Aries

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ARIES 1 A woman rises out of water, a seal rises and embraces her. KEYWORD: Realization

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THEME: The Way to Begin is to Begin. This symbol speaks to birth, emergence and taking the first, faltering and naive steps on any journey. It also speaks to the stirring from within that signals the realization of potential and the possibilities of growth. The image, a woman rises out of water, a seal rises and embraces her, depicts the feminine, emotional and receptive or passive side of man embraced by the masculine, purposeful and initiating or active side of himself. This image also symbolizes the human spirit embraced by desire. The emphasis here is on the achievement of self-integration or that mystical union of all the elements of self. On a practical level, this image represents the first degree of the zodiac and thus spring, the beginning of a new cycle and freedom of choice. It also marks the starting point of the journey of self-discovery. Positive: At its highest, this symbol represents independence, initiative and openness to new experience. Negative: Willfulness or lack of discrimination.

TODAY: The accent is on change and new beginnings. You may be feeling bored, restless or lonely, or that something is missing in your life. Adventure beckons like the sweet scent of lilacs on a gentle spring wind. The novel and different have a special allure.

Opportunity: Your greatest advantage lies in being sensitive to what it is that you really need. Take a broader look at the options available to you, window shop and pay close attention to timing.

Risk: Guard against rashness and hasty decisions or making irrevocable commitments. Avoid jumping from the frying pan into the fire or being headstrong and stubborn in relationships with others.

STEPPING STONES: Birth, new beginnings, growth, self-integration, new cycles of experience, freedom of choice, receptivity.

ARIES 2 A comedian entertaining a group. KEYWORD: Release

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THEME: Personification. This symbol speaks to self-understanding through seeing the self's reflection in the mirror of life. The emphasis here is on the opportunity for self-discovery and personal growth through role-play. The image of a comedian entertaining a group dramatizes the necessity for a willingness to risk, here illustrated by a creative form of self-expression designed to elicit feedback and response to the self's outpouring. Implicit in this symbol is the importance of versatility and well-roundedness or the ability to function competently in a variety of situations. On a practical level, this symbol portrays humor and the ability to appreciate the ironies and incongruities of life. Positive: At its highest, this symbol represents sparkling wit and a keen sense of humor. Negative: Exhibitionism and silliness or an unwillingness to reveal the self.

TODAY: The accent is on self-discovery. You may see yourself in a new light or appreciate things you never realized about yourself. Communication skills should be at their peak.

Opportunity: Your greatest advantage lies in using a variety of approaches or techniques and keeping your sense of humor. Experiment with new ways of expressing yourself and pay careful attention to the feedback you get. Be innovative.

Risk: Guard against behavior that outrages community values. What may seem clever or funny at first thought may turn out to be highly offensive to others. On the other hand, this is not a time to be self-effacing or to hide your light under a bushel.

STEPPING STONES: Self-understanding, self-discovery, role play, creative self-expression, entertainment, humor, irony, versatility.

ARIES 3 A cameo profile of a man in the outline of his country. KEYWORD: Exploitation

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THEME: The Icon. This symbol speaks to a broad but impersonal involvement in life with little of the inner self emphasized or revealed. The image of a cameo profile of a man in the outline of his country was written as "a cameo shows the profile of a man that suggests the outline of his country" in the astrological mimeograph version of this image. The implication is that the profile of the man resembles an outline of the country of his origin and that the man is perceived by others not as a unique individual but in terms of his collective identity or his heritage and the cultural traditions that he represents. On a practical level, this symbol illustrates the way in which such historical figures as Chief Sitting Bull, Queen Elizabeth and Lucky Luciano represent the American Indian, the British and the Mafia. While this symbol reflects a singular expression of group ideals it also implies a dedication to the achievement of social rather than personal goals. Positive: At its highest, this symbol represents personal distinctiveness as the result of epitomizing the highest

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ideals, traditions and talents of some particular group. Negative: Infamy as the result of portraying and perpetuating the worst stereotypes of a culture.

TODAY: The accent is on group identity, culture, customs and traditions. Social rather than personal goals take high focus at this time.

Opportunity: Your greatest advantage lies in working toward the achievement of group objectives. This could take the form of speaking up for or representing others in some matter, sharing your ideas or contributing your skills and talents to some community project.

Risk: Guard against personal behavior that could discredit or bring shame on a group that you are part of. Avoid accepting or taking personal credit for a group accomplishment or stereotyping any individual based on his group affiliations.

STEPPING STONES: Impersonality, resemblance, distinctiveness, identity, social ideals, leadership.

ARIES 4 Two lovers strolling through a secluded walk. KEY-WORD: Enjoyment

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THEME: Privacy. This symbol speaks to innocence, and to the experience of belonging with no sense of personal responsibility or obligation. It also speaks to the coming together of individuals out of mutual desire, simply to enjoy time together. The image of two lovers strolling through a secluded walk suggests peace, tranquility and seclusion. The two lovers are in their own world, or a reality of their own creation. The implication here is that reality is whatever we decide to make it, or that no experience is real until we give it meaning. On a practical level, this symbol indicates a preference for intimate, one-to-one relationships, rather than socializing with groups, and a desire for privacy

and quiet surroundings. It also indicates a desire to avoid high pressure situations. Positive: At its highest, this symbol represents ingenuousness and an absence of premeditation. Negative: Inadequate social skills or possessiveness in relationships.

