

Intro to Gnostic Kabbalah

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Definitions

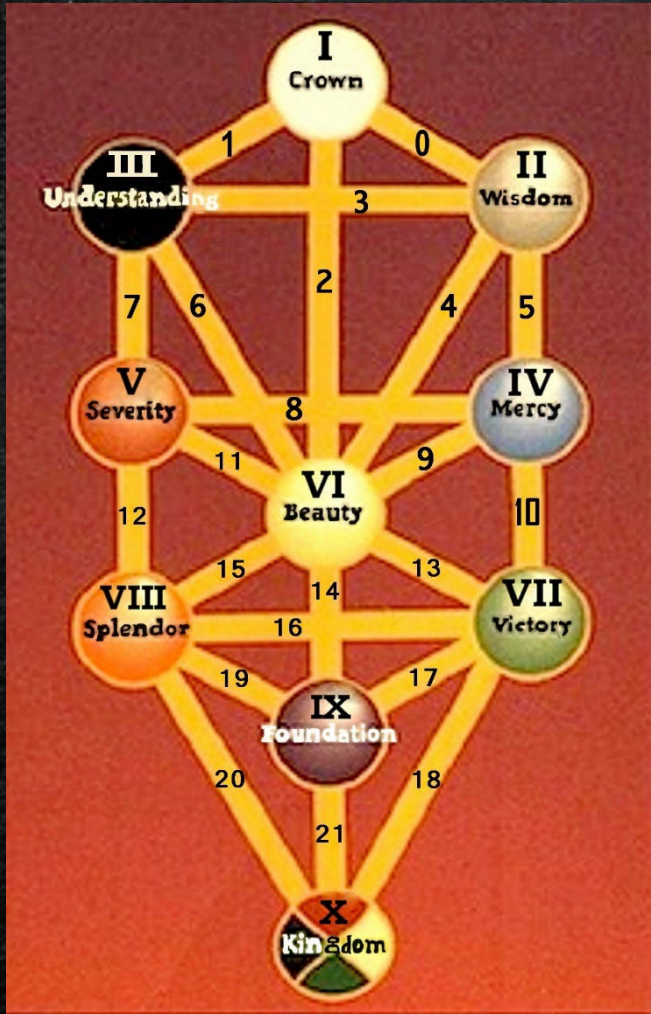
- **Kabbalah** is best known in Jewish tradition and is often used by many ritual magic traditions such as Golden Dawn & Thelema. In addition, pop stars like Madonna have brought Kabbalah into the public eye. However, the word Kabbalah actually means "Tradition" or "Giving". Once one understands Kabbalistic teachings, it becomes clear that Kabbalah is a system of understanding the universe, deity, consciousness, and even oneself. It is an extremely flexible system that can work with literally any paradigm.
- It seems that the origin of Kabbalah is ancient and is a combination of Jewish mysticism, Egyptian spirituality, and the Sumerian ladder of lights.
- The term **Gnosis** is a Greek word that literally means "knowledge." Since it is associated with spirituality, some have claimed that the term means "hidden knowledge", but it is more accurate to define it as "experiential knowledge". Therefore, a true Gnostic is someone who seeks experiential understanding of their spirituality instead of blind faith.

Kabbalah, Qabalah, Cabala

- Hebrew has its own letters so when a Hebrew word is transliterated to English there are several ways it can be spelled.
 - Kabbalah – Jewish and Mystical Kabbalah
 - Qabalah – Ritual Magic, Golden Dawn, Hermeticism, Left hand path
 - Cabala – Christian forms of the Tradition

