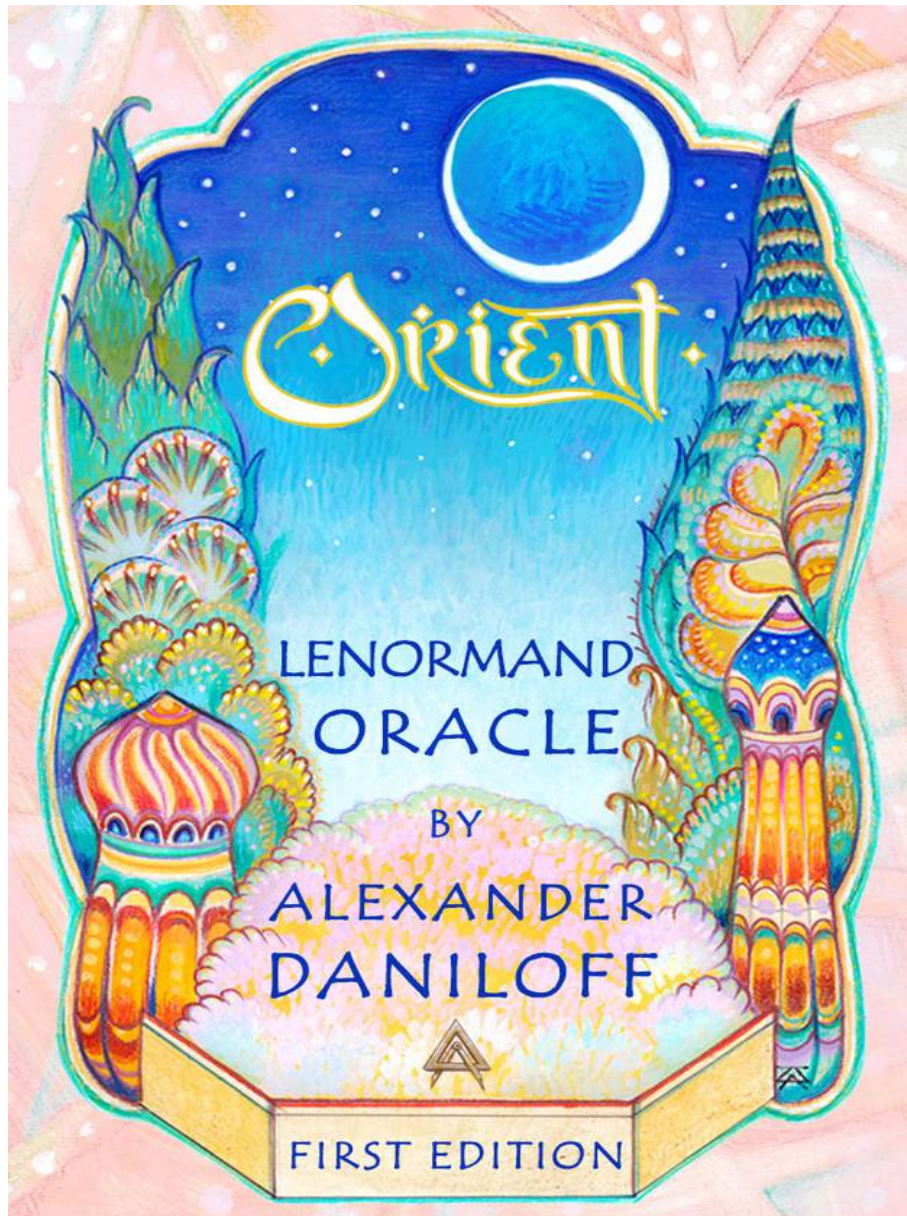


THE ORIENT LENORMAND

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WHO AND WHAT IS THE LENORMAND ORACLE?

Marie Anne Adelaide Lenormand was a famous fortune-teller in Napoleonic-era France. After her death in 1843, European games manufacturers capitalised on her fame by using her name to promote new card games such as the Lenormand Oracle.

