

*** Sentomancy: A Theory of How the Game of Tarot Developed in Ancient Egypt**

One of the oldest games in the world is the game of MeHen. This game was played in Egypt and Northern Africa as early as 7000 years ago. The game involves a disc in the shape of a spiraling coiled snake with its tail on the outside and its head on the inside. The snake's body was divided into sections to represent the stages of a journey. Players moved little marbles or animal tokens. The object was to start at the snake's tail and reach the snake's head pot in the middle. We do not know the exact rules for play, but it seems that several people could play the game at once. Later a variation was added in which you also spiraled back out from the snake's head and escaped from the disc. MeH is a crown. The MeHen serpent-crown protects Ra in the Tuat.

In Plate X of Chapter XVII of the Papyrus of Ani we find a cat severing a coiled snake with a knife. The cat is a form of Sekhmet and a representative of the Sun. The Serpent Apep tries to coil around the Sun and place a limitation on him. The Sun's rays cut through any limitation, defeating Apep. In the same plate appear three other assisting deities with knives. Budge believes they are Sau, Horus of Sekhem, and Nefer-Tmu. (BD, p. 280). This may be the cutting of the segments on the Snake.

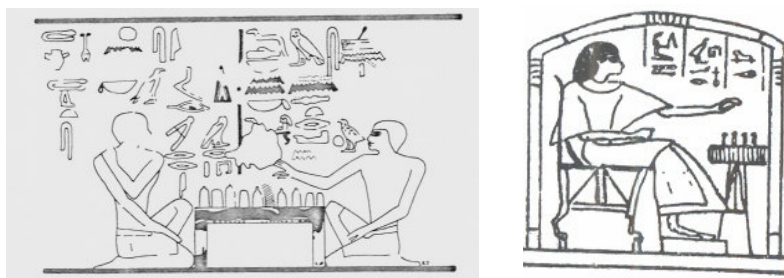
For some reason the Snake game eventually lost popularity and Senet then became the national game. Senet remained popular in Egypt and some nearby countries up until Roman times. It apparently died out as another casualty of the Christian suppressions of anything they saw as heathen or fun.

In several articles and a forthcoming book Professor Peter Piccione has documented in detail the evolution of the game of Senet in ancient Egypt. He has studied all the extant boards and illustrations and relevant texts. His book is based on his doctoral dissertation at the University of Chicago (1990): "The Historical Development of the Game of Senet and Its Significance for the Egyptian Religion." He summarizes his findings in some articles on the Internet. An important part of his thesis is the observation that over the centuries Senet evolved from a game of amusement between two players into something that was lovingly placed in the tombs of the deceased. Gradually it took on ritual and religious significance. Eventually we find illustrations of people who appear to be playing Senet solitaire in a ritual context.

The assumption is that the player is somehow playing a virtual game with an unseen opponent. While this is definitely possible, I would like to propose another possibility that may be more plausible. What if the Senet Board evolved into a tool

for divination in the same manner that playing cards have been used for amusement, but then also became used for divination or cartomancy?

One of the problems with the theory that the Tarot cards originated in ancient Egypt has been the lack of evidence in the tombs and papyri of playing cards. However there is plenty of evidence of Senet Boards. They were buried with the mummies, drawn on tomb walls, and etched on the floors. The surviving papyri also mention the game. In the picture on the left below we see two Egyptians playing Senet as a game. In the drawing on the right from the Hunefer Papyrus we see Hunefer using the Senet board like a Tarot deck to for personal divination purposes.



In my opinion such images as the one on the right depict a form of divination I will call Sentomancy. Although we do not have complete Boards with all the various Neters drawn on them, we have already identified the appropriate deities from the Judgment Hall scene. Instead of considering this a Judgment Scene, perhaps we should say the "Weighing of the Heart" was a process of consulting with the deities, a divination to see where you were going in life or in the after-life.

The Judgment Hall Scene was so well known in Egypt that every reasonably educated child in Egypt certainly knew all the characters and their relationships. It was not necessary to draw them on the Board. It may even have been taboo. In any case, we know the Egyptians had favorite tableaux of the gods – Sentomancy layouts. Here is how I would lay out the Board and play the Senet-Tarot Divination Game. This is my reconstruction based on the Papyrus of Ani. Other tableaux of the deities may actually represent the outcomes of divinations turned into decorative artwork.

The Senet Board represents the Journey of the Querent through Life and his evolution of Consciousness. It is not the Journey of the Fool as many have suggested. It is the Journey of the Hanged Man. Ani as the Supplicant is the Hanged Man.

Why is the Hanged Man hanging upside down? The Tarot Trump is upside down. This is one of the Great Secrets of the Trumps. A Key Principle of Creativity is to

learn how to view things upside down. Another version of this is to put your self in the other guy's shoes. The querent does this with the Gods. Instead of just worshipping the gods, why not identify with them, become them? He gestates like Horus in the womb and will become immortal like Osiris. We apply this principle to the whole Judgment Scene and then project the deities onto the Senet Board. Originally the game seems to have been played starting on the top row and moving down to the last row. The five squares in the bottom right corner were the last steps to complete the game.

We reverse the order and use the sequence of Senior Gods from the Papyrus of Ani as the top row on the Board. Glorious Horus, the enlightened Light Body Aakhuti becomes the final square in the Game in the upper right-hand corner. Thuthu, the Lover, then becomes the first square in the lower left-hand corner. The 22 Tarot Trumps plus the four Kings and four Queens fill the 30 squares on the Board. I have designed the Tarot layout with suggested topics for each column (card) of the reading. A reading could consist of anywhere from 1 to 10 cards and included the 22 Trumps plus the 4 Kings and 4 Chief Assistants (Queens) for a total of 30 deities.

*** How to Play: Drawing Lots, or Tossing Sticks, Coins, or Dice**

The Senet Board is a fixed layout, so we generate readings with random numbers. As in ancient Egypt we use up to 10 pawns -- 5 cones and 5 spools. Decide on the question and/or the sequence of topics you wish to address -- up to ten cards. I use a bamboo tube with 30 identical bamboo strips each with a number from 1 to 30. I shake the tube and then draw out a strip for each topic. The number on a strip tells me which Senet Square I have drawn for that topic. Each number represents a square on the board. The bottom row left to right is 1 to 10. The second row right to left is 11 to 20. The top row left to right is 21 to 30. Mark with pawns the squares you pick. You can use numbered chopsticks, slips of paper or devise your own system. Various vignettes shown in Egyptian murals or papyri may represent various readings or layouts or decks of the Sentomancy Game as played in ancient Egypt. The following pages show a sketch of the Judgment Scene with all the 30 characters laid out on the Senet Board. After that is a corresponding Tarot Layout. Finally there is a Board showing the Hebrew Letters, Zodiac Signs and the Seven Planets.

Sample Binary Codes for Coin Tosses or Stick Throws

Square:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	[] = Two High Digits
Row 3	10001	01001	11001	00101	10101	01101	11101	01111	11111	00000	[01]
Row 2	10010	01010	11010	00110	10110	01110	11110	11011	00111	10111	[10]
Row 1	10000	01000	11000	00100	10100	01100	11100	00011	10011	01011	[00]

For columns 8, 9, and 10, high digits = 11; all 0's = Ra.

Tarot Trump Sentomancy Board

(Showing Dice Throws)

Nebt-Het 5-1	Ast 5-2	Het-Her 5-3	Heru 5-4	Nut 5-6	Seb 6-1	Tefnut 6-2	Shu 6-3	Tem 6-4	RaHorakty 6-5
Hu 3-1	HeruK-K 3-2	Saa 3-4	Qebsnf 3-5	Hapi 3-6	Duamtf 4-1	Imset 4-2	Maa 4-3	Osar 4-5	Setchem 4-6
Thuthu 1-2	Msknt 1-3	Rernt 1-4	Amnit 1-5	Bennu 1-6	Shai 2-1	Qeftenu 2-3	Anpu 2-4	Maat 2-5	Thoth 2-6

(Using a pair of dice, a throw of doubles doesn't count. Throw again. This gives exactly 30 possibilities for dice throws.)

