

ORACLE
OF
NOVICE
WITCHES

SAMPLE



U.S. Games Systems, Inc.
179 Ludlow Street
Stamford, CT 06902 USA
www.usgamesinc.com

Design and editorial direction
Balthazar Pagani

Graphic design
Sebastiano Girardi Studio

Editing
Caterina Grimaldi

Drafting and pagination
PEPE nymi

Vivida

Originally Printed by Vivida

First Edition

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Vivida™ is a White Star s.r.l. trademark | www.vividabooks.com

© 2022 White Star s.r.l. | Piazzale Luigi Cadorna, 6 |

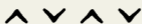
20123 Milano, Italia | www.whitestar.it

Translation: Iceigeo, Milan (coordination and layout: Lorenzo Sagripanti; translation: Alexa Ahern) Editing: Phillip Gaskill

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, including electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without written permission from the publisher.

Made in China

ORACLE
OF
NOVICE
WITCHES



Messages from
the Magical World

SAMPLE

Edited by
FRANCESCA MATTEONI

Illustrations by
ELISA MACELLARI

Vivida

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	7	Joan of Arc	20
Witches and Wizards	9	Ursula Kemp	21
How to Use This Deck	10	Biddy Early	22
		Marie Catherine Laveau	23
		Helena Petrovna Blavatsky	24
THE CARDS	13	Starhawk	25

WITCHES

The Witch of Endor	14
The Three Witches	15
Morgan le Fay	16
Baba Yaga	17
Hecate	18
Matteuccia da Todi	19

WIZARDS

Tiresias	26
Merlin	27
Nicolas Flamel	28
Marsilio Ficino	29
Paracelsus	30
John Dee	31
Giordano Bruno	32
Prospero	33
William Blake	34

Aleister Crowley 35

Gerald Gardner 36

Gandalf 37

TOOLS

Body 38

Mind 39

Grimoire 40

Wand 41

Chalice 42

Cauldron 43

Knife 44

Pentacle 45

Hat 46

Candle 47

Stones

and Crystals 48

Mirror 49

Runes 50

ANIMALS

Bee 51

Dog 52

Goat 53

Horse 54

Boar 55

Raven 56

Cat 57

Owl 58

Hare 59

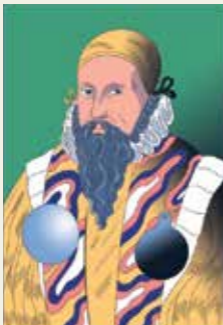
Wolf 60

Cow 61

Toad 62

Snake 63

BIOGRAPHIES 64



JOHN DEE

^ v ^ v ^ v ^ v ^

SPIRITUAL WORD

VOCATION

Often when we imagine a magician, we see a man lost in his books in a room full of mysterious objects illuminated by twilight. The magician in this image is similar to what John Dee (1527–1608) must have looked like in his vast library in London. He was an astronomer, mathematician, antiquarian, advisor to Queen Elizabeth, cartographer, occult, and alchemist. But he was also very unlucky and died in poverty. When he shows up as an oracle, he tells us about our vocation and pushes us to follow it. This card remind us to pay attention because there can be many misunderstandings and the true vocation often requires one to embark on a long solitary journey.



GIORDANO BRUNO

^ v ^ v ^ v ^ v ^

SPIRITUAL WORD

TRUTH

The year 1600 began with one of the most notorious burnings at the stake from that time period. On February 17, in Rome's Campo de' Fiori, the philosopher Giordano Bruno was burned for heresy. A defense for the free search for truth against the abuses of power burned with him. As he was forced to kneel for his sentence, he said "Perhaps you pronounce this sentence against me with greater fear than I receive it." When he appears as an oracle, Giordano Bruno asks us to search for truth, to learn to see the world with free eyes, and to fight in adverse times for what we believe is right.



PROSPERO

^ v ^ v ^ v ^ v ^

SPIRITUAL WORD

FAITH

Magic is art, deception and performance. We are reminded of this by the sorcerer Prospero from *The Tempest* (1611), Shakespeare's final play, in which the character is the Bard's alter ego. Prospero is the creator of the events that occur in the play. He controls, imprisons, then redeems destinies before his own redemption. He says that we human beings "are such stuff. As dreams are made on, and our little life. Is rounded with a sleep." We are fragile yet powerful and enchanted, like nightly visions. As an oracle, Prospero requests that we believe in the magic within and around us, from which surprises and unexpected changes of destiny arise.



WILLIAM BLAKE

^ v ^ v ^ v ^ v ^

SPIRITUAL WORD

CREATIVITY

“The tree which moves some to tears of joy is in the eyes of others only a green thing which stands in the way. Some see nature all ridicule and deformity, and by these I shall not regulate my proportions; and some scarce see nature at all. But to the eyes of the man of imagination, nature is imagination itself.” These are the words of William Blake (1757–1827), a poet and painter who spoke to angels and fairies. He spent his life in poverty without recognition. For many he was a mystery, someone whose art could “Open Eternal Worlds.” As an oracle, Blake represents poetic gifts, urging us to be inspired, create, write or paint, to look at reality through new eyes. There are no limits to the imagination.



ALEISTER CROWLEY

^ v ^ v ^ v ^ v ^

SPIRITUAL WORD
CHALLENGES

“Every woman and every man is a star,” said the scandalous Aleister Crowley (1875–1947), who was portrayed in the newspapers as a dark magician for his drug abuse, sexual tendencies—he was openly bisexual—and the satanic inspiration behind the name he gave himself, the Beast 666. However, Crowley didn’t believe in either the Christian God or the devil. He professed the power of individual will, and magic was an expression of that, used to navigate the world. As an oracle, he urges us to exceed new limits, but to also beware of excessive egocentrism, immorality, and an incorrect evaluation of ourselves, which could undermine our undeniable charisma.

FRANCESCA MATTEONI. Francesca is a poet, writer, and historian. She has worked as a researcher in England, studying the witch trials, the magic of bodies, and medical folklore in modern times. She leads workshops on tarot readings and poetry and teaches The History of Religion and Magic at some American universities in Florence. Some of her most recent publications include the book *Dal Matto al Mondo: Viaggio poetico nei tarocchi* (Effequ, 2019); the poetry collection *Libro di Hor* (Vydia, 2019) with images by Ginevra Ballati; an essay in *La scommessa psichedelica* (Quodlibet, 2020) edited by Federico di Vita; *Streghe novelle e maghi apprendisti* (Vivida, 2021); and the poetry collection *Ciò che il mondo separa* (Marcos y Marcos, 2021).

ELISA MACELLARI. An Italian-Thai illustrator, Elisa has worked for publishers and national and international magazines since 2012. Her latest books include a graphic novel called *Papaya Salad* (BAO Publishing, 2018), the graphic biography *Kusama, ossessioni, amori e arte* (Centauria Libri, 2020) and *Streghe novelle e maghi apprendisti* (Vivida, 2021). She won the Autori di Immagini Gold Medal in the publishing category in 2017 and the Silver Medal in the comic category in 2019. Her work has been exhibited in Italy and abroad.