

## A SYMBOLOMANCY BIBLIOGRAPHY

This list is intended to aid you in learning the symbol-systems covered in this section. Many of these titles I own personally, but not all of them. A few may be out-of-print, but don't overlook your local public library or on-line e-book sources and vendors for assistance in securing a copy.

### CARD SPREADS

**Burger, Evelin and Johannes Fiebig. Complete Book of Tarot Spreads. New York, NY: Sterling Publishing Co., 1997, ISBN: 0-8069-9505-X, 176 pp.**

The first quarter of the book is a good overview section on how to get more from your readings, how to interpret the cards, how to derive more information from them, and how to see patterns and themes in your overall reading. This is followed by no fewer than 122 different card spreads you can try. One quibble: in the three versions of the Celtic Cross spread this book gives you, they reverse the positions of cards three and four from what I have always been taught, but aside from that, this is a good book for those who want to expand their repertoire of spreads. Though the title specifies it's for *Tarot*, many of these spreads would probably work equally-well with the other decks discussed in Symbolomancy.

**Sadler, Tierney. The Deck of 1000 spreads. Woodbury, Minnesota: Llewellyn Publications, 2013, ISBN:978-0-7387-3339-5. Book-&-Deck set, 65 cards, 139 pp. book.**

This set comes with 59 pre-printed and 6 blank cards which allow you to design your own, individualized card readings. The cards are helpfully color-coded, and generally, you'll want to choose one card from three or more color categories for an effective spread. The 139-page book discusses how to get more from the deck, and how to effectively design meaningful spreads with them. This isn't a *must-buy*, but if you want to forge new trails in card-readership, to be more organic in your readings, and to rely less on the standard, old-reliable spreads, then this book-and-card-deck set may be for you.

### AFRICAN BONE READING

**Jackson, Michele. Bones, Shells and Curios: a Contemporary Method of Casting the Bones. Lucky Mojo Curio Company, 2014, ISBN: 978-0971961272, 96 pages**

A diviner and rootworker herself, Jackson gives the reader a modern day, yet still-authentic way of reading the bones. After giving instructions on reading the bones, much of the book is given over to sample readings, but these examples are important to learning how to use the bones correctly. This book comes highly-recommended by readers who purchased the book on Amazon.

**Casas, Starr. Divination Conjure Style: Reading Cards, Throwing Bones, and Other Forms of Household Fortune-Telling. San Francisco, CA and Woodbury, MA: Weiser Books, 2019, ISBN: 978-1578636693**

Only part of the book is given over to reading the bones, but one important point Casas makes about reading the bones is, when compiling your own set of bones, understand the nature of the animal whose bones you're reading with; it's an important factor in the reading. A good look into Conjure-style bone-reading.

**O'Neill, Claire. The Oracle of the Bones. New York, N.Y.: St. Martin's Press, 1994 (1<sup>st</sup> U.S. edition), ISBN: 0-312-11039-1. Book-&-casting-set. Book: 128 pages; casting cloth and four bones.**

This book and casting set was my introduction to throwing the bones, and I think it's a good place to start, if you don't know the first thing about divining by throwing the bones. The book gives you the history and folklore surrounding the bones (at least the Southern African perspective on the bones), what each bone represents, possible bone combinations, how to use the enclosed casting-cloth, and how to interpret up to 81 different ways the bones may land on the casting cloth. There are different ways of casting the bones, but this one is sufficient to get your feet wet. The book has a bibliography on page 126 if you want to know more.

## **G geomancy DIVINATION**

**Greer, John Michael. Earth Divination Earth Magic: A Practical Guide to Geomancy. St. Paul, Minnesota: Llewellyn Publications, 2000. First Ed. ISBN: 1-56718-312-3, 224 pages.**

Though I rendered them into card-format, this book gives the reader a good, comprehensive introduction to the subject of geomancy, which originally started as poking four rows of a random number of dots into the dirt. He gives the basic meanings and associations with each symbol, as well as how to use the geomantic symbols with the horoscope chart and shield chart methods. He includes Pietro de Abano's medieval treatise on the subject in the appendix, which is also a helpful read. John Michael Greer has written multiple books on geomancy, and really, *any* of them would be a good information on the subject.

