



Olympias' Tarot Newsletter

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 6

WINTER, 2007

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Divination Enthusiasts Club** meets every new moon. Hosted by the Strix Temple of Hekate's Torch of Roswell, NM
- **Summer Solstice in Cloudcroft, NM**
www.tarotbyolympias.com

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The Reader Who Is His Own Client, Has a Fool for a Client

By James Haliburton, CPTR

Many people who are beginning their journey into tarot have asked me whether or not they can/should read for themselves. Every reader will read for his/herself sometime in their career. Many of us start doing this when we first begin reading, after all, one needs to practice to become a good reader, and it is only natural that a reader would begin by reading for their self because they are always around and know their life.

Many readers also start off reading tarot to answer questions about their own situations. Even if one does receive more formal training in tarot, the teacher may suggest or even recommend to students to practice on them-

I don't read many impressions of the Queens (not like for the Kings). I offer my Queen assignments as follows: Pentacles - Elizabeth I; Wands - Katherine the Great; Cups - Cleopatra; Swords - Boudica. Whether the deck authors had these particular women in mind, is of no consequence. I chose them to remind me of the meaning of each suit, and

oneselves for the same reason as mentioned above. Experienced readers will also read for themselves when they have questions as well as just to break in and learn a new deck.

But I wonder if just because one can read for him/herself, we should? I am not sure if as a reader, I can be as blunt, insightful, and honest with myself as I can be with a client.

There is also an idea of "not knowing" that makes life fun. When one reads for one's self, you can lose some of the "not knowing" and that can make life a little boring, and a little too serious. There is also an idea of being too close to a problem to see it accu-

ately. When we read for ourselves can we really see the best way?

I think a bigger hurt to ourselves as readers when we read for ourselves is that we miss out on the counseling experience. When a client comes to us, most of the time we act as a team to work on an issue or problem. Sometimes a person just telling you what you already know is comforting. You don't feel as alone. Readers are people, and as such, we need to be comforted, advised, thanked, and helped. I feel that if we always read for ourselves we do not allow ourselves to release some pressure. So ask a close colleague to do a reading for you soon. You might just find it refreshing.

Tarot Queens

personality of the women. Pentacles - power and supremacy/capitulation; Wands - interaction/persuasion/inspire/manipulation; Cups - relationships, liaisons and deals; Swords - commitment/challenge, fight to the end to protect, sacrifice.

Like their male counterparts, these ladies wield power in

the world and affect lives. Try using these or your own real person assignment for describing a Queen's attitude, strengths, weaknesses, and personality during a reading. While I can be off on eye and hair color, these ladies have never disappointed me as to their qualities.

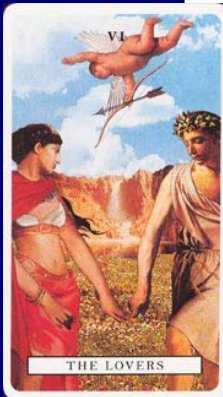
Happy Shuffling! **Olympias**



Divination using magickal a alphabet engraved on stones (answer on Page 4)

The Lovers from the Love Tarot deck by Sarah Bartlett and Nancy Tolford.

<http://www.aeclectic.net/tarot/cards/love-bartlett>



“There are many methods for predicting the future...or you can put well-researched facts into sophisticated computer models, more commonly referred to as a complete waste of time.”

--Scott Adams
(American cartoonist)

Historical Tarot Tidbits - Bardic Origins

Tarot is explicitly based on a bardic tradition (concerning sound and the universe) that entered the culture of the Continent on the backs of Arthur's 12th-century 'knights'. It is recoverable still, by putting what has survived of ancient Irish and Welsh poetic tradition together with its kindred tradition in Judaic circles, Kabbalah. The symbolism involved in the Trumps relates to the prime bardic myth concerning the

sun, in which the heroic god of the waxing year - and the satiric god of the waning year; vie for the affections of the White Goddess. One aspect of this myth will show how permeated with its symbolism the Marseille Tarot is: these two rivals meet, alive, at only one place in the year, winter solstice. This is because their other potential meeting-place, summer solstice, is where the heroic is sacrificed on its oak (XII Le-

Pendu). Just so, we find these twin gods in both XVIII LeSoleil, mistletoe or winter solstice itself—where they are at play - and in V LePape, the birch month of the year's birth that begins at winter solstice - where they are dressed up and brought before their 'father' (who of course chooses the heroic one to rule first).

~ courtesy of http://www.tarotpedia.com/wiki/Bardic_origin_of_Taro_t

Pick a Card... The Lovers

“I accept and love myself. I can accept and love others for themselves”

The Lovers represents a discriminant choice. Astrologically, the Lovers relate to Gemini. Love starts with the individual. With a healthy, self love, the emotionally strong person is ready for a partner, not a caregiver; a lover, not a parent. This card can refer to

relationships, love, unions. It can also relate to attraction, choices of the emotional heart over-ruling the intellectual mind. Those who have the Lovers card in a spread need to be reminded to sit quietly; not to immediately react to a choice. Otherwise, they often find that their actions are more dramatic than necessary. Conversely, a reversed Lovers

card can indicate no communication or interaction for the seeker in their relationships, work, and especially in not being honest with themselves. It may also be a bad choice in a relationship or partnership. Magically, this card speaks of the convergence of the selves and their interaction, healthy or otherwise for the individual. Love has many facets.

Coffee with Oly

“Can you really read over the internet or is it better in person?”

There is nothing that says a seeker must be seated in front of the reader for an accurate and intuitive reading to happen. With that said, I am not a fan of email readings since once a spread is picked up, the focus is gone and it makes it

almost impossible for questions to be asked pertaining to that reading. And there are always questions. Often a reading raises more questions than give answers. That is the lure of divination. There are no absolutes.

