

PRINCE of SWORDS

Key Words: *the airy aspect of air; intuition, creative thinking; cutting through all entanglements; becoming free of limited ideas and models; clear perception.*

The Prince of Swords wears tight, webbed, green armor. He is a master of creative ideas, thinking and planning. A prerequisite for being able to think creatively is unrestricted freedom. The creative thought process cannot tolerate being limited in any way. This is why the Prince swings his arm so far back to cut the connection with the figures pulling the wagon with full force. These figures are symbols of confining ideas and feelings, or limiting relationships, which might slow the chariot's progress.

The crystal in the chariot is shaped like a double pyramid. It shows perception becoming crystallized. This is a good time to give shape and form to ideas.

Sometimes problems appear insurmountable to us because of old, limiting belief systems and convictions, for example, «I am weak and dependent, «(or,» If I assert myself, I will be punished, «(or,» I am basically clumsy.« In some past situation, perhaps in our childhood, such feelings may have had a certain validity but now they have no relation to our present reality. We continue to drag these beliefs along with us, however, repeatedly experiencing situations which reinforce them. We tell ourselves, for example, that our basic clumsiness causes us to drop and break things.

Reality is just a little different. We don't simply fall into situations accidentally but create them around ourselves based on our beliefs about reality. A man who is embarrassed about his «terrible» clumsiness, for example will so restrict his movements, afraid of being clumsy, that his movements really will be clumsy. Whatever true natural grace he may possess remains undiscovered and undeveloped, because at some time in the past someone convinced him to see himself as clumsy. If we closely examine aspects of ourselves which are unsatisfactory, we can see that each uncomfortable or unworkable situation serves to show us our own misconceptions and mistaken attitudes. Once we have seen these for what they are, we can correct or let go of them.

Indications: Free yourself from whatever limits your mind and spirit. But be sure you express your ideas and plans in ways that other people will understand. Accept their opinions humbly. Your thinking may be way ahead of its time, but you can adjust to make your vision workable in the present without sacrificing anything!

Question: What beliefs, feelings, relationships or programmed ideas do you allow to limit you?

Suggestion: Learn about creative visualization. Read *Creative Visualization*, a book by Shakti Gawain.*

Affirmation: My creative possibilities have no limits.

Prince of Swords is that aspect of the mind which has newly mastered creative-intuitive thinking. He represents the inspired mind that does not want to be limited, restricted, or restrained in any way. The desire for non-limitation during the creative-intuitive process is symbolized by the Prince who, with his two swords (a sickle and large sword), is determined to cut through any thoughts, attitudes, or beliefs that might reign the movement (the chariot) and expression of creative-intuitive thinking.

The Prince's curved sickle and elongated sword are symbols for the dynamic function of thinking. For women the Prince of Swords is an expression of an aspect of their animus, or internal masculine energy, that desires to express itself in unlimited creative and intuitive ways.

The Prince of Swords represents new mastery of creative-intuitive thinking which is expanding and is in dynamic motion. This symbol is associated with the air sign of Aquarius, which is a symbol for the creative, original, innovative mind. Aquarius is symbolized on the card by the three human bodies (inspired ideas) that want to be released and expressed. During the month of Aquarius (January 21 - February 21), you may experience limitations and restrictions being removed so that your creative-intuitive processes can be freed to move forward. Aquarius can also be a month where you experience the need for more creative problem solving in areas of your life that have become boring, routine, and predictable. Sometimes the Prince of Swords actually indicates a desire to literally move, relocate or travel. Regardless, it is creative energy that wants to be actively expressed.

The Prince of Swords may represent an Aquarius person or any younger man with whom you choose to restructure your relationship so that it moves in new directions that are unlimited and less restrained; or this may represent a younger person or an Aquarian person in your life that you might enjoy working with in creative endeavors; or someone that you might inspire to move in new directions where they might express more of their creative-intuitive thinking.