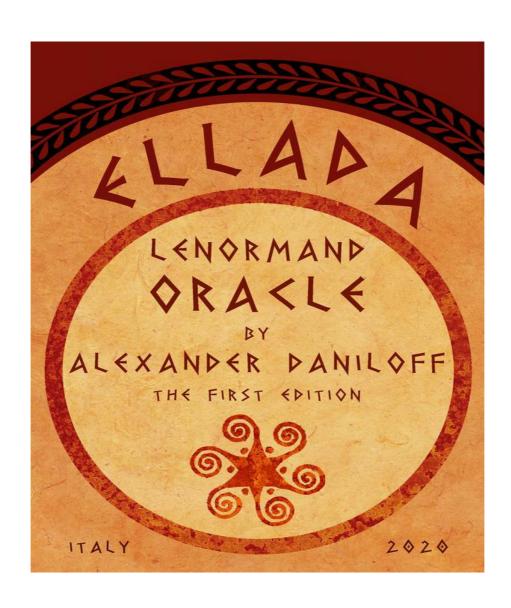
# THE ELLADA LENORMAND

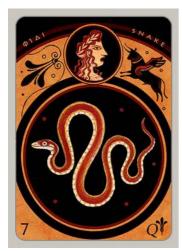
# ALEXANDER DANILOFF

**JUNE 2020** 



#### 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 his second adventure into the world of Lenormand, Alexander Daniloff has named his Oracle after the ancient name for Greece, Ellada. He has been inspired by ancient Greek art and the rich, earthy palette of traditional Greek terracotta. This is a set of 36 cards with an additional Man and Woman card option which allows the reader to make a wider and more inclusive range of relationship pairings. There is also a blank card and the card with the deck's Limited Edition details.

Illustrated here is the Snake card. In the bottom left corner, we see the card numbers, 1-36. Snake is Card 7. In the opposite corner, we see the playing card reference. In this instance, the Queen of Clubs.

We also see the Queen of Clubs as an image on the arc that borders the central snake image. To the left of the portrait is a stylised symbol of the suit – in this case a stylised club. On the right we have a mythical Greek beast – a winged bull.

Above this, in another arc, we see Snake written in Greek and in English.

All the cards are marked up with their traditional number, playing card reference and their titles in Greek and English. The exceptions are the two pairs of Man and Woman cards which are presented with only their Greek titles, not in English.

## ELLADA 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.

For uses of Houses, see p7

7 **SNAKE** Queen of Clubs House o. 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? 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? **WHIP** Knave of Clubs House of Repetition or Punishment 11 Argument, anger, abuse, punishment, repeated activity such as exercise. 12 BIRDS 7 Diamonds House of Chatter Chatter, gossip, phone call, a couple - Which card is Owl moving towards or away from? Knave of Spades House of Children Young person, child-like, beginnings, minor – Whose attention does the Child attract? 14 **FOX** 9 Clubs House of Work Deception, clever trickster, employment/work House of Authority Figures 15 **BEAR** 10 Clubs 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** Oueen of Hearts House of Changes Pregnancy, improvement, promotion, new home, movement, change – Which card does Stork regard? House of Friends 18 DOG 10 Hearts Loyalty, friendship, advice, trustworthy, pet 19 **TOWER** 6 Spades House of Officialdom Authority, bureaucracy, rules, seat of power, superiority, vertical arrangement 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 KYPIOE** (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. **Kypioe** can also be the significant other or husband, brother, son, male friend etc.

29 KYPIA (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. **Kypia** can also be wife, sister, daughter, female friend etc.

Please note that Alexander's deck contains additional KYPIOE and KYPIA cards to help create many permutations of partnership. Use only the best two options for your sitter. Do not use all four cards within a reading.

**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 Ellada Oracle, you are provided with two options for Cards for 28 and 29. If your sitter identifies as male, you can use the 28 **Man** card. If your sitter identifies as female, the 28 **Woman** card may be chosen.

Your sitter's partner or significant other can be represented by any one of the other significators provided (M/F, M/M, F/F or F/M).

You can, of course, allow a significator to arise randomly from any part of the deck. You may also wish to choose 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 + Coffi. 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 + Scyth

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 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 (Man or Woman) 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 cross cards, 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'.

For example, the first card in our Grand Tableau may be Anchor, but the HOUSE belongs to 1 The Rider. Mice may be the second card in our Tableau, and it is in the HOUSE of 2 Clover ... the last card in the Tableau falls on the House of the Cross. Interpret the card in relation to the House, just as you would if they were before you as a pair of cards.

If you look at the list of keywords provided earlier in this leaflet, you will see suggestions for each House. You can then interpret important cards in the Tableau with regard to the House that they are on.

Pay attention to the cards which land on the tricky Houses (eg House of Scythe) and which Houses the tricky cards (eg Coffin) 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.

<u>Facebook.</u> @TarotByAlexanderDaniloff <u>Instagram.</u> @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 Ellada Lenormand by Alison Cross: All errors and omissions are my own.