

Spiritual Unfoldment Through Tarot

The Third Stage

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Acknowledgments: The life of Paul Foster Case from 1884 to 1954.
The life of Ann Davies from 1912 to 1975.

***** 01 *****

The Third Stage of Spiritual Unfoldment through Tarot.

***** 02 *****

Previously, we explored the first and second stage of spiritual unfoldment which involves the principle of attention and also the principle of memory.

With the principle of attention, when we focus on the assigned polarities of Key 1 which are the elements of life and death, we begin a swirling motion that involves the agency of Key 8, Strength.

The involvement of Key 8 forms the 'suggestion' to our subconsciousness that alludes to the activity of conscious energy that brings about the result of Key 15, The Devil.

The outcome of this first stage of unfoldment will be within the polarities of Key 15, which are mirth and bondage.

Normally, if we are able to laugh at ourselves of the outcome from which we gave our attention to, then most likely we have out grown the particular problem that our misinterpreted appearances have presented to us.

If we remain sensitive to the appearances out of fear, guilt, or some type of judgments, then we continue to have a type of bondage with the problem, which is not wrong or bad.

When we experience different degrees of bondage, we will circle right back up to Key 1 and provide more attention to the problem which gives us more of a surge to do something about this outcome that appears not very pleasant.

This means we will continue to reapproach what we give our attention to in a particular area of life, impact our subconsciousness with suggestions on how to release ourselves from bondage, to pierce through the appearances of the previous circular motions of the unfoldment and have the ability to see the whole principle of manifestation that is occurring in those particular moments.

It is important for us to know that this first stage does not operate on its own.

All seven stages of spiritual unfoldment coincide together but in order to train our minds to the understanding of principles of consciousness, we need to focus on each stage independently to extract the attributions, the functions, and the expressions that are assigned to each Tarot Key.

***** 03 *****

This leads to the second principle which is memory.

Let us assume that the previous difficulty in our life from stage one has been melted away to the degree where we are no longer stuck in the groove which circles back around over and over until we have outgrown that particular problem.

Our spiral motion from the first stage has now expanded into the second stage that involves the assigned polarities of Key 2 which are peace and strife.

When we learn how to correctly remember our experiences as they should be remembered, we will have peace.

Otherwise, we will use our memory in a way that brings us strife.

This involves the agency of Key 9 which is the 'response' to our memory and also gives us a sense of 'touch' with all of life that references the results from all experiences from stage one of unfoldment.

The effect from our 'response' to memory leads us to Key 16 and brings about certain ideas, opinions, attitudes that can create degrees of separation along with towers of isolation.

But if our 'response' to memory is more aligned with the mode of consciousness of Key 2, which is the Uniting Intelligence, then we will experience the lightning flash that delivers grace rather than sin.

Grace and sin are the assigned polarities of Key 16.

The mode of consciousness of Key 16 is the Exciting Intelligence, which will stir up activity, produce changes, and effect transformations within our consciousness in order to move us toward different perceptions and discriminations.

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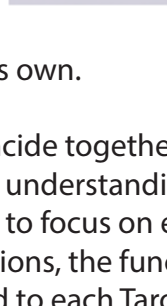
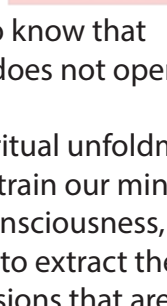
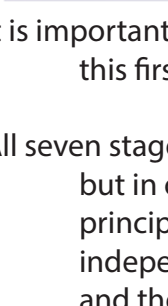
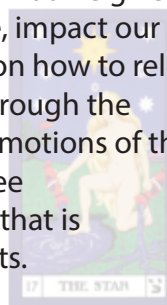
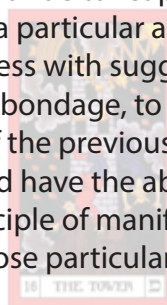
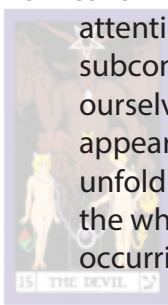
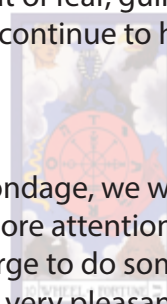
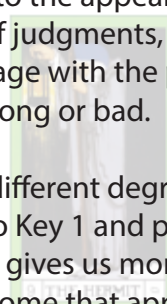
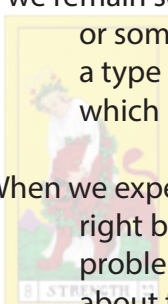
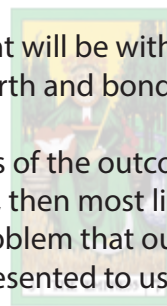
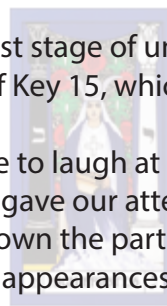
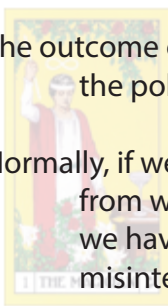
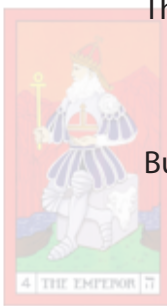
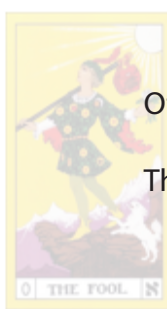
This leads to the third principle which is the creative imagination.

