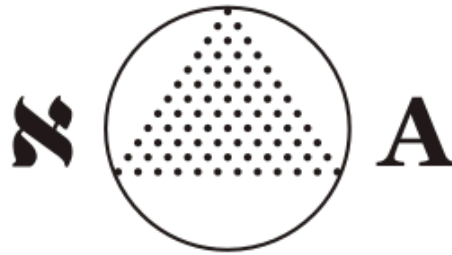


Chapter 7

**Trump I or 1:**

**The Magus or The Magician  
The Quadripolar Planet  
Invokation  
Yang**



As a Card of Wisdom, the number 1 card represents terrestrial creation as such. It shows the four elements and the human figure represents the synthesis of these 4 elements with the 5th: Akasha. Akasha has here become manifest, and is dynamically divided into the "Four Ethers", which correspond to the Four Elements.

Man is placed as reflecting God. His faculties - as above so below - allow him to become God-like. By developing all his or her virtues and talents, Man can use the elements according to his free will, thus again resembling the primary principle of Akasha. Incorporating Fire, Air, Water and Earth, Man is himself a "quadripolar magnet", a microcosm reflecting the macrocosmic Creation. The 1 is most close to the Zero, it is the visible outcome of its intent. Intent precedes Will, and Will is the highest mental aspect of Man. It cannot replace or "submit" Love, which is equal to the "feeling of Akasha", or the universally reflected harmony. Yet Man is free to act as he will, and therefore the card number 1 is given the name The Magus or The Magician, which signifies man in possession of all his potential faculties, as pure as possible within the framework of astrologic time, ideally having developed his virtues and his capacity for love and harmony to the utmost extent. This is Man in the Golden Age, Sakya-Yuga - ideally. Even if the Age is not perfect, still The Magus attempts perfection and strives for purity. Only so can he adequately handle the elements and

seek intercourse with the higher astral-psychic and mental-noetic spheres (which is his destiny to do, sooner or later).

Trump 1 reflects primal Creation: One out of Nothing. Polarity and the myriad forms have not yet arisen, but a primal "harmonic chord" has already been struck. All is potentially already created, but here it still remains an image, a dream. As all that rises also descends, the eternal flow of the Life Force, Shakti, is the primal cosmic stimulus for Time and Space to move and not remain stagnant. Trump 1 thus represents the divine emanation, in its first "harmonic" stage, where manifestation has not yet reached the stage of primal polarity. In the human body, it will take its course through the Chakras, and from below it enters the Root Centre, the Muladhara Chakra. Within the Tarot, as Trumps 11 to 20 reflect a doubling of the values of the lower Trumps, the higher or psychic-astral and mental-noetic aspects of each card are revealed within these higher Trumps. The direct correspondence of Trump 1, though, is not to be found within the highly dynamic Polarity expressed by Trump 11, but rather at the upper end of Shakti, where the life-force enters from above: Trumps 21 and 20. As Man, within the sphere of Trump 1, ascends, so he descends also. What is said of Lila, the intuitive action of karmic non-action, is especially important, for in this way Man purifies himself from the passions, or, rather, does not permit emotions to turn into passions at all. This study will attempt to compile a system of "guides on the way" that will hopefully show what particular details are of relevance at each stage.

Man, at the station of Trump 1, should above all try to be as intuitive as possible, let his heart speak, listen to inner conscience and the instincts, perceive him or herself as innocent. If this is not the case, then let innocence, purification, be the first and foremost goal. All else is less important, for the higher stages of the mind are only reached through gradually expanding purification.

