

LESSON 102

QUEEN OF SWORDS

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"Queen of the Throne of Air"
20 degrees Virgo to 20 degrees Libra

A graceful woman with wavy, curly hair, like a Queen seated upon a throne and crowned. Beneath the throne are grey cumulus clouds, her general attire is like that of the Queen of Wands, but she wears the crescent of a winged child's head. A drawn sword in one hand, and in the other a large bearded, newly severed head of a man.

The curly hair of the Queen shows the structured confines of her strength. The winged child's head is the soul's journey to obtaining wisdom, the bearded head she holds is the power she has charge of, one of the aspects of the life force itself, and the beard on the head depicts strength, so both strength and wisdom are in her grasp. The sword and throne give power and authority, and she is able to back it up if needed. Overall she is a strong powerful ruler who administers justice. The three pointed crown relates to Binah while the clouds, as in the Knight show potential growth and anger.

The Queen has grey eyes and light brown curly hair. Her crown is gold and her cloak is light blue. The sword she holds is a golden colour with heavy mauve shading. The throne is the same colour as the crown as is the platform the throne is on. The scale mail armour she wears is dark blue with orange outlines for the scales and her breast plate is blue/black while her buskins are the same blue as the scale mail. Her skirt is a yellow. The backdrop to the card is light yellow while her skin is translucent yellow. The head she holds is ashen grey with red drops of blood coming from it. The emblems she wears has white wings and are coloured a light orange.

She rules 20 degrees Virgo to 20 degrees Libra representing the changeability of Virgo diminishing towards the balance and harmony of Libra. Though mainly a just ruler, the Virgo tendencies give rise to short violent outbursts.

The Watery part of Air can quite easily be typified (as an archetype) as a cloud or mist. In this instance we have an individual whose Airy nature, as an undercurrent, shows a strong intellectual inkling, and like the Knight is a planner but in this instance her emotions do not get in the way and her judgement is often sound. Both the Watery and Airy aspects of her nature

find an outlet through her mental faculties which produces a tremendous strain. At times, when Water and Air are working together there can be a tremendous attunement into the order of things when she is able to accurately analyse a situation and shows remarkable insight and depth. It is a marriage of capabilities both the practical and intellectual, and is a well balanced arrangement.

The I'Ching association here is the 5th hexagram, Hsu meaning 'waiting'. The trigrams of this hexagram show Kan (Water) over Chien (Air) and depict an individual waiting, biding his or her time while events sort themselves out. It shows some enjoyment from within while danger from without. The image of the two trigrams shows water in sky and relates to waiting for rain (nourishment). The Great Symbolism says "The symbol of clouds ascending over that for the sky form Hsu. The Superior Man in accordance with this, eats and drinks, feasts and enjoys himself (as if there is nothing else to employ his time)."

The Alchemical action of the Queen of Swords is one of a transitional nature and is part of the process of separation. It is the point where the liquid becomes vapour and vapour becomes liquid, but moreover, the decapitated head by the Sword alludes to the release of the etheric/astral body from entrapment by matter.

Heh of Vau shows the feminine part of a neutral force which is the receptivity or change being undergone in Vau. Heh of Vau also shows conception, the merging of one state with another to produce a third. Here we are looking at a complete range of receptivity which includes bringing birth within Vau so that it will gradually change away from its neutral standpoint. It is here, where the new stimuli is introduced to bring about the change. In other terms the Heh of Vau is the Mother in the Son, a complex but indicative aspect that relates to an identification process of going deep within the self to bring out our true feelings.

DIVINATION

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

The Queen of Swords in this Fire House shows an individual who has keen perception and acts with a great deal of thought. Her Watery aspect couples with her Airy nature which brings out

perceptive insight giving her an uncanny grasp of the status quo. When dealing with her it is advisable to pre-plan and arrange things in a methodical manner otherwise one is likely to suffer her displeasure. She will not be bluffed and is extremely capable of retaliating against any act done against her so treat her fairly and truthfully.

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 Queen of Swords in this Earth House is an individual who shows problems in adjusting to an unsuitable environment. She is a regulator who has not really examined closely enough the field in which she issues her orders for they were conceived in one strater and carried out in another which resulted in an unworkable situation. When dealing with the Queen in any of the above matters one should ignore her advice as she does not grasp the practicalities of matters. If she is in a government one will find that the unsuitability of her reign will cause those above her to revise the present situation.