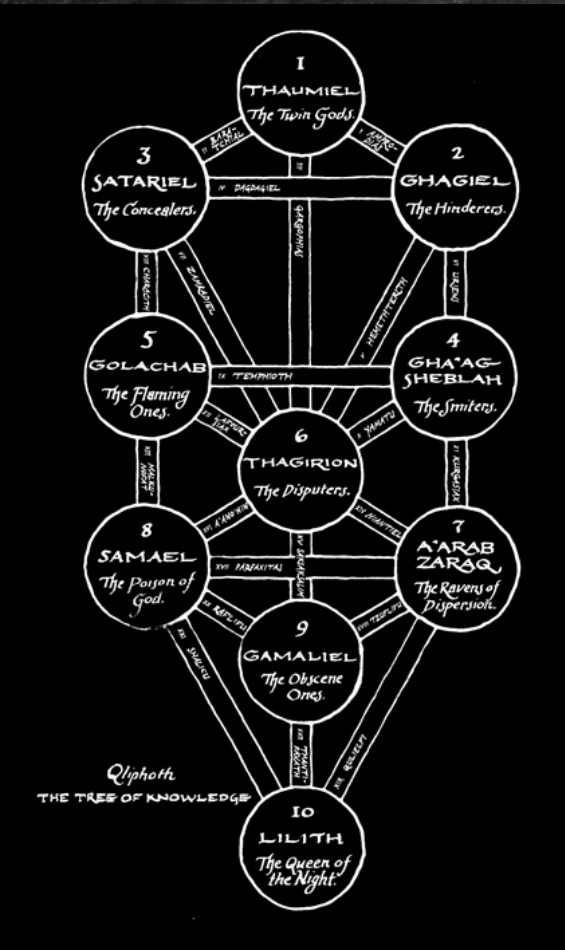


Tree of Life



- The Tree of Life is a glyph used in modern Kabbalah to represent the emanations of Divine Light through the various dimensions that lead to creation.
- The Tree consists of 10 “spheres” called Sefirah (plural Sefirot) and 22 “paths” called Netivah (plural Netivot).
- Sefirot are the divine energies in a relationship.
- Netivot are the 22 Hebrew Letters and are levels of consciousness. They can also be represented with the Tarot major arcana.
- 3 Pillars – Mercy, Severity, Compassion
- The glyph is used to represent God, creation, us, the universe, and everything else, but is not actually supposed to look like anything.

Tree of Shadows



- Klippah means "husks of darkness"
- Tree of Shadows is composed of Qlipah (Qlipoth plural)
- The Tree of Shadows is the dark tree that is said to be a shadow of the 4 lower universes

Creation



- “God” is a sea of light that has no beginning and no end.
- Tzim-Tzum – restriction that creates a womb.
- Light pours in and creates a linear Tree.
- The light is too powerful and the Tree shatters.
- A new Tree is formed, but this time with relationships (in the form we have today). Because of relationships, it is now able to hold the light and endure.