Corresponding Tarot Cards

(Showing Coin Tosses)

3	Temper 10001	Priestess 01001	Empress 11001	Chariot 00101	Star 10101	World 01101	Strength 11101	Emperor 01111	Tower 11111	Sun 00000
2	Q Cup 10010	HangMan 01010	Q Disc 11010	K. Sword 00110	K Cup 10110	K Disc 01110	K Wand 11110	Q Wand 11011	Magus 00111	Q Sword 10111
1	Lovers 10000	Judgement 01000	Moon 11000	Devil 00100	Hermit 10100	Fortune 01100	Fool 11100	Death 00011	Justice 10011	Priest 01011

The two coin toss numbers 00010 and 00001 give no readings.



Cone Spool Place cones and spools on Board to mark readings.

Senet Board with Hebrew Letters and Astrological Signs

7	∇	♁	∧	∇	☐	♁	♁	♁	∇
♁	♁	♀	♁	♁	♁	♁	♁	♁	♁
♁	♁	♁	♁	♁	♁	♁	♁	♁	♁
X	P	W	W	Y	⊙	♀	Z	♁	Y
II	♁	♁	♁	♁	♁	♁	♁	♁	♁

+ Man ♁ King ♁ Heaven
 ♁ Queen

The top and bottom rows cover 20 of the 22 Trumps. The remaining two Trumps, Magus and Hanged Man, are on the middle row along with the Kings and Queens of the Court Cards (assisting deities). After some consideration I decided to place the supplicant as the Hanged Man right between the Priestess and Judgment. After all, he is being judged. The Priest and Priestess are the ones to administer the judgment. The Hanged Man is Heru-Khenti-Khaat, Horus in the Womb of Isis. Thus it is appropriate for him to hang between Isis and the midwife, Meskhent. This places him in the middle row just after the Lovers.

We therefore connect the Hanged Man with the Lover stage of Ani, the supplicant. Ani gestates during his rebirth as an immortal just as he gestated pending his birth as a mortal. It is his love that will redeem him in the end, not all the possessions that he offers at the Temple of Osiris in his wealthy old age. This placement also creates symmetry between the Hanged Man supplicant and Osiris, the Magus, in the Middle Row.

We move the sisters Isis and Nebt-het to the end of the row. Thus we can keep Mesknt and Rennt next to each other and below Hathor and Isis respectively. We then put Ammit, representative of Set, under Horus, because these two fight a great battle. The young warrior Horus avenges the murder of Osiris by defeating Set.

With this layout we can see clearly the whole story. The Lovers represent Lovemaking, the intimate act that generates new life. We put H*u, the “Ministrant of Cups” over Thuthu. He opens the mouth to the taste of Soma, the delicious nectar of Love brought by Nebt-Het. The priestess guards the doorway (vagina) to the Temple of Life (womb). The Hanged Man is the fetus suspended in the womb, connected to Isis, his mother. He hangs upside down by his umbilical cord wrapped around his ankle (Fool, Magician, World). Mesknt the midwife presides over the birth of the baby. This is the resurrection of the soul as a new person. The Judgment Day is the day of birth when the new baby begins life as a separate individual. The identification of Ani with Horus is in the form of Heru-khenti-khaati, the fetal Horus. The bottom row third square is Rennt, the Nurse (or Serqet). This is a form of Isis when she nursed Horus as a baby. Isis hid in the papyrus swamps to avoid the wrath of Set. Fearing that Horus would avenge his father, Set sent a phalanx of poisonous scorpions, to attack baby Horus and sting him to death. Thoth protected Horus, curing him of the stings with the medicine of his Ankh, Breath of Life. Hathor is Mother’s Love and Nurturing. She sits on the right of Isis above the Nurse. The lobster at the bottom of the Moon Trump is a water scorpion that lives along the Nile. This particular scorpion is not

poisonous, so Set's plan did not work. Thoth removed its poison. Serqet is another form of Isis, and becomes the little bugs that baby Horus played with in the papyrus swamps.

The bottom row of the Board turns out to be the life cycle of a person. The first square is the young mother conceiving. The second square is pregnancy and birth. The third square is the nursery stage. The fourth square is the rebellious teen-ager. The hero Horus in the top row has to overcome the rebellious angry young man that is his lower self. The fifth square is the maturing of the heart into a responsible adult. This brings integrity, continuity, and stability to life. The sixth square is the achievement of wealth and social status. The seventh square is the foolishness of old age. The eighth square is death. The ninth square is the meditation in which the soul judges its past life, weighing the Conscience (Heart) against Truth. The tenth square is the recording of the judgment by Tekhuti, the High Priest of the Judgment Hall. He sends the Judgment up to the Companions -- The Immortal Beings of Light. The Soul returns into the Pure Light at the Source of Life, symbolized by Ra, the Sun (Heru-Aakhuti). From there the cycle of Life begins again in the invisible world of Amen Ra Heru-Aakhuti, the Hidden Sun, the first square on the right in the top row.

From Undefined Source (Heru Aakhuti) a new creation begins to take shape. This is called Atum, the first particle of creation. A definition imposed on Undefined Awareness. It forms a primal viewpoint, the start of an identity. Freud called it the Id. It is a giant phallus that represents the creative urge, the primal instinct of Awareness to create. Unbounded awareness can not stay bounded in a viewpoint, so the phallus explodes in a Big Bang, releasing creative energy as it expands. This expanded energy forms a ball of gas, an ATMosphere. As even the English word tells us, this gas ball is made of nothing other than ATUM. It is a single atomic viewpoint particle moving faster than light. This makes it look like a huge amount of hydrogen gas. Hydrogen is the basic material that forms the universe and its stability allows the physical universe to survive. The structure of the proton holds the key to the instinct of survival. The hydrogen contracts into a dense ball and begins to fuse into heavier elements, releasing lots of energy. This is Tefnut/Sekhmet, the instinct of growth. The two Hebrew letters for Tefnut and Shu spell the name of God (YaH = יה). This is the powerful force of nuclear fusion that runs the sun. Reading the Hebrew letters the other direction we get HaY, which means to exist (or lament). Square 1 is Source. Squares 2, 3, and 4 are the instincts of procreation, survival, and growth that create the past, the laws of Nature that will bring us into our world. We now have a physical sun around which planets form

(Square 5, Seb/Geb). Other stars fill space (Square 6, Nut) and the physical universe emerges. Seb and Nut represent the formation of an identity in the "Real World". This identity is the formation of the individual ego that finds itself somewhere in the universe. Seb gives it a physical form in the present. Nut places it where it will evolve into its Future. We are almost ready to begin experience. Square 7 is the Chariot of Conscious Behavior. The Driver of the Chariot is the Will. The Will directs the creation of its experience and decides what will happen. Square 8 is the Love of Life. It is Compassionate and Nurturing -- Witnessing and watching growth and success. With these two elements of the Super Ego we are ready to pass through the Door into Experience. In Square 9 we find the High Priestess. She endows the New Being with Intuition. She is a Guardian Angel that maintains purity of awareness no matter what happens. She holds the secret of what is Right for You -- your pathway into Life and Beyond. Square 10 then initiates Feeling. We start to have sensations through our organs. Nebt-Het brings the Soma of pure experience for us to taste when H*u opens the mouth for the tongue to taste. This pierces the veil and we fall into the womb through the Bliss of Orgasm.

Let's review the Life Cycle

Bottom Row (To Live a Life)

1. Conception
2. Pregnancy and Birth
3. Infancy in the Nursery
4. Rebellious Teen Years
5. Maturity as a Responsible Individual (Loneliness)
6. Career, Wealth, Status
7. Foolishness, Dotage
8. Death
9. Justice (Self-Judgment)
10. Return to Source

Top Row: (Right to left creates a Life. Left to right generates Enlightenment.)

1. Source (Pure Undefined Light, Life, Awareness)
2. Id (Urge to create a viewpoint, identity; instinct to procreate; Big Bang)
3. Ego (Instinct of Survival; Stable Atmosphere of Gas)
4. Swelling Ego (Formation of Sun, light and heat; Instinct of Growth)
5. Identity (Physical form, identification with a ball of solid matter)
6. Identity Expanding (Space populated by countless other identities, possibilities.)

7. Super Ego (Will as Driver, Decision-maker steps into his Chariot)
8. Super Ego (Witness as Compassion, Nurturing Love sits and Watches)
9. Intuition (The Creative Guardian Angel watches the Door to the Temple)
10. Initiation into Feeling begins the Process of Experiencing Life.

