



The Lilith Bible Tarot Deck

... the phantom maid who laughs with a joyful heart ...
... those who sleep I awaken ...

by
Lorelei Douglas

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First Edition

INTRODUCTION

The Lilith Bible Tarot Deck illuminates the polytheistic pagan roots of Judaeo-Christian religious scripture and ideas. Through Lilith's eyes we take a fresh look at the Bible. Lilith's lens is at once enlightening and liberating, forceful and kind. The deck uses the 78 card Rider-Waite-Smith protocol for tarot. It can be used by anyone familiar with this system. However the deck is in particular intended for use by those recovering from extreme fundamentalist monotheistic forms of Western religion. The deck helps the reader explore a new form of spiritual connection (i.e., tarot reading) working within a conceptual framework with which readers from this background would be familiar. As well as drawing on Judaeo-Christian content the deck reimagines that content as part of a process of healing.

Most of the content of the Lilith Bible Tarot Deck comes from what Jews refer to as the Hebrew Bible and Christians call the Old Testament. Smaller amounts come from the New Testament, the Apocrypha and the Gnostic scriptures. Another small amount is sourced from Babylonian and Egyptian writings.

A key focus of the Lilith Bible Tarot Deck is the stories of the women in the Bible particularly through the lens of the central female character Lilith. Lilith represents the Defiant Goddess in all of us and her re-emergence in Western thought is a way of understanding and healing the injuries inflicted by organised religions such as the Jewish and Christian patriarchies and priesthoods.

The Lilith Bible Tarot Deck stands for a number of dangerous ideas: reclaiming the goddess lost to us in monotheistic Judaeo-Christian tradition; a liberating humanism that values all people; a challenge to the Yahweh apologists as to why we should continue to choose this model of the 'one true god'; embracing a polytheistic pagan spiritual connection to godhood; preserving the positive aspects of our Western Bible traditions; and healing for those damaged by fundamentalist monotheistic forms of religion.

Finally, I would like to say I wish those well who get joy from traditional religion, this is probably not a tarot deck for you, even if your church lets you use them. For those who seek more I invite you into the wonderful world of tarot. Let us awaken from our long sleep to laugh with a joyful heart together.

MAJOR ARCANANA

Correspondences between the Major Arcana in the Lilith Bible Tarot Deck and the Rider-Waite-Smith protocol appear in the table below.

	LILITH BIBLE	Rider-Waite-Smith
0	THE SOUL	The Fool
I	ELOHIM	The Magician
II	LILITH	The High Priestess
III	EVE	The Empress
IV	ADAM	The Emperor
V	YAHWEH	The Hierophant
VI	THE CHOICE	The Lovers
VII	THE FALL	The Chariot
VIII	ISHTAR	Strength
IX	CAIN	The Hermit
X	RENEUWET	The Wheel of Fortune
XI	WISDOM	Justice
XII	MESSIAH	The Hanged Man
XIII	SAMUEL	Death
XIV	MICHAEL	Temperance
XV	AZAZEL	The Devil
XVI	TOWER OF BABEL	The Tower
XVII	THE WOMAN	The Star
XVIII	SIN	The Moon
XIX	MOLECH	The Sun
XX	INQUISITION	Judgement
XXI	SHEKINAH	The World

0 THE SOUL

Thou hast knit me together in my mother's womb ... I am fearfully and wonderfully made ... that my soul knoweth right well. (Psalm 139)

New beginning. Leap into the abyss. Reincarnation. Rebirth. Metempsychosis.

I ELOHIM

Elohim said ... Let us make humans in our image, in our likeness ... He created them male and female ... Elohim saw everything that he had made and that it was very good. (Genesis 1, Names of God Bible, Bible Gateway Website Scripture is taken from GOD'S WORD®, © 1995 God's Word to the Nations. Used by permission of Baker Publishing Group.)

Creation. Manifestation. Power.

II LILITH

Let us make humans in our image, in our likeness ... male and female ... And it was so.