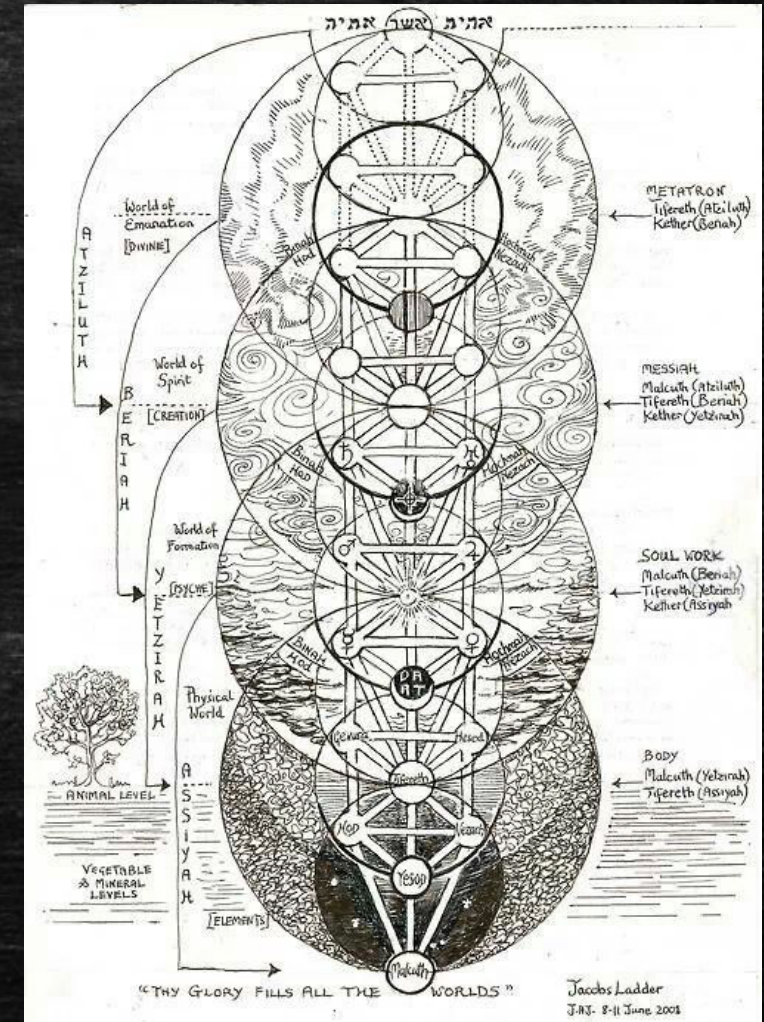
Partzufim



- Partzufim means “personalities of God”.
- “With beginning created God....”
- Partzufim created as divine light flows through the Tree and are refracted.
- Many, but most important in Kabbalah are Father, Mother, Son, & Daughter.
- YHWH (name of God) is actually
 - Yod: Father
 - Heh: Mother
 - Vov: Son
 - Final Heh: Daughter

Universes

- In Kabbalah there are 5 universe or Olam (Olamot plural).
- There is one copy of the Tree for each universe and they are interlocking. Each Tree is a level of creation.
 - Adam Kadmon – Unification
 - Atzilut – Deity (Divine names and personalities)
 - Beriyah – Arch-beings (Archangels, etc.)
 - Yetzirah – Spiritual Forces (Angels, etc.)
 - Asiyah – Creation (stars, planets, etc.)



Beyond the Universes



- Beyond the Trees is the true nature of deity.
 - Ain – No Thing
 - Ain Sof – Eternity
 - Ain Sof Or – Endless Light

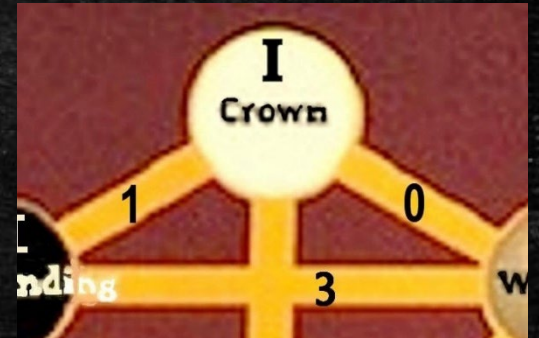
The Soul

- In Kabbalah there are 5 “levels” of the soul.
- The bottom 3 aspects are in the body in every incarnation, but the top 2 are beyond life.
 - Yechidah – Divine Spark (eternal and beyond)
 - Hayyah – Life Force (connection to body)
 - Neshamah – Eternal Soul (the “True” us)
 - Ruach – Spirit (intellect and intelligence)
 - Nefesh – Earthly Soul (ego and personality)



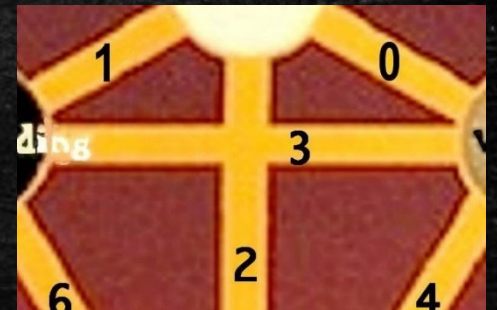
Keter (Crown)

- Place on the Tree of Life – Head of the central pillar on the Tree of Life
- Divine Name – Eheieh – I am or I shall be; Eheieh Asher Eheieh – I am That I am
- Partzuf - Ancient of Days (Atek Yomin); Big Face (Zer Anpin)
- Divine Image – Ancient, bearded king or Ancient Queen, viewed in profile
- Deities (Creator/Creatrix) – Supernal Hecate, Ptah, Gaea, Jumala, Nipara, Nohochacyum
- Archangel – Metatron
- Order of Angels – Hayyot Ha-Kodesh, Holy Living Creatures
- Astronomical Attribute – Beginning of Cycles; Pluto in modern astrology
- Level of the Soul – Yechidah,
- Chakra - Supernal
- Virtue – Supreme Attainment
- Vice – None
- Color – White
- Olipah - Thaumiel (Twin of God)
- Qliopthic Entity – Lucifer (Light Bearer)
- Aspect of Lilith – Omoroca (Black Dragon of the Abyss)
- Mesopotamian Aspect – Omoroca (Sumerian) – She Who Formed All Things