**Warnock, Christopher. Astrological-Geomancy:**

<https://renaissanceastrology.com/astrologicalgeomancy.html>

I have included this website, because it's another good source of information on the subject. This website even offers the visitor a video mini-course on the subject, as well as software, for a fee. At the bottom of the main page, he lists other web-based sources for further exploration.

## RUNES

**Blum, Ralph H. The Book of Runes. 25<sup>th</sup> Anniv. Ed., New York, N.Y.: Thomas Dunne Books, 2008, ISBN-13:978-0312536763, 160 page book & 25-rune set.**

The original edition of this book-and-rune set was my introduction to the Runes, and I still think it's a good starter kit. Warning: many rune purists despise this book, for a few reasons. Number 1, it's based heavily on the author's inspiration in one memorable night, more than on scholarship. Number 2, the Runes have a much broader and deeper meaning than Blum conveys in his book. That having been said, the sheer poetry of some of the lines in this book still come to me unbidden after all these years when contemplating the Runes' lessons.

**Thorsson, Edred. Northern Magic: Rune Mysteries and Shamanism. Woodbury, Minnesota: Llewellyn Publications, 2009, ISBN-13: 978-1-56718-709-0, 246 pages.**

I have three books about the Runes from Edred Thorsson, and this is the most basic, introductory one of the lot. He also discusses hex signs a little at the end of this book, but most of the book is about the Runes. I recommend reading this one before you go on to any more advanced books by this author, because his other books on the Runes are rather deep-dives on the subject.

**Paxson, Diana L. Taking Up the Runes: A Complete Guide to Using the Runes in Spells, Rituals, Divination, and Magic. New York, N.Y.: Samuel Weiser Books, 2005, ISBN: 978-1-57863-325-8, 415 pages.**

This tome is divided into two sections. Section 1 is an introduction to the Runes, Section 2 is about using the Runes in ritual. Paxson, by her own admission on page 11, doesn't intend this book to be "the one, true and only approach to runelore. It is a study guide that integrates material from a variety of sources." Paxson's approach is to deal with the runes in pairs, with a chapter devoted to each pair, so the learner is learning the Runes in increments, rather than trying to cram a lot of information into one's cranium at once. She also draws from more than one source about the runes, so the reader gets a full-flavor of the meaning. This book is a step up from the other two introductory books, and would work well as a teacher's guide to the Runes.

If, after one of these three titles, you feel ready for some *meatier* material on the Runes, here are the other two Edred Thorsson titles I mentioned earlier. These go more in-depth:

**Thorsson, Edred. Futhark: A Handbook of Rune Magic. York Beach, Maine: Samuel Weiser Books, 1984, ISBN: 0-87728-548-9, 156 pages.**

**Thorsson, Edred. Runelore: A Handbook of Esoteric Runology. York Beach, Maine: Samuel Weiser Books, 1987, ISBN: 0-87728-667-1, 215 pages.**

One stand-out feature of *Futhark* is, it includes runic chants (called 'Galdr' in the text) and runic yoga (called 'Stadha' in the text) for those who want to come to a deeper understanding of the Runes via actual physical exercise. His follow-up book *Runelore* delves into such subjects as runic

history, runic cosmology, runic numerology, and runic psychology, so the word 'esoteric' in its sub-title is no joke.

## OGHAM

**Murray, Colin and Liz Murray. *The Celtic Tree Oracle: A System of Divination*. Illus. by Vanessa Card. New York, N.Y.: Thomas Dunne Books, 1988, ISBN: 0-312-02032-5, 120-page book and 25-card deck.**

Though Colin and Liz Murray have done the ogham as a card *deck*, rather than engraved on sticks, as was traditionally done with the ogham, this small book and its attendant set of cards, in my opinion, are a good, concise introduction to the subject. The lovely cards have additional symbolism incorporated into them, which make them worth meditating on as well.