And Lilith wandered in the garden, marvelling at the creation of Elohim. There in the garden were two trees ... the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. And El the Most High and his Shekinah did chance upon Lilith in the garden. They offered her to eat the fruit of the trees of wisdom and immortality. And Lilith saw the trees were good for food, and a delight to the eyes, and to be desired to make one wise and live forever, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat.

Elohim did see her transformation, and that it was good. And saying thus, they bade her be the protector of procreation henceforward, and told her the Ineffable Name as a sign of their regard and trust for the future mother of all.



But when Lilith returned from her walk in the garden, Adam was not pleased with her change, and jealous of her transformation. Adam and Lilith immediately began to fight.

Adam then sought to know her. Lilith said ... I will not lie below ...

Adam said ... I will not lie beneath you, but only on top. For you are fit only to be in the bottom position, while I am to be the superior one ... Lilith responded ... We are equal to each other inasmuch as we were both created from the earth. Seeing this, Lilith pronounced the Ineffable Name and flew away into the air.

And from that time the sons of Adam accused Lilith of all kinds of perfidy and abomination - because she was entrancing and would not lie beneath.

(Adapted from the Alphabet of Ben Sira as cited in Wikipedia and Genesis 1)

Higher self. Spiritual purpose and connection. Independence. Transcendence. Clairvoyance. Divination. Inspiration.

III EVE

And the rib ... made He a woman ... (Genesis 2)

Femininity. Abundance. Fertility. Procreation. Nurture.

IV ADAM

And Yahweh took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it ... And the man gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field ... (Genesis 2)

Rules, laws and codes.

V YAHWEH

When the Most High gave to the nations their inheritance, when He separated the children of men ... the portion of Yahweh is His people, Jacob the lot of His inheritance. (Deuteronomy 32)

... for I Yahweh thy God am a jealous God ... (Exodus 20)

Yahweh ... commanded ... Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it; for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die. (Genesis 2)

Organisations. Hierarchy. Bureaucracy. Priesthoods. Received wisdom.

VI THE CHOICE

Now the serpent ... said unto the woman ... Ye shall not surely die; for Yahweh doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as God, knowing good and evil ... (Genesis 3)

Choice. Decision. Partnership.

VII THE FALL

Yahweh said unto the serpent ... cursed art thou ... Unto the woman He said ... I will greatly multiply thy pain and thy travail ... And unto Adam He said ... cursed is the ground for thy sake ... Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil; and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever ... Yahweh ... drove out the man ... (Genesis 3)

Maturation. Independence. Responsibility.

VIII ISHTAR

Ishtar raised her eyes to the beauty of Gilgamesh ... be you my husband, to me grant your fusciousness ... Gilgamesh addressed Princess Ishtar ... Where are your bridegrooms that you keep forever? ... And now me! It is me you love, and you will ordain for me as for them! (Academy of Ancient Texts Website: The Epic of Gilgamesh, Tablet 4)

Strength. Beauty. Charm. Force.

IX CAIN

Yahweh said unto Cain ... Where is Abel thy brother? ... I know not; am I my brother's keeper? ... the voice of thy brother's blood crieth unto Me from the ground. And now cursed art thou from the ground ... a fugitive and a wanderer shalt thou be in the earth. And Cain said ... My punishment is greater than I can bear ... And Yahweh set a sign for Cain, lest any finding him should smite him. (Genesis 4)

Isolation. Contemplation. Higher wisdom. Secret protection.

X RENEUWET

I will make the Nile swell for you, without there being a year of lack and exhaustion in the whole land, so the plants will flourish, bending under their fruit. The land of Egypt is beginning to stir again, the shores are shining wonderfully, and wealth and well-being dwell with them, as it had been before. (The Hymn of Renewet, Wikipedia)

Karmic wheel. Transformation. Cycles.

XI WISDOM

Then the king answered ... Give her the living child, and in no wise slay it: she is the mother thereof ... And all Israel heard of the judgment which the king had judged ... to do justice. (Kings 1:3)

Wisdom. Justice. Mercy.

