

XX THE AEON

Key Words: *highly discriminating or discerning; open to criticism; critical self-analysis.*

The central part of the card is enveloped by the stylized body of the star-goddess Nuith. She spreads night over the heavens in order to provide a background for the stars. During the day, she is once again swallowed up by the sun. Her companion is Hadit, represented by a winged ball of fire. He represents the omniscient view, the view from all sides at once. The union of these two creates the child Horus. He is a double god, possessing both a passive and an active form.

The eye of Horus sees the totality. He can see what has fallen out of harmony. His clear insight serves as a basis for an all-encompassing critical power of discrimination. Criticism based on such deep perception can be communicated in a manner that motivates and inspires, rather than condemns others. Discernment which springs from real insight is constructive and free of dogma.

The Aeon points to a need for well-thought-out judgement of the situation. A long, difficult work process may be required before you finally reach this judgement.

All-encompassing insight cannot be achieved solely through the intellect. Body, Spirit and Soul (the three figures at the bottom of the picture) are drawn into the process of forming a judgement, and during this process you will instinctively move toward that which will support your blossoming, and move away from that which will offer no help.

The god of Wisdom (Ohyros), shown as a winged serpent at the top of the painting, is a symbol of the vast powers of thought available to the mind which reflects reality directly, freed from the ballast of prejudice or preconceptions. Judgment arises from direct personal experience. Finally, it is life itself, and no longer the limited individual consciousness, which becomes the source of all judgement.

Indications: You are being challenged to drop your »worm's eye view,« to see things from a higher plane. When you have recognized greater timespans (aeons) and other contexts (which you are increasingly ready to do), you will then tend more and more to observe things in their being-ness: to see free from evaluations:

Suggestion: Meditate on the following statement: One sign of ignorance is indicated by some belief in injustice and unhappiness.

Question: Which methods will you use to gain deeper insight and greater wisdom?

Affirmation: God is the Unknown, the mysterious. The more I know that I don't know, the closer I am to the Divine.

Learn to look with an equal eye upon all beings, seeing the one Self in all.
- Srimad Bhagavatam, Perennial Philosophy

THE AEON symbol represents the principle of good judgment XX that is utilized in both personal and professional situations. Webster's dictionary defines the Aeon as that state which represents a long, indefinite period of time. The Aeon reminds us that all perceptions come from our ability to take a look at the whole; and that it is our inherent desire to consider longevity, history, and broad perspectives in all situations.

Within the central representation of this symbol, we find two powerful reflections of both family and profession. The concept of family is represented by the large giant-child figure of Osiris, the Egyptian God of Wisdom, who married Isis, the Goddess of Intuition. They gave birth to the body, mind, and soul of Horus, the God of Perception which is represented by the central figures. Surrounding them is the Egyptian Goddess, Nut, the Sky-Goddess. She is the dark woman with elongated body, touching the earth with toes and fingers as she makes a back-bend in order to hold up the stars at night. She makes the shape of the Zodiac sign, Leo, which represents creative and professional power. Creativity that is properly used can make positive impacts in both family and career. The Aeon is the only symbol in the entire deck which incorporates the integration of the personal and professional aspects of our lives.

THE PRINCIPLE OF GOOD JUDGMENT/DISCERNMENT

The Goddess Isis in the womb reminds us of our creative power to give birth to new forms (the floating fetuses). Osiris with his forefinger to his mouth reflects that wisdom comes from experience and is not randomly spoken. Camus in his book, *The Fall*, stated that the Last Judgment is faced in all the daily judgments we make of ourselves and others. The Aeon/Judgment symbol represents our ability to give birth to new forms in both family and career situations. The Aeon reminds us to look at the history we have shared and to forgive ourselves and others for the judgments we are making about what we are doing or not doing in our lives. The red-winged Eye of Horus at the bottom of the symbol represents inspired vision. Horus, the Egyptian God of Perception, was able to see the whole or over-view of situations. The perception of Horus is needed as we give birth to new forms in both family and career.