**Mountfort, Paul Rhys. *Ogam: The Celtic Oracle of the Trees*. Rochester, Vermont: Destiny Books, 2002, ISBN:0-89281-919-7, 216 pages.**

I refer to this book often when interpreting the Ogham. Montfort devotes three to four pages on each ogham, giving the proper pronunciation of each ogham, keywords and phrases associating with it, along with the meaning, and some of the history and folklore surrounding the ogham and the plant it's associated with. Montfort only deals with the first 20 'letters' of the ogham alphabet, the fifth *few* of ogham letters being a later addition. Many ogham diviners accept and use ogham letters 21 through 25 but some don't. That detail aside, it's a good book on the subject.

**Thorsson, Edred. *The Book of Ogham: The Celtic Tree Oracle*. Woodbury, Minn: Llewellyn Publications, 1992, ISBN: 978-0875427836, 214 pages**

Though Thorsson is normally associated with the Runes, this book has an easy-to-read style and is a good introduction to the subject. A *little* of Thorsson's runic bent can be seen in this book, but not distractingly-so. Scholar that he is, Thorsson extrapolates only where necessary, and tends to base it only on what can definitively be known.

**Laurie, Erynn Rowan. *Ogam: Weaving Word Wisdom*. Megalithica Books, 2007, ISBN: 978-1905713028, 312 pages.**

This is a good intermediate book after you've read more introductory books on the Ogham. Laurie breaks away from the customary association of Ogham letters with trees, and considers the *original* meaning of the name of each Ogham letter, based on the original source material. She touches on the meanings of the five ogham letters in the fifth *few*, but like Montfort, she doesn't use them, because they were a later addition to the original twenty Ogham letters. Some love this book and consider it their primary sourcebook on the subject, others reject it, still others don't like it, but consider it worth a read anyway. Personally, I'll say this book has inspired me to think about designing a *second* Ogham card deck, *sans* trees.

**Calder, George, trans. Auraicept Na N-Eces The Scholar's Primer Being the texts of the Ogham Tract from the Book of Ballymote and the Yellow Book of Lacan and the text of the Trefhocul from the Book of Leinster. Facsimile Publishers, 2016, ISBN: 978-93336-18885, 440 pages.**

This source *is* the original source material from centuries ago. This work is where we get our existing folklore and meanings behind the Ogham alphabet. For the serious student of the Ogham only. Even the cheap copies of this book tend to be a bit pricey.

**Graves, Robert. The White Goddess: A Historic Grammar of Poetic Myth. New York, N.Y.: Farrar Strauss & Giroux, 1948**

Chapters 10 through 14 of this book specifically address the Ogham. This tome is a modern Pagan classic, which some love and some despise. Robert Graves is the individual largely responsible for the now-common association of the Ogham letters with trees, which some Ogham scholars take issue with. Some would consider it a must-read, I'd say it's a *discretionary* read. Keep in mind, Robert Graves was primarily a *poet*, not a historian. This book should be read as a poetic meditation, not a scholarly work.

## **COLOR**

**Ashby, Nina. Color Therapy Plain & Simple: the Only Book You'll Ever Need. Hampton Roads Publishing, Reprint 2018, ISBN: 978-1571747877, 176 pages. The Plain & Simple Series.**

Only you can decide if this is indeed the 'only' color book you'll need, but it discusses color from both a practical and spiritual standpoint. Has been highly-rated on Amazon, users giving it a collective four-and-a-half stars.

**Bernhardt, Michele. Colorstrology: What Your Birthday Color Says About You. Quirk Books, 2014, ISBN: 978-1594746918m 432 pages.**

Author and astrologer Michele Bernhardt takes an unusual approach to the subject of color: using astrology, numerology and color theory, she assigns a particular color to all 366 possible days of the year. Your birthday color is intended to reflect who you are, and how you behave. The *great* thing about this book is, Bernhardt includes 366 perforated color swatches in the book, so you can take your birthday color with you. Or, you can detach and keep all 366 swatches as an *unparalleled* color divination deck. This was another four-and-a-half star rated book on Amazon.

