

Christephania Lenormand



by Christiane Neumann

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Contents

Introduction.....	4
The Origins of Lenormand Cards.....	6
Who Are These Cards For?.....	7
What Makes the Christephania Lenormand Special?.....	8
Using the Cards.....	9
The 36 Cards.....	11
Conducting Readings.....	87
Card Spreads.....	93
About the Creator.....	105



Introduction

Some people still view card reading as hocus-pocus, although in the past two decades it has become increasingly acceptable and popular. This shift is undoubtedly due to the need to better understand ourselves and the situations we find ourselves in, and to receive insights that help us find solutions or prompt us toward self-reflection. While many people look to fortune-telling or oracle cards to glimpse their future, there is actually much more to the practice of card reading than meets the eye. Like other fortune-telling, oracle, or tarot cards, Lenormand cards can help us find and follow the common thread in our lives. They reflect our personal stories.

The cards reveal potentials, paths, and patterns we may not have noticed, offering a chance to reflect on our decisions. The cards show us where we are now and where we're headed, acting as a feedback system that helps us reorient, recognize ourselves more clearly, and tap into new possibilities. The art of card reading lies in diving into the symbols and images, weaving them into a coherent overall picture, and interpreting them.

This guidebook provides an introduction to the world of Lenormand cards. It explains the history and symbolism of each card and presents various reading methods. The goal is to provide readers with the tools to work independently with the cards and to recognize the common thread in their own stories, in order to understand the meaning of the cards in the given context. This leads to a deeper connection with one's intuition and inner wisdom, offering valuable guidance and clarity in life.



The Origins of Lenormand Cards

The Lenormand system has a long history that dates back to the 18th century. Named after the famous fortune-teller Mlle Lenormand, who was known for her accurate predictions and extraordinary abilities, these cards have gained worldwide recognition. They are used for both fortune-telling and self-reflection and are known for their profound symbols and images that offer deep insights into the human psyche.

Who Are These Cards For?

The Christephania Lenormand deck is in your hands because the images speak to you, the only requirement for the cards to be right for you. Ultimately, it is not the cards that make a statement about a situation, but your intuition that is sparked by the cards. Therefore, it is essential to choose cards that visually appeal to you. Getting to know each card is similar to learning vocabulary lessons. With reading methods, it just takes a bit of practice until you no longer need to think about whether you've laid them out correctly or which position corresponds to which topic. The most important aspect of card reading is trusting your own intuition, which can be a small or large hurdle at first. However, if you gradually move from simple reading methods to more complex ones, your confidence will naturally grow. Accordingly, I recommend practicing card readings on yourself, until you feel a certain level of confidence. Only then would I sug-

gest reading cards for others, like friends or family. Only later, when you feel truly comfortable handling the cards, would I consider expanding your circle, if that is your goal.



What Makes the Christephania Lenormand Special?

Aside from the new images created in the Christephania style, and the additional Gentleman and Lady cards, the symbolism of the classic Lenormand cards remains intact, allowing them to be used like any other Lenormand deck. However, my personal approach to interpretation differs from most other Lenormand practitioners in that I don't teach fixed card combinations. While these combinations may originate from Mlle Lenormand herself, my 40 years of card reading experience and 25 years of teaching people to read

Lenormand have shown me that it is essential to listen to one's intuition to discover new ways of interpreting a pair or grouping of cards. With each reading, the interpretations can expand and change fluidly.

One notable feature of the Lenormand deck is its many animal cards. Beyond their traditional symbolic meanings, the card descriptions in this guidebook also present the animals as spirit guides, honoring their spiritual essence and offering another layer of interpretation. How you read them is entirely up to you.

Using the Cards

There are many ways to consult the cards. The simplest method is to draw a card as daily inspiration or as a quick answer to a specific question. Simply fan out the cards and draw one or more. Alternatively, you can shuffle the cards until one jumps out of the deck. After you've drawn a card, look at the image and pay attention to the thoughts and feelings that come up. First,



24. The Heart

The Heart symbolizes love, emotions and passion. The heart and flowers shown on the card represent romantic feelings, deep emotional connections, and affection.