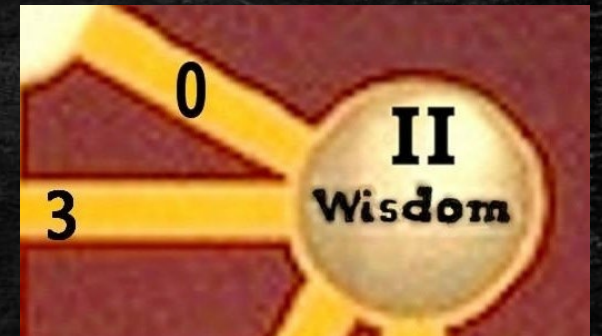
Da'at – the non-Sefirot (Knowledge)

- Place on the Tree of Life – Between Keter and Tiferet
- Divine Name – Yahweh Elohim
- Partzuf – Crown of Zer Anpin
- Divine Image – The Angel of the Apocalypse
- Deities (Death and Transformation) – Hecate,, Arddur, Osiris, Sacred Death, Nepthys, Anubis, Kali
- Archangel – Hua, Abaddon
- Astrological Attribute – Neptune, Sirius
- Level of the Soul – Peak of the upper Ruach; Base of the Neshamah
- Chakra – Between Crown and Supernal
- Virtue – Spiritual Attainment
- Vice – Disillusionment; Doubt; Pride
- Color – Clear
- Qlipah – Da'at (The Abyss)
- Qlipothic Entity – Abaddon (Demon of the Pit)
- Aspect of Lilith – Eishet Zunuzim (Woman of Whoredom – Qodeshah)
- Mesopotamian Aspect – Qetesh (Assyrian/Canaanite) – Sacred Ecstasy



Hokmah (Wisdom)

- Place on the Tree of Life – Head of the Pillar of Mercy
- Divine Name – Yah, Yahweh
- Partzuf – Father (Abba)
- Divine Image – A bearded male image; the One-Who-Sits on the Throne
- Deities (Father) – Zeus, Jupiter, Great Pan, Osiris, The Dagda, Cernnunos, Tubal Cain, Enki
- Archangel – Ratziel
- Order of Angels - Ofanim
- Astrological Attribute – The Wheel of the Zodiac
- Level of the Soul – Hayyah
- Chakra - Supernal
- Virtue – Perfect Devotion
- Vice – None
- Color – Gray
- Qlipah – Ghagiel (The Hinderers)
- Qlipothic Entity – Beelzebub (Lord of the Flies)
- Aspect of Lilith – Obizuth (Fierce Spirit from Testament of Solomon)
- Aspect of Lilith – Abizu (Sumerian) – She Who Comes From Water



Binah (Understanding)

- Place on the Tree of Life – Head of the Pillar of Severity
- Divine Name – Elohim
- Partzuf – Mother (Aimma)
- Divine Image – A mature woman
- Deities (Mother) – Isis, Hecate, Danu, Demeter, Tiamat, Kishar, Ashera, Atira, Nut, etc.
- Archangel – Tzafkiel or Shabbatiel
- Order of Angels - Aralim
- Astrological Attribute – Saturn
- Level of the Soul – Neshamah
- Chakra - Supernal
- Virtue – Self-Discipline
- Vice – Lack of Organization
- Color – Black
- Qlipah – Satariel (The Concealers)
- Qlipothic Entity – Lucifuge (Who flees from the Light)
- Aspect of Lilith – Lilith the Elder (Partner of Samael)
- Mesopotamian Aspect – Lilitu (Sumerian) – She Who Comes By Wind



Hesed (Mercy)

- Place on the Tree of Life – The center of the Pillar of Mercy
- Divine Name – El
- Partzuf - The Holy Priest-King enthroned
- Divine Image – The Holy Priest-King upon his throne
- Dieties (Rulers) – Jupiter, Odin, Nordens
- Archangel – Tzadkiel
- Order of Angels - Hashmalim
- Astrological Attribute – Jupiter
- Level of the Soul – Ruach (the Upper Ruach)
- Chakra – The Crown
- Virtue – Charity; generosity
- Vice – Miserliness; gluttony; tyranny
- Color – Blue
- Qlipah – Gha'Agsheblah (The Smiters)
- Qlipothic Entity – Ashtaroth (Unpure Venus – Astarte)
- Aspect of Lilith – Belqis (Queen of Sheba)
- Mesopotamian Aspect – Belili (Pre-Sumerian) – Ancient Moon and Underworld Deity