**Jones, K.C. Illus. by Fuko Kawamura. Fortune-Telling Book of Colors. Chronicle Books, LLC, 2014, ISBN:978-1-4521-3265-5, 204 pages.**

This pint-sized book (it's only 12 cm. tall by about 10 cm. wide) goes into a lot more detail about the various tones and hues of the main colors and what they mean in your aura and environment.

**Segal, Inna. The Secret Language of Color Cards. Atria Books/Beyond Words, 2011. ISBN: 978-1582703268, 45 cards & 84-page guidebook.**

Highly recommended, because her deck covers more colors than my color card deck, and is professionally-done. Like the other authors, Segal emphasizes the healing property of color, as well as color's divinatory properties.

## **THEBAN ALPHABET**

**Jenkins, Greg, PhD. The Theban Oracle. San Francisco, CA and Newburyport, MA: Weiser Books, 2014, ISBN: 978-1-57863-549-8, 235 pages.**

This is the book which first led me to use the Theban alphabet for divinatory purposes. Jenkins takes the unusual approach of naming each letter after a famous mage in history. He devotes several pages to each letter, explaining a little of the history of each mage and how their lives relate to the particular Theban letter named for them, and describing each Theban letter's meaning both upright and reversed. He includes sections on using the Theban alphabet in readings and for magical purposes. A recommended text on the subject.

**Verner, Marcellus. The Forty-Eight Satanic Runes: A Magical Manual of the Theban Alphabet. Kindle edition only, pub. Date May 22, 2019. In print, it would be 140 pages.**

Author Verner's identification of the Theban Alphabet as 'Satanic' may be off-putting to many, and some would argue about that designation. Rather than name the letters of the Theban alphabet after famous mages in history like Jenkins did, Verner has given each letter a different name for its upright and reversed meanings, and they are descriptors, so a Theban letter can be both 'Blessing' and 'Curse' not 'Lao Tzu.' He gives the divinatory meaning, diagnostic meaning and spell meaning for each letter in its upright and reversed position, for a total of 48 possible answers in a reading. If you can get past the word 'Satanic' in the title, I recommend acquiring and reading this Kindle™ title, simply for the author's different take on the Theban alphabet. At 140 print-pages-worth of material, it's a short read.

**Samlach, Gealhain. The Original Theban Workbook: Learn to Read and Write the Witches Alphabet in 27 Days or Less! GoldenPhi Press, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, 2015. ISBN: 978-0986392801, 122 pages.**

If you want to learn how to read and write the Theban alphabet fluently, then this book is for you. It's a true *workbook*; you're intended to write in it, so this isn't a title you can pass onto others, unless you make a photocopy of the pages, fill in *that*, and leave the book alone.

**Samlach, Gealhain. The Original Theban Puzzle Book Volume 1: The Journey Continues. GoldenPhi Press, 2015. ISBN: 978-0986392825, 106 pages.**

Apparently intended as a follow-up to *The Original Theban Workbook*, this book is filled with fill-in-the-blank type puzzles, designed to challenge and strengthen the user's knowledge and mastery of the Theban alphabet.

These last two titles by Gealhain Samlach are recommended *only* for those who want thoroughly master the Theban alphabet, and who want to strengthen their ability to properly identify and translate the letters of the Theban alphabet at first glance.

## **LENORMAND CARDS**

**Steinbach, Sylvie. *The Secrets of the Lenormand Oracle*. CreateSpace Publishing, 2007, ISBN: 978-1419670305, 237 pages.**

This is a good introductory book on the Lenormand deck. I have owned a copy for over ten years and often refer to it when I'm doing a reading. Steinbach gives a good, concise description of each card and its various associations--playing card, time period, physical descriptions, astrological signs and even body parts. I like that she includes a list of pairing interpretations with each card. Some like that feature, some don't. She has a great section in the latter-half of her book about how to read with the deck (including her 'no-layout' method), how to read for others, and the various types of Lenormand decks out there. A good introductory book.

**Boroveshengra, Andy. *Lenormand Thirty-Six Cards: an Introduction to the Petit Lenormand*. CreateSpace Independent Publishing, 2014, 298 pages.**

This is another good introductory book to the Lenormand, with an easy and concise format. The pictures of each card in the description section of the book are tiny, but otherwise it is a good source of information. Unlike Steinbach, Boroveshengra doesn't go into card combination meanings. This is reportedly a good book to read if you want to learn the distance and near/far method of reading the cards.