I have given and received some very profound readings in person, by phone, and via the

internet. Its not everyone's cup of tea; but I would suggest that people keep an open mind to any and all media. I find readers tend to have a preference as to how to conduct a reading, rather than deferring to a bias from seekers.

I say go with what is comfortable and don't judge the method; judge the reading.



Review of Tarot in the Spirit of Zen / The Game of Life by Osho

By *Tamuz*, Rev. Charles T. Weatherford, **CtH, OM.** Tamuz@aol.com

If one has wandered in the world of Zen as well as the world of Tarot this is a fascinating book. A highly spiritual look at the cards with a few interesting twists. Such comments as "Never look at a patient as a patient. Look at him as if he has come to learn something --- a disciple." Tend to take us out of our usual way of thinking.

The cards look quite different from the more traditional pack and the author has provided a correspondence table in the back of the book with relationships to both the Rider-Waite and Crowley decks. There are also two pages of 22 tear out miniature cards representing the Major Arcana. Unlike the more traditional Zen, Osho does not seek to press his students with Koan like mysteries but rather presents his ideas in a very readable and logical way.

The suits are renamed to Fire, Water, Clouds and Rainbows. In reality only the names change as

the four elementals allow for little variation from the norm.

The Cards are also renamed. Death rightly becomes Transformation, not a far leap from what we are taught by tradition. More interesting to me was the renaming of Strength in the Waite-Rider pack and Lust in the Crowley deck. Osho calls the card Breakthrough and describes it as entering a, "...new world, He has taken the card usually called the Hierophant and named it No-Thingness. The card is entirely black. Into this darkness Osho has inserted the traditional Buddhist philosophy of meditation. This is the idea that when one becomes mindless what remains is overflowing compassion. One can see how the idea of the hierophant as the connection which becomes the passageway of spirituality between heaven and earth might be stretched to include that meaning except that western thinking has so long considered nothingness as a

negative condition.

Perhaps the thing that most impressed me was the introduction on predicting the future. Because of the problem of free will prediction is wildly uncertain.

Because of Osho's resistance to prediction he places his emphasis on the present moment, giving advice and understanding to it's users on how to develop a spiritual understanding of their progress in the game of life.

No one can tell the future with any assurance. What we are reading in the cards or any other method of skrying are the energies present in the mind of the querent and those present in the moment. There is only one event and it is now.

Osho has put together a fascinating collection of thoughts and ideas, linking them to the cards with which we are familiar. It is an excellent read and I believe it will have you thinking in some new directions.



From the Osho-Zen Tarot deck by Ma Deva Padma

<http://www.aeclectic.net/tarot/cards/osho-zen/index.shtml>

Contest - Do You Know Your Divination?

Each issue, a question on divination will be asked. The first person to email Oly with the correct answer will win a FREE 10-card Tarot reading (a \$25 value). The reading will be done either by phone (you pay for the call to Oly) or on America OnLine/AIM.

The questions are not designed to be easy but rather to get you using your noggin and the Internet. It is also hoped the research experience

will generate interest and questions about various forms of divination, the history of divination, use of oracles and just to have really obscure information that you can amaze your family and friends with the next time you sit down to dinner.

Congrats to Carrie for knowing that 'Hepatomancy is the divination of reading/using livers. 'Hepatpscopy' is divination reading

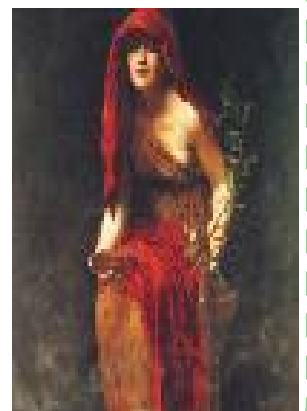
entrails.

This issue's question is...

Name the form of divination that involves spirits and ghostss .

We're in a new solar year, so everyone can play! You can only win once in the solar year.

Good luck and enjoy!





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Olympias' Newsletter is published 8 times throughout the yearly cycles of Gaea. The mission is to offer a venue for the curious through the experienced reader for discussion, learning and sharing of Tarot and divination.

If you would like to be on E-distribution for this newsletter, please email Olympias for inclusion. Guest writers are welcome as well as Tarot related questions for future issues. Please submit these directly to Olympias at: olympiasbc@aol.com.

Oly is also available for private phone or online readings.



Spread 'EM!

Winter Solstice Elemental Spread

This is one form of an elemental spread.

We turn our attention to the elements and their aspects in our lives: Fire, Water, Earth, and Spirit, as well as condition combinations for warning of fair or bumpy times to come. Never leave yourself out of the equation (see card 8).

Shuffle and cut the Tarot cards as you prefer. Choose one card from the entire deck to represent Spirit. Combine the rest of the cards and create 4 piles. Draw one card from each pile (2-5) to answer one question. One round of cards for each question you ask. The Spirit card remains the same per session.

1. The condition of my spirit with relation to the rest of me.
 2. The aspects of Fire (communication)
 3. The aspects of Water (emotions)
 4. The aspects of Earth (foundation/materialism)
 5. The aspects of Air (intellect)
 6. Combinations of *wet and hot* (watch numerology for amounts and durations). Can indicate high/low energy levels for you to consider prior to actions/commitments.
 7. Combinations of *dry and cold* (watch numerology for amounts and durations). Same as previous. Warnings for you to keep in mind prior to committing yourself or accepting assignments from others.
 8. What should I gift myself with this Solstice to help me in the next 6 months?
- This is a good spread to journal and watch over time and could be used for Summer Solstice as well. May your journey's road have very few bumps.

