A Sociology Of Tarot

Mike Sosteric

Abstract

This article attempts to establish a sociology of the occult in general, and a sociology of the Western tarot in particular. The tarot is a deck of 78 cards invented in Italy in the fifteenth century. From humble beginnings as a device for gaming or gambling, the tarot became invested with occult, mystical, divine, spiritual, and even psychological significance. This investing became part of a larger strategy of discipline and indoctrination to ease the transition from preindustrial structures of power and authority to industrial and bureaucratic structures. That tarot, associated as it was with the emergence of elite Freemasonry, helped provide new ideologies of power and ways of existing within new tightly structured, bureaucratic organizations.

Keywords

Tarot, Freemasonry, Discipline and Control, Ideology, Occult, Religion, Halo/Sharp

Full Text:

PDF

DOI: http://dx.doi.org/10.29173/cjs20000

in the sociological study of cities and to what a sociological analysis can add to our understanding of urban processes. Prerequisites: upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Will not receive credit for SOCI 153 and SOCC 153. Personality Tarot Spread. Over the past couple of weeks, during classes, I have been thinking and developing a spread. This spread is designed to allow you to look into the personality of someone, and the various parts that make it up. This spread is divided into two dichotomies (much like the Tarot itself). An esoteric enthusiast, Z. M. Wilmot is a student of Tarot, Geomancy, and Astrology. He posts when he can about these esoteric arts as he dives deeper into them and learns more. He hopes this site can be useful as a learning tool and as a springboard for thoughts. In his other life, Z. M. Wilmot is a sociology PhD candidate and a self-published author of weird fiction. Esoteric Arts. Astrology.