One can return to Source from anywhere on the Board, but the three corners are especially good locations for jumping directly to the fourth corner. Foolishness is also very special. The Foolish Monkey sits on the tongue of the balance. Foolishness is a violation of the instincts of procreation, survival and growth. When we violate these, we begin the process of death -- usually. However, Thoth deliberately turns himself into the Monkey Fool and teases the instinct of growth (Sekhmet) back on track when she grows out of control into an overblown ego. So foolishness can also work in an important way toward enlightenment.

This brings us to the Magician, Osiris. He has slipped out of the life cycle into a state of Immortality. He is suspended beyond space-time. The fetal Hanged Man is suspended in the womb. Osiris is suspended in the tomb. He lives beyond death in an intermediate zone called resurrection or enlightenment. His organ is the Eye. He has opened his vision to Source. He lives forever beyond judgment in the blissful moment of orgasm, and outside of the cycle of Life and Death. He is like the eye of a hurricane, silent and stable within the whirlwind of Life. Behind him is Hearing, the Ministrant of Air, the "Queen" of Swords. Before him is Sight the Ministrant of Fire, and "Queen" of Wands. Thoth gives Osiris/Ani the Technology of Menu (Min), but Source is his Birthright no matter what. Osiris is one with the Immortal Light Beings (Aakhuti). He wears the tall white phallic crown of Tem embraced by a pair of ostrich feathers. Over the tall crown is a great solar disc with ranks of erect cobras on either side. The square above him is Tem, the Tower of Creative Power, who also wears the tall white crown. Osiris shifts permanently back into the Big Bang.

The Magician is Mercury, the Eye that circles the Sun. His symmetrical partner is the gestating Hanged Man. If you read the Hebrew letters downward, they spell H*R, which means a nobleman, or pure white vestments. This is the name of Horus in Hebrew. If we add the M from the Moon Trump, we get H*RM, Hermes.

The deities on the top and bottom row form nested pairs. Here they are.

Top Row, Starting from the Middle:
World and Star (Seb and Nut)

Strength and Chariot (Sekhmet and Horus)
Emperor and Empress (Shu and Hathor, Life and Love, Air and Food)
Tower and Priestess (Lingam and Yoni, Assertive and Receptive, open and secret)
Sun and Temperance (Source and Feeling; Pure Awareness and Relative Experience)

Bottom Row, Starting from the Middle:

Hermit and Fortune (Personal Responsibility and Public Recognition)
Devil and Fool (Rebellion and Surrender; Total Will and No Will)
Moon and Death (Nursing Life and Cutting Off Life)
Judgment and Justice (Actualization of Idea and Consequences of Actions)
Lovers and Priest (Emotion and Intellect).

Now let's look at the Middle row in detail.

The Kings of the Suits are the 4 Sons of Horus. We know they must be either the Kings or the Aces, because they are arranged on a little table in front of Osiris, the Magus. Since they are male deities, we will call them the Kings of the Four Suits. They represent the four directions, four elements, and serve as canopic jars for the viscera. They comprise the objective physical world.

The King of Swords (hawk-faced Qebhsenuf, lord of air) is between Horus and Ammit. Air is the venue where the vengeful battle between Horus and Set takes place. The King of Swords originally is the sign of the feather of the hawk of the soul. When Horus can control his flight and fight deliberately, he becomes an immortal such as Osiris, Thoth, or Babaji.

The King of Cups (ape-faced Hapi, lord of water) is between Nut with her Water Jar and Ab the blood-pumping heart that also has a jar. The heart pumps blood for a single person, but can learn to provide life for a family, a clan, a nation, or even the countless organisms on a planet. The Star carries the Heart to a vision of countless brothers and sisters, an infinite society extending indefinitely into the future.











The King of Discs (jackal-faced Duamutef lord of Earth) is between the discs of Fortune and World (Shai and Seb). The fortune of a single person can expand to influence the whole world. The King of Discs shows the ability to identify not just with a single identity of self, but to become a whole world of possibilities.


The King of Wands (human-faced Amset, lord of fire) is between Qeftenu and Tefnut.



The lion is a solar symbol, and Tefnut is a burning hot sun. The Fool Trump also has a relation to the sun. The King of Wands has the skill in action to grow, expanding his energy without limit.


The Magician sits between Tem the Tower and Ma'at the Just. The Tower is about arbitrary assertion of creative energy. Ma'at is about the balance that naturally occurs whenever Awareness engages in creation. The Magician masters the art of balance (Yoga) within infinite creative energy. The highest Yoga is Kundalini Yoga. By manipulation of the phallus he generates controlled orgasm that rises up through the Crown Chakra opening the Great Eye to the higher states of consciousness and stable operation as a Source Being. When the phallus ejects energy outward, that moves into the Square of Death. Justice is the Great Meditation on Yoga, the Balance of Life Energy the basis of all Truth. The proper balancing of life energy allows it to evolve into ever higher states of consciousness instead of just spinning in circles..

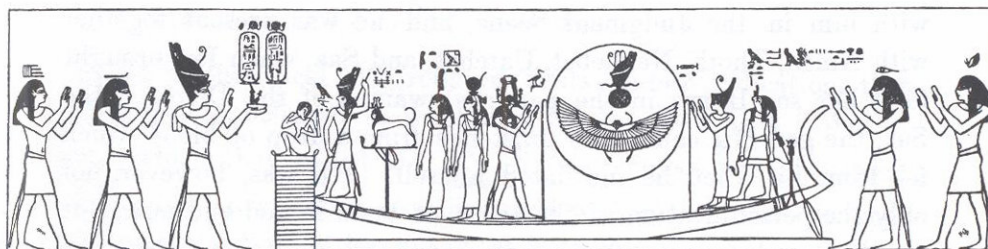
Now let's consider the Four Queens. The Queens are chief assistants or Ministrants to the Kings and the Trumps.

The Ministrant Priest of Cups is H*u. He is Lord of the Tongue , the sense of Taste and the salivary glands. He also is connected to the sense of Smell. He carries a jar for sacred libations. As a libation priest he relates to the element of water and has a special connection with Qeftenu, the Fool Trump. The Fool is the organ of the tongue used in speech, and is a transformation of Thoth, Lord of Technology. H*u is actually an ancient nickname of Thoth/TeH*uti. H*u brings the tongue to taste the elixir (what the Vedas call Soma) that Nebt-Het brings. Through this experience H*u makes the Heaven of Nut a real experience. H*u dresses in the panther's skin and becomes Babaji, the eldest son of Isis, the great Master Yogi and expert in the handling of the Phallus. This brings a subtle link between tongue and phallus. As the Sem priest he officiates in the Opening of the Mouth Ceremony. During this he wields the Pesh-en-kef to represent opening of the jaws. He touches mouth and eyes with the Seb-ur     (Great Star) wand to symbolize the opening of these gates to higher experience. The Seb-ur is shaped like the Big Dipper  and brings the attention to the immortal Non-moving spiritual Pole Star symbolized as Duat . Finally he touches the initiate's mouth with the erect Cobra initiation wand, that symbolizes the transmission of the "Great Mantras"    (Ur-H*ekau) used during the Cobra Breath to assist in the raising and stabilizing of Kundalini energy. This ancient tantric yoga procedure ensures the initiate will live forever in a state of ecstatic bliss like Osiris. Thus H*u is a very special Ministrant Priest.

The Ministrant of Discs is Saa, Lord of the sense of Touch. His symbol is a glyph of four fingers stretched out to touch and feel . The physical body is the ally of the soul that makes possible action in the physical world. Sexual intercourse with the right mixture of the elements brings about pregnancy, the vehicle to take on a physical body. This not only refers to human pregnancy, but it also refers to the gestation of any idea into actualization as a physical form. H*u is a secret form of Thoth, and Saa is a secret form of Ma'at. H*u and Saa balance the in and out breaths.

The Ministrant of Wands is Maa, Lord of the sense of Sight. His symbol is the eye . During the initiation given by H*u Maa's sense of vision shifts from the earthly eyes to the cosmic immortal Eye of Horus. The initiate becomes Osiris and rules the Duat  (transcendental night world) and then Comes Forth by Day (Pert m Hru) to play in all sorts of forms and creations (kheperu). The sign of the Duat is the Seb Ur, or Great Star that appears when the Eye of Horus opens to see the world of eternity, land of the Neters.