Gevurah (Severity)

- Place on the Tree of Life – The center of the Pillar of Severity
- Divine Name – Elohim Givur
- Partzuf – The Great Warrior in the Chariot of Fire
- Divine Image – A Spiritual Warrior riding a Chariot
- Deities (War & Protectors) – Mars, Ares, Bran, Brigid, Minvera, Athena, The Morrigan, Kali
- Archangel – Kamael and Samael
- Order of Angels - Seraphim
- Astrological Attribute – Mars
- Level of the Soul – Ruach (the Upper Ruach)
- Chakra – The Brow
- Virtue – Self-empowerment, courage, passion, resolution of conflicts
- Vice – Bullying, overbearing, cruelty
- Color - Red
- Olipah – Golachab (The Flaming Ones)
- Olipothic Entity – Ashmadai (King of Shedim – Asmodeus)
- Aspect of Lilith – Agrat Bet Mahlat (Most Severe form of Lilith)
- Mesopotamian Aspect – Labasu (Sumerian) – She Who Comes At Night



Tiferet (Beauty)

- Place on the Tree of Life – The Center of the Pillar of Compassion
- Divine Name – Yahweh Elohenu
- Partzuf Above – The Messiah (Messiach) or the Son (Ben)
- Divine Image – The Holy Child; The Messiah
- Deities (Sun & Sacrifices) – Osiris, Apollo, Attis, Tammuz, Balder, Bran, Yeshua, Dionysius
- Archangel – Raphael
- Order of Angels – Malachim
- Celestial Attribute – The Sun
- Level of the Soul – Ruach
- Chakra – The Throat
- Virtue – True individuality
- Vice – Lack of true individuality
- Color – Gold/Yellow
- Qlipah – Thagrimon (The Disputers)
- Qlipothic Entity – Belphegor (Horned solar God)
- Aspect of Lilith – Norea (Gnostic Na'amah) & Mary Magdalene
- Mesopotamian Aspect – Bariritu (Akkadian) - Dusk



Netzach (Victory)

- Place on the Tree of Life – Base of the Pillar of Mercy
- Divine Name – Yahweh Tzavaot
- Partzuf – The Prophet
- Divine Image – The Prophet
- Deities (Love) – Venus, Ishtar, Aphrodite, Hathor, Rhiannon, Niamh, Olwen
- Archangel – Haniel or Uriel
- Order of Angels – The elohim
- Astrological Attribute – Venus
- Level of the Soul – Lower Ruach
- Chakra – The Heart
- Virtue – Inspiration, artistic talent, harmony
- Vice – Lack of creativity or inspiration
- Color – Green
- Qlipah – A'arab Zaraq (The Ravens of Dispersion)
- Qlipothic Entity – Baal (Lord)
- Aspect of Lilith – Ardat Lili
- Mesopotamian Aspect – Ardat Lili (Sumerian) – Handmaiden of Lilla



Hod (Splendor)

- Place on the Tree of Life – The Base of the Pillar of Severity
- Divine Name – Elohim Tzavaot
- Partzuf – The Mage
- Divine Image – The Image of the Mage in the Circle of Light
- Deities (Messengers) – Thoth, Hermes, Mercury, Anubis, Ogma
- Archangel – Michael
- Order of Angels – Beni Elohim
- Astrological Attribute – Mercury
- Level of the Soul – Lower Ruach
- Chakra – The Solar Plexus
- Virtues – Sound logic, skilled communication, clarity of mind
- Vices – Dishonesty, unclear mind, misperception
- Color – Orange
- Qlipah – Samael (The Poison of God)
- Qlipothic Entity – Adramelech (Peacock demon)
- Aspect of Lilith – Az (Lamia, Spider Goddess, & Dark Mermaid)
- Mesopotamian Aspect – Abtagigi (Akkadian) – She Who Sends Messages of Desire



Yesod (Foundation)