XII MESSIAH

Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me ... (Luke 22, New Testament, King James Version)

Immobilised. Irreconcilable choices. No win situation. Pain in either direction. Contemplation.

XIII SAMUEL

This one ... is Samuel, who takes the soul away from man. (The Ascension of Moses excerpted from Wikipedia)

Death. Transformation. Karma. Sudden and unwelcome change.

XIV MICHAEL

Many shall purify themselves ... but the wicked shall do wickedly, and none of the wicked shall understand; but they that are wise shall understand. (Daniel 12)

Glorious Saint Michael ... above all do not forsake me in my last struggle with the powers of evil. (Second Catholic Novena to Saint Michael, Wikipedia)

Gender transformation. Temperance. Balance. Self-knowledge.

XV AZAZEL

And there arose much godlessness, and they committed fornication, and they were led astray, and became corrupt in all their ways ... see what Azazel hath done, who hath taught all unrighteousness on earth and revealed the eternal secrets which were preserved in heaven, which men were striving to learn ... (Enoch 1, Chapters 8 and 9; Sacred Texts Website)

Excess. Addiction. Lasciviousness. Materialism.

XVI TOWER OF BABEL

And Yahweh came down to see the city and the tower ... Behold, they are one people, and they have all one language ... and now nothing will be withholden from them ... Come, let us go down, and there confound their language ... So Yahweh scattered them abroad ... and they left off to build the city. Therefore was the name of it called Babel ... (Genesis 11)

Fall from grace. Bolt out of the blue. Unexpected events. Extreme misunderstanding. Devastation.

XVII THE WOMAN

And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars ... (Book of Revelation 12, King James Version)

Success. Victory. Redemption.

XVIII SIN

Then Yahweh caused to rain upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire ... and He overthrew those cities, and all the plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and that which grew upon the ground. But his [Lot's] wife looked back from behind him, and she became a pillar of salt. (Genesis 19)

Unsettling conditions. Unusual behaviour. Instability.

XIX MOLECH

Thou shalt not delay to offer of the fulness of thy harvest, and of the outflow of thy presses. The first-born of thy sons shalt thou give unto Me. (Exodus 22)

Ecstasy. Mania. Euphoria. Rapture. Bliss. Elation.

XX INQUISITION

Babylon the great is fallen ... And in her was found the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth ... (Revelation 18, King James Version)

Judgement. Discernment. Renewal. Reckoning. Sorting the sheep from the goats.

XXI SHEKINAH



I move in everyone and I delve into them all ... those who sleep I awaken. (Robinson, J. M., 1988, The Nay Hammadi Library, Revised Edition, p. 513)

Completion. Fulfillment. Achievement. Mastery.

THE MINOR ARCANANA

The Lilith Bible Tarot Deck follows the Rider-Waite-Smith protocol for divination which includes four suits of fourteen cards each. These include Cups, Wands, Pentacles and Swords.

In line with the theme of the Lilith Bible deck five of the cards have been renamed using Hebrew names in place of the traditional Rider-Waite-Smith nominations.

LILITH BIBLE	Rider-Waite-Smith	Hebrew meaning
ALEPH	Ace	First letter of the alphabet
BAFT	Page	Daughter
BEN	Knight	Son
AMMA	Queen	Mother
ABBA	King	Father

CUPS - LOVE AT IT'S PUREST

ALEPH OF CUPS

Noah ... sent forth the dove out of the ark. And the dove came in to him at eventide; and lo in her mouth an olive-leaf freshly plucked; so Noah knew that the waters were abated from off the earth ... (Genesis 8)

Beginning of love. Birth of a child. Good news.

TWO OF CUPS

Now Lefan had two daughters ... And Jacob loved Rachel ... more than Leah ... but Rachel was barren ... And Leah conceived ... (Genesis 29)

Attraction. Romance. Union. Marriage. Partnership.