The Ministrant of Plumes is Setchem, Lord of the sense of Hearing. His symbol is the ear . Subtle hearing can be invoked during deep meditation to take the attention swiftly into the realm of Amen Ra, the Twilight Zone of Pure Awareness, Source of all Creation. H*u transmits the awareness of subtle sound through the Ur H*ekau, initiation into the Great Mantras, or magic sounds.



The above drawing shows the Boat of Ra in a tableau that I take as a model for the middle row on the Senet Board Tarot. The Supplicant, Pharaoh Ptolemy IV, offers his "Truth" to the occupants of the Solar Barque. Note H*u and Saa in attendance on the left, Maa and Setchem in attendance on the right. Mounted on a ladder platform at the bow of the boat is the fetal Heru-Khenti-Khaat (Hanged Man), the future life of Pharaoh. The ladder is his glyph for mounting to Heaven. Adult Horus as the Will steers the Chariot-boat. Up-uat guides the way under the watchful care of Ma'at (Truth) and Het-Heru (Love). Tehuti (Tekhi) and Net are fully

absorbed in the creative (kheper) pure awareness of the Eye. The disc of Ra Aakhuti is the Eye of the Magician, Osiris. In this tableau Net substitutes for Osiris. Osiris is an agricultural deity who relates to Min as the fecundity of the earth. He represents man's ability to extract food from the earth's plant life. He wears the phallic white crown for the sowing of seeds.. Net is the ancient goddess of the hunt (and perhaps warfare). She wears the female red crown. Her usual totem symbols are bow or shield and two arrows. She also carries her namesake Net for trapping animals. Tied at both ends it serves as the bag for carrying her catch home. These deities go back to the primeval hunting and gathering culture of Africa. Net (later called Athene by the Greeks) is the mother and daughter of Ra because the hunter-warriors go out at dawn and return at dusk. In Egypt Osiris later became the dominant myth, replacing hunting with stable Nilotic agriculture. So we take Osiris as the evolving magician. Through the magic of agricultural technology (Tekhuti), the society of Egypt captured the sacred secret life essence of Amin-Ra and attained "immortality". Net is the self-begotten womb and the fecund source of the prolific animal life of Africa, including even the sun as her offspring.

We can also identify the Knights and Pages of Tarot, but they do not have places on the 30-square Senet Board, nor do they all appear depicted on the papyrus scroll, though they are key components of the Book. For our complete Egyptian Tarot deck we define them to be the eight aspects of the Egyptian concept of the soul:

Pages (Lower Chakras):

- Khaat – solid physical body (earth)
- Ka – orgasmic electrical body, nerve impulses (fire)
- Sekhem – chemical digestive body, ego power (water)
- Ab – feeling heart body (subtle fire)



Knights (Higher Chakras):











- Ren – speaking name body (subtle water)
- Ba – mental breath body (air)
- Khaibit – inward shadow meditative body, crown (subtle earth)
- Khu – enlightened spirit body, Higher Self (subtle air)








In the early 1990's I came across Maya Heath's **The Egyptian Oracle**. In this book she made several breakthroughs. She created 12 Houses out of some of the major Deities of the Judgment Scene: Geb, Nut, Osiris, Set, Isis, Nebthys, Horus, Sekhmet (Tefnut), Anubis, Hathor, Thoth, and Maat. Then she noticed that the Sons of Horus corresponded to the Four Directions and Four Elements. These four thus stand for





the Four Suits of the Tarot Deck. Unfortunately she failed to notice that Osiris functions as the Magus with his table of elementals. She then selected 28 key symbols from the amulets used by Egyptians and formed them into sets of Seven Powers for each Suit. The idea of using amulets to represent the pip cards is an excellent one. We have no evidence of this in ancient Egypt, but we can fill out her list and come up with a nice set of Egyptian Tarot pips. The spot, or pip, cards that later came into Europe probably originated in China as I described earlier. Here is my list of pip cards for each suit, based on Heath's list, but with additions and changes.

AIR











- A.  Nef (air) The sail detects wind and converts it to useful energy. The air element allows Will to express giving potential energy a direction.
2.  Thet (knot of Isis) The ankh of cloth is red from Ast's menstrual blood. To keep or lose virginity is a basic life **decision** a young woman faces.
3.  Sektet (boat of Ra) This represents the integration or harnessing of energy to perform work. The sail requires a boat and a tiller **aligned** with the sail.
4.  Aah*ut (horizon) The wind becomes most still at dawn and dusk. The horizon is the platform for dawning of the day and **defines** the world.
5.  Septet Isis as Sirius first appears in the sky at dawn to herald the Nile flood, This is the **commitment** to a new agricultural cycle..
6.  Aag (Amsu, the farmer's flail, scepter of agriculture, breath, fertility) The Nile flood's arrival brings the **determination** to achieve a good harvest.
7.  Nefer (beauty, music) Air carries the sounds of music. All activities make the music of life. Let the music **integrate** harmoniously.
8.  Shem (knotted cord, identity) Steps of a process join to form a coherent loop that allows the cycle of life's energy **protocol** to continue indefinitely.
9.  Ankh (life) The great **question** is how to preserve and evolve Life.
10.  Pet (heaven) The **answer** to survival is evolution of Heaven on Earth.

Fire













- A.  Tcha (firestick) Compression and friction generate heat and light. This is the element of fire. It is the expanding, rising tendency of **attention**.
2.  Uadjet (eyes of Horus, healing) With light comes **vision**, and awareness of size. Wholeness becomes seer and seen, visionary and vision.
3.  Khemt (flame) When intensity is added, the light becomes a hot flame. The flame can burn as desire or illuminate a path, a **plan**.
4.  Khet (incense) The fragrance of the desire consecrates the space for its fulfillment. Set up a space with meditation and incense.
5.  Tcham or Uas (power staff, authority) This tool connects the idea to the

- action, the brain to the motor nerves. Practice to develop skill in action.
6. — Maau (lion) The lion is a **leader** ready to spring into action for victory.
 7.  Serqet (scorpion) The scorpion stings **challenge** fortitude and integrity.
 8.  'Ar' at (uraeus cobra energy) For ultimate success call on the cobra energy. Experience **coherently** reflects a vibration that illumines the doer's intent.
 9.  Heti (flying solar disc) Awareness on the wing brings **personal success**.
 10.  Paut (bread, primordial time, company of gods) The immortal companions share the light in **multidimensional** universes.

Water

- A.  Mu (water, possibility) Awareness is an undefined potential energy of **love**.
2.  Sma (union) Meeting the reflection of Self initiates experience. Can you **appreciate** this seemingly different aspect of Self and recover wholeness?
3.  Aat (pyramid) Water was used to transport blocks and level the pyramids. Raising these huge monuments required a profound level of **agreement**.
4.  Khent (lake) The lake or lotus pond with a garden by the temple or palace is a place of silence, pleasure, or purification.
5.  Menat (nurture) Hathor's menat signifies the nurturing of life. The pacifier also stops baby from crying over perceived setbacks.
6.  Unnu (youth) Open to life, enjoy being. Be your **enthusiastic** self,
7.  Sobek In the lotus swamps are crocodiles, **fantasies** of fear and desire.
8.  Uatch (green papyrus staff) Paper and pen help us **inventory** our progress.
9.  Heq (shepherd's crook; authority over husbandry) Owning a healthy flock brings **satisfaction** if you can feed and manage them well.
10.  Ha' api (Nile god) The Nile nourishes all. We **celebrate** togetherness.

Earth

- A.  Ta (earth) The nome  is a center of material wealth, concentrated **value**.
2.  Mer (plow, love) The plow is a symbol of love, a **comparison** of values.
3.  Djed (pillar of Osiris, stability) **Cooperation** is the key to stability.
4.  Het (mansion, palace, temple) The temple is a **secure**, spiritual space.
5.  Khaut (altar) Before **investing** in a project, make puja offerings.
6.  Men (senet board, monument, foundation) The men on the board play as a team. This is the foundation of any project.
7.  Kheper (creativity, heart) The scarab roles dung to **produce** offspring.
8.  Tchefa (goose, abundance) **Efficiency**: the goose that lays the golden egg.
9.  Urs (pillow) Ursh witness) Independence brings freedom to relax.
10.  Nub (gold) (Neb , all, lord) True wealth is shared on all levels. The golden pectoral holds 7 chakras. The bowl of Nebt-Het embraces all.

