

LENORMAND
ORACLE



BY
ALEXANDER
DANILOFF

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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 this, the Lenormand Oracle.



The Lenormand Oracle is a set of 36 cards, each containing simple imagery, a playing card reference, the card's number, its title and sometimes a poem or aphorism.

Alexander Daniloff's Lenormand has 40 cards (the standard 36, plus another Lord and Lady card, a blank and the card with the Limited Edition details).

The playing card references appear as flags or court card image inserts. The card's number and name are also provided, in English.

The additional Lord and Lady cards allow the reader to make a wider and more inclusive range of relationship pairings.

LENORMAND ORACLE CARD MEANINGS

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|--|-----------------|-------------------------|
| 1 RIDER | 9 Hearts | House of Messages * |
| News, messenger, delivery – Who is Rider moving towards? Which card is he pointing to? | | |
| 2 CLOVER | 6 Diamonds | House of Luck |
| Luck (small), opportunity, lessens adverse affects of less positive cards - What is Clover rooted in? | | |
| 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 – Where are the Tree's roots? | | |
| 6 CLOUDS | King of Clubs | House of Confusion |
| Confusion, fog, conflict and lack of clarity – Where are the Clouds being blown towards? The Clouds are darker at the bottom of the image and pink at the top. The card above the pink clouds will not be as badly affected by Clouds as the card beneath. | | |
| 7 SNAKE | Queen of Clubs | House of Troubles |
| Betrayal, sudden trouble, malign intent, deceitful woman – Alexander's Snake has the face of a woman. What card is she looking at? What card is her 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 | | |

* For uses of Houses, see p7

- 10 SCYTHE** Knave of Diamonds House of Endings (Fast)
Damage, cutting down, sudden termination, surgery – Where does the tip of the Sythe point?
- 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 – Whose attention does the Child attract?
- 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 – Bear looks in one direction, and his body moves in the other – which cards are affected?
- 16 STARS** 6 Hearts House of Dreams/Goals
Guidance, navigation, optimism, hopes, dreams
- 17 STORK** Queen of Hearts House of Changes
Pregnancy, improvement, promotion, new home, movement, change – Which card does Stork regard?
- 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
- 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 – There is no path through the Mountain!
- 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 – What card is Mice nibbling at?
- 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 – An oak leaf for wisdom!

27 LETTER 7 Spades House of Letters
Written correspondence – document, text, email, tweet, social networking post – Where is Letter being delivered?

28 LORD 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 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. The Lady can also be wife, sister, daughter, female friend etc.

Please note that Alexander's deck contains additional Lord and Lady 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 which are available in many languages that will help you develop your skills and provide nuanced and useful readings. Some Lenormand resources are suggested on p8.

Lenormand readings are usually **Strings, Grids** or a **Grand Tableau**. They mostly interpreted in pairs.

Significators

Significators are important beginning points in Lenormand readings. In the Daniloff Oracle, you are provided with two options for Cards for 28 and 29. If your sitter identifies as male, you can use the 28 Lord card. If your sitter identifies as female, the 28 Lady card may be chosen.

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

You can, of course, allow a signifier to arise randomly from any part of the deck. You may also wish to choose an appropriate signifier depending upon the topic of the reading. For example: a reading concerning money may lead you to select Fish as the signifier. 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 signifier 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 signifier, 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. These can be read 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 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 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.

Facebook: @TarotByAlexanderDaniloff/

Instagram: @alexanderdaniloff

LENORMAND RESOURCES

Books

Andy Borovshengra: [Lenormand Thirty Six Cards: An Introduction To The Petit Lenormand](#) (Createspace Independent Publishing)

Rana George: [The Essential Lenormand](#) (Llewellyn)
www.ranageorge.com

Anthony Louis: [Lenormand Symbols](#) (e-book)

Caitlín Matthews: [The Complete Lenormand Oracle Handbook](#) (Destiny Books)
<http://www.hallowquest.org.uk>

Bjorn Meuris: [The Petit Lenormand Encyclopedia](#) Vol 1 and Vol 2

Videos

Donnaleigh de la Rose: Youtube: [Tarot Tribe Beyond Worlds](#)
www.donnaleigh.com

Toni Puhle: Youtube: [The Card Geek](#)