**George, Rana. *The Essential Lenormand: Your Guide to Precise & Practical Fortunetelling*. Woodbury, Minnesota: Llewellyn Publications, 2014. 384 pages.**

This is a great intermediate-to-advanced book on the Lenormand deck. Like Steinbach, she has a list of associated meanings attached to each card, but she breaks those associations down differently, and in much more detail. Categories like future, personality and physical descriptors, work, love, health (body and spirit), money, timing, advice, and objects or areas. I find this kind of break-down helpful, when the reading is focused on a particular area of inquiry. She does include some pair combinations and what their joint-mean likely means, but not for every card. Part 3 is a nice, comprehensive section on reading techniques and spreads. Packed with information, and a go-to book for many.

**Matthews, Caitlin. *The Complete Lenormand Oracle Handbook: Reading the Language and Symbols of the Cards*. Destiny Books, 1<sup>st</sup> Ed, 2014, ISBN: 978-1620553251, 416 pages.**

This is *another* great intermediate to advanced book on the Lenormand deck, which goes into greater detail about the meanings and associations behind each card. A sizeable compendium of information on the Lenormand, but still easy to read and understand. Traditionally, the Lenormand cards each have a card from the regular playing card deck associated with them, and

that card is inset into the top of the card. The playing card is intended to give further nuance to the meaning of the Lenormand card, and Matthews goes into this. Packed with information, reading guidance, and exercises to help strengthen your abilities with this deck, this is another highly-recommended, authoritative book on the subject.

## **KIPPER CARDS**

**Puhle, Toni. *The Card Geek's Guide to Kipper Cards*. CreateSpace Independent Publishing, 2017, ISBN: 978-1546444435, 250 pages**

Most who purchased the book seem to agree this is a good introductory book on the subject of Kipper cards. Using her own modern-styled card deck, the Card Geek Kipper, she introduces the reader to the cards in the Kipper deck, and explains how to perform Kipper-specific readings. The Grand Tableau and the 3x3 spreads are read *a little* differently with the Kipper deck than they are with the Lenormand deck, and Puhle is good about explaining the difference to the reader.

**Musruck, Alexandre. *The Art of Kipper Card Reading: Decoding Powerful Messages*. Red Feather, 2020. ISBN-13:978-0764359019, 288 pages.**

I have an earlier version of this book by this author, under a slightly-different title. This appears to be the new improved edition. This is another good, authoritative introduction to the deck, where author Musruck explains the particularities of the Kipper card deck, the meanings of the cards, and how to use them in readings, illustrating these things using his own lovely, early-nineteenth-century-style deck. What I like about this book is when, describing the meaning of each card, he includes a mantra for each card, whether it is a positive, negative or neutral card, and how to use these for yes-or-no questions. He ends the book with several blank pages of Kipper card journal, so you can get some practice in, or know how to structure your own Kipper card journal.

## **MAH JONGG**

**Walters, Derek. *The Fortune Teller's Mah Jongg: the Ancient Game as a Modern Oracle*. Viking Studio Books, 1994, ISBN-13:978-0670856404, 104 pages.**

A short but comprehensive book which covers a little of the history, how to read the Mah Jongg, the meanings of the cards, and a couple sample readings to demonstrate how it's done.

**Walters, Derek. *Fortune-Telling by Mah Jongg: a Practical Guide to Divination Using the Ancient Chinese Game of Mah Jongg*. Sterling Publishing Co, 1987, ISBN-13: 978-0850305715, 192 pages.**

This earlier work by Walters goes more in-depth on the history and background of the Mah Jongg. In this book, Walters enters into such details as the Nine Felicitous Associations, the Five Harmonious Associations, and the Four Fabulous Beasts, and how all these influence the interpretation of the cards. It's a good follow-on to those who've read the earlier book and wish

for more detail to improve their readings. This book is out-of-print, but Amazon *does* have copies for sale, and a perusal of your local library might turn up a copy.