Once again, let us remember that each stage of unfoldment with the particular series of three Tarot Keys, is a stage of consciousness that happens to be a representation inclusively of that particular stage, yet each preceding stages does not exclude the previous stage.

This means the third stage of spiritual unfoldment has within it's whirling the continuous growing motion of principle, agency and effect, which in itself brings about its own principle and agency and effect.

Furthermore, our Higher Source is growing our Personality which means that we all have our experiences of growth in countless phases within our life.

There are some phases of our Personality that are still in the first stage of unfoldment while simultaneously other phases of our Personality are in later stages of unfoldment.



We are continuously being grown which is symbolized in Key 17 of the effect for the third stage of unfoldment.

***** 05 *****

Before we focus on Key 17, let us notice Key 3, The Empress, and that she is the contrast of The High Priestess who was portrayed as a cold, virgin woman figure.

The Empress is warm, pregnant, and the Great Mother.

She is the ancient world goddess which Humanity has called her many names from many different eras.

How is The Empress pregnant and by who?

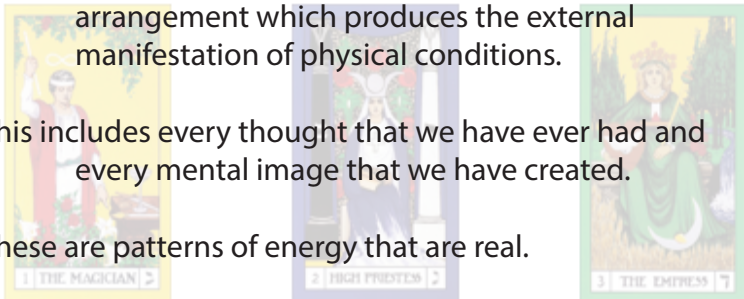
The Empress is Venus and she is pregnant by Mars.

Venus is the feminine ruling power whereas Mars is the masculine ruling power.

Notice in the fourth stage of spiritual unfoldment, The Emperor of Key 4 represents the fourth principle of consciousness and also the Mars energy.

The Empress is pregnant with the world of form.

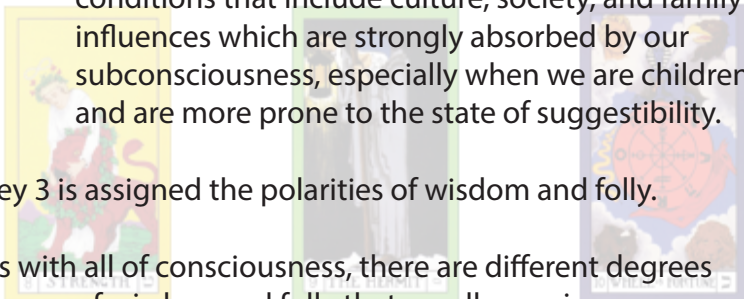
This means that with the principle of creative imagination, The Empress governs internal development and arrangement which produces the external manifestation of physical conditions.



This includes every thought that we have ever had and every mental image that we have created.

These are patterns of energy that are real.

The mental imagery is based on our physical and environmental conditions that include culture, society, and family influences which are strongly absorbed by our subconsciousness, especially when we are children and are more prone to the state of suggestibility.

