



MAYBE Lenormand

FORTUNE TELLING GUIDEBOOK



By Ryan Edward

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10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Made in China

SAMPLE

– *For Camelia* –



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INTRODUCTION



The Petit Lenormand is a 19th century 36-card oracle deck borrowing from German cartomancy as well as tea leaf and coffee ground symbol reading. Many prefer it over Tarot and other oracle card systems for its practical and literal sense of the world around any person. The Grand Tableau can give an overview of your well-being, or a detailed answer to a specific situation. Its readings are that of relationships; left right above or below, where cards intersect or disperse, where they meet near or far, if they are surrounded by negative or positive cards. The Lenormand is a pack of cards relying on elegance and particularity. The cards have a narrower focus, and are read in an almost grammatical structure. While you could say reading Tarot cards is like reading panels of a comic book to tell a story, the Lenormand is like a string of Emoji to spell out a specific message.

Maybe Lenormand works to honor that Lenormand tradition. Its illustrations are designed to convey the meaning, folklore, and heart of each card's personality. While in most every way it follows the pattern of Lenormand from over a hundred years ago, it does have one major difference. This deck has 52 cards, rather than 36. Cards 37-52 borrow from a tangent lineage of fortune telling decks to complete the common 52-card playing card pack, merging several divination traditions.

You can use the first 36 cards of this pack as any other traditional Lenormand. However, using the added cards, you are playing with something else, the Maybe Lenormand.

If you are new to Lenormand, work with the original 36 cards to get a sense of how they read. Once you are comfortable, add the rest of the pack. Enjoy!

READING THE CARDS



As always when reading, the question and context are vitally important to how you interpret the cards. Once you have decided on a precise question, focus with intent, and shuffle until you are ready to lay out the cards in a pre-designated arrangement.

The Lenormand cards are read in a specific order; reading the card to the right to modify or clarify the card to its left. For example, we have the Letter for the first card. This could be a message or note. If the card to its right is the Heart, we have a love letter. If it's near the Birds card, the communication may be via Twitter or instant chatting. With the Thundercloud, the meaning is very bad news. With the Clover, it could be a short joke. Cards are rarely read alone; they are more useful in groupings of two or more. Look to the card above to see its intentions. See what cards are near or far. Determine where cards' lines cross and meet.

THE GRAND TABLEAU

While the Lenormand can often be read in smaller lines, the original and fundamental layout uses all 36 cards. Many readers like to work up to learning the Grand Tableau (GT), but if you are reading the relationships at play, the GT can be easier to dissect than a five-card string. When you lay all 36 cards, you'll always have your subject in sight, so you can see where it crosses with concerns of love, money, work, or anything else defined by another card. Simply because it uses many cards does not mean the answer is verbose; often it is still very sharp and to the point.

- SAMPLE GRAND TABLEAU READING -

04 . 01 . 27 . 36 . 22 . 13 . 34 . 17

16 . 06 . 05 . 02 . 24 . 03 . 29 . 25

21 . 19 . 15 . 23 . 33 . 26 . 10 . 12

18 . 14 . 32 . 09 . 30 . 07 . 11 . 35

08 . 31 . 28 . 20

A female querent is interested to see if she will have a love interest soon. From this spread, we can tell this

Lady (29) has a positive relationship in her near future, as the Ring (25) falls directly to her right. We draw lines from the Lady and the Gentleman (28) to see where they meet at the Heart (24). Card 24 is flanked by the Clover (2) and the Ship (3), a good time and fun adventure awaits with this love interest. We look to the cards around 28 to see more about him. He is flanked by the Sun (31) and Park (20), indicating that he is rather popular and seen by many. The Lily (30) rests above him, a sign of virtue. Things bode very well for our Lady's interests.

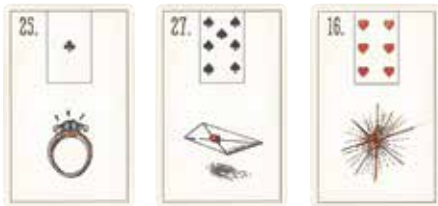
When you avoid reading the Grand Tableau as a set spread and open yourself to how the cards relate to each other and interact, the elegance of the Lenormand is heard loud and clear.

THREE-CARD STRINGS

Lenormand cards are very rarely read with fewer than three cards. A three-card reading should give you a short, simple answer with a subject, modifier, and some action or outcome. A few examples are given on the following pages.

— EXAMPLE 1 —

A Gentleman wonders if he'll win a court case.

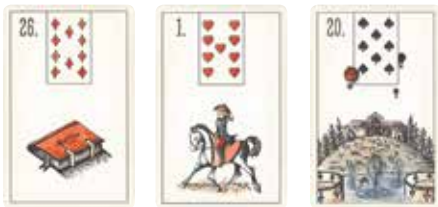


Bring documentation (Ring + Letter) and you'll
get your wish (Star).

SAMPLE

— EXAMPLE 2 —

A querent lost her wallet, where is it?



In her backpack (Book + Rider) in the back yard (Park).

— EXAMPLE 3 —

Will there be a second date?



Not anytime soon. A clouded heart leads to boredom (Trees).

SAMPLE

— EXAMPLE 4 —

How should I plan my project?



Go through multiple rounds of edits (Scythe + Birch Rod) before showing for a group review (Birch Rod + Park).

SAMPLE