success but if the fox nearly completes the crossing but gets his tail in the water there is nothing that would further the situation, superior man differentiates between things so that each finds its place, tail getting in water brings humiliation, before completion attack can bring misfortune, the light of the superior man is true.

**Some internet resources for further enjoyment and education about the I Ching:**

<http://www.pale.org/ching/index.html>

<http://www.adeleart.com/Meditations.html>: meditations for each symbol

<http://www.akirarabelais.com/i/i.html>: detailed descriptions of the symbols and their various meanings

## OTHER DIVINATION SYSTEMS

Written by Nicole Yalsovac

The above methods of Divination are some of the most popular and more well known, but there is a vast array of additional techniques employed. We will just touch on them briefly in the list below:

**ABACOMANCY:** Telling the future by observing the way patterns of dust are dispersed or layered, similar to reading tea leaves.

**ACULTOMANCY:** Use of needles for divination. The needles are placed in a shallow dish and covered slowly with water, then their movement is observed. How they are crossed against each other is then interpreted. For example if one needle crosses two it reveals than an enemy is working against you.

**AILUROMANCY:** Divining using the actions and movements of cats. A few examples are; it is bad luck to carry a stray cat into a house, if a cat is cleaning itself against the grain it indicates a coming rain shower, if a cat sits with its back to the fire it signifies that frost is coming. These beliefs vary geographically.

**ALEUROMANCY:** Derived from the Greek word *aleuron* meaning flour, it involves looking at the patterns formed when flour and water are mixed, swirled then liquid dumped, similar to tea leaf reading. A more common method, which was the precursor to Chinese fortune cookies, is to write a statement on a small slip of paper and roll it in a ball of flour paste and bake.

**AMNIOMANCY:** Interpreting the membrane of the head in a newborn infant, then determining the future of the child. Various meanings are derived from the shade of red; a vibrant red indicates an energetic, active life, a dull red suggests a boring life with difficulties.

**ANTHRACOMANCY:** Reading burning coals to foretell the future. The diviner asks a question then gazes into the embering coals and begins to see images that he or she then interprets.

**ANTHROPOMANCY:** This form of divination is very ancient and uses human entrails, often from sacrificial victims. Needless to say, it is seldom practiced today.

**APANTOMANCY:** This method uses whatever object or event appears to the diviner. For example, an unexpected meeting with a chimney sweep could signify some useful knowledge acquired a little at a time

resulting in good luck, or opening a cupboard and suddenly finding a magnifying glass could refer to exceeding your financial limits. The actual interpretation just depends on the diviner's background. An offshoot of this method also ties in with interpreting encounters with animals., It is considered good luck to come across a black cat, goat, white horse, swallow and others

**ARMOMANCY:** This refers to divination by observing and interpreting the shoulders of beasts, and done mostly to decide if the animal was suitable for sacrifice to the gods.

**ASTRAGALOMANCY:** This form uses knucklebones or dice. The name derives from a small four-sided bone found in the tarsal joint of hoofed animals called the *astragal*. Using knucklebones or dice is most likely the oldest game known to humankind. Dice that closely resemble those of today have been found in Egyptian tombs of 2000 B.C.E. The dice or bones would be marked on each side with symbols or more often with letters of an alphabet. The diviner would cast the dice then predict the future by interpreting the symbols showing on the dice. Consequently there could be a very wide range of predictions depending on what was printed on them.

**ASTROLOGY:** This will be discussed in detail in a separate course.

**AUGURY:** Although this term now is often applied to divination in general, it originally referred to interpretation of omens occurring in nature, especially birds. Priests, soothsayers and *augurs* (Roman state officials) of ancient times also made predictions based on movements of birds and animals, thunder and lightning, shooting stars, the appearance of snakes in specific places, eclipses, the state of the rivers, deformities in children and even a sneeze, to name a few. Many of these methods are still popular today.

**AUSTROMANCY:** Divining by the observation of the winds, specifically their direction. For example, one belief is if the winds are blowing from the east and south, this reveals a positive message. But the interpretations vary depending on the geographic location. In the southern U.S., a sudden and strong wind from the east indicates a heavy rain is coming. One African tribe believes that you can talk to the wind, ask it questions and receive answers by listening carefully to the sound of the blowing wind.

**AUTOMATIC WRITING/DRAWING/PAINTING:** This refers to performing these tasks without control by the conscious mind, and is commonly associated with spiritualism. It is believed that the writing, drawing or painting is actually being done by a spirit communicating through the person doing the task (referred to as a *medium*). The medium will meditate or just sit quietly with pen or brush in hand positioned on paper. The medium then directs the attention elsewhere so as to disassociate from the writing, preventing the conscious mind from influencing what is written or drawn. Another person may be nearby to ask specific questions. Gradually a force begins to move the muscles in the arm and hand and marks begin to appear on the paper, becoming clearer as it progresses, turning into legible words or pictures. The writing or artistic ability usually does not resemble that of the medium.

**BATRACHOMANCY:** Using frogs or toads in divination. An old belief from the Ozark region of the U.S. is that rain is predicted by a bullfrog's skin turning a darker color. Another conviction from southern Europe is that frogs and toads are associated with water spirits and healing. Most often, however, they were used to predict the weather by observing their actions.

**BELOMANCY:** One of the most ancient forms of divination, this one uses arrows. Two arrows, marked with *yes* on one of them and *no* on the other, were shuffled and a question was asked then one of the arrows would be blindly selected to receive the answer. Sometimes a third arrow was used to represent "*don't know.*" Another method was to shoot the arrows into the air and watch the direction in which they are leaning when they land. The ancient Greek or Roman would then determine that this direction is where a buried treasure might be found.

**BIBLIOMANCY:** This type of divination refers to holding a book, then asking a question, and closing your eyes. Opening the book at random, placing your finger somewhere on one of the open pages and read the first sentence that you see. This sentence supposedly relates to the question that was asked. The Bible is frequently used for this but in the past other works have been used, such as the writings of Homer (*Iliad*) and Virgil (*Aeneid*), as well as the Koran. This is the one that metaphysicians use today. Try it yourself!

**BRONTOMANCY:** This means to divine by thunder by interpreting the length of time it lasts, the degree of loudness, the intensity and direction. It is believed that thunder heard to the right is favorable and heard from the left is unfavorable.