For this new adventure into the world of Lenormand, Alexander Daniloff has been inspired by the sumptuous art of the Middle- and Far East.



The Orient Lenormand is a 36-card deck and comprises of a main image, a playing card reference, a title and number. Using Snake as an example – a snake twisting around a tree stump is the main image. Below this is the number and the card title. In the upper area of the card we have a stylised Q and leafy Club symbol. So the woman in that upper corner is the Queen of Clubs

Each Lenormand card has a playing card reference. For the Lenormand cards that are associated with court cards (King, Queen, Knave) they appear as figures in the top corner. The pip cards are presented as the playing card number and the suit symbol.

There are two significator cards – representing the sitter and their significant other. These cards are named Lord and Lady.

ORIENT LENORMAND ORACLE CARD MEANINGS

- | | | |
|--|----------------|-----------------------|
| 1 RIDER | 9 Hearts | House of Messages * |
| News, messenger, delivery – Who is Rider moving towards? Which card is he moving away from? | | |
| 2 CLOVER | 6 Diamonds | House of Luck |
| Luck (small), opportunity, lessens adverse affects of less positive cards. | | |
| 3 SHIP | 10 Spades | House of Travel |
| Travel, adventure, abroad, holiday. Which card is Ship moving towards? | | |
| 4 HOUSE | King of Hearts | House of Home Affairs |
| Home, place of safety, immediate environment | | |
| 5 TREE | 7 Hearts | House of Health |
| Health, growth, longevity, hereditary – when close to Significator, ill health | | |
| 6 CLOUDS | King of Clubs | House of Confusion |
| Confusion, fog, conflict and lack of clarity. Note that there is not a dark or light side to the clouds in this card. | | |
| 7 SNAKE | Queen of Clubs | House of Troubles |
| Betrayal, sudden trouble, malign intent, a deceitful woman – What card is the snake's head next to? What card is the tail pointing to? | | |

For uses of Houses, see p7

8	COFFIN	9 Diamonds	House of Endings (Slow)
	Natural ending, emptying, death.		
9	BOUQUET	Queen of Spades	House of Appreciation
	Luck (significant), gift, pleasure, delight, pretty		
10	SCYTHE	Knave of Diamonds	House of Endings (Fast)
	Damage, cutting down, sudden termination, surgery – Where does the tip of the Sythe point? That is where the danger lies.		
11	WHIP	Knave of Clubs	House of Repetition or Punishment
	Argument, anger, abuse, punishment, repeated activity such as exercise.		
12	BIRDS	7 Diamonds	House of Chatter
	Chatter, gossip, phone call, a couple		
13	CHILD	Knave of Spades	House of Children
	Young person, child-like, beginnings, minor		
14	FOX	9 Clubs	House of Work
	Deception, clever trickster, employment/work		
15	BEAR	10 Clubs	House of Authority Figures
	Strength, protection, powerful business person – see the cub hiding in the tree!		
16	STARS	6 Hearts	House of Dreams/Goals
	Guidance, navigation, optimism, hopes, dreams, a multitude		
17	STORK	Queen of Hearts	House of Changes
	Pregnancy, improvement, promotion, new home, movement, change		
18	DOG	10 Hearts	House of Friends
	Loyalty, friendship, advice, trustworthy, pet		
19	TOWER	6 Spades	House of Officialdom
	Authority, bureaucracy, rules, seat of power, superiority, vertical arrangement, tallness		
20	GARDEN	8 Spades	House of Social Events
	Social, party, public space, networking, many people		
21	MOUNTAIN	8 Clubs	House of Obstacles
	Obstruction, struggle, resistance, delay		
22	CROSSROADS	Queen of Diamonds	House of Options
	Options, decisions, other way, re-route		
23	MICE	7 Clubs	House of Anxiety/Losses
	Losses, damage, theft, anxiety, subtraction		
24	HEART	Knave of Hearts	House of Love
	Love, happiness, romance, heart-led		

