

LESSON 101

KNIGHT OF SWORDS

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## KNIGHT OF SWORDS

"Lord of The Winds and Breezes: King of the Spirits of Air"  
20 Degrees Taurus to 20 Degrees Gemini

A winged warrior with crowned winged helmet, mounted on a brown steed. His general equipment is that of the Knight of Wands, but he wears as a crest a winged six pointed star, similar to those worn on the head of Caster and Pollux the Dioscuri - the Gemini twins (part of the constellation of his rule). He holds a drawn sword with the sigil of its scale (from RuCh meaning Air) upon its pommel. Beneath his horse's feet are dark driving stratus clouds.

The Knight has dark brown wavy hair and dark eyes. The scale mail he wears is red with green outlines for the scales. The rest of his armour is Golden Yellow as is his crown, with golden white wings. The background to the card is light yellow while his skin is translucent yellow and the larger wings are brilliant white. The hexagram emblem on his armour and crown is mauve with white wings. On his scale armour the hexagram is placed on a golden circle backdrop. The clouds beneath him are dark to light mauve. His horse is brown with red reins and a golden mane and tail. The visible clothing below the armour on the leg is red and his sword a deep yellow with heavy mauve lines and shadings.

The sword he holds in his right hand shows not only the suite he represents but is the symbol of the power to wound or inflict punishment. The winged helmet in this instance shows swiftness (of mind) as do the wings protruding from his body. The seven pointed crown he wears relates to the Sephiroth of Geburah which is the framework of operation of the sword. The six pointed hexagram he wears as a crest shows both the balance and duality of the energies he wields power over. The horse shows fleetness or purpose in taking the rider from one plane to another. The dark clouds the Knight rides over shows potentiality of growth, but also of storms, anger and destruction.

The Knight is both guardian and messenger as he draws power not from himself but from the higher forces he represents. Even though on occasion he may appear vanquished, higher powers can be called on to come to his assistance. In this card he rushes to the defence or attack with force. As an individual he has limited power to do much other than taken by surprise and win the first battle, but he will need reinforcements to continue the affair.

As the Fiery part of Air, he is the initial impetus, the communicative aspect, ready to surge forward for a foothold in air. He is swift, rushing, hot wind blowing across the land and sea. Air, being his main driving force shows thought and action going to any plan he undertakes. He is a planner or shaper of future events. His fiery aspect shows the framework through which he acts and relates to which is will, a combination of both fiery and airy nature manifesting through the intellectual level. As in all fiery parts of elements the initial thrust may not last save to paint a framework for the airy nature to eventually manifest through.

The alchemical concept of this card is portrayed by the sword in the hand of the Knight showing swift penetration while the brown horse is the prima materia at the stage of the Yellowing, a transition stage to the reddening. The height of the Knight shows the gaseous nature of the experiment. The winged hexagram depicts a full cycle of development.

His rule is 20 degrees Taurus to 20 degrees Gemini showing a strong emotional strength acting quickly - ready to crumble if pressured for any length of time - a short, swift burst of energy.

Hexagram 14 of the I Ching is associated here which is called Ta Yu, meaning Great Possessions. This shows accumulation of wealth, and an individual who follows the Will of Heaven, though it does caution against over indulgence. The two trigrams Li (Fire) over Chien (Heaven). The Great Symbolism says: "The Superior man, in accordance with this, represses what is evil and gives distinction to what is good, in sympathy with the excellent heaven conferred nature".

Yod of Vau represents the masculine part of a neutral force. This shows initially a sudden stop or change while a buildup occurs that takes on the nature of a dam, a storage of energy which appears tranquil on the surface but shows deep undercurrents while preparations are made. By analogy to man, here is the thinker or planner (in a state before he actually starts work on a project) working out his strengths and weaknesses.

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## DIVINATION

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

The Knight of Swords in this Fire House shows an individual who plans, thinks and prepares very quickly. He is often the architect, brains and instigator of many grand schemes, many of which show promise. The Knight is the sort of individual who is an advisor, in the highest capacity. Many corporations and government bodies and try to will to woo him for his business prowess. When dealing with the Knight the main point is to leave him do his job, he is good at it. He loves a challenge with the odds against him though his field may be in the highest echelon of advisory capacities on all levels of development and growth.

ON MATTERS OF possessions and personal attitude towards such; personal estate and resources both physical and material; principles and feelings; management and projection; commerce, personal, commercial, governmental and national financial affairs directly relating to the self:

The Knight of Swords in this Earth House shows an individual whose intellect is bogged down on mundane matters which is where the Knight does not wish to be. He is not suited very well in material tasks, preferring abstract theory. As a manager he is forced to deal with the practicalities of administration and he is ill fitted to his present position. He is an intellectual and not the athletic or practical type and he feels he is being asked to perform above or outside his capabilities. When dealing with the Knight in any of the above matters do not place too much trust in his ability if he is in charge of a situation unless he has able helpers.

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

The Knight of Swords in this Air House shows an individual at home in his environment. It also shows that he has good communicative skills. There are indications that he will be ideal for short jounries and correspondence from short distances. He is a person who appears to be not well educated and has managed to bluff his way into a good position through being extremely good at what he does. He also appears to be a person on the move (in

the above matters) as the Knight of Swords loves to seek out new stimulating activity, and when dealing with him in this house he will serve you well and offer you invaluable initial help. He does mean well.