- Place on the Tree of Life – Near the base of the pillar of compassion
- Divine Name – Shaddai, El Shaddai, Shaddai El Chai
- Partzuf – The Holy Teacher
- Divine Image – The Healer
- Deities (Moon) – Goda, Diana, Thoth, Ganesha, Sin, Myestats, Soma, Ch'ango, Pah
- Archangel – Gabriel
- Order of Angels - Kerubim
- Astrological Attribute – The Moon
- Level of the Soul – Ruach and Nefesh
- Chakra - Navel
- Virtue – Emotional Stability
- Vice – Overly emotional
- Color – Purple
- Qlipah – Gamaliel (The Obscene Ones)
- Qlipothic Entity – Lilith (Queen of Night)
- Aspect of Lilith – Lilith the Younger (Partner to Ashmodai)
- Mesopotamian Aspect – Lillake (Sumerian) – Maiden of Desolation



Malikut (Kingdom)

- Place on the Tree of Life – The base of the pillar of compassion
- Divine Name – Adonai
- Partzuf – The Bride (Kallah) or The Daughter (Nukvah)
- Divine Image – The image of a young woman crowned and, on a throne,
- Deities (Earth) – Pan, Ceres, Demeter, Geb, Marduk, Nisaba, Cernnunos
- Archangel – Sandalfon
- Order of Angels - Ashim
- Astrological Attribute – The Earth
- Level of the Soul – Nefesh
- Chakra - Root
- Virtue – Grounding, Harmony with nature
- Vice – Lack of Focus, Disharmony
- Color – Multi-colored/Earth tones
- Qlipah – Lilith (Queen of the Night)
- Qlipothic Entity – Na'amah
- Aspect of Lilith – Na'amah (Incarnate Lilith – Pleasant)
- Mesopotamian Aspect – Kilili (Akkadian) – Woman In The Window



Path 1 (Key 0)



Card: The Fool

Letter: *Aleph* ♂ (Mother letter - air)

Meaning: Ox (spirit)

Gematria: 1

Key: 0

Path: Crown (*Keter*) to Wisdom (*Hokmah*)

Path 2 (Key 1)



Card: The Magician

Letter: *Bet* ב (Double letter)

Meaning: House/Temple

Gematria: 2

Key: 1

Path: Crown (*Keter*) to Understanding (*Binah*)

Path 3 (Key 2)



Card: The High Priestess

Letter: *Gimel* λ (Double letter)

Meaning: Camel (transportation/commerce)

Gematria: 3

Key: 2

Path: Crown (*Keter*) to Beauty (*Tiferet*)

Path 4 (Key 3)



Card: The Empress

Letter: *Dalet* 7 (Double letter)

Meaning: Womb/Door of Life

Gematria: 4

Key: 3

Path: Wisdom (*Hokmah*) to Understanding (*Binah*)

Path 5 (Key 4)



Card: The Empress

Letter: *Dalet* ד (Double letter)

Meaning: Window (that which sets in order)

Gematria: 4

Key: 3

Path: Wisdom (*Hokmah*) to Understanding (*Binah*)

Path 6 (Key 5)



Card: The Hierophant

Letter: *Vav* ם (Simple letter)

Meaning: Nail/Hook

Gematria: 6

Key: 5

Path: Wisdom (*Hokmah*) to Mercy (*Hesed*)

Path 7 (Key 6)



Card: The Lovers

Letter: *Zayin* ז (Simple letter)

Meaning: Sword

Gematria: 7

Key: 6

Path: Understanding (*Binah*) to Beauty (*Tiferet*)

Path 8 (Key 7)



Card: The Chariot

Letter: *Chet* ח (Single letter)

Meaning: Field and Fence

Gematria: 8

Key: 7

Path: Understanding (*Binah*) to Severity (*Gevurah*)

Path 9 (Key 8)



Card: Strength

Letter: *Tet* ו (Single letter)

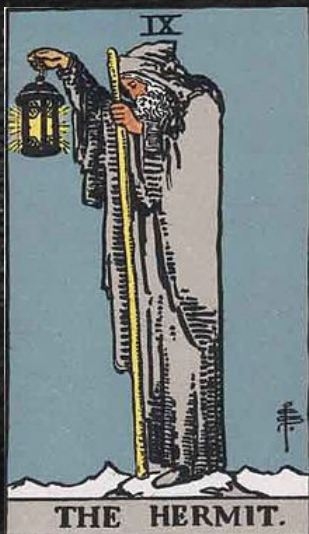
Meaning: Serpent/Snake

Gematria: 9

Key: 8

Path: Mercy (*Hesed*) to Severity (*Gevurah*)