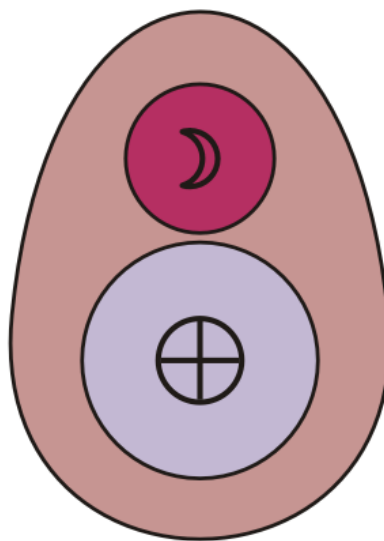
The Magus, who can be of both sexes, should realise his or her inner composition, the state of his or her inner harmony and equilibrium. In Nordic symbolism, this is primarily constituted by the state of the "inner trinity": the elemental force of life, the natural, physical "might", that each man or woman represents. It is the outer manifestation of the life-force, Shakti. Elemental might is the natural physical constitution of Man. It allows for Man's forces to act, and also to impose and dominate, depending on its "elemental qualities". A Man of great elemental might is like a huge, strong tree, that does not bend in the wind. Man, owing to the degree of this strength, can be dangerous to others, as also dangerous to him or herself. Thus, this natural energy must be reigned in, sublimed, it must not be left to act itself out on its own. The second element of the inner trinity is called "rank" or station. This is both the

inner and outer "form" of Man. It is associated with the intermingling of emotional energy and its outer and inner manifestation. Finally, Man is also composed of "step" or elevation. This is the quality of the mind, sublimed: of the Soul. Through the interplay of might, rank and step, associated with the other elements of human nature, each individual distinguishes him or herself from all others, it is part of what makes every man and woman unique. (For a closer view of this concept, see Appendix 11: [Might, Rank & Step](#)).

Much literature has gone into the attribution of symbols for The Magus. As the Hebrew Aleph was attributed to the 0, it followed that the 1 should be represented by the second letter: Beth.

This is not possible, for second equals 2 and 2 is not 1. The symbolism gets mixed up, and so we return to the earlier attribution of Aleph, for the Zero is only associated with Aleph as the trinity of Aleph - Mem - Shin, thus signifying "primal cause", the Aleph/Tau, and the Greek Alpha is there only used as Alpha/Omega. So, as "manifest creation", it is the "real" Aleph and the single Alpha that corresponds to the 1. It is only from card 1 onwards that the whole associated symbolism unfolds. This begins with the four-spoked circle or a cross within a circle - the quadripolar planet of human station, time and evolution. As reflective of the whole Earth-Belt-Zone, physic-material, astral-psyhic and mental-noëtic, no other planetary sign should be associated with Trump 1.

Trump 1, shown graphically, symbolises the Earth-Moon-Belt-Zone. On Earth, this whole sphere is represented in the Great Pyramid at Gizeh (see also Trump 10). Within its binary sphere, this reflects as:



The Earth-Moon-Belt-Zone.

Though The Magus or Magician is reflective of the whole scope of this card, it also signifies the first steps of initiation, which had begun with the curious innocence of The Fool. It is the individual who searches for enlightenment, who is trying to attain purity and perfection and is now slowly advancing towards this goal. "Know Thyself" was written at the entrance of the temples of Delphi and Eleusium, as also at the ancient Egyptian mystery-schools. And so the "searcher for truth" was directed to deeply reflect upon his/her own composite "Self". The knowledge of the five elements, time and space - in their interlocking relationship - was given as an aid to understand the human condition and its "interior". Thus slowly gathering knowledge, which with time is harmoniously turned into wisdom, the searching pupil is associated with the wise and knowledgeable magus, the perfected adept. Whichever way is trod, Man's station is equal to where "he/she has led him/herself to be", knowledge put to wise use and an attainment of inner harmony (of the elements constituting the "outside" as well as the "inside"). Therefore Fire, as representative of the mental faculties, is the future adepts' first lesson. Yet, before continuing on the path, the first card - representing all elements - has to be mastered completely, and therefore all five elements are part of this card. They are already manifest and simply await to be grasped and integrated. If a God is symbolically associated with this card, it is Horus as the "young God", the avatar Krishna as "divine manifestation", the Buddha or a major aspect of Buddhism like Avalokitesvara. The "old God" would be Osiris, but for reasons of association with Isis and his "passing away to allow Horus to manifest", Osiris - the stellar constellation of Orion - is better associated with the number that joins the Zero to the One: 10.