### **WESTERN PLAYING CARDS**

**Webster, Richard. *Playing Card Divination for Beginners*. St. Paul, Minnesota: Llewellyn Publications, 2002, ISBN: 0-7387-0223-4, 192 pages.**

This is a good basic introduction to using playing cards for divination. The meanings he assigns to each playing card is a little different from my interpretation (the works of Robert Camp have influenced my understanding of the playing cards substantially), but I choose to see Webster's understanding of the cards as complimentary. He gives several methods of reading the cards (I particularly like his fifteen-card spread), as well as the meanings of the suits, the individual numbers, and patterns to look for in the spread, as well as what certain card combinations could mean.

**Dee, Jonathan. *Fortune Telling Using Playing Cards*. Imagine, 2015, ISBN-13: 978-1623540692, 216 pages.**

Most users agree this is a good informative introduction to the art of reading playing cards. Of particular note, Dee gives the reader instructions on how to read the cards employing the Romany method and the Lenormand method.

**Ball, Stephen. *Playing Card Divination: Every Card Tells a Story*. Woodbury, Minnesota: Llewellyn Publications, 2020, ISBN-13: 978-0738764900, 304 pages.**

Ball takes a distinctly-different approach to teaching playing card divination. For him, each number of the pip cards represents a mythic role (Hunter, Lover, Healer, Trickster, etc.) and each suit in the deck represents an action required for that role (Promise, Gambit, Folly, Triumph). Put the two elements together, pip-number with suit, and they combine to tell a story, which can help deepen the reader's understanding of the card, and the inquirer's grasp of their situation.

**Hutcheson, Cory Thomas. *Fifty-four Devils: the Art & Folklore of Fortune Telling with Playing Cards*.**

Another distinctly-different approach to learning the meanings of the playing cards. Hutcheson introduces you to the 'fifty-four devils'—the unique spirit which lies in each card, and how to relate fairy tales to each card. The end result is a reading of added depth and complexity. This title is also available through Amazon as a 952-KB downloadable e-book.

## **SIBILLA CARDS**

Books on the Sibilla cards are few, and what few there are, aren't very long. Some titles are available mainly in Kindle™ format. A few reviewers on Amazon said they found websites which had more information than a few of these titles. Still, these are listed as good-to-decent introductory material on the Sibilla:

**Murray, M. Jacqueline. *Gypsy Oracle Cards: A Handbook for Interpreting the Sibilla della Zingara*. M. Jacqueline Murray, 2017, ISBN-13: 978-0999149317, 130 pages.**

Of the several titles I found on the Sibilla, this one was rated the highest, garnering five stars from Amazon reviewers. I myself own this title and find it indispensable in interpreting the Sibilla della Zingara cards I have, but it would probably be helpful with any Sibilla deck. Includes upright and reversed meanings, advice, date and numerical meanings, and several spreads which lend themselves well to the Sibilla deck.

**Venturi, Allesandra. *Italian Cartomancy: Learn the Vera Sibilla Italiana*. Lulu.com, 2016, ISBN-13: 978-1326840075, 268 pages.**

Intended to be the first of two books on the subject of Sibilla by this author, this book, the longest of the Sibilla books I found, covers some history of the cards, as well as the cards' traditional and historical meanings. Most readers say it's a *good* introduction to the subject, but the author states there is a little information she is reserving for students of her cartomancy course, which one reviewer found annoying.

**Madeo, Samanta. *The Ultimate Guide to Sibilla & Gypsy Oracle Cards: the Only Fortunetelling Book You'll Ever Need!* CreateSpace Independent Publishing, 2018, ISBN-13: 978-1987560640, 239 pages.**

This author has written seven books on the subject, most of them short-ish Kindle™ books, so you might be able to kill a few birds with one stone and purchase this copy. In it she covers multiple meanings of the cards, exercises to help familiarize you with the Sibilla quickly, and card combination meanings. Reviewers were split 50-50 on this one. One apparently-experienced reviewer said it was 'filled with incorrect information.' Another reviewer, who admitted to being new to the Sibilla, said it was 'a perfect book for people just learning or wanting to improve their Sibilla skills' and called it 'an outstanding guide.' So buyer beware. But you might want to give author Madeo's *other* books on the subject, available through Amazon, a look-see.

