

# 6: Lavinia; the Lovers.



In assigning Lavinia to Card 6 – the Card that is in all systems of the Tarot ‘The Lovers’ – the Lovecraft Tarot goes off to some degree to a tangent. The other Cards of the Major Arcana are either main Gods of the Mythos (such as ‘Cthulhu’), or symbols (such as the ‘Crawling Chaos)\*. Lavinia, on the other hand, is an obscure part of the Necronomicon Mythos as defined by the writers of the genre, being mentioned only on some brief occasions. For instance, Lavinia is mentioned briefly in Lovecraft’s ‘The Dunwich Horror’, although I have not encountered Her name anywhere else\*. However, the authors of the HP Lovecraft Tarot have chosen to use Lavinia as the thought force

to represent The Lovers, and so therefore I have no reason to dispute the use of Her as the Goddess to represent the meaning as is defined with this Card.

Ritual magick comes into play when Lavinia is drawn in a reading, as will always be the case when issues of sex and intercourse are mentioned in the religions of magick. The Lovecraft Tarot tells us that “The main concept of this card is that any act of intercourse – sexual, intellectual, or otherwise – can & should be a vehicle of spiritual transmission.” In this consideration, intercourse is defined as a powerful psychick medium for transmission onto planes astral or between people. The act of intercourse can transmit powerful energies between bodies, and is a hugely powerful medium for the practice of magick.

But physical manifestation through the supernatural is also represented with Card 6, just as though the act of

intercourse, new life is born. “It [the concept of Lavinia in this context] is where Symbol becomes Flesh; where Concept becomes Reality.” Here Lavinia represents not the masculine nor the feminine aspects of the inter-related dimensions inherent when we speak in terms of The Necronomicon, but the unity created when both of these aspects of the cosmos merge, and something new is then born.

Speaking of such a cosmic union, “The Sacred Marriage... is nothing more complicated than the intersection of Heaven and Earth, in which each fertilizes the other, producing a third state which is a harmonious expression of both”, the Tarot tells us. With this definition the masculine and feminine opposition of the cosmos are united, and a third dimension enters the confusion of creation\*.

We now have three aspects to the infinite continuum of creation, which the

Introductory Book to our definition describes as the Soul, the Body and the Mind. “[I]t is Mind which stands in apparent opposition to the Soul, not the Body”, it tells us; “only Mind can question the aspirations of the Soul... the Body is just a vehicle for them both.” This is a main statement in this section that represents Lavinia in the Lovecraft Tarot, but here diverges quite drastically from any traditional interpretation involved with any other system. It is for this reason that we should take such a statement seriously, and perhaps use it in this context as a major religious statement concerning our belief?

In concluding this write up of Card 6, the next statement could possibly be the most important quotation, concerning the occult and religion that can be encountered in the study of The Necronomicon and the related theory of magick. “On a molecular level...” the Tarot

tells us, “the Sacred Marriage provides the paradigm for the binding of atoms... They... move & connect according to basic natural laws...” With this statement, the Lovecraft Tarot has now begun with an explanation as to how an esoteric system can be descriptive of the physical creation of the matter around us. It could be pointed out that there are many dimensions us, which work on mystical levels of creation. The dimension of physical matter is only that dimension nearest to us. The secrets of these dimensions are those secrets divulged by The Necronomicon, and are, therefore, the questions we seek to discover in the study of The Necronomicon, the Tarot and the occult.

**POSITIVE READING:** The statement above describes the idea of the Goddess Lavinia as The Lovers and the relevance She has on the greater level of the cosmos

as a mass issue, that stretches immediately beyond the comprehension of humanity. The Positive and Negative Reading here develops the idea of the nature of infinity, as ruled by The Lovers as the central force that is the nucleus behind all of creation. With the Positive Reading defined by the Tarot, the first statement starts by defining Lavinia as representing the idea of “Union, Marriage: Marriage of Heaven and Earth.” Thus the concept of the Universe as a single force of infinity is justified in the concept of The Lovers as it is religious to define Her as the force from which the Universe is created. In this respect the Lovecraft Deck again diverges from other systems of the Tarot. The sexual union between two people is taken into regard with this statement, but the idea of the nature of worship in the sense of the mundane being integrated into higher spiritual ascendance, is probably a better

interpretation of this Card in the study of The Necronomicon.

