



THE
LILLEN
DECK

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ABOUT THE DECK

Ephraim Moses Lilien (1874-1925) was a German Jewish art nouveau artist who created stunning works of Jewish art featuring themes of yearning for home, battling with antisemitism, and honoring the Torah. He illustrated *Juda*, a book of biblically themed poems, *Lieder des Ghetto* (Songs of the Ghetto), a book of Yiddish poetry by Morris Rosenfeld, and *Die Bucher Der Bibel*. After his death, his works passed into the public domain.

In an homage to his works and to his love of Judaism, each image has lovingly been restored with edits made to create a divination deck for all to use and enjoy. Some edits are minor, while others include additional art to complete the look.

While the deck itself features heavily in Jewish imagery, **it can be used and appreciated by anyone**---though knowing and understanding the stories can provide a deeper understanding to each card.

This PDF includes the name of each artwork, as well as a short description of each image. Many of his pieces were unnamed, as they were parts of anthologies. The meanings provided for each card are based in the Rider Waite Smith deck and its original definitions.

How to Use:

Divination is highly personal. This deck can be interpreted upright, reversed, or sideways, using traditional Rider Waite interpretation or intuitive reading. The imagery on the cards can also be read independently of the “official” meanings provided by this booklet.

Reversals can also be read independently. As opposed to being the opposite of the upright definition, they can be understood as what is in the path of the upright, a lack of the upright, or another interpretation.

It is also completely acceptable to disregard reversals entirely.

The Fool

Avraham, 1908

Avraham, the patriarch of Judaism, stands beneath the stars, ready to embark on a journey.

Upright: New beginnings, innocence

Reversed: Holding back, recklessness

The Magician

Rahab, 1908

Rahav stands before the burning city, power emanating from them.

Upright: Manifestation, resourcefulness, power, inspired action

Reversed: Manipulation, poor planning, untapped talent

The High Priestess

The Queen of Sabbath, 1900

A queen sits upon her throne, the Torah in her arms, as she gazes at you.

Upright: Intuition, sacred knowledge, divine feminine, the subconscious

Reversed: Secrets, disconnected from intuition, withdrawal, stagnation

The Empress

Ost und West, 1903

A crowned woman sits, hand upon her chest.

Upright: Femininity, beauty, nature, abundance, nurturing

Reversed: Creative block, dependence on others

The Emperor

Moses, 1908

Moses stands tall, tablets in arm, among the clouds.

Upright: Authority, structure, establishment, a father figure

Reversed: Excessive control, rigidity, lack of flexibility

The Hierophant

Der Judische Mai, 1902

The hierophant stands in barbed wire, arms outstretched, looking towards the east.

Upright: Spiritual wisdom, religious beliefs, tradition, institution

Reversed: personal beliefs, freedom, challenging tradition

The Lovers

Das Stille Lied, 1900

Lovers kiss in the garden of Eden, adorned and alone beneath a vast sky.

Upright: Love, harmony, relationships, shared values, choices

Reversed: Self love, imbalance, misalignment of values

The Chariot

Enoch from Gommorah, 1910

Enoch rides upon a richly adorned camel.

Upright: Control, willpower, success, action, determination, self-made

Reversed: Self discipline, opposition, lack of direction, failure to act

Strength

David Fights a Lion

A man wrestles a lion, prying open it's jaws with his bare hands.

Upright: Strength, courage, influence, compassion, determination

Reversed: Inner strength, self-doubt

The Hermit

Isaiah, 1906

He wraps himself in a cloak as mist swirls around him in the brambles.

Upright: Introspection, inner guidance, solitary practice and experiences

Reversed: Isolation, loneliness, withdrawal

Wheel of Fortune

Ex Libris Davis Trietsch, 1900

Two men roll the wheel of fortune, in which can be found the world.

Upright: Good luck, positive returns, life cycles, destiny

Reversed: Misfortune, resistance to change, breaking cycles,

Justice

David und Goliath, 1922

David stands unafraid before Goliath, unafraid.

Upright: Justice, fairness, truth, law, integrity

Reversed: Unfairness, lack of accountability, dishonesty, lies

The Hanged Man

Le-Metim 'al kidush ha-shem be-Kishinov, 1903

A man hangs at the stake at peace, an angel around him, the Torah clutched in his arms.

Upright: Pause, surrender, rest, introspection, new perspectives

Reversed: Delays, indecision, resistance

Death

Dybbuk, 1908

Death clings to the back of man.

Upright: Endings, change, transformation, transition

Reversed: Resistance to change, personal transformation, inner purging, end of a cycle

Temperance

Lieder des Lebens/Harfenspielerin, 1903

A woman plays a lyre, angels upon either shoulder.