TODAY: The accent is on privacy, serenity and simplicity. You may find yourself wanting to put aside broader social obligations and responsibilities and withdraw from things.

Opportunity: Your greatest advantage lies in doing what comes naturally or following your instincts. Now is a good time to read, relax, work on a hobby or spend quality time with someone special. Take time for yourself and enjoy it without feeling guilty.

Risk: Guard against jealousy and possessiveness or trying to force your ideas and reality on someone else who doesn't see things the same way that you do. Be careful not to monopolize the person or time of others and resist the temptation to turn play into work.

STEPPING STONES: Innocence, freedom, peace, tranquility, privacy, intimacy, love.

ARIES 5 A triangle with wings. KEYWORD: Zeal

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THEME: Enthusiasm. This symbol speaks to the ability of an individual to come through his experiences spiritually and psychologically intact as long as he remains true to self or acts purely from the center of his being. The image of a triangle with wings alludes to the three elements of an individual that make him unique, or his skills, loyalties and values. The basic desire of individuals is seen here as the achievement of spiritual enlightenment and self-transformation. The emphasis is on enthusiasm and a zest for living. On a practical level, this symbol indicates a "can do" attitude and a refusal to accept limitations. Positive: At its highest, this symbol represents high vision and a positive outlook on life, or a

tendency to see life in terms of possibilities rather than actualities. Negative: Dissociation or a desire to escape from the practical realities of life through fantasy.

TODAY: The accent is on personal uniqueness and appreciating difference. An unusual opportunity or exciting challenge may present itself today and things may come in threes. High spirits and optimism are in the air. Ambition is the byword.

Opportunity: Your greatest advantage lies in keeping a positive attitude, being true to self, accepting only the best and focusing on the highest possible outcome in everything you do. Taking a fresh look at something as if it were the first time you were seeing it may bring unexpected rewards.

Risk: Guard against judging things prematurely or focusing on limitation. Refuse to give in to disappointment and avoid compromising your values, even when no one else seems to be sharing them. Above all, don't run away when the going gets rough.

STEPPING STONES: Enthusiasm, ambition, uniqueness, enlightenment, transformation, vision, possibilities, imagination.

ARIES 6 A square brightly lighted on one side. KEYWORD: Set

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THEME: Half of the Story. This symbol speaks to the value of experience, and to the illusion of a materialistic reality. The image of a square brightly lighted on one side alludes to the dawning of awareness, or the early stages of insight, and it points to the limitations and dangers of looking at only one side of a situation. There is an implication in this symbol of a primitive type of thinking wherein the individual believes

that he is what he possesses or that his worth is the sum total of the number and kinds of his possessions. He is unable to see that the real value is in his experience with the material, or only as he is able to use it to achieve his goals. Positive: At its highest, this symbol represents inner-directedness and a knack for making creative use of material resources to achieve personal objectives. Negative: Tendency to give up rather than struggle, or to underestimate the power of self to overcome physical limitations.

TODAY: The accent is on revelation. Something hidden may come to light or be exposed, or you may discover that you have been wrong about something. The emphasis is on the material and physical. Issues regarding ownership or possession of real or personal property may take center stage today.

Opportunity: Your greatest advantage lies in looking at both sides of an issue, listening to the whole story, then weighing the evidence carefully. If forced to choose between the aesthetic and the practical today, go with the practical or what is sensible, pragmatic or utilitarian.

Risk: Guard against illusion or being fooled by appearances. Jumping to conclusions or making decisions before you have all the facts can lead to regret. A thing may not be what it seems to be.

STEPPING STONES: Concrete or one-sided thinking, dawning of awareness, seeing half of a picture, materialism, physical experience.

ARIES 7 A man successfully expressing himself in two realms at once. KEYWORD: *Proficiency*

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THEME: A Doubling of Efforts. This symbol speaks to versatility, and to an ability to function competently in more than one area. The image of a man successfully expressing himself in two realms at once also speaks to talent and to the self-confidence and sense of freedom that an individual feels when he knows he is in control of his life. The emphasis in this symbol is on duality. It is also the second symbol of the series of five in the astrological formula and thus it represents opposition, awareness and cooperation. On a practical level, two represents dexterity, diplomacy, and the ability to see both sides of an issue. Two can also represent duplicity, a double life, double-dipping or being two-faced. Positive: At its highest, this symbol represents a remarkable ability to competently handle a variety of projects at the same time. Negative: Indecisiveness, instability and easy distraction.

TODAY: The accent is on communication and your ability to deal effectively with different types of individuals and situations. You may find yourself trying to balance competing interests or facing the dilemma of being pulled in two directions at once.

Opportunity: Your greatest advantage lies in being flexible, articulate and diplomatic. Versatility and the ability to handle more than one thing at once will pay extra dividends.

Risk: Guard against being deceived by double-talk. Don't allow yourself to get distracted from your goal. Say no if you don't understand everything. Avoid getting caught in someone else's conflict.

STEPPING STONES: Duality, versatility, opposition, awareness, dexterity, diplomacy, balance, duplicity, doubling.