

How to Use BROTHERHOOD of LIGHT Egyptian Tarot Cards



SAMPLE

I ♀
II ♂
III ♀
IV ♂
V ♀
VI ♀
VII ♂
VIII ♀
IX ♀
X ♀
XI ♀
XII ♀
XIII ♀
XIV ♀
XV ♀
XVI ♀
XVII ♀
XVIII ♀
XIX ♀
XX ♀
XXI ♀
XXII ♀

	♈ ♉ ♊	
K	♏ ♍ ♌	LION
Q	♎ ♍ ♌	EAGLE
J	♏ ♍ ♌	BULL
H		

MAN

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INTRODUCTION

The Brotherhood of Light Egyptian Tarot deck comprises the companion cards to the widely acclaimed book *The Sacred Tarot* by C. C. Zain, published by The Church of Light.

This booklet contains a small sampling of the information contained in the complete book. *The Sacred Tarot* provides a full history of tarot, detailed interpretations, and complete instructions on how to use the cards. The book reveals the relationships between the Tarot and the Kabala, astrology, alchemy, magic, numerology, Mystery School Initiation, Bible study, and Free Masonry. The profusely-illustrated book is indexed and contains descriptions for twelve different tarot spreads. Also included is a detailed table of correspondences which shows the correlations between each Tarot major arcanum and its associated herb, gem, mineral, Hebrew, Egyptian, and Roman glyph, as well as the correct numerological and astrological associations.

This complete set of Egyptian Tarot cards consists of 22 Major Arcana, 40 Minor Arcana and 16 Court cards for a total of 78 cards. The following pages of this booklet provide short descriptions and interpretations for each of the 78 cards. Also included are two of the more commonly used tarot spreads.

WHY BROTHERHOOD OF LIGHT TAROT CARDS?

Following in the tradition of the Hermetic Brotherhood of Light, these tarot cards are an integral part of an internally consistent exposition of occult science in which astrology, alchemy and magic (the tarot) are integrated.

Unique to this system is the correspondence of the twelve zodiacal signs and thirty-six ultra zodiacal decanate constellations to the Major and Minor Arcana. (The books *Spiritual Astrology* and *Delineating the Horoscope* by C. C. Zain lend deeper meaning to the Minor Arcana.)

Color is an important factor in focusing the unconscious mind's ability to extract inner meaning from each card. Each of the Major Arcana is associated with a corresponding color. In this deck, that color is represented in the cartouche border. The first nine Minor Arcana correspond to the first nine Major Arcana. For example, Arcanum I corresponds to Mercury and its color is Violet. In turn Mercury, as significator of study, writing, correspondence and travel, gives meaning to each of the aces: news of a business opportunity (scepters); news of sickness or death (swords); short journey (coins); and, a letter from a loved one (cups). The cartouche border for Arcanum I and the Aces is violet. The pat-

tern continues: Arcanum II, Virgo—science and labor (dark violet); Arcanum III, Libra—partnership, open enemies, lawsuits, public dealings (light yellow); Arcanum IV, Scorpio—fruitfulness, legacies, spirit communion, the dead and partner's money (dark red) etc. up to Arcanum X which is Uranus (dazzling white) which signifies sudden change and the end of the mundane cycle of significance.

The Sacred Tarot by C. C. Zain contains a complete exposition of these correspondences.

ABOUT THE CARD BACKS:

The inspiration for the card back is derived from the tradition of the "carpet page" found in illuminated manuscripts such as the 8th Century Lindisfarne Gospels.

The design is composed of two mirrored images. The core design is a diamond shape. Within the diamond is found the emblem of The Brotherhood of Light, which tells the story of the soul's journey to attain Self Conscious Immortality. There are two interlaced trines with a united sun and moon at the apex. Surrounding the interlaced trines are seven stars and the four fixed signs of the zodiac. The base of the dark downward-pointing trine depicts the point where the twin souls (Divine Spark of Deity) separate to begin their involution into matter. The upward-pointing

light trine, whose base is fixed in matter, depicts the evolutionary journey of the separated souls and their ascent through matter into higher dimensions to achieve the reunion of soul-mates (conjoined sun and moon). The four fixed signs, in clockwise motion represent the cyclic progression of time through the zodiac while the stars represent experience through the septenary form.

Around the diamond shaped pattern are found four triangles containing the four fixed-sign animals of the zodiac. These animals are not in counter-clockwise, zodiacal order. Instead, they are read in clockwise order and form the Masonic formula for mastership which is: To Know (Aquarius); To Dare (Leo); To Do (Taurus); and, To Be Silent (Scorpio).

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE BROTHERHOOD OF LIGHT EGYPTIAN TAROT

The oldest existing tarot cards are from mid-fifteenth century Milan. These cards are from several decks spread across numerous collections and collectively are referred to as the Visconti-Sforza deck. In the late eighteenth century a manuscript titled *Egyptian Mysteries* began circulating in Europe among Masonic and Occult circles. Attributed to Iamblichus, it describes the ritual of Egyptian initiation and includes descriptions of the tarot trumps as reliefs carved into the columns of the initiation chamber.

Modern scholarship disputes Iamblichus' authorship of the manuscript and suggests that it is a contemporary work from the mid to late 1700s. Regardless of the antiquity of the manuscript, it is one of the oldest works to explore the philosophical rather than the divinatory significance of the cards. Subsequent occult writers drew heavily upon this manuscript including Paul Christian (Jean-Baptiste Pitois), author of *Historie de la Magie* (1870).

The prototype for all future "Egyptian" decks was designed in 1896 by Maurice Otto Wegener and published as *Les XXII lames hermétiques du Tarot divinatoire* by R. Falconnier.

In *Practical Astrology*, published in 1901, the author Edgar de Valcourt-Vermont, writing under the pseudonym of Comte C. de Saint Germain, borrowed heavily from the Falconnier-Wegener images as well as the writings of Paul Christian. The images from *Practical Astrology* were the cards used by C. C. Zain when he began writing *The Brotherhood of Light Lessons* in 1912. In *The Sacred Tarot*, the companion volume to this tarot deck, Zain also references the older manuscript and includes translations from Christian.

The first Brotherhood of Light Egyptian Tarot Cards were designed by Gloria Beresford in 1936. In 2003, Vicki Brewer redesigned the original black and white Brotherhood of Light images, and in 2009 she completed these full-color Egyptian tarot cards.

OTHER BROTHERHOOD OF LIGHT BOOKS PUBLISHED
BY THE CHURCH OF LIGHT SINCE 1932 INCLUDE:

- CS I, Laws of Occultism
- CS II, Astrological Signatures
- CS III, Spiritual Alchemy
- CS IV, Ancient Masonry
- CS V, Esoteric Psychology
- CS VI, The Sacred Tarot
- CS VII, Spiritual Astrology
- CS VIII, Horary Astrology
- CS IX, Mental Alchemy
- CS X-1, Natal Astrology: Delineating the Horoscope
- CS X-2, Natal Astrology: Progressing the Horoscope
- CS XI, Divination and Character Reading
- CS XII-1, Natural Alchemy: Evolution of Life
- CS XII-2, Natural Alchemy: Evolution of Religion
- CS XIII, Mundane Astrology
- CS XIV, Occultism Applied
- CS XV, Weather Predicting
- CS XVI, Stellar Healing
- CS XVII, Cosmic Alchemy
- CS XVIII, Imponderable Forces
- CS XIX, Organic Alchemy
- CS XX, The Next Life
- CS XXI, Personal Alchemy