**CAPNOMANCY:** Although information on techniques used in this form of divination are scarce, it is known that it refers to interpreting smoke. It is mentioned in works of the seventeenth century, but there are no details in exactly how it was done. It is thought that perhaps the volume, density, height the smoke reached, and the

direction it moved; would be factors in evaluating it. Swirling thick smoke may have symbolized troubles and difficulties. If it achieved some specific shapes, these would also be interpreted.

**CARTOMANCY:** Although reading Tarot Cards is popular and widely known (they will be discussed in detail in another section of this course), the use of regular playing cards for divination is also commonly recognized. The earliest playing cards were thought to exist in China in the twelfth century. There are many varieties used and the methods and designs have certainly evolved over the years. Some believe that the symbols were easier to interpret than those in a Tarot deck. For one thing, there are fewer cards in the modern day deck, only 52 as opposed to Tarot's 78 cards. Many features about a deck of regular playing cards correspond to a calendar and to the seasons. For example: 52 cards, 52 weeks in a year; 4 suits correspond to the 4 seasons and the 4 elements (earth, fire, air, water); 13 cards in each suit are the same as the 13 lunar months in a year and the number of weeks in each quarter; and there are 12 court cards corresponding to the 12 months of the year and the 12 signs of the zodiac. The symbolism is significant. Each of the suits in a deck of cards are linked to different facets of life. The cards are shuffled and laid out. There are various patterns of spreads (or layouts), which are determined by the type of question being asked. Not only are the individual cards interpreted, but a reading is also given based on the surrounding cards. As in runes and other divining forms using symbols, each of the symbols on the cards have both a negative and positive aspects. For a detailed list of meanings for each card and types of spreads, refer to other sources, such as *The Prediction Book of Divination* by Jo Logan & Lindsay Hodson (1984), or *The Fortune-Telling Book* by Raymond Buckland, Visible Ink Press, 2004.

**CATOPTROMANCY:** First practiced in ancient Rome and Greece and continuing to current day, this refers to mirror gazing. It was not only used to predict one's health, but also for finding missing treasure or people. Even today, it is used by a woman at midnight on Halloween to see her future husband over her left shoulder. Others gaze at the reflection of the moon in a mirror to determine when they will get married, by timing the minutes it takes before a bird or cloud crosses over the reflection. The minutes represent the number of years the woman has to wait for matrimony. This divination method is considered by many to be one of the more reliable forms.

**CENEROMANCY:** This method uses ashes from a ritual fire for divination. The ashes are interpreted according to the various ridges, mounds, and valleys, and would relate to highs and lows, dead ends, intersections, etc. in one's life.

**CEPHALOMANCY:** This was practiced in Germany in the late 17<sup>th</sup> century and may still be done in remote areas. The head of an animal, such as an ass, which is most common, or a goat or donkey is boiled, then its shape evaluated. The cracks, shapes and other features are interpreted and the answers are applied to the owner of the animal.

**CERAUNOMANCY:** This form of divination interprets thunder and lightning bolts. Lightning bolts that moved from left to right were believed to be a positive sign, whereas, if they went right to left they were considered a bad omen. When lightning in any form or direction would occur, the augurs of ancient Rome would have the authority to halt any business, public assembly and meetings. The term *ceraunomancy* also applies to the study and interpretation of meteorites, in a very similar manner that lumps of candle wax are interpreted, when they are dropped into water.

**CEROMANCY:** This is the study of the symbolic shapes of lumps of wax after it has been dropped into water. The diviner would melt wax in a vessel over a flame, then pour drops of the hot wax into cold water. It would then harden and the shapes would be interpreted. The symbolic meanings were similar to those used in Tasseography (reading Tea Leaves).

**CHEIROMANCY:** Another term for Palmistry, or Hand-Reading. This has been discussed at length in the more detailed sections of this course.

**CLAIRAUDIENCE:** This means "clear hearing" and refers to the ability to hear, or sense, sounds and voices from departed spirits. It is the hearing equivalent to Clairvoyance, which means "clear seeing." This ability is usually demonstrated by clairvoyants and spiritual mediums.

**CLAIRSENTIENCE:** This refers to the psychic perception of *sensing* things, such as sounds, sights, smells, emotions, or physical feelings. Not only do mediums and clairvoyants pick up on these aspects, but many ordinary people as well. You probably have had an experience when you meet someone for the first time and get a feeling or *sense* that you do not like this person, you get bad "vibes," or you may have had a "flash" that something was about to happen right before it does. This is Clairsentience.

**CLAIRVOYANCE:** As mentioned above, this translates from French to “clear seeing” and correlates to psychic perception. People who have developed this ability can see (in the mind’s eye) things and people in another dimension, such as past events, places or people, present things, and things in the future as well. Although some people seem to be born with this innate ability, it can be developed with training, and can be brought about by drugs, hypnosis, drumming or other methods. It is often a part of sacred dance and song, and has had a part in rituals for thousands of years.

**CLEIDOMANCY:** This method of divination involves the use of a key, suspended from a thread connected to the third finger. A question is asked and if the key moves around in a clockwise direction the answer is *yes*, and a counterclockwise direction is *no*. Another technique is to hold the key so it is inside a wine glass. When a question is asked the key will ring against the side of the wine glass twice for *no* and once for *yes*.

**CONCHOMANCY:** This form of divination is used in the Afro-Cuban religion of Santeria. It is called *Diloggun* and uses cowry shells. Followers of this religion consider this seashell divination to be a very sacred ritual, where they actually make contact with the gods and the spirit world. It is performed in initiations and significant ceremonies. The shells are cast into a circle drawn on the ground or onto a board or cloth. A question is asked and the shells are then analyzed as to how they have landed. The numbers of openings (called the “mouth”) that are face-up are then counted. The numbers have specific meanings or indicate *yes* or *no*.

**COSCINOMANCY:** This unusual method of divination was very popular in the Middle Ages in Europe and Great Britain and is actually still used today in a few areas. It makes use of a regular kitchen sieve that is held by two people, using tongs or their middle fingers, and it turns when a certain name is mentioned among a list of suspected persons. This was their way of determining the identity of a thief.