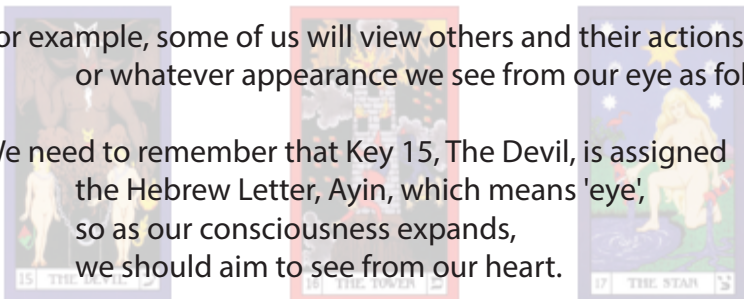


Key 3 is assigned the polarities of wisdom and folly.

As with all of consciousness, there are different degrees of wisdom and folly that we all experience at different phases of our life.

For example, some of us will view others and their actions or whatever appearance we see from our eye as folly.

We need to remember that Key 15, The Devil, is assigned the Hebrew Letter, Ayin, which means 'eye', so as our consciousness expands, we should aim to see from our heart.



This is how we genuinely utilize the creative imagination.

We see through appearances which is the essence of the third stage of spiritual unfoldment that opens up beauty in all of the world that we experience along with the capacity to obtain wisdom.

***** 06 *****

The stream of water in Key 3 is the same water which is assigned to memory in Key 2 and is the motion of consciousness.

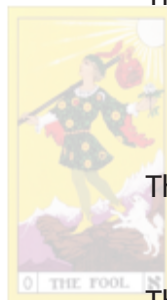
The Intelligence of Unity is flowing from Key 2 into Key 3 and has water falling into a pool that is symbol for union of male and female modes of conscious energy.

The stream of water is modified and directed by Key 1, The Magician, into the pool which represents the accumulation of influences descending from the self-conscious level.

This means with the power of suggestion in the first stage of unfoldment will impact the memory on the subconscious level and create the response of the second stage of unfoldment that streams forth into the pool of water of the third stage of unfoldment.

The Empress is surrounded by a rich and fertile garden that the stream of water and pool have provided to symbolize the growth and organization of the plant kingdom which is the work of cosmic energy operating at subconscious levels.

The mode of consciousness that is assigned to Key 3 is the Luminous Intelligence that determines if the suggestions and ideas for the self consciousness will result into wisdom or folly.



The subconsciousness has no power of inductive reasoning, but has perfect power in deductive reasoning.

This means if our self-conscious conclusion of inductive reasoning is formulated by observation, which if accurate and profound, then our subconscious elaboration of the initial seed-thought will be on the side of wisdom and enlightenment.



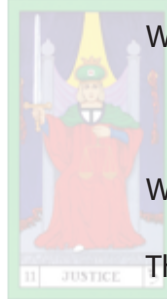
If our self-conscious observation and conclusion is not accurate and more superficial, the subconscious developments will be on the side of folly and not enlightenment.

The Luminous Intelligence within us all will present to the world the degree of wisdom and folly which we carry on a daily basis.

We all have our Venus aspect of conscious energy that flows through us which is portrayed as perfect love and perfect beauty in Key 3.

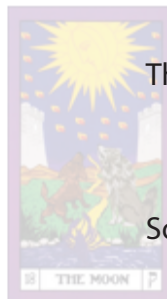
We glow when we are in love.

This love can be with another person, family, pets, creative endeavors, life experiences, places on earth, but the important factor is that the energy has been stirred within us that causes the Luminous Intelligence to shine outward from us.



The Hebrew Letter Daleth is assigned to Key 3, which means "door" and has attributions that are symbolic meanings for the door of life that references the Luminous Intelligence.

Some of the attributions are admission or prohibit, to let in or let go, motion-in and motion-out, which means when the glow of love that shines from us, our "door" is open wide and we share this love with the world.



***** 07 *****

From the principle of creative expression for Key 3 moves into the agency of Key 10, Wheel of Fortune, which has the mode of consciousness named the Rewarding Intelligence.

This state of consciousness is the adjustment of differences that establish harmony within the elements of our existence.



We need to know that this intelligence clearly shows in Key 10 that rotation of circumstance and the effects is consequence of preceding causes.

Assigned to Key 10 is the polarity of wealth and poverty which are the extremes of external signs of how we 'grasp' circumstances.

The Hebrew Letter assigned to Key 10 is Kaph which means 'grasp'.

When we 'grasp' and take hold of our mentality while being very clear and comprehending our thoughts, which are spinning and whirling just as the Wheel of Fortune in Key 10, then our rotation from day-to-day experiences will bring Jupiter's greater fortune.