Path 10 (Key 9)



Card: The Hermit

Letter: *Yod* ך (Single letter)

Meaning: Open Hand of Man (deity)

Gematria: 10

Key: 9

Path: Mercy (*Hesed*) to Beauty (*Tiferet*)

Path 11 (Key 10)



Card: Wheel of Fortune

Letter: *Kaph* כף (Double letter)

Meaning: Curve/Palm of Hand

Gematria: 20; but 500 when used as a final letter

Key: 10

Path: Mercy (*Hesed*) to Victory (*Netzach*)

Path 12 (Key 11)



Card: Justice

Letter: *Lamed* ל (Single letter)

Meaning: To Teach/Ox Goad

Gematria: 30

Key: 11

Path: Severity (*Gevurah*) to Beauty (*Tiferet*)

Path 13 (Key 12)



Card: The Hanged Man

Letter: *Mem* מ ם (Mother letter – water)

Meaning: Water (blood)

Gematria: 40; but 600 when used as a final letter

Key: 12

Path: Severity (*Gevurah*) to Splendor (*Hod*)

Path 14 (Key 13)



Card: Death

Letter: *Nun* נן (Single letter)

Meaning: Fish

Gematria: 50; but 700 when used as a final letter

Key: 13

Path: Beauty (*Tifferet*) to Victory (*Netzach*)

Path 15 (Key 14)



Card: Temperance

Letter: *Samekh* ם (Single letter)

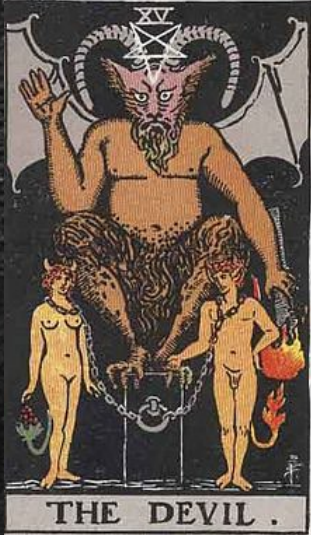
Meaning: Staff/Tent Peg

Gematria: 60

Key: 14

Path: Beauty (*Tifferet*) to Foundation (*Yesod*)

Path 16 (Key 15)



Card: The Devil

Letter: *Ayin* ם (Single letter)

Meaning: Eye/Foundation

Gematria: 70

Key: 15

Path: Beauty (*Tifferet*) to Splendor (*Hod*)

Path 17 (Key 16)



Card: The Tower

Letter: *Peh* פּ (Double letter)

Meaning: Mouth

Gematria: 80; but 800 when used as a final letter

Key: 16

Path: Victory (*Netzach*) to Splendor (*Hod*)

Path 18 (Key 17)



Card: The Star

Letter: *Tzaddi* זצ (Single letter)

Meaning: Fish Hook

Gematria: 90; but 900 when used as a final letter

Key: 17

Path: Victory (*Netzach*) to Foundation (*Yesod*)

Path 19 (Key 18)



Card: The Moon

Letter: *Qoph* ק (Single letter)

Meaning: Back of Head (reptilian brain)

Gematria: 100

Key: 18

Path: Victory (*Netzach*) to Kingdom (*Malkut*)

Path 20 (Key 19)



Card: The Sun

Letter: *Resh* ר (Double letter)

Meaning: Head/Face of a Human

Gematria: 200

Key: 19

Path: Splendor (*Hod*) to Foundation (*Yesod*)

Path 21 (Key 20)



Card: Judgement

Letter: *Shin* ם (Mother letter – fire)

Meaning: Tooth or Serpent's Fang

Gematria: 300

Key: 20

Path: Splendor (*Hod*) to Kingdom (*Malkut*)

Path 22 (Key 21)



Card: The World

Letter: *Tav* ך (Double letter)

Meaning: Signature/Mark (unification)

Gematria: 400

Key: 21

Path: Foundation (*Yesod*) to Kingdom (*Malkut*)

Application



- Meditation
 - On the Spheres
 - On the Paths
 - Moving through the Tree
 - Partzuf meditation
 - Etc.
- Ritual
 - Using correspondences for magic
 - Opening a sphere with the Spheres as the basis
 - Utilizing angels and deity
 - Etc.
- Shadow Work
- Comparative theology
- Understanding scriptural texts of all Traditions

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