

Erklärung
Explanaton
Explication

No. 1941

M^{lle} Lenormand
Wahrsagekarten
Cartomancy Deck
Jeu de destin

PIATNIK – VIENNA

Preface

Mademoiselle Lenormand was the nineteenth century's most celebrated fortune-teller. She exerted a decisive influence on the tradition of cartomancy, and the type of cards which she used came to bear her name.

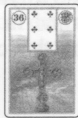
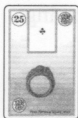
Marie-Anne-Adelaide Lenormand was born in Alençon on May 27th 1772 (she was thus a Gemini) and died in Paris on June 25th 1843. Educated in a convent, she went to live in the capital at the age of 21. Her first employment was in a laundry, but she soon teamed up with the fortune-teller Madame Gilbert. A butcher's apprentice by the name of Flammermont pulled in customers for them.

A brief prison term during the French Revolution proved anything but detrimental to Lenormand's reputation, and her second attempt to launch a career was crowned with such success that she amassed a considerable fortune. At her death she left a palace near Poissy, estates in Alençon and a house in Paris.

The Cards

These cards, possessing as they do all the sophistication and the stylistic finesse of high society in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, must be regarded as salon cards. Although the cards in the present deck are more recent, they belong to the traditions which originated in an age in which the bourgeoisie began to take an interest in the occult and the enigmatic.

The deck consists of the following 36 cards:



Interpreting the cards

1. CAVALIER, at a distance, is the bearer of good tidings from afar. If clouds intervene between you and him, then he brings bad news.
2. CLOVER LEAF, surrounded by clouds, presages grief. If close to the person, this grief will be short-lived and turn out to be for the best in the long run. If there are no clouds it brings happiness and wellbeing.
3. SHIP, an inheritance or a transaction promise prosperity. If the ship is close you will embark on an long journey.
4. HOUSE, if close to you, indicates good fortune in all you do. At the centre this card is a

5. TREE, far from you, denotes good health, strength, lasting happiness and the fulfilment of your wishes.
6. CLOUDS, if the brighter side is facing you, mean happiness; but if the dark side is towards you they are a sinister omen.
7. SNAKE, according to how near or far it is from the person indicated, suggests treachery or loss, or perhaps hypocrisy.
8. COFFIN means an accident, an illness or a loss, its severity shown by the card's proximity or distance from the person concerned (in this case

the relative positions of the two cards are of great significance).

9. BOUQUET OF FLOWERS heralds great good fortune.
10. SCYTHE is an augury of imminent danger, but this will not last if the surrounding cards are positive.
11. ROD suggests domestic troubles: family discord or possibly illness, depending on its position in relation to the person concerned.
12. BIRDS presage short-lived problems or, if the card lies at a distance from you, a prosperous journey.
13. CHILD indicates pleasant re-

lations, kindness and gentleness.

14. FOX is a warning of devious and envious people if close; at a distance this card has no special significance.
15. BEAR at a distance signifies happiness, but close to the inquirer it counsels caution in the face of evil close at hand and people who are envious.
16. STAR is a sign of fortune in all aspects of your life; but if dark clouds are in the vicinity it points to an imminent misfortune.
17. STORK, if close to your own card, tells of a change in your immediate environment; but if distant it indicates circum-

stances which will delay or even prevent this change.

18. DOG points to loyal friends if close but the opposite if far away; if surrounded by clouds this card is a warning to be on your guard against falsehood and treachery.
19. TOWER is a sign of a long and happy life, but if surrounded by clouds it presages the opposite.
20. GARDEN, if close, augurs moving in high society, having numerous and worthy friends; but if far away it tells you to beware of company that cannot be trusted.
21. MOUNTAIN, if close, portends powerful enemies; but if distant, lasting friendship.

22. PATHS without clouds indicate a way out of the present predicament, as long as they are close to you! But the presence of clouds is a sign that there is no way out.

23. MOUSE means theft; if the card is near you, you will regain what has been stolen, but if it is far away, you must reconcile yourself to a permanent loss.
24. HEART: a sure sign of good fortune and joy.
25. RING, if on your right, foretells a happy marriage; but if on your left and far away it is a foreboding of disloyalty and a painful separation.
26. BOOK means a secret.

27. LETTER points to good news from afar, but if clouds are near, the news will be bad.
28. GENTLEMAN or MAN.
29. WOMAN or YOUNG LADY.
30. LILIES above you reveal your virtue, below you your notoriety, close to you they indicate a happy life, surrounded by clouds domestic worries.
31. SUN, in the vicinity of the inquirer, radiates happiness, life and wellbeing; but far away it brings setbacks and anxieties in your aspirations.
32. MOON, at your side, is a bringer of great honour; but

- at a distance it is a harbinger of affliction.
33. KEY suggests success if close but failure if far away.
34. FISH augur great good fortune at sea and successful ventures; but at a distance they presage the obstruction of your most earnest ambitions.
35. ANCHOR is an omen of commercial success and prosperity in maritime ventures, perhaps also requited love; but at a distance it is an omen of bitter disappointment.
36. CROSS is always a sinister augury; close to the inquirer it foretells short-lived misfortune.

Laying out the cards

a) Rows

Shuffle the deck thoroughly and ask the inquirer to cut it. Lay the cards out face up in four rows of eight. The four remaining cards are placed in a fifth row from left to right, beginning beneath the third card of the fourth row.

The card denoting the inquirer is identified as follows: in the case of a woman, it is the 29th card laid out; in the case of a man, the 28th card.

The initial question must be formulated with great care and precision. If it concerns amorous affairs, remember that a superior, a relative or a friend could be involved.

Never make the mistake of interpreting an individual card in isolation. Each card must be seen in relation to the cards around it.

b) Sevens

The whole deck is laid out face up. The inquirer is asked to identify two cards: first, that which most closely approximates to the situation in question; and then that which corresponds to the objectives being pursued.

Now the inquirer must pick out five cards which could lead from the situation to the objectives.



Zielkarte



Situationskarte



Brücke

This method of laying out the cards requires a great deal of careful thought. In its turn it helps you to sort out your own ideas and gain valuable insights about yourself.

General remarks

Interpreting the message concealed in the cards requires bold imagination. But at the same time you should exercise restraint and caution in the way you phrase your interpretation.

Cartomancy is a pastime which can enhance your understanding of human nature. Remember, though, that it will teach you not only about other people but also – and especially – about yourself.

Piatnik's Tarot and Cartomancy Series:

- No. 1945 Tarot of Marseilles
- No. 2825 Pointner Tarot
- No. 1943 Eclectic Tarot
- No. 1942 Deva-Tarot
- No. 1901 Gipsy Fortune Telling Cards
- No. 1941 Mlle. Lenormand Cartomancy Deck
- No. 1904 Cartomancy Deck
- No. 1944 Fortune Telling Cards

All the above card sets come complete with a descriptive booklet.