* Secret Messages on the Sentomancy Board

The Sentomancy Board we laid out has some curious features. One of them is that when you place the proper Hebrew letters in the squares, they spell out key words that relate to the Qabalah. Here is the layout.

𐤅	𐤆	𐤇	𐤈	𐤉	𐤊	𐤋	𐤌	𐤍	𐤎
	𐤏							𐤐	
𐤑	𐤒	𐤓	𐤔	𐤕	𐤖	𐤗	𐤘	𐤙	𐤚

Starting with Ra's A and Tem's Tz we get ATz, the key to ATzILUT, (emanation) the highest realm of Qabalah that occurs as the AIN \$UPh (infinite) starts to express itself. I already mentioned that the sequence Shu-Tefnut spells HI, or being and its reverse sequence spells IH, the short form of IHUH, the name of God (Yah). If we read upward from Osiris to Tem (The Magic Tower) we get the word OTz, which means Tree. The body of Osiris was found in a Djed tree. Reading downward gives us TzO[H], to bend. (If we bend back up, we find the H at the Emperor's square.) Since Tem is the Creative Life force emerging, and Osiris is the one who masters the essence of life to gain immortality, this OTz must be the Tree of Life mentioned in Genesis and the core of the Qabalah. Sure enough, if we do a knight's bend (as the 𐤈 suggests) and read on we get OTz HI, Tree of Being. Going one square further gives us OTz H-IB, Tree of the Heart (using the Egyptian word for heart), or the Tree of the Temple of the Torah. (Or the Tree of Weeping, because you ate the fruit from the wrong Tree and got self-awareness but no immortality.) The sequence Tefnut - Seb gives us IB the two letters on the pillars of the High Priestess' temple. We can also read them as BI, "in me", or as the notariqon for the entire Torah. Adding Ma'at's L guides us to the Tree (L-OTz). If we read downward from the Magician, we get OL, which means "above". The Magician sits on his throne above Justice in a transcendental realm where he identifies with the Tree of Life.

If we continue across the top of the Board we find that BN spells son, and right after it sure enough comes Horus, the son of Osiris. NB, of course, is the prophet. Then comes G\$, which means "crude" or "coarse". NG\$ is to bite off or chew. GN is the Garden (GN) of Eden. But right after that comes \$D, which means "secret". So the subtle secret of the Garden of Paradise (Priestess) hides inside the gross outer behavior (Chariot). The two are balanced by the nurturing love of the Empress (\$). If we read upward from the Hanged Man, we get H*D, which also means "secret" or "riddle". Both these mysterious words, H*D and \$D, converge on none other than the High Priestess, the most secretive of all the Trumps. Going from the High

Priestess to Temperance we get DP, a page or board. This is the Senet Board, a great secret, sometimes built into a board, and sometimes drawn on a sheet of papyrus. DH* has to do with pushing or falling when we move in the downward direction from the Priestess.

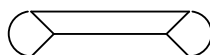

Going down from Temperance to the Lovers we get PT, or bread. This is the nourishment we get from chewing on the Board. Man does not live by bread alone. He needs love. That is the real bread. Going from Lovers to Judgment we get TR, the dove of peace, symbol of the Torah. From Judgment to the Moon we get RM, the highest. Having a baby is the highest achievement of Life. Ram is bliss in Sanskrit and the name of the greatest hero. Adding the Hanged Man we get H*RM or Hermes, the Network of Love, the Harem, where babies are produced and raised. MR is the Egyptian word for Love and is the sacred Myrrh that Solomon used in his Temple to symbolize that love and the beloved Teacher (MURH). Next to the Moon comes the Devil, giving us MS. This means to throw off or to remove something -- the behavior of a revolutionary. Flipped the other way we get SM, the Name. The Nurse teaches (MR) baby the names (SM) of things and keeps watch over (SMR) baby. H*RT is an inscription. SM (Ha-Shem, "The Name") in the Qabbalah is a taboo substitute for God's name (IHUH). The other common taboo name is Adonai (Lord). Here is another secret of the Senet Board. Set (Satan) is God. He only appears to be an adversary. If you turn the Board over, you find IH, the real name of God appears in exactly the same relative position as SM. The two "names" of God -- IH and SM -- (one real and one taboo) are mirror images of each other. Isn't that magical? Isn't it also ironic that the name people like to use as a taboo name for God actually refers to Satan?

Moving on to the relation between the Devil and the Hermit's Heart we get SK, a thorn. It can also be something fenced up or in a pavilion. The Heart is guarded, but thorns pierce it. KS (KSH) is to become fat or sated, something that the heart continually wants to do -- find satisfaction. I do not find anything for the Hermit's relation to the Wheel (KT*), although we can read it as "like Thoth" (K-T*eT*). Perhaps the Hermit Heart should strive to be like Thoth, to be like Clay or the Wheel itself rather than roll around on it. T*K seems to have to do with arranging things. This seems to reflect the Heart's desire for recognition in the order of things.

Now we come to the Fool's relation to the Wheel. T*Q\$ is a ceremony. QT* is something small. It can also be a feeling of loathing. The Fool is a small guy who messes up the dignified ceremonial aspects of life. Dignified people loathe such

oafish, undisciplined "little people." Next we come to the relation between the Fool and Death -- ZQ. This is a spark or a firebrand. I do not find anything for QZ. It's off the books. To the Fool Death is just a spark. The letters of the alphabet in Qabalah are conceived of as sparks of light. Death (Z) is just a letter-spark in the alphabet to the Fool. The relation between Death and Justice is LZ. As we discovered in the dream of Jacob's Ladder, LZ is a gland. This is the prostate gland that you can clearly see Anubis handling in the scroll. This is a little knob that adjusts the tongue on the Scale. Anubis adjusts it to get the precisely correct weighing of the Heart. Then the Fool, Qeftenu, buggers the tongue and ruins the careful calibration of Death. This story is told amusingly in the Chinese tale of **Monkey**. The crazy Monkey goes down to the halls of the dead, grabs away from Yama, King of the Dead, the list of names of all those marked to die and crosses his own name off the list. While he is at it he crosses off all the monkey names. This means that humans have the opportunity to achieve immortality. Their names are not fixed on the Death List. By the way, the tale of **Monkey** is a popular retelling of many aspects of the Judgment Scene and the old Egyptian myths recast as a Buddhist cautionary tale. These are very ancient teachings that go way back before the time of the historical Buddha. ZL means to be cheap or worthless. Monkey, with his crazy antics, renders the Judgment of Death totally worthless. If we move diagonally from the Magician to Death, we get OZ -- power. ZO is to shake or tremble. Finally we come to the relation between Justice and the Priest. We get LU, "to Him". The truth takes you to Him. Ma'at and Thoth are a couple. So when you find the Truth, you find Thoth. And when you find Thoth, you find the way back to Source, and then Come Forth into the World of Enlightenment. By itself the U of the High Priest is a connective, a conjunction that links things together.

If we read around the corner squares on the Board starting with Temperance, we get PAUT. In ancient Egyptian this is immeasurable Time, it is Aeon, the Age of the Universe from its Primordial Emanation. PAUT is also stuff, matter, especially food, especially a loaf of bread. [Remember PT is bread in Hebrew.] P[H] is mouth and PA[H] is a corner. AUT is a letter of the alphabet, or a sign, or a proof, or a miracle. So these are in fact the corner letters on the Board. Open your mouth to speak and the letters will come forth as words. Speech acts as a clock that tells the story of the universe. Hence the Senet Board is also a clock and a calendar for all time. 𐎢𐎡𐎢𐎣

 Pauti, the Primeval One, who Created himself and All That Is. 

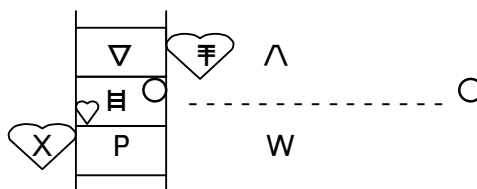
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Paradise Garden is in Yah's Shit, and the eye-prostate is small like the name inscribed.