**CROMNYOMANCY:** Another unusual divination technique, this one uses onions and onion sprouts. Names of people are written on the onions and they are then laid upon an altar on Christmas day. They are then planted on Twelfth Night. The name revealed on whichever one sprouts first is then used for an answer. The question often referred to the name of the man that a woman would marry. Or, if there was a theft or crime, the suspects’ names were written on the onions and the first sprouted onion disclosed the name of the criminal.

**CRYSTALLOMANCY:** See detailed description under “*Scrying*” in the more detailed section of this course. The abilities of psychics and mediums are markedly enhanced by the use of crystals, as they are known to stimulate the senses and thus increase awareness, therefore making them an excellent divination tool. They are said to contain electromagnetic energies that benefit mankind. Crystals are also used for healing, chakra purification, merging prayer and meditation, and a wide variety of other uses.

**CUBOMANCY:** Dice are the tool used in this form of divination. This differs from Astragalomancy (see beginning of this section) in that dice are marked with dots, like dominoes, rather than with symbols. Three dice are thrown into a circle and the number of dots are added together. Other methods use two dice. As there are many combinations of numbers, their many meanings are too extensive to list here. For detailed information on interpreting these numbers, refer to other sources such as *The Prediction Book Of Divination* by Jo Logan & Lindsay Hodson (1984), *The Fortune-Telling Book* by Raymond Buckland, Visible Ink Press, 2004, or the *Oriental Mystic Book Of Fortune Telling* by Plutonium, D.B. Tarapolevala Sons & Co. (1967).

**CYCLOMANCY:** Divination using a turning wheel. Accomplished similar to the method used on the television show *Wheel Of Fortune*. Answers or names would be written on the rim, and a marker placed alongside the rim, then, once the wheel stopped spinning, whatever written information stopped beside the marker would then be used as the answer or prediction.

**DACTYLIOMANCY:** This method of divination uses rings, although with many variations. One form is to suspend a ring over letters of the alphabet and it swings to spell out words, much like using a pendulum. Another form is much like cleidomancy (using a suspended key, mentioned above), where the ring is suspended in a glass.

**DAPHNOMANCY:** This is the method of using a laurel branch for divination. The way the branch burns when put into a fire is interpreted. If it made no noise when burning, this signified a bad omen. If it made a crackling sound as it burned this would indicate good luck.

**DELPHI:** Although this is not a form of divination, but rather an ancient place, it will be mentioned here because it is a world-renowned site of the most famed of all oracles, the *Oracle of Delphi*. Vast numbers of people, ranging from Kings to humble peasants, traveled great distances to seek divination from the Delphic priestesses. It is located in Greece on the southern slope of Mount Parnassus at the Temple of Apollo. The diviner priestesses were



called Pythia, collectively, and considered to be descendants of the earth-goddess. One of the Pythias would sit atop a sacred tripod, which was placed over the sacred spot in the center of the temple. This most sacred spot was thought to be the center of the earth. The person consulting the priestess would present a cake and sacrifice a sheep or goat before being allowed to ask any questions. It is believed that Pythia gave answers to questions presented to her while in a trance. There are no further records of the *Oracle of Delphi* being used after the 4<sup>th</sup> century A.D..

**DRIRIMANCY:** This form of divination interprets the way in which blood drips from a ritual sacrificial animal on an altar, or from a human on a battlefield.

**FLOROMANCY:** Flowers are used in this form of divination. You have probably witnessed (or done this yourself) the plucking of individual petals from a flower, such as a daisy, and saying alternately with each petal drawn, "she (or he) loves me," "she loves me not." Whatever statement is uttered when the last petal is plucked is supposedly true. Relevance is attached to finding the first flower of spring, and meanings are derived based on the day of the week it is found. For example; if it is found on Monday you'll have good luck for the rest of the season; Tuesday means your efforts will be compensated; Wednesday - a marriage soon; Thursday- be careful, warning; Friday means wealth is coming your way; and Saturday means misfortune. Floromancy is a term also applied to the contention that flowers have emotions and feelings, and are breathing, communicating living things.

**GELIOSCOPY:** An offshoot of physiognomy (divining using facial features). This divining method determines a person's character based on the way he or she laughs.

**GEMOLOGY:** Both precious and semi-precious stones (gems) are considered by some, especially those involved in the occult, to have specific meanings and power, based on the type and color. Various cultures have assigned different meanings to stones, but overall, the strong belief in their power began in ancient times (around 300 B.C.), continued through the 19<sup>th</sup> century and even persists today. A few examples of meanings and uses are: Agate- healing, revealing the truth; Amethyst- meditation, promotes psychic abilities, disperses illusion; Coral- optimism, stabilizer; Diamond- a cure-all, covers many things connected with spiritualism; Emerald-dreams, tranquility, enlightenment; Ruby-integrity, religious devotion; Topaz-calming, inspiring, emotional balance; Turquoise- loyalty, soothing, communication. Please see Crystal & Gemstone course for more details.

**GEOMANCY:** One of the oldest means of divination, practiced worldwide, involves reading signs derived from the earth. An example of this would be throwing down a handful of earth and studying it by observing the figures or shapes made. The shapes are interpreted in a similar way that tea leaves are read. In addition, a stick would be used to jab random holes in the ground, often within a figure that had first been drawn. It is similar to I Ching, in that, in some methods a geometric shape has specific meanings, but unlike I Ching, which uses the hexagram, geomancy uses quadrigrams, which is a figure made up of four lines. Geomancy is also referred to as the "art of the little dots." The dots or holes are interpreted according to their arrangements, to predict the future. This term also applies to the study of natural fissures and cracks in specific areas of the earth. Please see more detailed section of Geomancy course for further information.

**GRAPHOLOGY:** This uses a person's handwriting to determine their character and personality traits, and dates back to Roman (c.122) times and 11<sup>th</sup> century China. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century it became a recognized science and is often used today in police work and in determining the suitability of a potential employee. In analyzing a person's handwriting, the size and shape of their letters, the slope, how they are joined, any extra ornamentation, and the spacing of their lines are all indications of their personality. For instance, little handwriting reveals a person who is academic and bookish, and large writing with wide spaces between the lines shows an ambitious, generous and imaginative person.