THREE OF CUPS



And Naomi said ... Go, return each of you to her mother's house ... and Orpah kissed her mother-in-law; but Ruth cleaved unto her ... Entreat me not to leave thee ... for whither thou goest, I will go ... (Ruth 1)

Celebration. A meeting of minds. Joyful company. Shared happiness. Communion.

FOUR OF CUPS

And Yahweh came down in a pillar of cloud ... and called Aaron and Miriam ... wherefore then were ye not afraid to speak against My servant, against Moses? ... And when the cloud was removed from over the Tent, behold, Miriam was leprous, as white as snow ... let her be shut up without the camp seven days ... the people journeyed not till Miriam was brought in again. (Numbers 12)

Isolation. Ennui. Boredom.

FIVE OF CUPS

And Abraham ... took the knife to slay his son ... (Genesis 22)

And Sarah died ... (Genesis 23)

Sorrow. Desolation. Loss. Anguish. Sadness. Regret.

SIX OF CUPS



And immediately the king sent an executioner, and commanded his head to be ... beheaded ... and gave it to the damsel; and the damsel gave it to her mother. (Mark 6, King James Version)

Gift of love. Kindness. Consideration. Compassion. Blessing.

SEVEN OF CUPS

I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads ... and when I saw her, I wondered with great admiration. (Revelation 17, King James Version)

Difficult choices. Decisions. Self-knowledge. Karma. Identity. Self-awareness.

EIGHT OF CUPS

When Pilate saw that he could prevail nothing ... he took water, and washed his hands before the multitude, saying, I am innocent of the blood of this just person ... (Matthew 27)

Washing your hands of it. Walking away. Lost cause. Resignation. Regret.

NINE OF CUPS

And Pharaoh said unto Joseph ... there is none so discreet and wise as thou. Thou shalt be over my house, and according unto thy word shall all my people be ruled ... And in the seven years of plenty the earth brought forth in heaps ... He gathered up all the food of the seven years which were in the land of Egypt, and laid up the food in the cities ... And the seven years of famine began to come, according as Joseph had said; and there was famine in all lands; but in all the land of Egypt there was bread. (Genesis 41)

Abundance. Wealth. Prosperity. Material success. Self-satisfaction. Happiness.

TEN OF CUPS

And it came to pass ... the waters were dried up from off the earth; and Noah removed the covering of the ark, and ... went forth, and his sons, and his wife, and his sons' wives with him; every beast, every creeping thing, and every fowl, whatsoever moveth upon the earth ... (Genesis 8)

Comfort. Safety. Security. Happiness. Joy. Overflowing love. Unity. Mutual support.

BAHT OF CUPS

And Tamar put ashes on her head, and rent her garment of many colours that was on her; and she laid her hand on her head, and went her way, crying aloud as she went. And Absalom her brother said ... Hath Amnon thy brother been with thee? ... So Tamar remained desolate in her brother, Absalom's house. (Samuel 2:13)

A young woman of melancholic disposition or one who has been saddened by her life experiences.

BEN OF CUPS

Amnon was so distressed that he fell sick because of his sister Tamar ... he forced her, and lay with her. Then Amnon hated her with exceeding great hatred; for the hatred wherewith he hated her was greater than the love wherewith he had loved her. (Samuel 2:13)

A young man not to be trusted in matters of love. An enthusiastic, but inconstant lover.

AMMA OF CUPS

... from the roof he saw a woman bathing; and the woman was very beautiful to look upon ... Bath-sheba... the wife of Uriah the Hittite ... (Samuel 2:11)

A woman who is a dutiful wife and loving mother is indicated.

ABBA OF CUPS

Now he was ruddy, and withal of beautiful eyes, and goodly to look upon ... skilful in playing, and a mighty man of valour, and a man of war, and prudent in affairs, and a comely person ... And David came to Saul ... thy servant will go and fight with this Philistine ... Thy servant smote both the lion and the bear ... David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and with a stone, and smote the Philistine, and slew him... (Samuel 1: 16-17)

A man who is universally desirable. Attractive to men and women. Not necessarily a good manager of people.