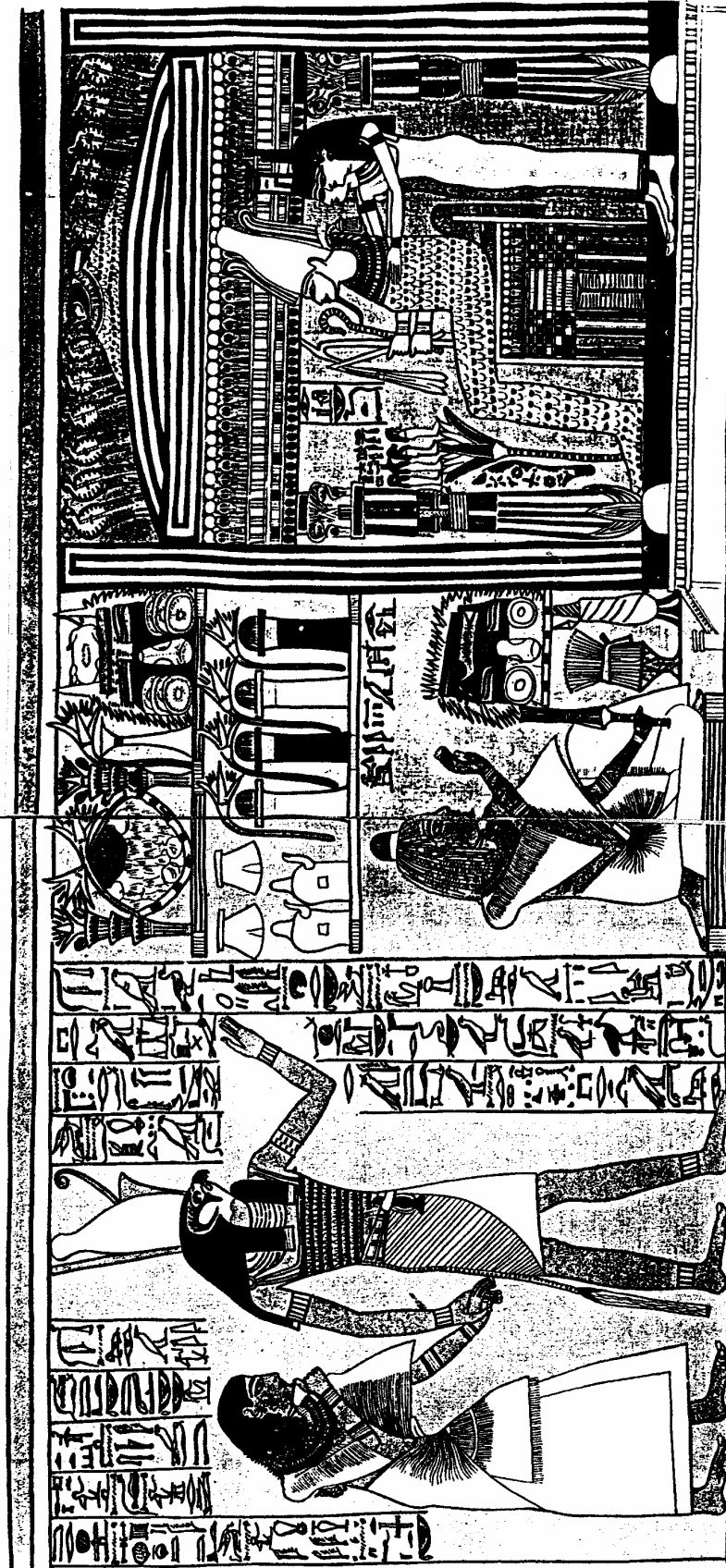
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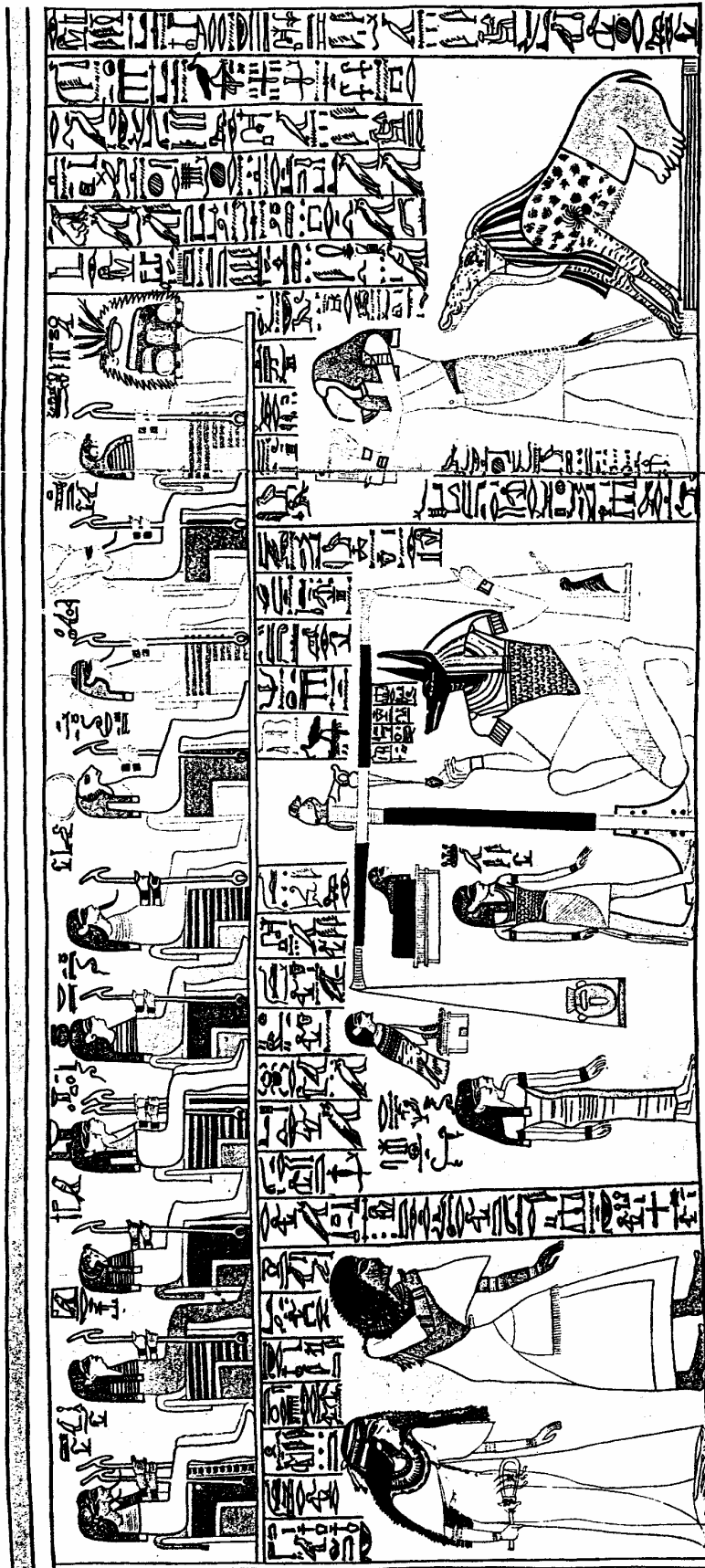
*** The Three Dimensions of Ani**

The several images of Ani, Horus, and Isis in the scroll of the Judgment Scene in the Papyrus of Ani present a puzzle. Aside from creating a comic strip quality, there must be some deeper meaning. Why do deities appear both as witnesses and as participants? One possibility is that this sets up complex relationships among the characters. For example, the large image of Horus as a participant shows him escorting Ani as the aspirant to meet Osiris. So there is a relationship between these two characters. Horus as a witness also is above Ani as the young lover. Horus is the warrior, the charioteer. As such he represents strength of will and courage. Right behind Ani the aspirant is Ammit, the Devil. Ani is sandwiched between them. The third version of Ani is as a supplicant kneeling before Osiris. Perhaps the point of this is to tell us how to fill out the bottom and second rows. Here is my theory. Ani relates to Osiris, Horus, the Devil and Thuthu. Osiris is the eye. The two eyes are placed horizontally and symmetrically on the face. Osiris is in the second row, second from the right. That means Ani the Supplican as Horus in the Womb must be in the second row, second from the left. This gives us two "eyes" on the face of the Board. This also puts Ani in touch with Thuthu while maintaining the symmetry with Osiris. We move the Priestess over next to Temperance because she represents the Virgin, or pregnant wife. Hathor (Het-Hor) is the Mother card. Thuthu is in the first position of the bottom row giving us a direct diagonal line between Thuthu's romantic love and Hathor's compassionate mother love with Ani as the Hanged Man right in the middle. This seems correct, because if we continue to zig-zag down the board from Hathor we come to the Hermit/Heart, then to Tefnut's Strength and finally to Ma'at's Truth. The zig-zag takes us exactly over the balance from the Heart's Pan to the Feather's Pan. Thus the path of Love traces a zig-zag through the Judgment Hall that connects Ani to all the essentials that will redeem him. Moving Isis over next to Temperance allows this secret magic to happen.