Upright: Balance, moderation, patience, purpose

Reversed: Imbalance, excess, self-healing, re-alignment

The Devil

Two Angels, 1903

The Devil stands alone, serpents at his heels, winged and horned.

Upright: Addiction, shadow self, restriction, sexuality, vices

Reversed: Releasing limiting belief systems, detachment, lack of control, exploring darkness

The Tower

Illustration of Memorial Flame, 1902

A tower of flames rise into the night sky.

Upright: Chaos, upheaval, revelation, sudden change, awakening

Reversed: Personal transformation, fear of change, averting disaster

The Star

Ex Libris Anselm Hartog, 1906

A woman embraces knowledge, surrounded by books.

Upright: Hope, faith, purpose, renewal, spirituality

Reversed: Lack of faith, disconnection, despair, self-trust

The Moon

Die Eberne Schlange, 1908

Two people stare up at the moon, taking in its awe.

Upright: Illusion, fear, anxiety, intuition, subconscious

Reversed: Release of fear, repressed emotions, inner confusion

The Sun

Shulamit, 1901

A young shepherdess cradles a lamb in her arms beneath the sun.

Upright: Positivity, joy, vitality, warmth, success

Reversed: Inner child, sadness, overly optimistic, let down

Judgment

Jacob and the Angel, 1908

Jacob and an angel wrestle, arm to arm, blow to blow.

Upright: Judgement, rebirth, inner calling, absolution

Reversed: Self doubt, inner critic, ignoring the call

The World

Der Judische Mai, 1902

A paradise stretches out beneath the sun.

Upright: Contemplation, integration, accomplishment, travel

Reversed: Shortcuts, personal closure, delays

THE MINOR ARCANA

Ace of Wands

Gottes Bund Mit Noah, 1901

A single plume of smoke strikes the sky beneath a rainbow.

Upright: Inspirations, new beginnings, birth, creation

Reversed: Lack of determination, setbacks, destruction

Two of Wands

The Exile's Light, 1906

An old man studies, surrounded by candles burning low.

Upright: Progress, discovery, future, decisions, duality

Reversed: Impatience, lack of planning, fear of the unknown

Three of Wands

Alles ist Eitel, 1922

Three harpists play together.

Upright: Preparation, foresight, growth, unity

Reversed: Carelessness, arrogance, obstacles

Four of Wands

Isaiah, 1906

A group of people dancing, their hands interlocked in celebration.

Upright: celebration, harmony, home, marriage, community, stability

Reversed: breakdown in communication, loneliness, transition

Five of Wands

Der Prophet Jona, 1922

A man falls off-balance, unsure of how to save himself.

Upright: Disagreement, strife, fights, tension, discord, conflict

Reversed: Conflict avoidance, discomfort, focus on goals

Six of Wands

David and his Heroes, 1914

A man sits upon a throne, weapons surrounding him.

Upright: Victory, public recognition, self-confidence

Reversed: Ego, lack of confidence, personal success

Seven of Wands

Moses and the Thorn Bush, 1901

A man kneels before a burning bush, unwilling to look away

Upright: Competition, challenge, perseverance, persistence

Reversed: Giving up, overly protective, overwhelmed

Eight of Wands

Jonah, 1901

Jonah plunges from a ship into the roiling ocean below.

Upright: Speed, travel, movement, immediate change, news

Reversed: Delays, frustration, stuckness, internal alignments

Nine of Wands

At The Sewing Machine, 1915

A worker sits, bent over a sewing machine, a disembodied spirit behind him.

Upright: Courage, perseverance, resilience

Reversed: On edge, defensive, paranoia, hesitancy

Ten of Wands

Psalm 55, 1922

A man stands with a scroll, burying his face in hand.

Upright: Burden, responsibility, achievement, stress, burden

Reversed: Taking on too much, avoiding responsibility, delegation

Page of Wands

The Creation of Man, 1903

A young person stands in a field of giant flowers, two angels behind them.

Upright: New ideas, enthusiasm, exploration, discovery

Reversed: Setbacks, pessimism, lack of direction

Knight of Wands

Der Junge Moses, 1922

A young man wearing a headdress gazes longingly into the world.

Upright: Lust, energy, passion, adventure, impulsivity, charging into action

Reversed: Haste, scattered, delays, frustration, lack of planning

Queen of Wands

Ruth, 1912

She stands tall, a bushel of wheat upon her head, laboring beneath a black sky.

Upright: Warmth, vibrancy, determination, exuberance, strength

Reversed: Fear, aggression, demanding, cautious

King of Wands

Moses Destroying Tablets, 1901

Moses determinedly raises a tablet above his head, ready to destroy it.

Upright: Natural born leader, entrepreneur, honor, vision

Reversed: Impulsiveness, high expectations, haste

Ace of Cups

Snakes in a Cup, 1901

Serpents spill forth from a bronze chalice, mouths open and hissing.