The Aeon as Life-Time Symbol

For those individuals whose birthday adds up to the number 20, the Aeon/Judgment represents your life-time personality symbol. This symbol represents your expression in the world. For you, it is important to be creative in both family and career. It would be very hard for you to be all family without creative and career endeavors; and, it would be very hard for you to be all career without family or important relationships. Externally in the world, it is important for you to be creative in all arenas of your life. The Goddess Nut symbolizes this desire by making a back-bend in the sign of Leo. Leo people in your life

(anyone born July 21-August 21) mirror to you your desires to be creative and dynamically expressive in all parts of your life; or, in the month of Leo, you could initiate new opportunities or give birth to new forms in relationships and in professional activities.

Others will see you as very perceptive, insightful, and intuitive. You have the ability to see the history and longevity of any situation. You can readily assess what is workable and what is not workable; and you have the ability to communicate your perceptions in such a way that they can be received and heard. Your commitment is to share what it is that you see in such a way that it inspires and motivates people rather than making them feel judged or diminished in anyway. With your gift of perception combined with communication, you could make an excellent consultant or critic in any of the creative arts or standard professions

The Aeon as a Growth Symbol

The Aeon/Judgment card is your growth symbol during the year when your birthdate and the current year adds up to the number 20. This is the best year for you to go into teamwork or collaborative efforts with important family members or loved ones. It becomes a year where you find that you are creative in balancing both relationship and career issues. You may find yourself motivated to initiate new activities or new interests in your personal and professional life.

Leo people in your life (anyone born July 21-August 21) will mirror to you your own desires to manifest your creativity in all that you do; or it may be a time to resolve issues with Leo people or for giving birth to new opportunities that Leo people might present to you

The Aeon/Judgment year is a time where you might consider having a family (the floating fetuses at the bottom of the card) or you might consider starting something new in your professional life.

The Aeon Symbol as a Visual Affirmation and Meditative Tool

The Aeon can be used as a visualization and meditation tool, particularly for increasing your ability to perceive situations from a broad perspective. This is the best symbol to use to transform criticalness or judgmentalism to an increase in your capacity for objective observation and communication. By meditating with this card in front of you, or by looking at it with conscious intention, you can enhance your ability to bring balance and creativity into both your personal and professional life.

Sample Affirmations To Use While Looking at The Aeon

I observe people and situations objectively and fairly.

I value the composite of my qualities and characteristics.

I communicate what I see in such an objective and integral way that it can be received and heard.

I deeply honor and value the unlimited resource of creativity that is within me to express in both family and career situations.

The Aeon as an Outer Mirror

When you pull this card or find yourself drawn toward the Aeon, it reflects your current ability to integrate both family and career issues. You are perceptive and are utilizing good judgment as you initiate new interests in your life. During the next twenty weeks or five months, you are determined to change judgmental attitudes you might hold in order to look at all situations that you are currently facing with more objectivity.

Other Symbols that Are Aspects of The Aeon Archetype

The Aeon (the number 20) is the outer expression of The High Priestess (the number 2). We can only use good judgment or be objective (The Aeon) when we come from a place of self-trust and resourcefulness (The High Priestess). We are able to be creative and balanced in both our professional and personal lives when we manifest peace of mind (Two of Swords), love (Two of Cups), dominion (Two of Wands), and positive change (Two of Disks). The Aeon represents the observable expression of the qualities listed above. People are able to see our Strength and lustre as we give birth to new forms in relationships and in career. (See High Priestess constellation in Section VI for additional information.)

The Gifts and Challenges for Persons whose Life-Time Personality Symbol Is The Aeon

Gifts:

Aeon/Judgment

High Priestess (Self-Trust)

Two of Cups (Love)

Two of Swords (Peace)

Two of Wands (Dominion)

Two of Disks (Change)

Lust/Strength

Challenges:

To transform criticalness to objectivity.

To communicate perceptions in such a way that they can be received and heard.