Jupiter is assigned to Key 10 and is referenced as the greater fortune which is shown on the Qabalah Tree of Life as the 4th Sephiroth of Chesed.

Venus is assigned to Key 3 and is referenced as the lesser fortune and shown on the Tree of Life as the 7th Sephiroth of Netzach.

The 21st Path of Wisdom is Kaph which connects both the 4th Sephiroth and 7th Sephiroth.

Assigned to the 21st Path is the Seeking and Delightful Intelligence which receives the Divine Influx to bless all and everyone.

The agency of Key 10 can be clearly defined but our comprehension of the rotation for real seekers is to know and 'grasp' the inner significance of what we really want because this intelligence is to fulfil all desires.

Our quest for abundance is a 'response', Key 9, to the descending influence of the Life-power which once we gain recollection by correctly learning how to use our memory, then the treasures of Jupiter will unfold because we will know that what we project outward will come back to us in more abundance in terms of wealth and poverty.

The rewards are already here because of the constant down pour of the Divine Influx but we must use our creative imagination at different degrees in order to expand our consciousness and receive these rewards.

Wealth can be in terms of experience and self discovery, whereas poverty could be our motion of life that lacks the creative imagination as if we are stuck in a vacuum chamber and to move forward has become very challenging which interferes with our growth.

But, there is always growth even with interferences, which can be a type of illusion.

No matter what the experience is that we have, if we use our memory correctly, we will take notice that failure does not exist.

The interference creates adversity that produces strength and the challenges of moving forward will eventually lead to gaining skill which becomes a miracle.

When we look back at the progress that was made in the journey, we will marvel at how far we came and some of us may not see the progress.

But again, when we correctly use our memory, the progress that once was not identified will reveal itself no matter how hellish the situation may have seemed at that time in our life.

We all have experienced suffering in our own way, and some of us may agree with ourselves that the experience was like a living death.

If we reference the polarities of life and death of Key 1, we focused our attention while experiencing the suffering of whatever it was that seemed so horrible, we were creating 'suggestions' from the agency of Key 8, which eventually lead to problem solving in a creative way of Key 3, which means we were alive.

Now we can look back at our experience with the correct use of memory, Key 2, and stand here in this Now moment with the ability to identify the wealth in our life.

This is the rotation in Key 10, Wheel of Fortune, which leads to the effect of the third stage of unfoldment, Key 17, The Star.

***** 08 *****

We are all centers of expression of the One Creator that are unfolding with realizations and it is with Key 17 that if we develop the ability to perceive correctly then truth and revelation will unveil itself.

This is why mother nature is the nude woman figure in Key 17 because she does not conceal truths or hide from us.

The only veil is of human ignorance, which we experience with Key 15, The Devil, and the belief of separateness with Key 16, The Tower.

The third unfoldment is Key 17, The Star, that has the beautiful result of revelation which comes in various degrees, in different parts of our nature, and with different kinds of our experiences.

The function assigned to Key 17 is 'meditation' which means an unbroken flow of knowledge in a particular object.

This means that 'meditation' is just an extension of the principle of attention in Key 1.

When we concentrate as the Magician clearly demonstrates in his garden on particular objects, we are training the mind to become quiet and then we focus on the mental imagery that is received within our consciousness.

How do we explore these mental images that we receive during 'meditation'?

We explore them by understanding the meaning assigned to the Hebrew Letter of Key 17, which is Tzaddi.

This Hebrew Letter means 'fish-hook' which gives the ideas of experimentation, quest, research, and investigation of the unseen or unknown.

What is involved with a 'fish-hook'?