## I CHING

Further reading about the I Ching is encouraged, because it's a majestic subject with a long pedigree that I can't do sufficient justice to in two lessons. There are fundamentally two kinds of books on the subject of the I Ching: books which have been written by native Chinese speakers, and books which are translations of original Chinese texts by western authors. I think it's a good idea to have a little of both. Texts can vary. Below is a list of mostly highly-regarded books on the subject.

**Sorrell, Roderic and Amy Max Sorrell. *The I Ching Made Easy*. San Francisco: HarperCollins, 1994, ISBN: 0-06-251073-8, 268 pages.**

Though some would probably be horrified at the idea of making the I Ching 'easy', my western mind found this book on the I Ching, authored by a western couple, to be an understandable and usable book on the subject. This would be a good introductory work on the subject for beginners, as some of the other sources listed, though excellent, are a little more esoteric at times.

**Anonymous, Legge, James, trans. *I Ching: Translated, with annotations*. Digireads.com Publishing, 2017. 286 pages. ISBN: 978-14209566.**

Legge was the first western translator to translate a Chinese book on the I Ching into English, so this 1854-1855 work is something of a classic on the subject. This is a downloadable edition, but there are print copies of this book available through Amazon.

**Wilhelm, Richard, trans. Cary F. Baynes, trans., et. Al. *The I Ching, or Book of Changes*. (Bollingen Series, XIX). Princeton University Press, 1967. 806 pages. ISBN: 978-0844295909.**

This massive tome is considered an authoritative work on the subject of the I Ching, and is considered a must-have by many, if you want to practice the I Ching seriously. A reviewer or two say some liberties have been taken in the translation of the original Chinese in this book, and it must be kept in mind the translators come at the subject with western mindsets. Nevertheless, most consider this an excellent book on the subject.

**Huang, Alfred. *The Complete I Ching: The Definitive Translation. Second Edition. Second Edition, revised*. Inner Traditions, 2010. 576 pages. ISBN: 978-1594773860.**

Considered to be a very thorough, accurate and thoughtful translation of the I Ching, which compares very favorably to the works by Legge and Wilhelm, and some reviewers think it is better than the first two. Not surprising, given that Huang is a native Chinese-speaker and a Taoist Master to boot. Many reviewers consider this book another must-have on the subject.

There are many books on the I Ching out there, and they will all contribute to your understanding of the subject, but the books listed above get superlative ratings and are considered classic works on the subject.

## TAROT CARDS

These are *many* books on Tarot out there, virtually a whole library, but these are considered a few good starter books on Tarot:

**Dean, Liz. *The Ultimate Guide to Tarot: a Beginner's Guide to the Cards, Spreads, and Revealing the Mystery of the Tarot*. Fair Winds Press, 2015, ISBN-13: 978-1592336579, 240 pages.**

An excellent introduction to Tarot, and a good reference book when reading the cards too. Dean also covers the astrological, numerological, and kabbalistic associations of the cards. My branch library when I still worked had this book, and it was checked-out with some regularity.

**Louis, Anthony. *Tarot Plain and Simple*. St. Paul, Minn: Llewellyn Publications, 1999, ISBN: 1-56718-400-6, 322 pages.**

Very good introduction and guidebook to the Tarot, I personally own this one and refer to it frequently when I read the Tarot. He also goes into the astrology and numerology of the Tarot. He also includes a 'Situation and Advice' section for each card, which I like.

**Wiggin, Jessica. *How to Read Tarot: a Modern Guide*. Althea Press, 2019, ISBN-13: 978-1641524391, 210 pages.**

Considered good, to-the-point book for beginners without being overwhelming, one reviewer noted Wiggin comes at Tarot interpretation from a more *psychological* than *event-based* interpretation. This can be a good thing, because the Tarot can be read on multiple levels.