The frequent appearance of the two sisters, Isis and Nebt-Het, together shows the close bond between them and also shows the iconography of the High Priestess Trump. The Priestess sits on a throne at the doorway to her Temple. Her glyph is a throne. Nebt-Het's glyph is the Temple. Ani the Hanged Man is Horus in the belly of Isis. Then we put the Devil, Ammit/Set, under Horus, the Chariot. In Egyptian art these two often appear as two heads on a single body.






*** How the Phoenicians Created the Alphabet that We Use Today**

Strong archaeological evidence points to the evolution of the Hebrew alphabet from letters that the Phoenicians selected from Egyptian to use as the basis for writing their own language. The problem is that the Egyptians used many letters with similar sounds. So the question arises: is it possible to determine how the Phoenicians selected the letters they used for their alphabet? My theory is that the Phoenicians decided to use a set of symbols that was so well known that even illiterate people knew the names and could learn and remember the alphabet with ease. The obvious choice would be to take the letters from symbols that were widely popular and appeared as illustrations in murals and scrolls throughout the ancient world that had any influence from Egypt. It would also help if all the letters could be located in a single scene.

The perfect candidate for such a scene is the Weighing of the Heart. Such a choice made their writing system a holy religious artifact. It also meant that each letter was a deity and part of a deep cultural tradition involving both life and death. It brought divination into the letters. Each letter was a Tarot Trump, a member of the Divine Senate, so to speak. The weighing of the heart relates very nicely to the idea of expressing thoughts in writing. It reminds people that when they write they should express what is honestly in the heart. What a beautiful way to give birth to the system by which almost the whole world communicates today.

Here is my reconstruction of the way in which the Divine Senate of the Judgment Scene was transformed into the Phoenician-Hebrew Alphabet and then became the Tarot Trump Cards. Portions in brackets were left out as duplications (such as the multiple appearances of Heru) or for simplification. Since Egyptian had no [l] sound, this letter usually derived from an [r]. The most famous Judgment Scene is in the Papyrus of Ani. Ani, was a scribe, a person skilled in the writing of documents with Egyptian letters. Perhaps this papyrus was more than a memorial to a certain individual. Ani's wife, Thuthu, carries a sistrum. This was an amulet and musical instrument particularly associated with Hathor, Goddess of Love, who sits above Thuthu in the scroll. Thuthu was a priestess, singer, and musician in the temple to Amen-Ra in Thebes. The Papyrus of Ani is the most complete surviving version of the Theban recension of the so-called Book of the Dead. This represents an extremely popular and influential version of a standard text that was used for thousands of years.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Letter</u>	<u>Egyptian Deity</u>	<u>Comments, Alternate Words</u>
Aleph	𐤀	[Heru em] Aakhuti	Harmakhis, <u>A</u> pi (the Sun-God as flier), Aten = flying solar disc, aper = equipped, furnished; a fully equipped boat. <u>A</u> per-peh.ui = hawk god, patron of letters. Aru = ox
Beth	𐤁, 𐤅	[Ne]Bt-H.et (Bait = House in Egyptian)	Mansion of All Things 𐤅 =  simplified
Gimel	𐤂	[Heru-]Kheper-Merti	Horus, Creator of what the heart desires; creator of the Nile inundation; Source of Love. The glyph for Mer is a digging stick or plow for tilling the soil after the Nile flood. Ka-Mer could be a bull for plowing or beloved Ka.
Daleth	𐤃	[As]t-Ur-t; Ta-ur-t	Isis (Astarte) the Great, Mother of the God.
Hey	𐤄	Shui	Shui = empty. Derived from Shu.
Vav	𐤅	U <u>a</u> b	Priest, holy man; innocent, clean u <u>a</u> u <u>a</u> = one and only
Zain	𐤆	Sen	Sab = judge (Anpu, Anubis). Sen is to beg or supplicate; to pass; to cut. Sen-t is the Game of Senet. It acts as the judge in divination.
Heth (HRM)	𐤇	H.eru-am[i-abu]	Horus, dweller in hearts
T*eiTh	𐤈	Tuat	Shai becomes the place of the dead, the Tuat, and the clay of Khnemu.
Yod	𐤉	<u>a</u> ; <u>a</u> -t; Shesp-t	Hand; limb, member; Shesp = sphinx; Shespit = hand.
Kaph	𐤊	Hepu; Kap	Cave, torture chamber; hollow of hand; Crocodile of Set that eats the heart.
Lamed	𐤋	Re-Maat	Speech of Truth; Mouth of Maat
Mem	𐤌	Mu Mu-t	Dependent on someone (Nurse); Water; Mem = hyena Mother Goddess

Nun	𐤎	Nunut	Sky-Goddess
Samekh	𐤌	H.et-H.eru]-Sekhmet	Hathor and Sekhmet were often joined. Skhem was her power.
Oayn	𐤐	Osar	Osiris
		<u>A</u> nk	To Live; Life, Prosperity
Peh	𐤑	Per-t	Coming out, appearance;
		Per	house
		Pauti	The primeval god who created all things; food
		pau-t	
Tzadde	𐤓	Tem	Fashioner of phallus of Shu, womb of Thefnut; completion
		tche-t	body, person; eternity.
		Tcheṭ	Sacred Pillar; backbone, sacrum of Osiris.
Qoph	𐤑	Qeṭenu	The Sacred Ape
Resh	𐤕	Rekhtti	The 2 Wise Goddesses Isis and Nebt-Het in the Judgment Hall. Meshknt and Renntt are reflections of Isis and Nebthys in the Hall.
Shin	𐤔	Set; Senet	Satan
TaV	𐤕	tutu	one, anyone
		tut	resemble; likeness, image
		tut	statue, first image, God; Goddess
		Ṭua	morning, dawn
		Ṭua	praise, adore
		Thuthu	Name of Ani's wife

In order to get a letter for each sound in their language, the Phoenicians had to stretch a little bit. In some cases they used a title or descriptive word. Sometimes I have listed possible choices. Compare this list to the Judgment Hall Scene and the 22 major deities that participate in it.

* **Playing with the Letter Trumps**

One of the special properties of the Trumps is that they are also the letters of the Hebrew alphabet. These letters are simple figures of geometry that represent fundamental archetypes of human life. Many combinations of Tarot Trumps spell out Hebrew words. Written in the old Phoenician pictographs these words often form interesting artistic designs, some of which have become established symbols in various cultures. For example, we have already noticed the Star of David. Why would David choose a hexagonal star as his personal symbol? Once we know the alphabet symbols, the reason is quite clear. That star is his name spelled in Hebrew. It also has the meaning of "beloved".



The above version is simplified as ∇ and Δ overlaid. In India this stands for the Heart Chakra. Adding a Vau (Y) in the middle (DVD) makes the glyph into a three-dimensional star tetrahedron.





Once you understand the principle you can start to explore the symbols of the world and discover interesting things that the people who use these symbols probably never realized. For example, let's look at the symbol of Islam, the crescent moon with a star.



From our knowledge of the Tarot alphabet and the secrets of ancient Egypt we realize that this is not just a picture of the new moon and the evening star. It is Min, the Generative God of Egypt. Min is a symbol for the returning to and enlivening of the generative source of Life. Min literally is where you come from, the sexual generative power of your father when he impregnated your mother. We also have learned from this book that Min represents the technology for using sexual energy and certain breathing methods to energize the body. We saw that the crescent moon represents the pubic bone that protects the bladder. The proper position for the crescent is with its horns downward. The star represents a gland. It can also represent a marma point (acupoint). Here the star reminds us that below the pubic bone is a sensitive marma point or gland. We can take it as the Root Chakra

(prostate gland). Or we can take it as the clitoris/frenulum. It is ironic that Muslims should want to cut the clitoris off their women. That destroys the symbol of their religion and the real experience that can underlie the symbols. There is also a secret marma point that lies just below the pubic bone and above the penis or clitoris. That point is insensitive except during certain phases of sexual arousal when it can be used as an overdrive button. There are many amazing secrets in the art of living that are embodied in the simple design of the star and crescent moon. This conjunction is so important that the two letters still are placed next to each other in the middle of the alphabet sequence. Just before them comes the letter K -- the heart. Just after them comes \$ -- the love of Hathor. The Romans removed this Love letter from the alphabet. I write it with the dollar sign. These days love has become a commodity.

