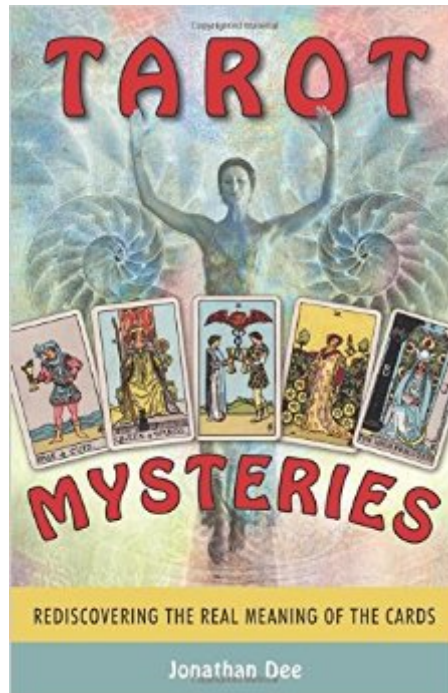


The book was found

Tarot Mysteries: Rediscovering The Real Meaning Of The Cards



Synopsis

This is a practical and accessible guide to one of the most popular divination systems. What makes this book different from the others is that it:

- Provides instruction on reading both the Major and Minor Arcana
- Explains why the cards are the cards, why each picture forms part of a sequence, and why they occupy a mystical place in our consciousness
- Gives a balanced and informative perspective on each of the cards, as well as an overview of the entire deck
- Provides a history of the tarot
- Connects the tarot to the Qabalah

Dee is a life-long tarot reader and historian. He traces the spiritual origins of the cards from Celtic mythology and Hebrew mysticism to Renaissance theatrical productions and the stars and planets of astrology. He also examines how past scholars thought about the tarot and how that thinking has changed to make the cards meaningful for today's readers. This wide-ranging primer provides readers with everything they need to know about the tarot and provides fresh insights into the cards. An illustrated edition of this title was published by Sterling in 2003.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This fascinating history and exploration of the Tarot was written by the late Jonathan Dee, a well-known British Tarot reader and astrologer. The book begins with an extensive history of the Tarot, including a lot of information I was unaware of even after doing a fair amount of research on Tarot history myself. Tarot Mysteries also includes not just the usual discussion of the Major Arcana but also a fascinating examination of the Minor Arcana. Most books about Tarot gloss over the Minor Arcana, which is a shame. In addition to his own thoughts about the Tarot, Dee includes views and interpretations from all the "biggies" from the last few centuries: de Gœbelin, Etteilla,

Eliphas Levi, MacGregor Mathers, A.E. Waite, and Crowley as well as more recent commentators. This variety of viewpoints makes it clear that Tarot is very much a personal, multi-faceted endeavor for everyone who approaches it. As I noted above, the section about the history and background of the Tarot (titled "The Mystery of the Tarot Cards") is packed full of fascinating information. Dee is careful to distinguish between known facts and popular interpretation, and he provides plenty of both. I was especially interested to discover that the Major and Minor Arcana originally began as two separate types of decks and were only combined later on into what we know as the modern Tarot. Once he has addressed the history, Dee then delves deeply into the relation between the Tarot and the Qabalah. He begins with a history of Qabalistic practice and a helpful explanation of the Tree of Life so everyone who reads the book will have enough background information to make sense of the correspondences.

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