**GYROMANCY:** With this form of divination a person walks or swirls around a circle, which has been marked with letters or answers to questions (like *yes* or *no*). The person continues around until he or she becomes dizzy and falls down. Each time they fell, it was noted which mark they landed on or near, and this would spell out the answer to the question asked. Another method was to just twirl around until a psychic trance-like state was achieved. This is much like the Whirling Dervishes of Turkey.

**HALOMANCY:** Divining using salt. The salt would be poured over a surface, then by observing the random patterns, ridges and valleys, a prediction would be made. Depressions in the salt foretold disappointment and delays, while peaks indicated problems ahead.

**HARUSPICY:** This method of divination utilizes the entrails, most often the liver, of sacrificial animals. This practice dates back to before Biblical times, evidenced by an Etruscan bronze from the 3<sup>rd</sup> century B.C. showing a priest examining an animal's entrails on an altar. The shape of the liver, as well as any deformities or discolorations all had specific meanings. Priests at that time were relied upon to predict the fate of their country based on this divining method. One theory as to why this method had so much credibility is that when the animal is sacrificed the god absorbs it. So by examining its liver, (which was thought to register the thoughts of the soul), the god is being examined as well and is conveying messages back to us. This practice is known to take place even fairly recently in Southeast Asia, Borneo and areas of Africa.

**HIPPOMANCY:** The movements and actions of a horse are studied as signs of the future, particularly by the Celts. They had a horse goddess named Epona. They based their predictions on such things as the toss of the horse's head, sudden prancing, and which leg was first leading. The right leg was considered good luck, and the left leg signified foreboding events to come. This divination method was also practiced by Germans and other European cultures, and is still practiced currently in certain areas. One such area is the Ozark region of Arkansas and Missouri in the U.S.A. One belief they have in this area is that seeing either a woman with red hair, or a girl, riding on a white horse is an excellent omen. Also if they observe horses running around in their enclosures and neighing for no obvious reason, it foretells a nearby death.

**HYDROMANCY:** This method of divination uses water, in a variety of different procedures. (See the section on *Scrying* earlier in this course). One simple manner of Hydromancy was to study one's reflection. If it was disturbed or broken, this indicated difficulties ahead, but if it was bright and clear this showed favorable days ahead. Another common technique was to fill a bowl with water and hang a ring on a thread and hold it like a pendulum beside the bowl and swing it until it hits the side of the bowl. The ripples that this created across the surface of the water would then be interpreted and used as predictions for the future. Yet another method was to throw three small stones into a pond or any standing water and analyze the circles that this produced. In addition, the sea was often studied by watching its movements, waves and color, with specific meanings attached to these.

**HYPNOMANCY:** This refers to divination by mode of sleep, which covers dream interpretation. (Dreams and their symbolic meanings are covered in the UMS course *Dreams and Dreaming*).

**I CHING:** This refers to an ancient Chinese divination book called the Book of Changes. Written more than 4,500 years ago, it was consulted by ancient governments, has been translated into many languages and is still widely used today. It was consulted by Carl Jung, the famous Swiss psychiatrist, for help in analyzing some of his patients. It is thought to convey celestial wisdom from the ancient spirits of heaven and earth by means of 64 hexagrams. The advice imparted is based on the principles of Yin (female) and Yang (male). The guidance offered differs from other forms of divination in that it avoids the fatalistic approach regarding the future, and focuses instead on the inquirer's free will by giving them advice that is more personal and helpful. The hexagram is a figure made up of six lines. These lines are either broken or unbroken. When seeking an answer to a question, the seeker throws three coins or yarrow sticks. When using coins, heads signify an unbroken line (yang) and tails represent a broken line (yin). These are thrown six times to form a hexagram and the pattern of lines formed, whether they are broken or unbroken. They are interpreted according to the like patterns in the Book of Changes, where each hexagram is numbered. The use of yarrow sticks was the traditional way of creating the hexagram but it is a very complicated method. Using coins instead has been popular for hundreds of years. For more detailed information and to learn the precise meanings of each of the 64 hexagrams, refer to other sources such as: *The I Ching* by Richard Wilhelm (1924), Princeton University Press, 1967; and *The Encyclopedia of Fortune-Telling* by Francis X. King, Smith's Publishers, 1988. (Also covered in brief earlier in the Divination course).

**LABIOMANCY:** This method of divination refers to reading lips. By observing the movement of the lips when speaking, the implication of words, led the diviner to arrive at certain conclusions about a person.

**LECONOMANCY:** This refers to divination utilizing water in a basin with oil dripped into it. Popular in Italy, where they use olive oil, the diviner interprets the various shapes formed by the oil in water as well as by the colors.

**LUNOMANCY:** The shadow cast on a person's face by the moonlight is studied in this form of divination. Usually a full moon or any bright moon is used, as long as the shadows are clear. The diviner refrains from positioning the person's head, but rather just views it at random and regards the length and depth of the shadow as well as the shape.

**MACROMANCY:** This form of divination interprets the largest object in the region. It could be a rock, tree, house, hill, etc. The seer considers the size, shape and color, as well as how the object is positioned in relation to other objects around it.

**MACULOMANCY:** Random, haphazardly placed spots are studied in this type of divination. They could be spots from rain, stains on a cloth, spots on an animal, marks on the ground or any that appear. The interpretation of the spots is similar to the symbols used in Tasseography and geomancy.

**MARGARITOMANCY:** Here is an unusual form of divination, which uses pearls as its focus. It was thought by some that the pearl was enchanted. This method was mainly used to find out the name of a thief. The pearl was placed on a table, covered with a vase and set near a fire, then the suspects' names were said aloud. When the real thief's name was uttered, the pearl would supposedly bounce up and pierce the vase.

**MECONOMANCY:** This refers to divination by sleep, although not a natural sleep, but rather the dreams and hallucinations resulting from taking opium. Some diviners using this method used other plant substances, such as peyote, jimsonweed and morning glory, specifically in Mexico and Central America.

**METEOROMANCY:** This is divination by studying meteorites. How it worked, no one knows.

**METOPOMANCY:** An astrologer and mathematician of the 16<sup>th</sup> century, Jerome Cardan believed that divining can be done using the lines on a person's forehead. He maintained that they are much easier to read than the lines on the palm of a hand and can be seen and studied without the person's knowledge. He compared the lines, which could number up to seven, to the seven planets of astrology. Of course not everyone would have all seven lines. These lines had specific meanings if they were wavy, straight, curving, broken and so on. In addition to the forehead lines, Cardan also felt that certain combinations of facial spots, moles, and blemishes had significance and were associated with signs of the zodiac, depending on which part of the face they appeared. Therefore, he concluded both the forehead lines and the facial markings told something about the person's character and future.