—Key Interpretations—

LOVE & ROMANCE: The Heart stands for love in all its forms. It could indicate a deep emotional bond or romantic relationship.

EMOTIONS: This card represents strong feelings and emotional experiences that can either enrich or challenge your life.

PASSION: The Heart also symbolizes pas-

sion and intense dedication to something or someone. It might indicate a phase where your feelings are particularly strong.

—In Your Life—

When the Heart appears in a reading, pay attention to your emotional state in relationships. This card encourages you to recognize and nurture love and affection in your life. It may be time to engage more deeply with your feelings and strengthen emotional bonds.





25. The Ring

The Ring stands for commitments, bonds and contracts. This card shows a ring and written documents, symbolizing oaths, promises and marriage.

—Key Interpretations—

COMMITMENT & BOND: The Ring symbolizes strong bonds and commitments, whether in marriage or a partnership. It may indicate a phase where you commit to something long term.

CONTRACT: This card can also indicate formal contracts or legal agreements that carry responsibilities.

MARRIAGE: The Ring often stands for marriage or other lasting or binding vows.

—In Your Life—

When the Ring appears in your reading, recognize the commitments and bonds you have made or will make. This card urges you to consider the seriousness of your promises and to remain faithful to these commitments. It may indicate that you need to uphold a significant agreement or promise.





26. The Book

The Book represents knowledge, secrets, and the pursuit of education. A closed book is depicted, symbolizing unknown research or obscure information.

—Key Interpretations—

SECRET: The Book points to something hidden that has not yet been revealed. There may be a secret or esoteric information that is currently unavailable to you.

KNOWLEDGE & STUDY: The pursuit of knowledge and education are indicated. It may be time to further your studies or delve deeper into a particular subject.

DISCOVERY: The Book symbolizes discoveries made through study or research. It encourages you to search for hidden truths.

—In Your Life—

When the Book appears in your reading, be ready to uncover secrets and gain new knowledge. This card urges you to dig deeper and bring what's hidden to light. It may also be a time when you engage more intensively with education or research, to gain new insights.





27. The Letter

The Letter stands for written messages, communication, and the exchange of information. This card shows an envelope, representing correspondences, documents, and important communications.

—Key Interpretations—

MESSAGE: The Letter indicates the arrival of a message that may be significant or important to you. The information can be in the form of a letter, email, text, or any other type of communication.

COMMUNICATION: This card represents the exchange of information and empha-

sizes the importance of communication in your life. It may be time to send or receive important paperwork.

DOCUMENTS: The Letter also stands for official documents, contracts, forms, or other written agreements.

—In Your Life—

When the Letter appears in your reading, be attentive to correspondence coming your way. This card urges you to maintain open communication and to carefully review important documents or deliveries. The Letter may indicate the arrival of an important package.





28. The Gentleman

The Gentleman symbolizes the querent (if male) or the significant male figure or future partner in the reading. Additionally, as a descriptor of another person, this card represents energy, authority, and leadership qualities.

—Key Interpretations—

MASCULINITY: When drawn as a daily card, or if it's in a spread focused on reflection, the Gentleman represents male traits such as strength, determination and rationality. It may indicate a phase when

you need to emphasize these qualities in your life.

AUTHORITY: This card is also concerned with authority and leadership qualities. It might be time to take charge and assume a leadership role.

ACTION: There may be a need to take action, act decisively, take responsibility or be proactive.

—In Your Life—

If the cards are being read for a woman and the Gentleman appears, it refers to her **significant other**, or a friend, relative or associate. For a male querent, this card represents himself. If seeking guidance on a topic that requires reflection, the card advises you to emphasize your masculine energy. It may also suggest that a significant male figure plays a central role or influences your decisions.



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