ON MATTERS OF the end of one stage and the commencement of another; the home and private life; buildings; land; property; security; emotions; significant shifts in life's directions; concerning the soul; the occult in its practical terms; divination;

The Knight of Swords in this Water House shows an individual who is constantly changing his direction, due to his fiery essence. Continual changing, to him, is a way up the ladder of success by gaining a broad band of experience which will elevate him to the next position. His main fault is that he does not remain long enough in one place to really develop his potential. Home life with the Knight is almost constant travelling and more than a little soul destroying unless you want the type of life he leads. His deepest yearnings want to experience almost every aspect of existence in one life time. In dealing with the Knight he will be able to help only in small endeavours and be able to supply limited back-up on any deal.

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

The Knight of Swords in this Fire House shows an individual who finds it very hard to make a commitment, and any love he gives, one will have to accept on his terms of being foot-loose and fancy-free. He has little passion and prefers to use his head rather than his heart and any liaison he makes will be on that basis only. He is speculative and creative and loves the arts and is inclined to be a bit of a spendthrift. The Knight is a fierce competitor and loves to win. He is an ideal traveller and a good P.R. man. Any dealings with him must be in fields related to his temperament or otherwise little will come of it.

ON MATTERS OF sickness (generally due to work problems); employment; employees; relationships within the work environment; conflicts; service; one's sense of service; the acquiring of skills; psychology;

The Knight of Swords in this Air House is not well suited as it shows an individual who is totally out of his depth in his working environment. As an employee he will not get on with his boss and as a boss he will be unable to manage an employee.

Conflicts, tension and arguments break out because of this impossible situation. If you approach the Knight for help he will be unable to give it, if he does he will only make matters worse. It would be advisable not to contact the Knight in the above matters and wait until things can sort themselves out.

ON MATTERS OF marriage and divorce; contracts; the other party; competitors, adversaries, and known enemies; partnerships; public relationships; social interaction; the law of compensation; what is lacking; the workings of karma:

The Knight of Swords in this Air House shows an individual who is out for a fling, due to the little substance of his nature. Any woman partner of the Knight will find their liaison intellectually stimulating mixed with a little spice, though it will be hardly a passionate romance. Merging with the Knight in any such liaison whether it be business or pleasure will be short lived though long remembered. The Knight has a knack of triggering off different aspects of our nature - a catalyst to our dreams. Any contracts made with him will be broken and with little or no compensation. Be careful in dealing with him and only expect something short lived in relationships to partners.

ON MATTERS OF death and rebirth; accidents; effects of others; crime and retribution; legacies; wills; others estates and finances; joint resources; moods; sex; spiritualism; rejuvenation; mysticism; transformation; psychotherapy:

The Knight of Swords in this Water House shows an individual whose intellect is channelled by an emotional outlet. There appears to be a little frustration here. His intellect spurs him on to emotional outlets that he usually hasn't experienced before. Sexual energy is usually burnt out this way when an intellectual blockage seeks a previously denied outlet. It shows a sudden change in temperament, which in this instance is not necessarily bad but constructive, although it is temporary. When dealing with the Knight under the above matters expect sudden changes in his attitude. If you are female there will possibly be sexual overtones in your relationship with him. If male, he will be sympathetic to you.

ON MATTERS OF religion; metaphysics; philosophy; higher study and education; legal systems; morals; institutions of learning; long distance travel; exploration; public communications; the collective mind:

The Knight of Swords shows an individual who is attracted to

tidy theories on the hereafter, everything to him is compartmentised and explainable. This also applies to law as well. It is the type of situation where everything has its place. The Knight does not have the power for long distance travel and if he starts on a journey it will not be completed. When dealing with the Knight one will find the perfect bureaucrat. He will only go as far as his compartmentisation will allow. Everything to him must be to the letter of the law. He will appear a little heartless so make sure your request to him is within his belief structure.

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

The Knight of Swords in this Earth House shows an individual who has, and is trying for public recognition but has failed. Little or no public honour is attached to the Knight here. It also indicates ones ambitions are greater than ones achievements. The concept of the 'second best' applies here. He is one who will do reasonably well but never excell in the above matters. If you deal with the Knight in this house he will try and convince you that he can handle the situation, but this is in fact a facade. An airy personality confined in an Earthy framework is not a good combination.

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

The Knight of Swords in this Air House shows an individual who is interested in the intellectual theory of saving the world and its problems. The groups he belongs to predominately exist in university and environmental impact groups (to name but a few). Friends of the Knight in this position are really of a like-kind. When dealing with the Knight there will be a number of alliances formed and you may possibly come into contact with the Knight through these groups. The Knight is a theorist and has a certain amount of magnetism to initiate things but seldom follows through. Friends met during this time will not be friends for long and one will eventually drop contact with them after a short period of time.

ON MATTERS OF responsibility and contribution to others; humanistic concerns; karmic debts; unresolved problems; hidden resources; the unconscious; sorrow; health afflictions; secret

enemies; hospitals; secret societies; self undoing; total identification:

The Knight of Swords in this Water House shows a person who has not really fulfilled any his responsibility. He has tried but lacks the impetus to carry it through. This leaves many problems and situations unresolved. It also warns of possible mental problems due to mental stress and emotional strain. When dealing with the Knight in the above matters one finds that it is hopeless to get him to do anything, for nothing will eventuate. It is advisable to have nothing to do with the Knight in the above matters unless you can help him in his task rather than the reverse.

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**MEDITATION ON THE KNIGHT OF SWORDS:**

Let the Student first study the overall picture of the card, then study each detail: Each symbol and image. Study the colours. Now let the Student look at the card and feel its vibrations. Write down your overall impression.

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exercise

Now paint this card with the above described colours. An outlined drawing is supplied with this lesson.

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