**MICROMANCY:** This is the same principal as Macromancy (divining with the largest object, as mentioned above), but is the direct opposite. In other words, divining using the smallest object in the area.

**MOLEOSOPHY:** This form of divination studies moles anywhere on the human body to determine a person's character and destiny. The diviner's interpretation is based on the mole's location, shape, color and size. For example, round moles signify a good natured, humorous person, a mole appearing near the mouth indicates sensuality, and if a mole is large and raised it symbolizes great potential.

**MOLYBDOMANCY:** Another unusual and obscure method of divining, this method interprets hot molten lead when it is dropped into water. The sounds of the bubbling and hissing all had significance, as well as the shapes that formed as it cooled. Lead is thought to be connected to Saturn and is known as the metal of death.

**NARCOMANCY:** This is basically the same as Meconomancy (discussed above), except rather than using opium, sleep is induced by other narcotics. The divining is done through dreams and hallucinations experienced while in drug affected sleep.

**NECROMANCY:** This method receives divination from the dead. Similar to other forms of spiritualism in that it receives information about the future by communicating with departed spirits, as in the use of a Ouija Board (discussed earlier in this course). However, true necromancy actually uses a corpse. In medieval times it was believed that a corpse (the dead) could see into the future, and through ceremonial magic and consecrated circles, be given the power of speech to answer questions.

**NECYOMANCY:** Similar to Necromancy, except the spirits questioned were considered "damned spirits." Why these types of spirits were questioned is not clear.

**OCULOMANCY:** Gazing into a person's eye defines this type of divination. It can be compared to Scrying (covered earlier in this course), in that the seer is using the reflective surface of the eye to see an image or vision.

**ODONTOMANCY:** This form of divination uses the human teeth to interpret. The diviner bases their analysis on the size, color, spacing and which teeth are missing, if any. Some regions believe that teeth should only be extracted when the moon is in Aquarius or Pisces.

**OINOMANCY:** This refers to divination using wine as a libation. Libation is a process involved in religious rituals, where, before drinking any of the wine, a little of it is poured on the ground as an offering to the gods. The diviner observes how the wine flows, its color and the colors it reflects, how it lands on the ground and the shapes formed. The diviner then determines how receptive the gods are to the inquiries involved in the ritual.

**OLOLYGMANCY:** The howling of dogs is the component used in this form of divination. The howling is interpreted by how long it lasts, by the pitch and by the distance from the diviner. In Greek culture, around 250 B.C., it was believed that a death was coming to a certain house when a dog was howling near it.

**OMPHALOMANCY:** The number of knots on the umbilical cord of a newborn baby is divined in this method of divination. The knots signify the number of additional children the mother will have. The umbilical cord was thought to be the seat of the soul that meanders in dreams and finally disconnects at death, as well as directly linked to the child's future.

**ONEIROMANCY:** This refers to glimpsing the future in dreams. The belief that some people have seen a future event in their dreams has existed for thousands of years, and there have been numerous documented examples of this. For more information on dreams, refer to the separate course offered on Dreams.

**OOMANCY:** This form of divination uses an egg. The most common method is to break the egg and let it pour slowly into a glass of water. The shapes that were formed by the whites were then studied.

**OPHIDIOMANCY:** This is divination using snakes or other reptiles. The snake was either a bad omen or a good one, depending on the culture. For example, Egyptians believed dreaming of a snake meant good fortune, but to the Greeks dreaming of a snake anticipated trouble from enemies or illness. If a Greek saw a live snake, however, it meant good luck was on the way. Some cultures felt a serpent kept away evil spirits.

**ORNISCOPY:** The ancient Greeks maintained that birds were one of the instruments of God. God spoke through the flights, cries, songs and movements of birds. Therefore divining by birds was common, not only in Greek culture, but in the Roman Empire, in India, Africa, South America and New Guinea. Different species had different characteristics, so it was essential for the diviner to be familiar with various types of birds. For example, if a raven flew past your right side while crying out, it signified hope and good luck. If a crow did the same thing over one's left side, it was interpreted as exactly the same message. Additionally, the bird's pattern of flight, its song, and its posture upon landing were all related to specific future predictions.

**ORYCTOMANCY:** This is divination by fossils, minerals and excavated objects. The images seen on these articles are interpreted. If the objects are studied on the location where they are found, then this location, the time of day it was found and all conditions of the excavation are taken into account in arriving at the final interpretation.

**OSSOMANCY** (also know as Osteomancy): This is divination using bones, and is similar to Astragalomancy and Scapulomancy, which are discussed elsewhere in this list. The leg bones, shoulder bones and others, from sheep, goats and other domestic animals have all been used in this form of divination. They were usually interpreted based on their position after they had been cast.

**OURANOMANCY:** This method of divination uses the stars. But unlike astrology, which is based more on the position of the planets and stars at the time of a one's birth, ouranomancy just observes the planets and stars as to their brightness, any movements (such a shooting star) and positions to one another.

**PEDOMANCY:** This refers to divination by the soles of the feet. Just as in Palmistry, the lines all have specific meanings. It is also often called Solistry. A good example is the well known foot-reading of Buddha (the "Footprint of Buddha") which was believed to be marked with 108 favorable signs. If a line in the sole points to the big toe, this represents struggles ahead, shallow lines symbolized a passionate nature, and a line on a woman's sole pointing to the second toe meant an early and happy marriage.

**PHALLOMANCY:** This refers to divination through analyzing a male's penis. This form of divination has been practiced for centuries in China, Greece, India, Tibet and many Hindu and Buddhist cultures. Some believe that the shape and length of a man's penis determines his character and lovemaking capability and style. For instance, in Tibet they are of the opinion that a man with a large penis is unlucky and will have many difficulties in life, whereas other cultures believe that it is the sign of an outgoing and innovative man. Another belief is that a thin penis reflects a man who is sensitive, and romantic, while a thick penis indicates a man with vitality and a good imagination.