25	RING	Ace Clubs	House of Commitments
	Contract, promises, engagement, stability		
26	BOOK	10 Diamonds	House of Secrets
	Secrets, information, study, knowledge, diary, privacy, code.		
27	LETTER	7 Spades	House of Letters
	Written correspondence – document, text, email, tweet, social networking post Where is Letter being delivered?		
28	LORD (MAN)	Ace Hearts	House of Main Focus (if Male) or House of Significant Other
	This card represents the sitter, if your sitter identifies as male and this card acts as the significator. Lord can also be the significant other or husband, brother, son, male friend etc.		
29	LADY (WOMAN)	Ace Spades	House of Main Focus (if Female) House of Significant Other
	This card usually represents the sitter, if your sitter identifies as female and this card acts as the spread's significator. Lady can also be wife, sister, daughter, female friend etc.		
30	LILY	King of Spades	House of Family
	Peace, purity, older generation, libido, family		
31	SUN	Ace Diamonds	House of Success
	Success, illumination, glory, positive outcome		
32	MOON	8 Hearts	House of Reputation
	Reflected glory, perception by others, creativity, emotions, intuition		
33	KEY	8 Diamonds	House of Answers
	Solution, answer, understanding, locking/unlocking		
34	FISH	King of Diamonds	House of Money
	business events, money, assets, enterprise		
35	ANCHOR	9 Spades	House of Stability
	Security, endurance, imited movement, holding fast		
36	CROSS	6 Clubs	House of Burdens
	Suffering, religion, burden, sacrifice		

HOW TO READ THE LENORMAND ORACLE - BASICS

This leaflet will merely provide you with the first steps on your Lenormand journey – there are many wonderful resources – free and paid - which are available in many languages that will help you develop your skills and provide nuanced and useful readings.

Lenormand readings are usually **Strings**, **Grids** or a **Grand Tableau**. They mostly interpreted in pairs and the proximity to the significator should also be taken into account.

Significators

Significators are important beginning points in Lenormand readings. In the Orient Oracle, you are provided with 28 Lord and 29 Lady. If your sitter identifies as male, you use the Lord card. If your sitter identifies as female, the Lady card may be chosen. Your sitter's significant other is identified by the other significator.

You can, of course, simply allow a significator card to arise randomly from any part of the deck. You may also wish to intentionally select an appropriate significator depending upon the topic of the reading. For example: a reading concerning money may lead you to select **Fish** as the significator. A reading about a friend may lead you to select **Dog**.

Card Order

The order of the two cards makes a difference to how you interpret them. For example:



Clover + Coffin	Luck (Clover) runs out (Coffin).
Coffin + Clover	An ending (Coffin) proves lucky (Clover).

Mirroring

You can read one card and pair it with any card which lies in a mirrored position. For example, in the 3-card string outlined on p6, Scythe mirrors Dog. This is very useful in spreads of five or more cards.

Corners

If you are performing a 3 x 3 card grid or a Grand Tableau, you can also read the corner cards of your spread as pairs. These can be interpreted as the 'boundaries' or 'limitations' of the spread.

Cross

In a grid spread or a Grand Tableau, the cards that lie either side of the central significator card and directly above and below, form a cross. These can be read together in pairs too. Since these cards are in direct contact with the significator, they are very close or very strongly felt.

Knighting

If you are familiar with the game of chess, you will know how the Knight chess piece moves – two to the side and one up or down, or one to the side and two up or down. You can read the cards that 'knight' another, in pairs.

As you can see, the possibilities for multiple pairing explains why Lenormand cards do not have positional values in a reading in the same way as Tarot cards do.

READING IN STRINGS

Unlike Tarot readings which can often be a single card, Lenormand readings are divined in 'strings' of two or more cards and read in pairs. Using a string of up to seven cards will provide a very detailed answer to a question.

Strings are read from left to right, with the first card regarded as the main topic under consideration and the other cards affecting it. Here is an example:



Dog + Anchor + Scythe

A friend's (Dog) security (Anchor) has come to an abrupt end (Scythe). The main topic is Dog. The other cards refer to Dog.

Lenormand cards can be taken very literally and Dog CAN mean a dog or Rider could refer to equestrian sports or someone one on horseback!