**Pollack, Rachel. *Seventy-Eight Degrees of Wisdom*. Weiser Books, 3<sup>rd</sup> Rev. Ed. 2019, ISBN-13: 978-1578636655, 368 pages.**

This book is considered a modern classic on Tarot, and recommended for those past the level of the introductory books. Pollack does a more deep-dive into the symbolism and meanings of the cards and brings a modern psychological interpretation to the cards, drawing also on mythology and esoteric traditions. A good acquisition or read for the intermediate Tarot student.

**Greer, Mary K. *Mary K. Greer's 21 Ways to Read a Tarot Card*. Llewellyn Publications, 2006, ISBN-13: 978-0738707846, 336 pages.**

This is another highly-regarded Tarot title for the advanced student. In this book Greer suggests ways of learning more from the Tarot, including sketching, dialogues, acting, and other imaginative exercises as ways of expanding one's understanding of the Tarot. This is a book which can (and probably should, for some of the exercises) be used in groups. One reviewer called this book, Tarot 101, 201 and 301. If you're tired of reading Tarot meanings out of a book, and want more direct, personal, experiential knowledge of the Tarot, there's no better a book than this one.

## **ADINKRA SYMBOLS**

**Afu, Uwa. Adinkra Symbols. Kente Success, 2015, ISBN-13: 978-159232-9021, 66 pages.**

This short book is just a straightforward presentation of some of the more major Adinkra symbols and their meanings.

**Kurankye, Charles, Peter Annor, and Elizabeth Amoah Nana Ama Korankye. Adinkra Alphabet, Third Edition: the Adinkra Symbols as Alphabets, ISBN-13: 978-0996523394, 300 pages.**

This book covers the history of the Adinkra and provides a comprehensive overview of the Adinkra Symbols and their meanings. This book got a 5-star rating from reviewers on Amazon.

**Arthur, G.F. Kojo. Cloth as Metaphor: (Re)Reading the Adinkra Cloth: Symbols of the Akan of Ghana, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed., iUniverse: 2017, ISBN-13: 1532028939, 316 pages.**

Dr. G.F. Kojo Arthur has been studying the Adinkra symbols for decades. This book, the result of his studies, may be the most comprehensive compilation of Adinkra symbols out there. 920 Adinkra symbols, classed under categories such as government, society at large, the family, spirituality, etc. are covered in this book. Called 'the definitive sourcebook' on Adinkra by one reviewer, this book is recommended only for those seriously-interested in learning more about the Adinkra.

## **ADINKRA CARDS**

It turns out I'm not the *only* one who's had the thought to turn the Adinkra Symbols into a card deck! The following are two Adinkra card decks available through Amazon. Though they don't appear to have as many Adinkra symbols as my deck does, they're both a lot better quality and more professional-looking than mine, and well-worth consideration.

**McInnis, Dr. Erica Mapule. Know Thy Self Adinkra Cards. Brand: NWAH. ASIN: B07HX5WL6Y. 50 cards.**

Designed by a Chartered Clinical Psychologist in the U.K. for use with her patients, these cards can be used for anything from individual, private spiritual devotion to group-therapy. With two decks, you could even play a game of Snap.

**Adinkra Card Game. Manufacturer: Adinkra Alphabet LLC. ASIN: B07RFLKP92. For ages 6 & up.**

In this deck, the Adinkra cards are number 0 to 9, and are assigned to one of five suits: Ether, Air, Fire, Water, and Earth, in the descending order of override, according to the instruction card. However if you want, this deck can also be used for divination.

## **CELTIC TRIADS**

**Wylie, Olivia. *The Triads of Ireland: an Illustrated Collection*. Leafing Out Books, 2020.  
ISBN-13: 978-1734327120, 136 pages.**

This isn't really intended as *a scholarly* work on the Celtic Triads, but I thought I'd mention it here, because in this book, author Wylie treats the Celtic Triads as a form of poetry, almost haiku-like in their brevity and insight. Beautifully illustrated throughout, this is a title you might want to peruse. Indeed, if you actually buy it, you might be able to use this for book divination, a technique I covered in early-on in the 'Simpleomancy' section.