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WANDS - THE CALL TO ACTION

ALEPH OF WANDS

Etana kept on beseeching Shamash day after day ... grant me an heir! ... Shamash ... said ... Find a pit ... An eagle is cast within it ... The eagle looked at him ... Bring me up from this pit ... I will sing your praises for all time ... he brought him over the edge of his pit, The eagle took food like a ravening lion. He gained strength ... Let us be friends, you and I! Ask of me whatever you desire and I shall give it to you. (The Myth of Etana; Source: Foster, Benjamin (1995) From distant days. . . Myths, tales and poetry from Ancient Mesopotamia. CD1 Press, Bethesda. As cited by Gateways to Babylon website)

New project. New initiative. Buoyant energy.

TWO OF WANDS

And Joseph dreamed a dream ... we were binding sheaves in the field ... and, behold, your sheaves ... bowed down to my sheaf ... And they hated him yet the more for his dreams, and for his words. And ... his father rebuked him ... And his brethren envied him; but his father kept the saying in mind. (Genesis 37)

Future potential. Opportunity. Prodigy.

THREE OF WANDS

Give me a blessing; for that thou hast set me in the Southland, give me therefore springs of water. And he gave her the Upper Springs and the Nether Springs. (Genesis 24)

Opportunities exploited. Courageous acts undertaken. Actions that sustain. Practical success.

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FOUR OF WANDS

And for ... my beloved wife, whose features the Mistress of the Gods has made perfect above all other women, I had a palace of loveliness, delight and joy built ... (King Sennacherib, Hanging Gardens of Babylon, Wikipedia)

Success. Happy homecoming. Rejuvenation. Welcome. Reunion.

FIVE OF WANDS



Susanna was very graceful and beautiful to look at ... the wretches made her unwell in order to feast their eyes ... Susanna was condemned to death ... Daniel began to shout ... Are you so stupid ... as to condemn a daughter of Israel unheard, and without troubling to find out the truth? ... Then the whole assembly ... turned on the two elders whom Daniel had convicted of false evidence ... they were given the same punishment as they had schemed to inflict ... They were put to death. And thus, that day, an innocent life

was saved. (Daniel 13; Catholic Online Website)

Competition. Agendas. Challenges.

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SIX OF WANDS

Judith ... adorned her face with perfume, bound her hair under a turban, put on a linen gown to seduce him. Her sandals ravished his eye, her beauty took his soul prisoner and the scimitar cut through his neck! ... Never again during the lifetime of Judith, nor indeed for a long time after her death, did anyone trouble the Israelites. (Judith 16; Catholic Online Website)

Victory. Success. Accolades. Vanquishment.

SEVEN OF WANDS

Now Saul had a concubine, whose name was Rizpah ... But the king [David] took the two sons of Rizpah ... and the five sons of Michal the daughter of Saul ... and he delivered them into the hands of the Gibeonites, and they hanged them in the mountain ... And Rizpah ... suffered neither the birds of the air to rest on them by day, nor the beasts of the field by night ... (Samuel 2:21)

Protecting what remains to you. Winning against the odds. Making a stand for the right reasons.

EIGHT OF WANDS

None shall miscarry, nor be barren, in thy land; the number of thy days I will fulfil. (Exodus 23)

Successful projects coming to completion. Plans coming to fruition.

NINE OF WANDS

And it came to pass on the way at the lodging-place, that Yahweh met him [Moses], and sought to kill him. Then Zipporah took a flint, and cut off the foreskin of her son, and cast it at his feet; and she said ... Surely a bridegroom of blood art thou to me ... So He let him alone.

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Then she said ... A bridegroom of blood in regard of the circumcision. (Exodus 4)

Beleaguered. Protecting resources. High stakes. Quick action.

TEN OF WANDS



And Yahweh said ... Behold, he is in thy hand; only spare his life. So Satan went forth from the presence of Yahweh, and smote Job with sore boils from the sole of his foot even unto his crown ...