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

The Queen of Swords in this Air House shows an individual who likes to try and exert her authority over others through playing mind games. This is not necessarily bad, but simply shows a person who likes power and control. Relationships with her can be good if you patronise her but heaven help you if you disagree with her. In dealing with the Queen, in the above situation, one will find that she can help in some limited way (such as short journies or communications) though there could be a mishap which may delay them. Her family looks up to her as the elder sister and she will hold a good deal of power over them.

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

The Queen of Swords in this Water House shows an individual who can be very changeable. In the home she worries about superficiality, if everything appears to be going well she is not

interested in trivia. The Queen in this position is not a person of any depth and as such will not hold up under any type of pressure. She is extremely quick on the uptake and can easily take offensive action against those who try and shatter her world. In dealing with her, seek out her advice on minor matters only for she does not have the ability to penetrate too deeply in the above matters, including family.

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

The Queen of Swords in this Fire House shows an individual who carves her own way and puts her stamp of individuality on life. She loves outings but is primarily a thinker and planner and is also happy relaxing on her own. Though she is not speculative by nature she will gamble in areas that she knows and has worked in because her intellect is her guiding light. She is competitive by nature and tries with all she possesses to fulfill her potentiality. When dealing with her one must first be honest for she is intuitive and receptive, and if she is being lied to will vent her wrath.

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

The Queen of Swords in this Earth House shows an individual who does not fit into her work environment. Here we have an intellectual doing practical things which have an earthing effect on her quick witted nature. Problems develop at work between her and staff or her and her seniors. When dealing with her in a work environment there is bound to be trouble. She is not happy with her own lot and will take it out on others. She will find it difficult to adapt to new skills and there would be problems if working under or employing.

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 Queen of Swords in this Air House shows an individual who has a good marriage or partnership. In public relations she also copes well and this house is a perfect outlet for her talents. Her quick mind and agile nature finds public relations

work a constant challenge, but she likes change of any sort. When dealing with her on the above matters one will find her very helpful as she has found her niche in life and now finds time for others. She is an ideal partner for marriage or a relationship and will be a lot of support in any endeavour you enter.

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 Queen of Swords in this Water House represents a person who is in a governing position, possibly something to do with law and order, or health. It is she who makes radical decisions over life and death. She is unmerciful when she acts and wields her sword ending matters quickly so that fresh starts can be made. She is a type of hatchet woman who has the power and authority to seek out problems and eradicate them. When dealing with her as an assistant or boss you will find her relentless. If being judged by her you can expect little or no mercy as her office has obscured her feelings.

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 Queen of Swords in this Fire house shows an individual whose beliefs are not clear cut, a lack of definite thought. Hers is a general held belief but she fervently holds to her concepts and enforces them with tenacity. This Queen has her own sweeping morality. To those who will meet her they will find fluent religious and metaphysical concepts, she is also a good conversationalist and writer. In dealing with her over long distance travel there appears to be delays and holdups etc. You will find the Queen an individual who represents and age of thought and reason, the archetype of a generation.

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

The Queen of Swords in this Earth House shows an individual who has not reached the top of her profession. If she does take the reins it will be a temporary thing only. She has put her status above all else and has made some bad mistakes to gain it though these will eventually creep up on her. When dealing with

this individual be very cautious of her because she will sacrifice you or anyone else for personal ambition and power. It would in fact be prudent not to have anything to do with her for everyone she sees is nothing but a potential stepping stone to success.

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

The Queen of Swords in this Air House shows an individual who chooses her friends carefully, and only those who have similar interests. With people of like mind and status she can be a charming companion but her attitude will change towards those outside her interests or social status (and not for the better). There are indications of her belonging to a number of groups which are very important to her. When dealing with her, the only way to do it, is as an equal, for without this the disadvantage in status could effect the whole outcome of your liaison. So deal with her as an equal or don't deal with her at all.

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 Queen of Swords in this Water House shows an individual who has an enormous amount of power over others, possibly legal or military. She uses this indiscriminately and lives, sometimes, depend on her position. When dealing with her one will find her a powerfull benefactor but if she has to determine your fate and the surrounding cards are adverse then you will have a great deal of trouble with her. As regards health there may be an operation.

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MEDITATION ON THE QUEEN 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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