**PHRENOLOGY:** This refers to the study of the shape, bumps and lumps on the skull of a person in determining their personality and character. Distances were also measured and used as an indicator of the person's personality, for instance, from the ear to top of the head. However, many consider this to be a questionable science, and it has declined in popularity and use since the late 1960s. The last scientific journal published on this subject folded in the 1920's.

**PHYLLOMANCY:** This is divining by leaves. Various manners of interpreting are used, such as by the rustling of the leaves in the wind, the number of leaves that fall in the autumn, where and how they landed and so on. For

example, when a leaf landed face up it signified good things ahead, and a leaf landing face down was a negative sign. The ivy leaf has particular significance in some societies. For example; when a young English woman put an ivy leaf in her bosom, the first man who spoke to her would be her future husband, and if ivy leaves appear in one's dream it foretells happiness and serenity.

**PHYSIOGNOMANCY:** This is divining by facial features. The exact methods and beliefs of this form of divination are obscure. In general, however, it is believed that the characteristics of the face reveal a person's moral character, their mental capabilities and their basic personality type. One method of evaluation is to divide the face into seven types according to the seven planets. For example, the Mars face has square lines and rugged features, the Venus face is made up of perfect features with a charming smile and light hair, the Jupiter face is aristocratic and beautiful with bold features. The forehead was also an important aspect in physiognomancy. Some felt that a high forehead signified ignorance and laziness and small foreheads revealed foolishness and haste. In addition, eyes, eyelashes, noses and mouths are all features that, depending on their specific shapes, represent certain personality traits.

**PROPHECY (Prophet):** Rather than actually predicting the future, prophets were known to communicate the will of a deity of their time. They used no special divining methods or techniques, but instead simply made themselves receptive to messages from their God. Some well known prophets were: Moses, who was a prophet of God, as noted in the Old Testament of the Bible; and some who existed circa 1000 B.C. called Gibeah and Ramah who were prophets of Yahweh (the original name for God); the Druids were prophets to the Celts; in ancient Greece the prophets were connected to the oracles; and Muhammad was a prophet for Allah, the Islam name for God.

**PSYCHOMANCY:** This refers to divination by departed spirits, but unlike Necromancy (mentioned above) no corpse need be present. This term actually encompasses forms of divination already discussed, such as Ouija Boards, automatic writing and any method using mediums. In other words, any manner of divination where information is received from spirits.

**PSYCHOMETRY:** Divining the past and present about any object held in the hands. Psychics, spiritualists and anyone who has practiced, can take a watch, ring or any object that has been in close contact with a person for any length of time, and receive a mental image or impression of its past and present and that of the owner(s). Many believe that everything that has ever come into contact with the object in question has left its mark. Those who have become adept at this technique advise to always go with the first impression. Whatever feeling about the object that comes to the mind first is the correct one. Psychometry has been successfully used to find lost and stolen property as well as missing people.

**PYROMANCY:** The flames of a fire are the tool in this form of divination. Often the flames being interpreted were from a fire made for burning a sacrifice, in other words, a sacrificial fire. Other times the fire was created with torches. During a sacrificial fire it was considered a good omen when the flames quickly consumed the sacrifice, but bad news if the fire was slow in burning up the sacrifice or if a wind stirred up the fire. In addition, the color of the flames, the way they flickered, the height they reached and their rise and fall were all considered while divining them. And further, if the flames produced very little smoke, the fire was quiet, and the flames were bright red or orange, this indicated a positive prediction, but if the fire was smoky and popping, with deep red flames this was a bad omen. If the flames produced by the use of torches maintained a single point or three points this was a sign of good fortune. But if they divided into two flames this meant to beware of difficulties or bad things, and if the flame bent to one side this signified sickness or death.

**RETROMANCY:** This is a rather uncommon and obscure form of divination. It involves interpreting what is seen when one looks back over their shoulder. The people and things that a person sees when suddenly turning in this manner are analyzed based on their movements and location.

**RHAPSODOMANCY:** This method of divination is similar to Bibliomancy (mentioned earlier in this list), but rather using any book, or the Bible, a book of poetry is used. A question is asked, then the inquirer says a prayer, closes the eyes, opens the book and places the finger randomly on the page. Then the inquirer opens the eyes and reads the verse on which their finger landed. The verse is supposedly related to the question and gives some insight as to what the future holds.

**SCAPULIMANCY:** This ancient method of divination used the shoulder blades of slaughtered animals for predicting the future. Any cracks, marks or holes were interpreted and would foretell coming events in the life of

the owner of the animal. This practice was very common in Great Britain from the 12<sup>th</sup> century to the 17<sup>th</sup> century, and may still be practiced in some remote areas.

**SCATOMANCY:** This is divining by feces of animals. The odor, contents, consistency and location were all considered in determining prognostications.

**SCHEMATOMANCY:** Currently known as reading someone's *body language*, this type of divination observes the entire body, its appearance, shape, and movement, to reveal their character, personality and history.

**SCIOMANCY:** This method of divining refers to summoning ghosts to foretell the future. It is actually similar to what mediums or spiritualists do, often when in a *séance*, in that they are seeking the advice of spirits.

**SELENOMANCY:** The moon's appearance, surface patterns and phases are all interpreted in this type of divination. In addition, its color and its visibility through cloud cover are also considered. The significance and meaning of these aspects vary depending on the region of the world and the culture. One belief is that a blue tinge to the moon signifies rain coming. Another is that a white tint indicates good weather. A red circle around the moon symbolizes that troubles and struggles are coming. A storm is on the way if you see a double halo.

**SORTILEGE:** This is one of the oldest types of divination and refers to casting of lots. There are various methods, which include the use of stones, bones, discs with book verses written on them, beans or dice. The objects used are shaken then tossed. They are then interpreted based on where and how they land, as well as by color, or symbol that is showing face up on the object. This is similar to several other forms of divination, such as astragalomancy, cleromancy, and I Ching.

**SPASMATOMANCY:** Believe it or not, this refers to divining by the involuntary twitching, itching or throbbing of body parts. For instance, in both ancient and current day Greece, the twitching of the eyebrow has certain significance. If the left eyebrow moves it indicates an enemy will be confronted, and if the right one quivers you'll encounter a friend. Hiccupping or sneezing reveals that someone is gossiping negatively about you. A ringing in the ears signifies that someone will soon be talking to you. If the left palm of your hand itches it means you'll have to pay someone, and if it's the right palm itching you'll receive money. The feet are also indicative of some future event when they itch on the soles. If the right sole is itching it reveals a successful journey to come, and if it's the left sole the trip will be futile.