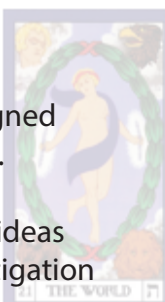
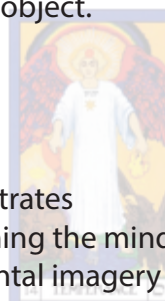
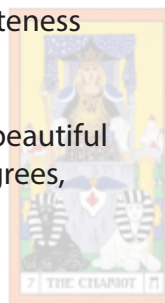
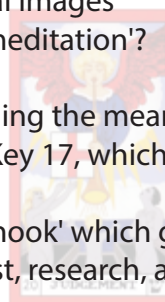
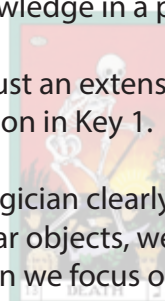
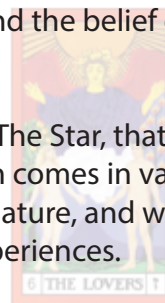
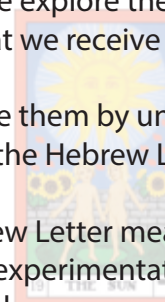
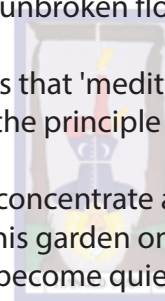
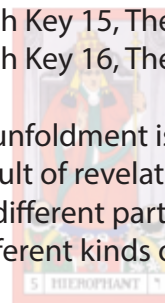
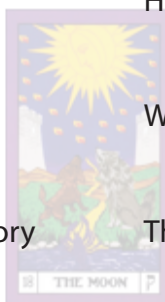
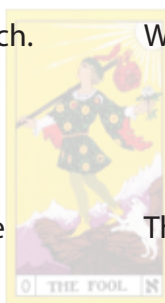
A 'fish-hook' has the purpose to catch fish.

Where do we catch fish?

Fish are only in one place, and that is in water.

What is water?

It is the High Priestess of Key 2, which is our symbol for the cosmic mental substance that we access through our subconsciousness.



When we go fishing, we normally will bait our 'fish-hook', drop the hook in the water, sit closely to our fishing rod, wait patiently for some activity, and hope to catch a 'fish'!

Sometimes we have to shift our attention in a creative way to catch 'fish' which means we angle our 'fish-hook' in hopes to bring about the attention of 'fish'.

What are 'fish'?

Within Qabalah, 'fish' is related to Key 13, Death, because the Hebrew Letter Nun is assigned to this Key, which means 'fish'.

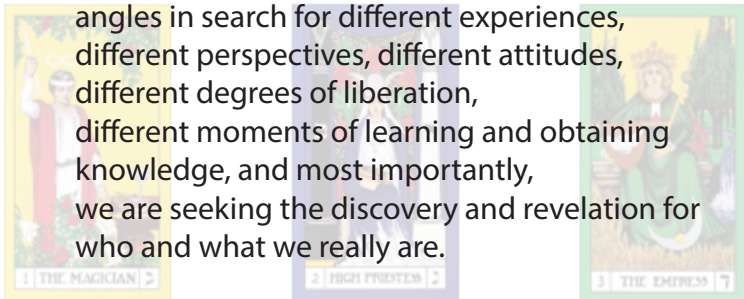
Key 13 is the agency for the sixth stage of spiritual unfoldment which we will elaborate more in detail during that particular lecture.

When we angle our 'fish-hook', in hopes to catch 'fish', what are we really doing?

We are angling for something that is in the substance of consciousness while we are in 'meditation.'

In essence, the angling of our 'fish-hook' has to do with finding our meaning within the assigned polarities of Key 1, life and death.

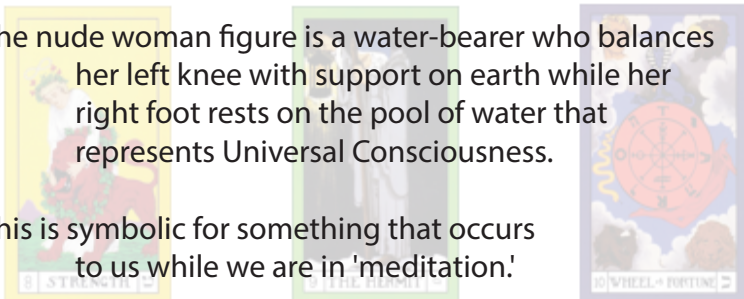
We are stirring consciousness with our 'fish-hook' at different angles in search for different experiences, different perspectives, different attitudes, different degrees of liberation, different moments of learning and obtaining knowledge, and most importantly, we are seeking the discovery and revelation for who and what we really are.



***** 09 *****

The nude woman figure is a water-bearer who balances her left knee with support on earth while her right foot rests on the pool of water that represents Universal Consciousness.