The next statement that is defined, is given to us with the short description of the “Cymical Wedding.” Whilst the Universe is primarily esoteric, the merging of two or more elements creates a compound, and thus all of creation can be defined as the energy of the sexual union. But further than this, all aspects of both physical and esoteric manifestation must at some point merge and integrate. This aspect could be regarded with what has already been written.

But the classical idea of The Lovers is still considered in context, and the Lovecraft Tarot moves on from the profound statement above, to tell us that “Love, soulmates; [and] balanced values” is the idea to interpret in a reading. With this point here in discussion, if this is the message to be taken from a reading, then this idea should be considered as being



the same definition of The Lovers, as being the same with every other system of the Tarot\*.

The Lovecraft Tarot is still very much an entire esoteric philosophy of its own though, and if you have concentrated on anything previously in this book, you will be aware of how the Lovecraft system is very unique. This system continues with this same unique outlook then, as the Introductory Book goes on to define “Accord, balance, harmonized expression of previously opposed aspects or elements”, again in the consideration of The Lovers as the central issue of the cosmos.

In more direct terms, such a strangely esoteric concept of a Card that is usually assumed to be directly relating to everybody’s daily lives, should be interpreted as relating to the occult and to circumstances relating to our current situation or as regards worship. The

Lovers tells us that if things have been going badly, they may now be resolved.

**NEGATIVE READING:** Whilst the above description of Lavinia describes some, admittedly, quite difficult concepts regarding the nature of infinity of understanding, with the Negative description of its meaning, the Tarot is more defined with the definition here as more directly relating to relationships on a sounder level of understanding. The definition explained here then, relates more to the issue of interpersonal relationships, although should it be an idea to read this into other interpretations into a reading, then the Magus should feel free to do so. As one word of warning with this description; if interpreted as being involved with relationships, a Negative reading is what it says it is: Negative. In a reading then, if a Negative correlation is drawn then it should usually be seen as

forewarning, and prior insight should be picked up on to account for a situation, should the Tarot warn of such an issue approaching.

So if we have now defined this context as relating most directly to relationships, the Tarot now warns of a possibility of a situation involving a “Forced relationship; convenient relationship [or] casual sex.” Whilst the latter two could be situations in which we could find ourselves having fun, it should still be reiterated that this does come under the definition of a Negative reading, and in this sense could signify such relationships starting but ending in disaster.

Further issues regarding relationships are defined as the Tarot warns of an “Inability for two or more partners to find a single voice”. In actual fact this statement could actually be defining any coming problems as defined

with the statements above – if we are prepared for a situation to come – then we are better prepared to deal with it.

As a concluding statement to Lavinia, much of this book concerns the secular beliefs and attitudes to religion as held by the author as regards the worship of the Great Old Ones. Therefore if any other Cards of this Deck can be seen in the context of involving magick, then sex magick does also come into play. The use of Lavinia in context with ceremonial magick, then, relates to the sex rites of the worship of the Great Old Ones, and of Lavinia as the Necronomicon Goddess of sex in our religion.

\* The actual names that are depicted on this Card itself are 'Lavinia & Yog Sothoth'. The name written in the Introductory Book to describe Card 6 is only given as

'Lavinia', however. With this consideration taken into context, then, this Card is written up as relating singularly to 'Lavinia'.

\* It is a direct possibility that The Goddess Lavinia has come into the concept of 'horror fiction' on more occasions than this. The point I make, however, is that I have not encountered Lavinia in literature other than this, although I should accept that I might have missed the issue in my study of occult fiction, perhaps?

\* There are, in fact, numerous dimensions, these being far too strange and bizarre to be envisioned by mankind. I write this note, however, to point out that if we are to consider the four dimensions around us to be the entirety of the cosmos, then we are misleading ourselves. The infinite confusions of the cosmos are those that we aim to envisage in our esoteric study, and we look to The Necronomicon as being, in this respect, our mystical guide.

\* In this regard we are making reference to The Lovers as represented by all other, more orthodox, systems of the Tarot. If the reader should want more in terms of reference as regards this, we would direct them to any other reference concerning the Tarot, which would include any reference regarding any other system. It has to be said, in this consideration, that most systems of the Tarot are much more straightforward than the Deck we are working from here.