READING A 3 x 3 CARD GRID (9-CARD SPREAD)

For readings of more than seven cards, use a grid format. The most common grid format for Lenormand readings is the 3 x 3 grid for nine cards.

Here is an example of a 9-card grid:

Cross	Bouquet	Tower
Dog	Scythe	Key
Sun	Moon	Star

Scythe is the central card and is a randomly chosen significator – so the spread wants to talk about swift endings.

The first card laid is Cross, then Bouquet, Tower and Dog. The spread ends with Star.

Do not be daunted by the number of cards – start with Cross, Bouquet and Tower and interpret as a string of three cards, reading in pairs. Then move onto the middle line and then the bottom line. Then do the same with the cards that make up the three columns.

Here are some examples of the mirror, corner, cross and knighting cards mentioned earlier, as they arise in this 3 x 3 spread.

Mirrored cards – Dog mirrors Key, Cross mirrors Star, Tower also mirrors Star etc.

The corner cards are Cross and Tower, Sun and Star.

The cross cards are Bouquet and Key, Dog and Moon

The Knighting cards. Cross is knighted by Key and Moon. For Bouquet the knighting cards are Sun and Star etc.

The largest spread that you can perform with the Lenormand Oracle is The Grand Tableau.

READING THE GRAND TABLEAU - BASICS

In this spread, the cards are shuffled and laid out in four rows of eight cards (4 x 8), beginning with the top left card as the first card laid down. The last four cards in your hand are laid in a separate row, beneath the final row of eight cards. All 36 cards are now used.

This is a very in-depth reading, but all the techniques outlined above can be used in the Grand Tableau.

To begin, find your sitter's significator (Lord or Lady) and the card for their significant other. Also consider the card that best represents the sitter's topic for the spread (for a health issue, this could be Tree) or perhaps the card representing the Significant Other.

Work your way methodically (in pairs) through the cards around your significator and significant cards. Remember to look at the corner cards, the knighting cards, mirroring cards, 3 x 3 grids etc. Make sense of the cards in the context of your sitter's question.

Near or Far

In the Grand Tableau especially, cards that are close to the Significator (ie touching) are regarded as near. Their effects will be strong on your sitter or happening soon. Cards that are far away from the significator are further away in time or weaker in their effects.

Houses

Although all our cards are placed randomly in the rows of the Tableau, we can regard each space that they occupy as a 'House', running from 1 - 36. Look back pages 2 – 4 of this document to see the various houses.

Imagine that you have set out a Grand Tableau. The first card in the Tableau may be ANCHOR, but it is sitting in the HOUSE of Card no: 1 which is RIDER and the House name for Rider is the House of Messages. Therefore you can interpret the Anchor and the House as if they are a pair of cards. Mice may be the second card in our Tableau, but it is in the House of 2 CLOVER which is the House of Luck.

Pay attention to the cards which land on the tricky Houses (eg House of Scythe – tells of quick endings) and which Houses the tricky cards (eg Coffin, Mice) land on. Also, see where the lucky cards land and which cards are on the lucky Houses.

The final four cards which do not lie on the four main rows are not part of the Grand Tableau reading. BUT, you can, of course, read them as a small spread in itself. These cards are not active in the Tableau.

There is so much more to learn about reading the Grand Tableau, so please make use of online and published resources to continue your learning journey.

ABOUT ALEXANDER DANILOFF AND HIS WORK

If you are new to Alexander Daniloff's work, please visit his website at:

<http://www.daniloff-art.it>

There you will be able to explore all his Tarot and Oracle imagery as well as his commissioned artworks.

[Facebook](#) @TarotByAlexanderDaniloff

[Instagram](#) @alexanderdaniloff

LENORMAND RESOURCES

There are many wonderful free and paid-for resources now available for the Lenormand Oracle in many languages. This little booklet barely scratches the surface, but gives you enough information to make a start. Good luck!

Leaflet for Alexander Daniloff's Orient Lenormand by Alison Cross: All errors and omissions are my own.