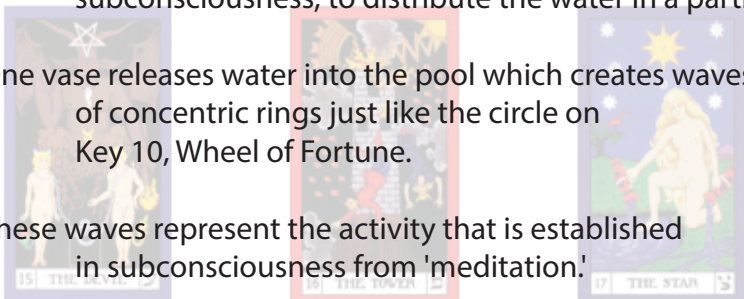
This is symbolic for something that occurs to us while we are in 'meditation.'



She uses her two vases, which represent self-consciousness and subconsciousness, to distribute the water in a particular way.

One vase releases water into the pool which creates waves of concentric rings just like the circle on Key 10, Wheel of Fortune.

These waves represent the activity that is established in subconsciousness from 'meditation.'



The other vase releases water that falls on earth and divides into five smaller streams.

This represents purification and perfection of the five senses that will employ 'meditation.'

Both of the vases are the modes of our personal consciousness that have been taken in hand by the angel who will take water from the pool and return water to the pool.

Along with purification of the five senses, there is symbolic meaning in the seven small stars that are white which indicates purification of our seven interior stars.

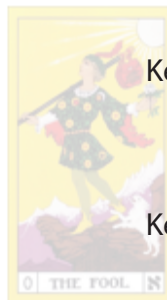
The large yellow star symbolizes the solar energy that is used as actual force to define all physical forms of expression.

Although, when we 'meditate', this allows us to transmute and modify personal expressions that comes from that same solar energy of the large yellow star.

Notice the bird who has a curved bill which is a natural 'fish-hook' and the bird waits on the tree for the still, quiet mind so that Truth unveils herself to us when we are in 'meditation'!

***** 10 *****

The first three principles of consciousness are fundamentals for 'meditation.'



Key 1, The Magician, selects an object, then provides fixed attention to focus on that object which creates mental processes of suggestions.

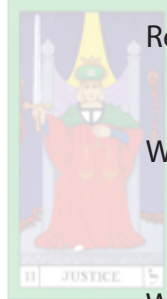
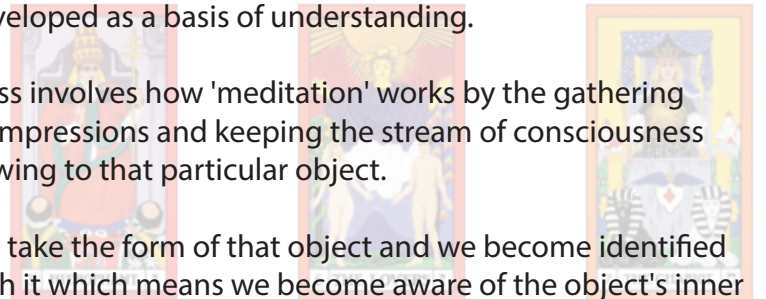
Key 2, High Priestess, will associate the suggestions of activity from Key 1 into memory of the subconsciousness.



Key 3, The Empress, will use the mental imagery that has been developed as a basis of understanding.

This process involves how 'meditation' works by the gathering of impressions and keeping the stream of consciousness flowing to that particular object.

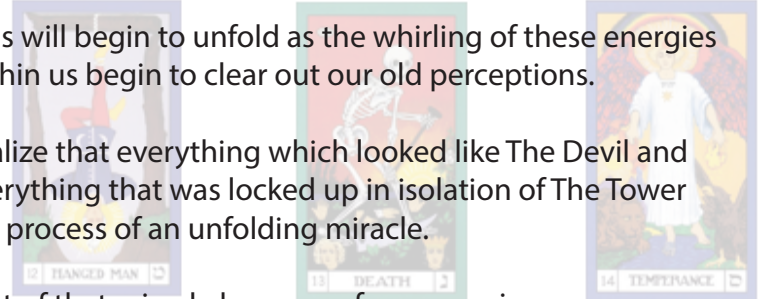
Our minds take the form of that object and we become identified with it which means we become aware of the object's inner nature as it reveals itself to us.



Revelations will begin to unfold as the whirling of these energies within us begin to clear out our old perceptions.

We will realize that everything which looked like The Devil and everything that was locked up in isolation of The Tower is a process of an unfolding miracle.

We are part of that miracle because of our consciousness and the consciousness of others.



We will begin to notice many different changes within ourselves, which also will seem like we live in a different world because we will notice the growth of our wealth and poverty of the Wheel of Fortune due to the electromagnetic attraction from understanding The Empress to our degree of wisdom and folly.