Upright: Love, compassion, creativity, emotions, intimacy, new relationships

Reversed: Block emotions, repression, self-love, intuition

Two of Cups

Adam und Eva, 1901

Eve hands Adam the fruit, standing beneath the tree of knowledge.

Upright: Partnership, mutual attraction, unified love

Reversed: Self-love, disharmony, distrust, lack of alignment

Three of Cups

Psalm 34, 1922

Three musicians parade, instruments in hand.

Upright: Celebration, community, friendship, creativity

Reversed: Affair, lack of creativity, independence

Four of Cups

Eingemachtes

A woman sits, encased in a jar.

Upright: Meditation, introspection, contemplation, re-evaluation, apathy

Reversed: Boredom, missed opportunity, loneliness, lack of attachment

Five of Cups

Sturm, 1910

Two men wait out the waves on stormy seas.

Upright: Loss, despair, regret

Reversed: Moving on, acceptance, forgiveness

Six of Cups

Mein Kind

A young boy is encircled by a heart of thorns and flowers.

Upright: Innocence, childhood, memories, nostalgia

Reversed: Unrealistic expectations, unhealthy optimism, lost in the past

Seven of Cups

Ex-Libris, 1899

Her face buried in a book, she ignored the thorns around her.

Upright: Fantasy, choices, illusion, wishful thinking

Reversed: Temptation, illusions, overwhelmed, personal values

Eight of Cups

Jonah Complains, 1908

A man crumples upon a stone, hands clasped in prayer.

Upright: Escapism, abandonment, withdrawal

Reversed: Hopelessness, aimlessness, choosing to leave

Nine of Cups

Der Psalmist, 1922

A harpists plays passionately, a look of content on their face.

Upright: fulfilled wishes, comfort, happiness, satisfaction

Reversed: Greed, materialism, dissatisfaction

Ten of Cups

Esther & Daniel, 1923

Daniel and Esther embrace, resting her cheek upon his chest as he gently places a kiss upon her head.

Upright: Happiness, marriage, harmony, alignment

Reversed: Misalignment, broken home, or marriage

Page of Cups

The Creation of Man, 1903

Two angels appear, instruments in hand, in a field of flowers.

Upright: Messenger, synchronicity, creative beginnings

Reversed: Co-dependence, emotional insecurity

Knight of Cups

Jewish Man, 1908

A beautiful man stars out, his eyes wide and full of hope.

Upright: Romance, imagination, charm

Reversed: Unrealistic, jealousy, moodiness

Queen of Cups

Esther

Queen Esther gazes out, her face perfectly still and calm.

Upright: Emotional security, calm, intuitive, compassionate

Reversed: Emotional insecurity, codependency, worry

King of Cups

Ordeal, 1908

A seated king and priest offers a young woman blessings as she drinks from his chalice.

Upright: Emotional balance and control, generosity

Reversed: Emotional manipulation, moodiness, volatility

Ace of Swords

Glasfenster

A menorah stands tall against a stained glass window.

Upright: Raw power, victory, break-throughs, mental clarity

Reversed: Confusion, chaos, lack of clarity, fear of failure

Two of Swords

Potop, 1923

A man struggles to cross the sea, carrying upon his shoulder a woman who is unable to wake.

Upright: Indecision, choices, stalemate, blocked emotions and intuition

Reversed: Indecision, confusion, lack of clarity

Three of Swords

Auf Zarten Saiten, 1900

A cherub wails as they play bleeding heartstrings.

Upright: Heartbreak, sorrow, grief, rejection, painful separation

Reversed: Releasing pain, optimism, forgiveness

Four of Swords

The Grieving Job

A man sits cross legged, staring up at the vast sky in contemplation.

Upright: Contemplation, rest, exhaustion, recuperation, passivity

Reversed: Restlessness, burn-out, lack of progress

Five of Swords

Maggid, 1901

A man appears perplexed, scratching his face as an angel appears behind him.

Upright: Win at all cost, conflict, tension, loss, betrayal

Reversed: Open to change, resentment

Six of Swords

Die Sintflud, 1901

An ark braves turbulent waters, staying afloat among white peaks.

Upright: Transition, rite of passage

Reversed: Inability to move on, heavy baggage

Seven of Swords

Psalms 90, 1922

A man sits, his eyes glazed and empty, instrument in his lap.

Upright: Deception, lies, stealth, betrayal

Reversed: Mental challenges, breaking free

Eight of Swords

Simson Captive, 1914

A man is blindfolded, made to work like cattle beneath a whip.

