

HOLISTIC TAROT

- others: for it is fitting, that before the rising of the Sun, there should appear and break forth Aurora, or some clearness, or divine light in the sky.” *Fama Fraternitatis: To the Wise and Understanding Reader* (an English translation of the *Fama Fraternitatis Rosae Crucis* (1614)), “Rosicrucianism,” The Hermetic Library at Hermetic.com, <http://hermetic.com/rosicrucianism/fama-fraternitatis.html>.
54. Piotr Dimianovich (P. D.) Ouspensky, *The Symbolism of the Tarot* (New York: Dover Publications Inc., 1976), 55.
 55. Ouspensky, *The Symbolism of the Tarot*, 56.
 56. Levi, *The Key of the Mysteries*, 30–31.
 57. Paul Carus, *History of the Devil* (Chicago: Open Court Publishing Co., 1900), 104–105.
 58. Carus, *History of the Devil*, 111–112.
 59. The name Baphomet first appeared in twelfth-century France. It is generally known as the false idol that the Knights Templar were accused of worshipping during the Inquisition. When 231 members of the Knights Templar were interrogated by the Church, twelve admitted under torture of knowledge of the idol. Yet historic records indicate that it was not the worship of an idol called Baphomet that led to the persecution of the Templars, but rather the alleged worship of deities or figurines that appeared to have multiple heads or faces. “Myth of the Baphomet,” Grand Lodge of British Columbia and Yukon, April 17, 2007, <http://freemasonry.bcy.ca/anti-masonry/baphomet.html>.
 60. The eight-pointed star is reminiscent of the Star of Inanna, the Lady of Heaven. The Sumerian goddess Inanna represents fertility and self-determination. The myth of Inanna descending into the underworld is expressed in Key 17: The Star, symbolized in the eight-pointed star on the card, and conveys the Seeker’s descent into his or her personal unconscious, manifesting inner strength after an incident of powerlessness (expressed previously in Key 16: The Tower). There are also strong feminist themes in Key 17, emanating through the Inanna mythos.
 61. Similar to how some are born psychic, some are born empathic, which is an innate trait of feeling other people’s pains and joys as if they were one’s own. Just as psychics are believed to be able to access information from a time or place that is not their own, empaths are believed to be able to access emotions, feelings, sentiments, even thoughts from a mind or soul that is not their own. The way the ability manifests is often as high sensitivity, natural gifts of creativity, and finding cruelty or torture unbearable to witness. The Star card

NOTES

- is the card of the empath. It often appears in readings for those who demonstrate extraordinary empathic abilities. Interesting to note is how empaths often suffer from digestive or stomach problems due to their association with the solar plexus chakra. The solar plexus chakra corresponds with personal power, and an empath often inadvertently channels a great deal of energy through his or her solar plexus, which healthwise often leads to issues with the abdomen, stomach, spleen, intestines, or kidneys.
62. Although the astrological sign Cancer is associated with the crab, note that the word “cancer” was used in classical Greece and Rome to denote many forms of shellfish, and in both Greek and Sanskrit the word has a double meaning as “crayfish.” Thus, even though the character trait of displaying a tough shell-like exterior and vulnerable, emotional interior is associated with the Cancer sign today, that trait extends to general symbolism of the crayfish, as depicted in Key 18: The Moon. J. Ö. Swahn, “The Cultural History of Crayfish,” *Bull. Fr. Pêche Piscic.*, 2004, 243.
 63. Swahn, “The Cultural History of Crayfish,” 245.
 64. See Chapter 9, Note 15.
 65. Even though the sun’s gravitational force also has an effect on the Earth, it is not as great as that of the moon. Note that it is not the moon’s force per se that causes tides, but the tension between the Earth’s pull downward and the moon’s pull upward.
 66. Phrase is inspired by Flannery O’Connor’s short story “Everything That Rises Must Converge.” While the author of this book is not contending any credible connection between O’Connor’s works and the tarot, the title of that remarkable short story does help the literary practitioner better understand the meaning of Key 18: The Moon, especially when the card appears in reverse.
 67. A fascinating detail in Key 19 of the Rider-Waite-Smith is the inclusion of the word “LOVE” beneath Smith’s signature. Mary K. Greer, one of the most celebrated contemporary tarot experts today, is credited as the first to observe the detail. See Jensen, “The Early Waite-Smith Editions,” 37.
 68. Levi, *The Key of the Mysteries*, 33–34.
 69. On the theme of duality and dichotomy throughout the Majors: The Fool denotes a choice resulting in flying or falling off the edge of the cliff; The Magician, whether upright or reverse, is about creation versus destruction; The High Priestess is about duality, and the twin pillars Jachin and Boaz signify the balance of knowledge and intuition; the relationship between Key I and Key II, The Magician and The High Priestess; the relationship between