

Tarot & Kabbalah in the Gnostic Tradition – Notes 04

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Arcanum 1 – Aleph 8

English: *The Magician*

Spanish: *El Mago*. Meaning “Magician (magician, wizard; Magus, one of the Magi, one of the wise men who came from the East to worship the baby Jesus)”

French: *Le Bateleur; Le Mage*. Meaning “Juggler (tumbler, street entertainer or street performer); “Magus, one of the Magi (one of the wise men who came from the East to worship the baby Jesus)”

Meaning: Man. Sword. Willpower. Active. Power. Unity.

Transcendental Axiom: “BE IN YOUR WORKS AS YOU ARE IN YOUR THOUGHTS.”



Explanation of the Card: In the superior part of the card the eyes represent the Eyes of the Father, internally representing the Infinite, the Holy Eight ∞ , which is also the Caduceus of Mercury, and the 8 Kabirs who direct the planet. The Magician is shown with right-side profile, signifying that for the manifested, the right side is all. On his forehead the Serpent protrudes, indicating that he is arisen, that he is a Self-Realized Master. On the table, before the Magician, are the Swords, the Cups and the Pentacles. In his left hand, he holds the magic Wand or the ‘Staff of Power’ (which symbolizes the spinal column) and is pointing toward the infinite. The right hand points toward the Earth, indicating that he dominates it with the science, that one must ascend from below, “one cannot ascend without first descending”, one needs to descend to the Ninth Sphere (which has two representations: the first is Sex, the Cubic Stone; the second is the Nine Circles, the Atomic Infernos into which the Initiate has to descend, symbolizing “to descend in order to ascend”). Upon his garment is a triangle with the apex facing upwards, representing the 3 Primary Forces reunited in Kether, the 1.

To one side there is a table (which represents the 4 Elements: Earth, Water, Fire & Air; as well as the Physical plane). On the table one finds various elements in a state of disorder: the Sword of Power (the Lingam, male sexual organ), a Chalice or Cup (which represents the physical brain in one way and in another way it represents the Yoni, female sexual organ) and a Pentacle or Moon which must be converted into a Sun. Beneath the table one finds the Immortal Ibis, the Phoenix Bird, the Kala-Hamsa Swan, the Holy Spirit which symbolizes Love. This bird is beneath the table, indicating that it is by means of the Sacred Fire of the Third Logos that we have to order the disordered elements upon the table. In the inferior part of the card, in The Waters of Life we find The Cubic Stone, The Philosophical Stone which has already been shaped indicating to us that this is the work which we must realize, this is the Cubic Stone of Yesod, Sex, “The Stumbling Block and the Rock of Scandal”.

Related Explanation: Magic is the traditional science of the secrets of nature, which comes to us from the magi. The first magical science is the knowledge of oneself. The first of all of the works of the science (which encloses all the others and which is the principle of the great work) is the *creation of oneself*.

Magic, which the ancients called the *sanctum regnum* (the holy kingdom) or *regnum Dei* (the kingdom of God), only exists for kings & queens and for priests & priestesses. Are you a priest or priestess? Are you a king or queen? The priesthood of magic is not a vulgar priesthood, and its royalty has nothing to discuss with the princes of this world. The kings & queens of this science are the priests & priestesses of truth, and their reign remains hidden from the multitudes, just like their prayers and their sacrifices.

The kings & queens of this science are the men & women who know the truth and whom the truth has made free (see John 8:32). The man or woman who is enslaved by their passions or by their worldly prejudices can not be an *adept*, they will never succeed, as long as they don't reform themselves. The man or woman who loves their own ideas and is afraid to lose them, who dreads new truths and who is not prepared to doubt everything rather than admit something by chance: that person must leave these studies because it will be useless and dangerous for them. They will badly comprehend it and it will become troublesome to them, but they would be in even greater danger if by chance they understood it well...

Practice 1

The occultist should, first of all, reveal to themselves all their defects, without deception and with true honesty. Here is the first practice: To occupy oneself every night, for at least five minutes, with one's own defects, thinking of them and making the most fervent promise to amend them.

Practice 2

Achieve a still and silent state of mind, go to sleep thinking of the figure of the Holy Eight ∞ (Infinity). One may also make an outline upon the heart in the shape of this figure ∞. Allow the said figure to submerge itself into your Consciousness, then place the mind in a blank state, without thinking of anything. Thus, after a certain period of time: You will awaken consciousness in that region which is called the Astral World.

Practice 3

Right before going to bed, concentrate on the Sacred Order of Tibet and on the Holy Eight ∞, calling the **Master Bagavan Aclaiva**; he will assist you to travel in the Astral Body. Some night we will be called to the Lodge of Tibet and we will be submitted to seven tests in the Himalayan Temple. When one is called, one is pulled by the feet so that one may present oneself in an upright position. One must have courage because we will be submitted to many very hard tests. We will be decapitated and pierced through the heart with a sword, and when this happens one must have valor (strength of spirit that enables a person to encounter danger with firmness). One who has aspiration and constancy will triumph.