	A Wakeup Call	
Below	Are you still asleep up there?	Above
The Pubic Bone and 2nd Chakra.		A Smiling Open 6th Chakra
MN = The Generative God		NM = Sleep
What do you do or feel like doing after you make love and ejaculate?		
What is the simplest way to regenerate your powers?		

Now let's take a look at the U.S. dollar bill. On the back of it is the Great Seal of the United States. The founding fathers of the country designed this seal. They were very deeply versed in the Qabalah, Freemasonry, and Rosicrucian teachings. The Great Seal is pure Qabalah.

On the top of the obverse you see a brilliant star made of 13 stars. The large star is the Star of David that we just explored. The smaller stars are pentagrams representing the magical mastery of the five elements. Below the Star of David is an eagle with its wings spread. This is the sign of Scorpio, the Tarot card of the Angel of Death and the Suit of Air or Swords. But we know from ancient Egypt that the eagle is actually the Hawk of Horus. The eagle carries in its beak a scroll on which is written "E pluribus unum" -- "One from Many". The country is a union of several states, Osiris reunited. The eagle also has a shield over its breast with 13 bars on it and carries in one claw an olive branch of peace with 13 leaves, and in the other claw has a bundle of 13 arrows. The olive branch is for peace and the arrows are for war. But the branch could be laurel and represent victory. In any case the Seal is filled with the number 13 (even 13 steps on the pyramid), so 13 better not be an unlucky number. Of course we understand the 13 represents the original 13 colonies that formed the union. The Angel of Death forms a unity from many in that all physical forms are destined to die.

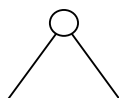
Is this a gloomy outlook? Not at all. The eagle is also the Phoenix of the Phoenicians, the Fire Bird. Periodically it consumes itself in a burst of flame, but then it arises again resurrected from its own ashes. In this sense it is the Bird of Immortality. In ancient Egypt they called this bird the Bennu. Phoenix is a Greco-Romanized spelling of this word. So the idea here seems to be that it is possible to form a union of the various elements that will subsist for a while and then burn itself out. But then the same creation can reform again from the ashes of its own dissolution and thereby attain a kind of dynamic immortality.

Now let's look at the reverse side of the Great Seal. This shows a steep pyramid. The capstone on the pyramid is a giant, brilliant eye, the Eye of Horus/Ra. Above the eye, written in Latin is *Annuit Coeptis* -- "He agrees with the undertaking." Along the base of the pyramid in Roman numerals is the date 1776. Below the pyramid on a scroll is written "*Novus Ordo Seclorum*" -- "A New Order of the Ages." Who is "He"? Presumably this refers to the Great Eye on the Pyramid. This must be "God". In other words, God approves of the undertaking to build the Union of States.

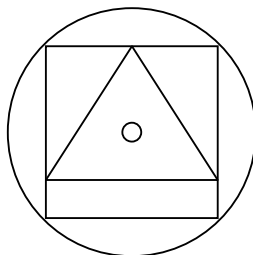
But what are symbols of ancient Egypt and the Jews doing on the U.S. dollar bill? People simply do not pay attention to what is going on. We now know from our exploration of the Secrets of the Tarot that the "Eye on the Pyramid" is a word in ancient Hebrew. The Eye is the Magus, the Magician Trump. The Pyramid is the Priestess Trump. The eternal Eye of Horus/Ra sees all, and the Priestess guards the Temple of Secrets. Together they form the word $\text{O}\Delta$. In Hebrew this word means "eternity". It also means a "witness". The Eye is the Eye of the Silent Witness of Awareness. The Pyramid is the most stable structure in the universe. It represents something that lasts forever. In Genesis God creates a Garden, a Paradise on Earth and he places his original Man and Woman, Adam and Eve, in this garden. At the center of the Garden there are two special trees. One is the Tree of Knowledge. The other is the Tree of Life. The Tree of Knowledge represents consciousness, thinking, and language -- the world of symbols and opinions; the Tree of Life represents awareness, existence, and feeling -- the world of direct experience . . . the Two Pillars of the Temple Doorway. The name of the Temple's Garden is Eden $\text{O}\nabla\text{V}$ -- the little place of Eternity or the identity of the Witnessing Eye. Pure awareness has no definition, so it is not subject to change. It will accept any definition you give it and simply witness that as an experience without any judgment.

So the Witness assents to ANY undertaking. He accepts whatever you decide and takes that as an experience. This guarantees immortality. The founding fathers

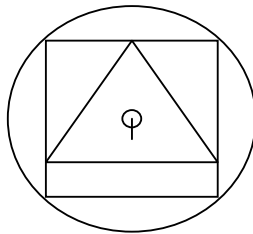
proposed to create a New World Order that would have its foundation in Eternity. This is rather bold stuff. In the middle, between the two sides of the Great Seal, we find in great big letters the word ONE. Over that it says: "IN GOD WE TRUST". So both sides are one. The Star made of 13 smaller stars IS the All-Seeing Eye of the Magician's Witness Awareness. The Phoenix that burns itself out and then resurrects from its ashes IS the eternal Pyramid, the Great Temple of the High Priestess. The word pyramid means "house of fire" or house of weeping (per-am) or "pyramid-tomb" (per-mer) or "House of Love". (Mer also means Love.) The upward pointing triangle is a traditional symbol for fire. Here is the reverse of the Seal in Hebrew ideograms.



In India the Root Chakra symbol looks like this. It is also Babaji's yantra emblem.

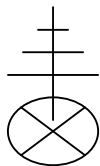


Do you see any resemblance to the pyramid on the Great Seal? Let's see if we can read this yantra in Hebrew. From the outside in we read: $\text{O}\square\nabla\text{O}$. This means Cloud (OB) Knowledge/Opinion (DO). OB can also be a forest. The idea seems to be that knowledge clouds the mind. Also OB has the idea of growing thick. If we read from the inside out, we get $\text{O}\nabla\square\text{O}$. OD, as we saw, means Eternity. BO or BOBO is bubbles, bubbling, Boboji forever. The mind blows bubbles of thought throughout all of eternity. DB is a Bear. See the Pole Star and the Zodiac Ecliptic? In the Emerald Tablet there is a phrase about the gross $\text{O}\square\text{F}$ and subtle $\nabla\varphi$ levels of creation. If we embed the root words OB DQ and go from gross to subtle (from out to in), then we get:

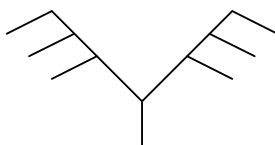


Going from subtle to gross gives us QD BO, which is shorthand for QDUS BOBO or holy bubble. The Fool sits in the center and forms a Dipper shape.

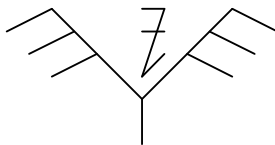
You can play around with the symbols and get interesting results. For example, here is Set.



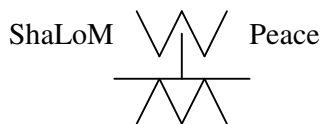
Here is a way of writing HVH (Being). Doesn't it look like a big eagle or albatross? It also looks like the cross section of the third ventricle of the brain.



We add a yod to make the tetragrammaton. It starts to resemble the phoenix/eagle on the Great Seal.

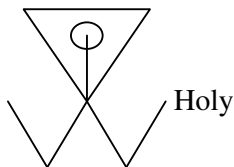


Here is the name for name (SheM). This is also a name for God.

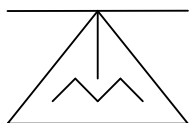


You can work with a Hebrew dictionary or just some important words from the Hebrew tradition.

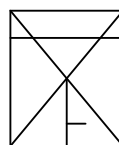
QDS



Holy



LaMeD = Learning



BeTh AL
House of God