**SPHEROMANCY:** This form of divination is another form of Crystallomancy (mentioned earlier) and based on Scrying (also discussed in detail in the first part of this course). Spheromancy refers specifically to using crystal balls or spheres of glass. But it also pertains to divining by a spherical ball, which could be made of wood, metal or other material, and interpreting how this ball moves when rolled.

**STOLISOMANCY:** This refers to divining based on the way people dress themselves.

**SYCOMANCY:** Figs or fig leaves are the objects used in this form of divination. The method was to write a question on the leaves, then watch how quickly they dried. If the leaf dried slowly this was a good sign, but if it dried quickly it indicated negativity in things to come.

**TEPHRAMANCY:** This is divination based on ashes from a sacrificial fire. They are interpreted by the way they rise and fall with the fire and the patterns they make on the ground once the fire is out. If a breeze stirs them up then the diviner looks for letters or symbols that may have formed.

**TIROMANCY:** This refers to using cheese for divination. Although the exact procedure of this type of divination is unknown, it seems most likely that the interpretation was associated with the way the cheese aged, the quantity and the look of mold, any shapes or symbols seen in the mold and perhaps the depth of the mold.

**TOPOMANCY:** Divination by natural land formations, such as hills, valleys, rivers, streams and distant mountains. They all had their specific meanings. In order to view the landscape randomly, the diviner would often spin around with their eyes closed then stop and interpret what they saw directly before them. They would take into account any water seen, the amount and positions of trees, the number of bushes, how much open land was seen and so on.

**TREES:** Trees have been seen as oracles and considered sacred in many cultures for centuries. The Bible refers to sacred groves, and often altars were set up in such groves, such as oak groves. In Roman culture, the withering of laurels told of a coming death. The Celts held trees very sacred and even devised an entire alphabet based on various types of trees, and they all had meanings pertaining to personal characteristics and events in one's life. This alphabet was known as Ogham. Hanging clothing or pieces of cloth from sacred trees is a common tradition, which is supposed to bring good fortune and health to the owner of the cloth. Fertility rituals have been centered around trees, such as the Maypole dance. The laurel tree at Delphi was considered an oracle connected to the

underworld by its deep roots, able to provide wisdom from the dead. Another famous sacred tree is the Scandinavian *Yggdrasil*, also known as an ash tree. It was thought to be sacred because its roots reached to the underworld and its branches reached up to the heavens. The Jewish Tree of Life represents the universe and the human body.

**TRIPUDIARY:** One form of this method of divining is to interpret the actions of chickens, as bread pieces are cast to them. Also, how the bread bounces when it lands on the ground. This term also refers to sacred dancing done in some ritual ceremonies where the dancers leap into the air and strike the ground with their feet, often in a rapturous state.

**TROCHOMANCY:** Divining by wheel tracks. This method of divination used tracks from a four-wheeled vehicle, such as a wagon. It considered such things as the variance, depth, and frequency of crossing with other tracks when interpreting them.

**TYMPANA:** Divination using drums or tambourines. Practiced in Lapland, Great Britain and Gypsies everywhere. Seeds or cowry shells were cast in the head of the drum, which was marked with stripes to form a pattern. The drum head would then be tapped by hand, causing the seeds or shells to move about. They were then interpreted according to where they stopped in relation to the lines. Each line or space had specific meaning.

**TYPTOLOGY:** Communicating with spirits by knocking or rapping. Sometimes a certain number of knocks represents a letter of the alphabet, or a *yes* or *no*, to spell out answers to questions. This has played a large part in the growth of spiritualism, often used by mediums and clairvoyants and during séances.

**URIMANCY:** This refers to divination by analyzing human urine. Not unlike urinalysis today, it considers the color and odor for future prognostication, rather than determining any health problems.

**XENOMANCY:** This method of divination interprets the actions of strangers that one meets. In ancient Greece it was considered a bad omen to meet a priest riding a donkey, and lucky to meet an insane person. But the main considerations in xenomancy were the actual actions of the stranger encountered. For instance, a raised left hand was a negative sign, but the right hand was raised was a good sign. Crazy gestures and pointing also had significance.

**XYLOMANCY:** This form of divination relies on pieces of dry wood found along a road. This practice is still practiced extensively in Slavonia, where they read omens on the positions of the wood pieces. If the pieces are large, this symbolizes great hurdles to overcome in the near future, small pieces mean to expect petty annoyances.

**ZOOMANCY:** This type of divination is based on observing the action of animals. More a general term, it covers several types of divination involved with observing specific animals. Ailurology (movement of cats), augury (actions of birds), and ophiomancy (actions of snakes). The interpretations are widely varied, depending on the country or region.

## Summary

As we have seen, there are hundreds of forms of divination. Many began in ancient cultures. Interest in divination lapsed for a time, especially at the onset and spread of Christianity's influence in Europe. During the Middle Ages there was renewed interest in prophesying, due to the amazingly accurate predictions of Nostradamus. In other cultures that flourished in Asia, China, Africa, South America and the Middle East, divination beliefs and practices have been present continually and thrive to this day. Millions of people around the world believe in prophecies. It is almost as prevalent as it was thousands of years ago. Gypsies played a large part in creating interest in fortune telling. They introduced tarot cards, popularized palmistry and crystal ball gazing. We have all seen fortune telling booths at county fairs, festivals and resorts, as well as coin-operated fortune telling machines. Throughout the 1960s, divination methods such as astrology, numerology, tarot cards and the occult enjoyed a huge resurgence in popularity and this time is called the beginning of the New Age.

Many believe that divination methods require no special gifts and can be learned with study and practice. If one is interested in a specific technique like numerology or palmistry, one could research and study, practice until comfortable on friends and family, then entertain at parties. Constant practice is necessary to develop your skill. When confident, one could open a business as a professional fortune teller. Keep in mind with any form of fortune telling or divining, the discerning diviner is reassuring and supportive whenever possible. If something unfavorable shows up in the interpretation it should be presented with sensitivity.

