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From Lo Scarabeo

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#5746010 in Books 1997-09 Original language: English PDF # 1 4.75 x 2.75 x 1.25l, Binding: Cards This is an important historical deck that Pamela Coleman Smith is said to have used as a reference when designing the minor arcana of the most popular deck ever, the Rider Waite Tarot aka Rider Waite Smith deck. | File size: 40.Mb

From Lo Scarabeo : Illuminating Ancient Tarots: Sola Busca Tarot Deck (English, Italian, French and German Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Illuminating Ancient Tarots: Sola Busca Tarot Deck (English, Italian, French and German Edition):

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Great for the Collector and Tarot History Enthusiasts By M. Lockwood I bought an unsealed, brand new deck from and debated with myself for months to break the seal and use it, or leave it intact to be one of the few unopened decks of its kind out there. Well, I broke the seal and I'm so glad that I did! I've been reading tarot since 1976, so I'm not a novice, and it must be pointed out that this deck steps to the beat of a different drummer. Bear in mind that it was intended for use in gaming and not cartomancy, at least as far as we know. It is a 78 card deck, but the names and players are not the same as we are accustomed. The pip cards, 1 through 10 are fully illustrated. I do read from this deck but I read it as its own deck and I do not try to impose meanings from other tarot decks to it. This deck is beautiful! And from a historical perspective I am very pleased to own it. I read from it only occasionally to keep it pristine and I also use it to study the imagery and compare other decks to it. I'm sure I'll never sell it, but as it's difficult to come buy, and costs so much, it has become the jewel of my collection. 3 of 3 people

found the following review helpful. Faboulus Deck for the CollectorBy Lucy TabitNow out of Print, a find for the card collector. The box was ever so slightly worn, not making a terrible difference and am keeping the cards wrapped up for a future day!11 of 11 people found the following review helpful. A Remarkable Sacred ToolBy Ernest GillAnyone who appreciates the Rider-Waite Tarot of Arthur Waite and Pamela Colman Smith will greatly appreciate this little book.Black-and-white photographic images of the Sola-Busca Tarot were exhibited at the British Museum in London in 1907 -- and it was these images which inspired Waite and Smith to create their own Tarot with all 78 cards illustrated, just as all 78 cards of the Sola-Busca pack are illustrated.Pamela "Pixie" Smith took a lot of inspiration from the Sola-Busca images and, indeed, there are striking similarities between some of the Sola-Busca cards and her cards. The Waite-Smith Tarot was published in late 1909 -- exactly 100 years ago!Waite and Smith were both quite familiar with Renaissance Alchemy. And Smith, in particular, was familiar with Renaissance clothing and color symbolism because of the fact that she grew up in the care of a theatrical troupe in England and had become an accomplished costume designer and set designer.Alas, the Sola-Busca Tarot's lavish illustrations are an enigma to our contemporary eyes -- few people today have the Classical education and Occult initiation which Waite and Smith both had, having studied on both sides of the Atlantic and having been key figures in the Order of the Golden Dawn during its heyday.So much of the symbolism of the Sola-Busca is lost to us.Fortunately, this little yellow book by Sofia Di Vincenzo lifts the veil on much of the mystery of the symbolism. Sofia Di Vincenzo is an authority on Renaissance alchemy and writes in clear but quite authoritative prose about the colors and symbolism which pervades each card.With the aid of this modest little book, the reader is taken on a spiritual journey in which the mortal being (lead) goes on a step-by-step quest for spiritual purity (gold).Whether you own the Sola-Busca Tarot cards (which are long out of print) is immaterial. Even Arthur Waite and Pamela Colman Smith only saw black-and-white photographic images of the cards -- not unlike the black-and-white images in this book. The original Sola-Busca cards are jealously guarded by the Sola-Busca family heirs in Italy and were not loaned out -- not even to the British Museum!This book is treasure for anyone who seeks a deeper appreciation of Renaissance art in general and of the Waite-Smith Tarot cards in particular.

The Sola Busca Tarot is also called: Illuminating Ancient Tarots.