Upright: Self imposed restrictions, imprisonment, isolation

Reversed: Open to new perspectives, release

Nine of Swords

Job's Lamentation, 1914

A man kneels in despair, head buried in his hands.
Upright: Despair, nightmares, anxiety, depression, pain
Reversed: Hopelessness, torment

Ten of Swords

Song of Sorrow, 1906

A woman lays immobile, unmoving, upon a slab.
Upright: Betrayal, defeat, curses, endings, loss
Reversed: Recovery, renewal, inevitable ends

Page of Swords

Two Angels, 1903

The angel Gabriel stands, trumpet to his lips, sword by his side.
Upright: Talkative, energetic, curiosity
Reversed: False talk, haste, undelivered promises

Knight of Swords

Joshua, 1908

A bearded man stares out, sword raised and ready.
Upright: Opinionated, hasty, action-driven, communicative
Reversed: Scattered thoughts, lack of foresight

Queen of Swords

Miriam, 1901

Miriam dances, tambourines in hand, adorned in robes and jewels.
Upright: Quick thinking, organization, perception, independent, clear boundaries
Reversed: Overly emotional, cruelty, lack of empathy

King of Swords

Rahab, Die Jerichonitin', 1910

A woman kneels at the feet of a king, a sword in his hands.
Upright: Clear thinking, intellectual power, truth, integrity, authority
Reversed: manipulative, tyrannical, abusive

Ace of Pentacles

Vorzatzpapier, 1906

The priestly blessing surrounded by stars.
Upright: Manifestation, opportunities, prosperity
Reversed: Lost opportunity, lack of planning and foresight, stalemate

Two of Pentacles

The Land of Illusions, 1906

Lovers kiss beneath the Divine.

Upright: Balance, adaptability, time management, prioritization

Reversed: Disorganization, financial confusion, lack of clarity

Three of Pentacles

The Floating Clouds

Three angelic beings stand, planets in their grasp, balancing upon a crescent moon.

Upright: Teamwork, financial fulfillment, collaboration, learning

Reversed: Lack of teamwork, unhealthy independence, disregard for skills

Four of Pentacles

High Priest Aaron, 1901

The high priest prays solemnly, with piety, arms folded upon his chest.

Upright: Control, stability, security, possession, conservatism

Reversed: Greed, domination, materialism, self protection

Five of Pentacles

Elul Melodien

A traveler stands alone at the edge of the sea, a single bag in hand.

Upright: Isolation, poverty, financial loss, worry, insecurity

Reversed: Recovery from loss, growth, spiritual or emotional poverty

Six of Pentacles

Moses in Hamburg, 1900

Moses stands beneath a star, tablet in hand.

Upright: Generosity, charity, giving, sharing the wealth

Reversed: Debt, selfishness, one sided charity, mooching

Seven of Pentacles

Abraham and Isaac, 1901

A young boy leads an old man, hand in hand through an oasis.

Upright: Profit, reward, investment, vision, hard work

Reversed: Lack of long-term vision, lack of reward

Eight of Pentacles

The Scribe

A scribe dutifully writes, quill in hand, face lined with work.

Upright: Education, learning, quality, engagement, apprenticeship

Reversed: Lacking focus, perfectionism

Nine of Pentacles

Lemuel and his Mother, 1922

An adorned woman reads from a scroll, a man listening intently to her words.

Upright: Luxury, self-sufficiency, culmination, gratitude

Reversed: Financial setbacks, focusing too much on work

Ten of Pentacles

Alles ist Eitel, 1922

A pharaoh sits on a throne, surrounded by musicians and wealth.

Upright: Wealth, inheritance, retirement, establishment

Reversed: Financial failure, loneliness, loss

Page of Pentacles

Sabbat, 1922

An angel's wings cover the face of the Divine, gazing down upon two lovers.

Upright: Financial opportunities, manifestation, new opportunities

Reversed: Lack of progress, short term focus

Knight of Pentacles

Sgulamit's Friend, 1901

A handsome man adorned in a headdress gazes out.

Upright: Efficiency, routine, methodical, conservatism

Reversed: Laziness, boredom, feeling stuck

Queen of Pentacles

Jakob und Rabel

Jacob and Rachel stand together, jokingly putting their arms around each other. Rachel gazes softly out, wearing a headdress and adorned with jewels.

Upright: Practical, motherly, empathetic, security

Reversed: Imbalance in work and family life, lack of empathy

King of Pentacles

Ende, 1903

A man sits upon a throne, rose briars flourishing about him as he contemplates.

Upright: Power, control, discipline, abundance

Reversed: Authoritative, domineering, controlling

The suit of **Wands** is connected to the element of fire. Wands connects to inspiration, creativity, and insight.

The suit of **Cups** is connected to the element of water. Cups connects to imagination, love, emotions, and intuition.

The suit of **Swords** is connected to the element of air. Swords connects to discernment, truth, justice, reason, and intellect.

The suit of **Pentacles** is connected to the element of earth. Pentacles connects to manifestation, prosperity, stability, and the material realm.