Divination is here to stay. The human species is obsessed with knowing the future. Our longing to know a person's character and the future is universal and instinctive. Although some of the bizarre techniques of divination described in this course may seem improbable and many examples of inaccurate and accurate predictions have been recorded, nonetheless, a surprisingly large number of cases where wide varieties of divination methods have been employed, predictions and analysis have proven to be astoundingly precise. A large majority of people *want* to believe! Serena Powers, a popular diviner with a hugely popular web-site proclaims, "Divination should not be treated as completely separate from practical life. Rather, it should be accessible to anyone who desires the knowledge."

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# Divination Systems Exam Questions

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

(Please supply name, phone #, and address as identifying factors for giving credit properly)

- Approximately how long ago was divination first practiced?  
A. 10 years ago      B. 2000 years ago      C. Earliest known times before recorded history
- Divination was originally a device of royalty and was an essential part of religion and medicine.      **T**      **F**
- Which of the following is one of the three categories of divination?  
A. Interpretation of shoes      B. Interpretation of natural phenomena      C. Interpretation of ants
- How many pieces does a modern day Domino set contain?  
A. 36      B. 28      C. 52
- How many Domino tiles are to be selected for a reading?  
A. 12      B. 6      C. 3
- Which combination of dots on a Domino is considered the best and worst in the list of tile descriptions?  
A. a double-six tile, a double blank tile      B. a two tile, a three tile      C. a six tile, a four tile
- In Dowsing, the objects sought are generally found where?  
A. Under a house      B. In a lake      C. Underground
- Dowsers also search for minerals, medicine, mines, buried mortars, oil/gas/mineral deposits, buried cables and pipes, lost people, objects.      **T**      **F**
- The most commonly recognized shape of a dowsing tool is circular.      **T**      **F**
- Who is the most famous scryer?  
A. Pythagoras      B. Galileo      C. Nostradamus
- Three speculums used in Scrying are:  
A. milk, clouds, dirt      B. spheres, water, mirrors      C. bells, candles, incense
- When using water for scrying, a required condition of the water is that it be black or dark.      **T**      **F**
- Numerology is a divination system using sound frequencies. **T**      **F**
- Who is considered to be the father of Numerology?  
A. Galileo      B. Nostradamus      C. Pythagoras
- In Numerology, what is used to determine a person's destiny?  
A. The birth date      B. The color of the eyes      C. The middle name
- What would be the single digit *name number* of someone named LINDA JONES?  
A. 4      B. 2      C. 8

17. The basic rule in Numerology is to reduce all double numbers to a single digit.      T      F
18. In the most prevalent form of the Runic alphabet, how many letters are there?  
A. 24      B. 31      C. 25
19. The Runic alphabet was thought by some people to be created by a Norse god named Odin.      T      F
20. What is the name of the Runic letter that symbolizes water?  
A. Ra      B. Sela      C. Lagu
21. Which tool of divination is referred to as a “talking board?”  
A. Sounding Board      B. Ouija Board      C. Tuning Fork
22. The small platform that serves as the pointer on a Ouija Board is called a:  
A. Banquette      B. squdilac      C. planchette
23. What type of spirit should be asked to “speak” when using a Ouija Board?  
A. benevolent (kind) spirit      B. evil spirit      C. studios spirit
24. The participants using a Ouija Board should *not* push the planchette.      T      F
25. Another name for hand reading or palmistry is cheiromancy.      T      F
26. What aspects do modern palmists consider, besides the lines in the palm, when reading a hand?  
A. type of hand      B. fingers      C. mounts      D. All A, B and C
27. The passive hand reveals:  
A. Achievements      B. inherited traits and inherent personality      C. age
28. If you are impulsive, enthusiastic, sensitive and have quick fluctuations in mood, you possess a Conic shaped hand.      T      F
29. In palmistry, Mercury, the Little Finger is associated with sexuality.      T      F
30. The Mount of Mercury reflects a person’s:  
A. body temperature      B. measure of vitality      C. communication capability
31. When reading tea leaves, the cup used should be a light color on the inside.      T      F
32. When preparing to have tea leaves read, in which direction should one rotate the cup?  
A. Clockwise if the client is a male  
B. Counter-clockwise if the client is a female  
C. Both A and B
33. Tea leaves adhering near the rim of the cup represent something happening how soon in the future?  
A. soon      B. 2 years      C. 10 years
34. If a shape resembling the figure 9 is seen in the tea leaves, it indicates a:  
A. long journey      B. good fortune, enhanced spirituality      C. an illness
35. How many cards (total) are in a traditional Tarot Deck?  
A. 78      B. 24      C. 95

36. In the Minor Arcana in Tarot, Cups are related to the element of earth.      **T**      **F**
37. Three Tarot card spreads are:  
 A. Four Card Spread, Magic Square, Pyramid  
 B. Celtic Cross, Golden Dawn, Horoscope Wheel  
 C. Both A and B
38. Geomancy means "Earth prophecy," according to its Latin root meanings.      **T**      **F**
39. Geomancy is composed of 40 talismanic figures, with odd and even points in four lines.      **T**      **F**
40. The I Ching is also known as:  
 A. Yi Jing      B. Yijing      C. I Ging      D. All A, B and C
41. The I Ching is one of the oldest known divination systems in the world.      **T**      **F**
42. In using coins in the I Ching, heads are considered yin, 2, and tails are considered yang, 3.      **T**      **F**
43. Belomancy uses what objects for divining?      A. Intestines      B. Ash      C. Arrows
44. Wax is used for divining in which of the following forms of Divination?  
 A. Ceromancy      B. Ceraunomancy      C. Cheiromancy
45. Gyromancy refers to a method of Divination where a person jumps up and down.      **T**      **F**
46. Hippomancy uses what animal as the focus for this type of divination?  
 A. Horse      B. Hippopotamus      C. Gryphon
47. The divination method referred to as Trochomancy uses one of the following for interpretations:  
 A. Cheese      B. Chickens      C. Wheel tracks
48. Xylomancy relies on what object for this form of divination?  
 A. Bone      B. dry pieces of wood found along a road      C. harp
49. If you were to start a small Divination business (say, for extra money, not necessarily as your sole income source), which method would you choose? Explain why you would choose this particular method, (i.e., why does it appeal to you personally, why do you think you would be good at it, and why would it attract customers). Use a separate piece of paper if necessary.