And he [Job] took him a potsherd to scrape himself therewith; and he sat among the ashes. Then said his wife ... Dost thou still hold fast thine integrity? blaspheme God, and die. (Job 2)

Over-burdened. Overwhelmed. Forbearance. Suffering.

BAHT OF WANDS

Mary answered ... What is hidden from you I will proclaim ... But Andrew answered ... I at least do not believe that the Savior said this ... Peter answered ... Did He really speak privately with a woman and not openly to us? ... Levi answered ... Peter you have always been hot tempered. Now I see you contending against the woman like the

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adversaries. But if the Savior made her worthy, who are you indeed to reject her? (Gospel of Mary 5 & 9; The Gnostic Society Library Website)

A young woman with potential for great things. Skillful, positive and optimistic.

BEN OF WANDS

And it came to pass ... there appeared a chariot of fire, and horses of fire ... and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven. (Kings 2:2)

A young confident and energetic man. Self-assured and capable. Not averse to bouts of shadenfreude.

AMMA OF WANDS

Now Deborah, a prophetess ... judged Israel at that time. And she sat under the palm-tree of Deborah ... in the hill-country ... and the children of Israel came up to her for judgment ... (Judges 4)

A mature and capable woman whose judgement can be trusted. A woman who can be successful in a male oriented world.

ABBA OF WANDS

And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea ... and made the sea dry land ... And the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea upon the dry ground; and the waters were a wall unto them on their right hand, and on their left. (Exodus 14)

A mature and capable man who leads well and gets results. A fine protector.

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PENTACLES - THE POWER OF FLOW

ALEPH OF PENTACLES

And shall-meet desert creatures with jackals, the goat he-calls his-fellow lilit (lilit) she-rests and she-finds rest there she-shall-nest the great-owl, and she-lays-(eggs), and she-hatches, and she-gathers under her-shadow: hawks-[fites, glades] also they-gather, every one with its mate. (Isaiah 34; as cited in Wikipedia from the Masoretic text)

Beginning of a cycle or flow. Synchronicity. Things coming together. Good luck.

TWO OF PENTACLES

Let ... said ... my brethren, do not so wickedly ... I have two daughters that have not known man; let me ... bring them out unto you, and do ye to them as is good in your eyes; only unto these men do nothing; forasmuch as they are come under the shadow of my roof. (Genesis 19)

Juggling. Choices. Decisions. Priorities.

THREE OF PENTACLES

And his [Ephraim's] daughter was Sheerah, who built Beth-horon the nether and the upper, and Uzzan-sheerah. (Chronicles 1:7)

Planning. Building. Skilled artisan. Recognition.

FOUR OF PENTACLES

There was a certain rich man, which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day ... And there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, which was laid at his gate, full of sores, and desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table.

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moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. (Luke 16; King James Version)

Misericord. Lack of charity. Closed off from others needs. Self-protection.

FIVE OF PENTACLES



Sarah saw the son of Hagar ... making sport. Wherefore she said ... Cast out this bondwoman and her son; for the son ... shall not be heir with my son ... And Abraham arose up early in the morning, and took bread and a bottle of water, and gave it unto Hagar ... and sent her away, and she departed, and strayed in the wilderness ... (Genesis 21)

No sanctuary. No refuge. Disenfranchisement. Alienation.

SIX OF PENTACLES

And Jacob called unto his sons ... Joseph is a fruitful vine, a fruitful vine by a fountain; its branches run over the wall ... with blessings of heaven above, blessings of the deep that coucheth beneath, blessings of the breasts, and of the womb ... (Genesis 50)

Charity. Sustenance. Giving and receiving. Balance restored.

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SEVEN OF PENTACLES

And Leah conceived again, and bore a sixth son to Jacob ... God hath endowed me with a good dowry; now will my husband dwell with me, because I have borne him six sons. And she called his name Zebulun. And afterwards she bore a daughter, and called her name Dinah. (Genesis 29:30)

Enjoyment of achievements. A full and productive life.

