

In the *The Lovers* card, (vi) we see a naked woman and man standing between two trees. They are unashamed and represent humanity living in harmony together. The harmony exists because the lovers recognise that they exist under the wisdom and light of the Great Divine.



But this is not what *The Devil*, card (xv) shows. Rejecting the authority of the Great Divine the Woman and Man are now in chains to the Devil. This card graphically reminds us how we have lost that original wonderful harmony and wound up in spiritual, emotional and physical brokenness.



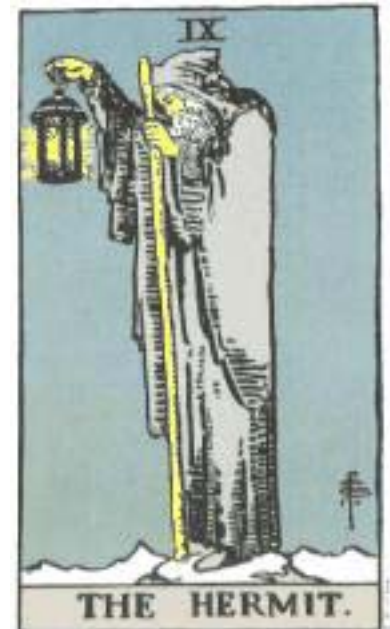
The Death card (xiii) shows the Grim Reaper and teaches us that as a result of our losing Paradise we suffer hurts, disharmony, selfishness and finally death. But is death truly the end? If you look carefully at the right hand side of this card there is a river, and across from it a celestial city. Death is *not* the end, but the beginning of another journey!



So how can we get the wisdom needed to deal with our lack of harmony, and the certainty of death? *The Tower* (xvi) shows a tower being struck by lightning from heaven and people scattered. It reminds us of our futile efforts to regain Paradise unaided by the Divine.



So what can we do? All of us are on a journey to understand this eternal mystery. *The Hermit* (ix) represents our journey. We long for a lamp filled with spiritual light, and a True Guide to lead us to our proper destination. This card represents us, and our journey. Is there someone to guide us on this journey?



We long for an eternal Guide. *The Magician* (i) depicts a youthful figure with the Sign of Infinity above his head. In his upheld hand is a wand, while his other hand points down to earth. On the table before him is a cup, wand, sword and pentacle (the four suits of the Minor Arcana). The Sign of Infinity identifies him as the Eternal One. In his hand is the Wand of Grace and as his other hand points to earth this tells us that God's grace comes down from heaven to us. The symbols of the four suits represent the four elements: earth, air, fire, water. The Eternal One who brings us Grace also controls all of nature.



The only unnumbered card is *The Fool*, the most potent one in the deck. Waite said The Fool represents the Prince from the Other World on his travels through ours but nobody recognizes him. As "the fool" Jesus' wisdom deflates our pretensions and points us back to him as the Way back to Paradise. This reminds us of Jesus who came into the world, but sadly many people did not recognize him.



but is a part of our eternal journey we can embrace! It is through coming to know Jesus as our Guru and absolute Master we can claim such a bold and reassuring hope!

But this is not all! By being a true follower of Jesus, we are empowered by his pure and eternal *strength* (viii). This great strength will never leave us. It empowers us to walk closely with God, to live a life that enriches our fellow humanity and our planet. This strength empowers us to be the person we were created to be.



The Fool, Jesus was crucified as depicted by the *The Hanged Man*. (xii) But rather than the cross being the sad end, the Cross is a living tree that forms a bridge! The cross is a potent symbol reminding us of Jesus Christ's death for us bringing reconciliation between God and us. Jesus is the key to understanding our journey! Jesus is the answer!!



Is Jesus the final key you have been looking for in your journey with God? Make the decision to follow Jesus today, and enjoy the peace and strength he brings. Read about him in the New Testament, pray to him and grow in your faith and grow daily in the strength of God.

If you want to talk more about Jesus, please contact us via;

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/community_of_hope

Judgement, (xx) shows an angel blowing the Last Trumpet where all people will be raised up from the grave. On the trumpet is a St. George's Cross signifying that the Eternal One went to the Cross to release us from the curse of death and raise us up to ever-lasting life. Death is then not a sad meaningless mystery, but by Jesus we can be eternally healed and eternally empowered! Judgement then, is not something we should fear,

