Tarot & Kabbalah in the Gnostic Tradition – Notes 01

http://www.GnosticStudies.org/TarotKabbalah

Eliphas Levi's "Poetry of God": Symbols, Figures and Allegories

The symbolism of numbers and the allegory of figures easily give the key to the poetry of the prophets, as those from the past knew who were versed in ancient literature. The prophets often spoke through signs, symbols and hieroglyphics, and put their words into action. Their writings were full of figures which often seem strange to those who do not attempt to penetrate into their meaning.

This symbolic tradition of communicating comes from the ancient manner of explaining through numbers and figures, as seen in the hieroglyphics used by the Egyptians. If we become more versed in the genius of ancient languages and in the spirit of their primordial science, then we will see that nothing in the Bible (or in any Authentic Religious text) is haphazardly placed. Words, numbers and figures all have their mystery; which explains how the letter kills, while the spirit vivifies. But of what importance is all of this to those who mock what they do not understand?

Beautiful poetry is what we could call true philosophy, and poetic measure (like geometry) obeys the laws of number and of comparison. Great poets are mathematicians without knowing it, since the incontestable beauty of their production is the result of their exactitude. Words are the numbers of thought, and figures are the algebra of genius. There is only real beauty in that which is true, and what is true is what is just. Justness, rightness or accuracy is *exactitude* and exactitude is the property of the mathematical sciences. Therefore a great poet is then a veritable mathematician.

> To be a poet is to create; it is not to dream, nor is it to lie.
> God was a poet when he made the world,
> and his immortal epic is written with the stars.
>
> The sciences have received from God the secrets of poetry,
> because the keys of harmony were delivered into their hands.
>
> Numbers are poets, because they sing with notes that are always exact,
> which gives rapture to the genius of Pythagoras.
>
> Poetry which does not accept the world such as God made it,
> and which seeks to invent another,
> is but the delirium of the spirits of darkness...

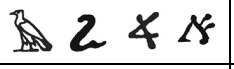
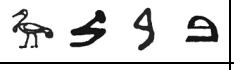
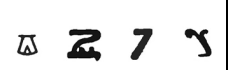
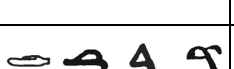
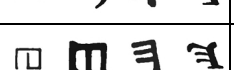
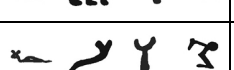
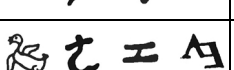
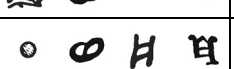
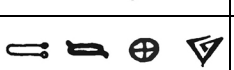
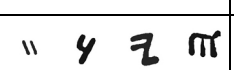
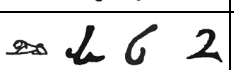
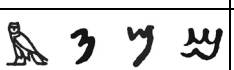
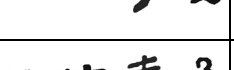
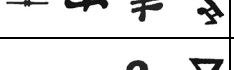
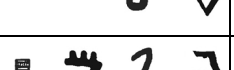
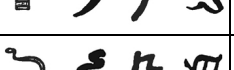
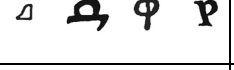
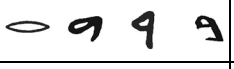


The Kabbalah is the science of signs and their correspondences. The science of signs begins with the science of letters. Letters are absolute ideas. Absolute ideas are numbers. Numbers are perfect signs. In using ideas with numbers one can operate upon the ideas just as one can operate upon a number and arrive at the mathematics of truth. The Tarot is the key of letters and numbers.

The 22 keys of the Tarot are the 22 letters of the primitive Kabalistic alphabet. In Kabbalah everything is Number and Mathematics. For the Kabbalist the number is holy and infinite, because in the universe everything is measure and weight. The Divine Balance rules and necessitates Eternal Mathematics. Therefore, in Gnosis, God is a Geometrician: God Geometricizes.

Note: Please read Ch. 85 of *The Initiatic Path in the Arcana of Tarot & Kabalah*

Hebrew Letters and their Gnostic Associations

Numeric Value	Kabalistic Value	Modern Hebrew	Hebrew Letter Name	Associated Hieroglyphic and Primitive Sign/Letter	Gnostic Tarot Association	Gnostic Symbolism or Meaning
1	1	א	*Aleph*		The Magician	Willpower, that which initiates, AIR
2	2	ב	*Bet/Beth*		The Priestess	Beginning, Occult Science, the Source
3	3	ג	*Gimel*		The Empress	The Fashioner, the Verb, Creation, Production
4	4	ד	*Dalet*		The Emperor	Command, Progress, Success
5	5	ה	*Heh*		The Hierophant	The Law, Karma, Mars, War
6	6	ו	*Vau*		Indecision/ The Lovers	Struggle between Love and Desire
7	7	ז	*Zain*		Triumph/ The Chariot of War	Fight, Battle, Difficulties
8	8	ח	*Cheth*		Justice	Ordeals, Hard Tests, Equilibrium
9	9	ט	*Teth*		The Hermit	Solitude, Individual Work, Suffering
10	10	י	*Yod/Jod*		Retribution/ The Wheel of Fortune	Laws of Irradiation and Absorption
11	20	כ	*Kaph/Kaf*		Persuasion/Courage	Strength, the Work with the Force of Love
12	30	ל	*Lamed*		The Apostolate/ The Hanged Man	The Great Work, Sacrifices & Suffering
13	40	מ	*Mem*		Immortality/Death	Death of the "I", Total Change, WATER
14	50	נ	*Nun*		Temperance	Transmutation of the Sexual Waters, the Fish
15	60	ס	*Samech*		Passion/The Devil	Satan, the Tempter, the Luciferic Fire
16	70	ע	*Ayin*		Fragility/The Tower	Tragedy, Calamity, the Exit from Eden
17	80	פ	*Peh*		Hope/The Star	Venustic Initiation, the Morning Star
18	90	צ	*Tsadik*		Twilight/The Moon	Secret Enemies, Hidden Danger
19	100	ק	*Qoph*		Inspiration/The Sun	A Great Alliance, the Philosopher's Stone, Self-Realization
20	200	ר	*Resh*		Resurrection	The Cosmic Initiation of the Soul
21	300	ש	*Shin*		Transmutation/ The Lunatic or Fool	Total Demoralization, the Dog or the Tiger, FIRE
22	400	ת	*Tav*		Return/The World	The Crown of Life, the Return to the Light