EIGHT OF PENTACLES



Aseneth ... found a honeycomb lying on the table, and the comb was as white as snow and full of honey, and its smell was like the breath of life ... And when Joseph saw her, he said ... Come to me, pure virgin, for I have had good news about you from heaven, explaining everything about you (Chapters 1 & 2, 14-17, 19; From Joseph and Aseneth: Translated by David Cook From The Aseneth Home Page website by Dr Mark Goodacre Duke University)

Skillful. Accomplished. Blessed. Fruitful. Mastery.

NINE OF PENTACLES

Tamar thy daughter-in-law ... is with child by harlotry ... And Judah said ... Bring her forth, and let her be burnt ... she sent to her father-

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in-law, saying ... By the man, whose these are, am I with child ... the signet, and the cords, and the staff ... And Judah acknowledged them ... And it came to pass ... twins were in her womb. (Genesis 38)

Independence. Success. Self-reliance. Achievement. A place in the world.

TEN OF PENTACLES

And Moses went up from the plains of Moab unto mount Nebo ... And Yahweh showed him all the land ... This is the land which I swore unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob ... I have caused thee to see it with thine eyes, but thou shalt not go over thither. So Moses ... died there in the land of Moab ... (Deuteronomy 34)

Multiple perspectives. Seasons. Complexity. Agendas.

BAHT OF PENTACLES

And when the queen of Sheba heard of the fame of Solomon ... she came to prove him with hard questions ... king Solomon gave to the queen of Sheba all her desire, whatsoever she asked ... (Kings 10:10)

This card indicates an independent, intelligent and curious young woman going places.

BEN OF PENTACLES

Then said Samuel ... Bring ye hither to me Agag the king of the Amalekites ... As thy sword hath made women childless, so shall thy mother be childless among women. And Samuel hewed Agag in pieces ...

And Yahweh said ... How long wilt thou mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from being king over Israel? fill thy horn with oil, and go ... to Jesse ... I have provided Me a king among his sons ... (Samuel 15: 10, 15 & 16)

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A young man who knows the ropes and how to use them. A mover and shaker but can be cynical and somewhat ruthless in pursuit of his agenda.

AMMA OF PENTACLES

Esther ... was of beautiful form and fair to look on ... So Esther was taken unto king Ahasuerus ... And the king loved Esther above all the women ... so that he set the royal crown upon her head, and made her queen ... (Esther 2)

A woman of substance. A mature woman who pulls you out of the fire. Highly intelligent. Make sure you engage her self-interest.

ABBA OF PENTACLES

And Solomon said ... Give Thy servant therefore an understanding heart to judge ... between good and evil ... (Kings 3:13)

A wise and patient mature man. A just leader and judge.

SWORDS - THE POWER OF THOUGHT

ALEPH OF SWORDS

And it came to pass at the end of forty days, that Noah opened the window of the ark ... And he sent forth a raven, and it went forth to and fro, until the waters were dried up from off the earth. (Genesis 8)

Thwarted beginning. Not ready to start. Insufficient thought or planning. Need for planning.

TWO OF SWORDS

And Jephthah vowed a vow ... whatsoever cometh forth of the doors of my house to meet me ... it shall be Yahweh's, and I will offer it up for a burnt-offering ... and, behold, his daughter came out to meet him with

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timbrels and with dances; and she was his only child ... And it came to pass at the end of two months, that she returned unto her father, who did with her according to his vow which he had vowed; and she had not known man. (Judges 11)

Arrested development. Self-sacrifice. Self-destruction. Self-abnegation. Self-denial. Stunted growth.

THREE OF SWORDS

O my son Absalom, my son, my son! Absalom! would I had died for thee, O Absalom, my son, my son! (Samuel 2:18)

Heartbreak. Sorrow. Loss. Grief. Completion.

FOUR OF SWORDS

Lazarus is dead ... he had lain in the grave four days already ... (John 11)

Rest. Reprieve. Withdrawal.