So Trump 1 signifies both the accomplished Adept and the Neophyte beginning on his search for truth, love and harmony. Traditionally, Mercury was often taken as the symbol of all ancient wisdom, deified as Thot. And, it is true that the basic practical study associated with Trump 1 is the control of all mental processes. Only through the control of thought can the qualities of the individual Soul be known. This is associated with ever-expanding awareness, of ones' body and its functions, here primarily with a view to integrate the basic, primal element Fire. But, owing to the truly high knowledge and wisdom that must be brought to bear in order to obtain "liberty from polarity", liberty from Samsara - the eternally moving wheel of life, transient existence, death - which are more clearly symbolised by Trumps, 3, 11 and 21, we prefer to keep Mercury and his zodiacal "relation", Aquarius, for these other Trumps. The quadripolar magnet, planet Earth and the Earth-Belt-Zone are already highly charged with symbolism, there is no reason to introduce Thoth - "all-knowing Hermes Trismegistos" - though he certainly corresponds with the Highest Adept in these circumstances. In his place the symbol of Eternity, the lying 8, as already to be found in many card-decks, is appropriate, for this is the symbol of "Akasha applied", the minds' Ether

put to work "on" the elements. A representative of mineral-, plant- and animal-life should normally figure on this card too, as well as the four elements in their physical appearance:

A sword and a fire burning, the wand or baton with wind and trees, the cup with a waterfall and a distant sea, the pentacle with the ground below and a mountain silhouetted on the horizon. A star-spangled sky with the lying 8 signifies Akasha as Universe, Space and Time. The flowering lotus is possible, but, signifying love and harmony, it better applies to Trump 2.

Inner harmony also means harmonious interplay of the 7 Chakras or the 10 Sephirot on the Tree of Life. As a beginning, on card 1 the lowest Chakra - Muladhara Chakra - or the Sephirah Malkuth has its place. We will, at this point, not enter the significance of the Muladhara Chakra, nor of Malkuth, for Malkuth especially will be found associated with Trump 10, on the "upwards leading path leading down". Suffice it to say that in Sino-Tibetan philosophy the 1st and 2nd Chakras are seen as one only, together forming the total generative system. Trump 2 is already symbolic of the 2nd Chakra and of the Sephirah Yesod (though only in human life and circumstance, for Yesod is also the Moon-Belt-Zone, the "Psychic - Astral" and therefore reflected in Trumps 4, 9, 15, 16 and 18).

In a different symbolism, man is the Earth and woman is the Moon, though "woman" as "being fertile and gentle" is both Earth and Moon, and so "man" is thought to be Earth and Sun. This is the reason for the male gods of the patriarchic last 4.000 years: Mithras, Apollo, Baal, etc., all having the Sun as object of worship. In Egypt, this was the "heresy of Ekhnaton" - Amenophis IV - , where the universal Theban God Amun-Ra was supplanted by Atun, the Sun alone.

Still, we may continue - in view of its use as possible "significator" - to ascribe a "masculine" significance to Trump 1, even if this is antiquated, outdated at this beginning 3rd millennium A.D.

Therefore it has been suggested earlier to take "God" as Kether out of the Tree of Life and unite Binah and Chokmah into one Sephirah, make Da'ath appear and conversely "unite" Earth and Moon, or Malkuth and Yesod.

In the five Skandhas of Sino-Tibetan philosophy, the first Skandha is called Rupa-Skandha. It stands for corporeality. Within Man, the first Skandha symbolises the past elements of consciousness, the present elements of material sensation, and the future

potential sensuous elements. It is thus related to the sense-organs, the sense-objects, and their mutual relationships and psychological consequences. Man is now what he or she "made himself to be", attention should be concentrated on what influences are allowed to influence ones' present, actual station. This necessary filtering of "inputs" will decide on the inner harmony of the senses, the next "psychological state".