FIVE OF SWORDS

Behold, this dreamer cometh ... and sold Joseph to the Ishmaelites for twenty shekels of silver. And they brought Joseph into Egypt. (Genesis 37)

Conflict. Skulduggery. Betrayal. Winners and losers. Hard feelings.

SIX OF SWORDS

And they went in unto Noah into the ark, two and two of all flesh wherein is the breath of life ... And the flood was forty days upon the earth; and the waters increased, and bore up the ark, and it was lifted up above the earth ... (Genesis 7)

Forced journey. Escape. Leaving a difficult situation. Sorrow. Anxiety.

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SEVEN OF SWORDS



And her lord rose up in the morning ... the woman his concubine was fallen down at the door of the house ... then he took her up upon the ass ... And when he was come into his house, he took a knife, and laid hold on his concubine, and divided her, limb by limb, into twelve pieces, and sent her throughout all the borders of Israel. (Judges 19)

Malice. Injustice. Conflict. Disaster. Rape. Lies. Betrayal. Skulduggery. Deceit. War.

EIGHT OF SWORDS

[King] Ahasuerus ... commanded ... to bring Vashti the queen ... with the crown royal, to show ... her beauty; for she was fair to look on. But the queen Vashti refused ... therefore was the king very wroth, and his anger burned in him.

Captured by convention. Limitations. Betrayed by social conventions. No win situation.

NINE OF SWORDS

Then was Daniel brought in before the king ... I will read the writing unto the king, and make known to him the interpretation ... MENE, God hath numbered thy kingdom, and brought it to an end. PERES,

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Thou art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting. PERES, thy kingdom is divided, and given to the Medes and Persians ... In that night Belshazzar the Chaldean king was slain. (Daniel 5)

TEN OF SWORDS

Blessed above women shall Joel be ... Her hand she put to the tent-pin, and her right hand to the workmen's hammer, and with the hammer she smote Sisera ... At her feet he sunk, he fell, at her feet he sunk, he fell, where he sunk, there he fell down dead. (Judges 5)

Terror. Devastation. Despair. Defeat.

BAHT OF SWORDS



And [Delilah] said ... How comest thou say ... I love thee ... thou hast mocked me these three times, and hast not told me wherein thy great strength lieth ... And he told her all his heart ... If I be shaven, then my strength will go from me, and I shall become weak, and be like any other man ... Delilah ... made him sleep upon her knees ... and had the seven locks of his head shaven ... and his strength went from him. (Judges 16)

A cunning and self-serving young woman. Able to be manipulated by others for personal gain.

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BEN OF SWORDS

And Samson took four hold of the two middle pillars upon which the house rested, and leaned upon them ... And he bent with all his might; and the house fell upon the lords, and upon all the people that were therein. So the dead that he slew at his death were more than they that he slew in his life. (Judges 16)

A strong young man. Not un-intelligent, but subtle. Makes poor choices in many areas of his life where he lets his passions interfere with rational thought.

AMMA OF SWORDS

Jezabel ... painted her eyes, and attired her head, and looked out at the window. And as Jehu entered in at the gate, she said ... thy master's murderer! ... This is Jezabel. (Kings 2:9)

A mature woman, devoted and protective of her own. Has experienced opposition and vilification. She stands her ground.

ABBA OF SWORDS

Saul had put away those that divined by a ghost or a familiar spirit out of the land ... Saul disguised himself ... and he said ... Divine unto me ... by a ghost, and bring me up whomsoever I shall name ... Bring me up Samuel ... (Samuel 1:31)

A good man poorly dealt with by the gods and vagaries of life. A tendency to become obsessed with a person or idea.

SOURCES

Masoretic Text Of The Hebrew Bible

This translation of the Masoretic Text is dated 1917 and is published online through a number of websites. The majority of passages used

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in the Lilit Bible tarot are taken from this text. The Masoretic text is commonly called the Hebrew Bible by Jews and the Old Testament by Christians. References to scripture provide sufficient information should you wish to source the original text. Scripture taken from other sources is more fully referenced.



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