Abstractly, as the perfected Adept, Trump 1 also reflects the Buddha. By correlation of what is said within Trump 21, the legend of the Buddha states: "Buddha, having achieved enlightenment and perfection already in a prior age of the world, realised that nonetheless he was part of humanity as such, an individual of the human race. Also, he realised that the total scope and evolution of humanity was bound in with his own achievement. Were he to leave towards the ethereal regions of the Sun or Sirius, continuing on his own path of perfection only, humanity would lack the impulse for ever moving forward on the path of purification. He would deprive the beings of his own kind of the stimulus to "become as God". Therefore he took a vow before himself and before God, "to ever return, as long as any transient human being remained, waiting for liberation from the Wheel of Dharma, Samsara."

This is the vow that every serious student of Buddhism, every monk or nun, every member of the Sangha, the Buddhist congregation, still takes up to this day. It would do well for the aspiring Magus to keep this vow also, for if ever he or she does not serve humanity anymore, then also his or her advancement comes to a stop.

In the Buddhist Dhammapada, the Buddha speaks in chapter one, which is called: "Contrary Ways". He says: "What we are today comes from our thought of yesterday, and our present thought builds our life of tomorrow: our life is the creation of our mind." This, as our actions are usually the fruit of ideas and mental images, vitalised by the emotional form-giving psychic-astral sphere, is ever to be borne in mind. It is a question of how to avoid Karma, how to look without fear on the consequences of our actions. Only the way of selfless, intuitive action, finally, keeps Man from the law of retribution. The Buddha also says: "Those who think that the unreal is, and think that the Real is not, they shall never reach the Truth, lost in the path of wrong thought. But those who know the Real is, and know that the unreal is not, they shall indeed reach the Truth, safe on the path of right thought." Thus Man is made aware of the transience and basic unreality of manifest creation in its myriad forms. They all flow, arise and disintegrate. Maya is the name for the world of illusion, and Truth and Purity is the sword to cut through it. The Tibetan Bodhisattva, Manjushri, wielding this sword of dissective, discerning wisdom, stands for the Magus, indeed Manjushri is the patron saint of all magicians, alchemists and siddhic Yogis. (See Glossary: [Siddhis](#))

Trump 1, finally, symbolises Invocation, invoking the "holy guardian angel", God and all spiritual entities, to be of help and offer protection. Invocation, though, if the Tarot are read as a "Path of Liberation", from 1 to 21, should not yet be attempted. To mentally begin to invoke higher protective agencies, is nevertheless proposed, for the individual will thereby learn to achieve a heightened state of mental purity. In the absence of a living guide and teacher, the ethereal Beings of benign aspect prove to be willing to serve the pure aspirations of a serious student.

The appearance of The Magus in a spread of the Tarot-cards signifies the involvement of the main person with the surrounding cards, it points to the individual Self. It is generally a "positive sign" when this happens. If placed in the midst of conflict and strife, as is possible in association with the Minor Arcana, then it means just that: "surrounded or confronted by strife", but guards the aspect of "divine will is on the side of the questioner", for he/she appears as his/her "total person" with all faculties developed (which were not necessarily the case if Trump 1 is supplanted by a "personality card" of the four suits).

The Earth-Belt-Zone is said to be inhabited by the "Beings of the elements", of Earth, Water, Fire and Air. Their primal aspects are each 12 in number. "Above" these rule the 360 "Principalities" of the Earth-Belt-Zone. They may be equally be evoked or invoked, but the Magus must then be well prepared. The usual procedure relies only on invocation, the magnetic quality.

Invocation of the Earth-Belt-Zone is associated in ritual with 10 candles or petroleum-lights, the "magic" circle and the "trinity" ( of "mother-letters", a triangle or a single candle) in the middle, plus all four colours of red-orange, green, blue and brown-black. The incense of preference is Sauge and Elderberry, or Elderflower.



Rectified traditional card