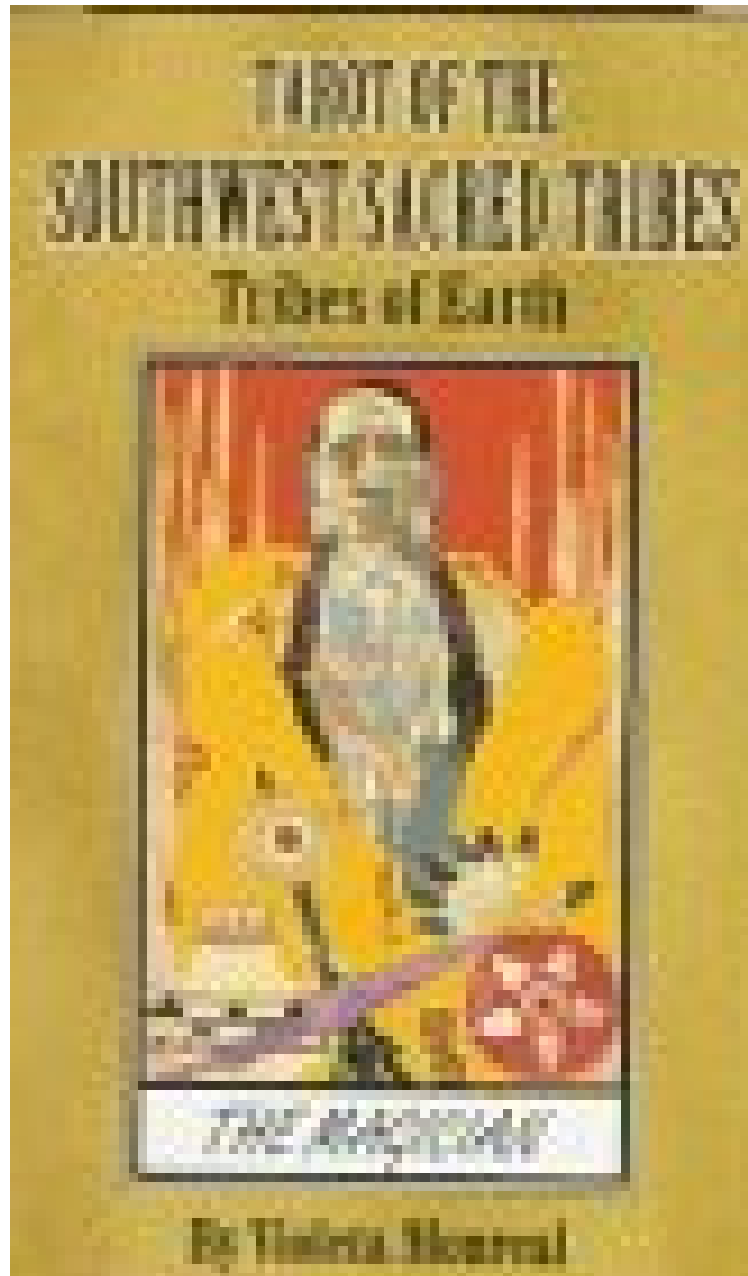


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Tarot of the Southwest Sacred Tribes: Tribes of Earth : The Magician

Violeta Monreal

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Violeta Monreal : Tarot of the Southwest Sacred Tribes: Tribes of Earth : The Magician before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Tarot of the Southwest Sacred Tribes: Tribes of Earth : The Magician:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Quietly powerful
By gabrielannouncer
It's true that the people illustrated here are very solemn and that's a quality that I also found in the Hudes tarot--however after a while I came to the conclusion that it allows for more freedom of expression in the longrun. The pictures become like dreamy snapshots of the subject caught without their knowledge. If someone took a few random photos of us during the day, chances are we would be serious too, when not interacting with others but rather absorbed in our daily activities and private thoughts. Thus, to me, the images acquire a filmy ethereal quality....The artwork is lovely; it makes a quiet yet powerful statement. It looks like a combination of collage and watercolours, again contributing to the dreamlike effect--like a wisp of other lives and times seen through the lens of mist and mystery. Violeta Monreal is an artist in her own right thus making the artwork more sophisticated and interesting, as well as unique as far as tarot art goes. What is also interesting is that Monreal chose to explore often neglected Native cultures--often in Native styled tarot cards it appears to be favoured the the more famous Plains Indians, so this is a refreshing touch to the pictures and atmosphere. The cards shuffle quite well, being smooth but not too slippery and fit well in the hand which is nice. I performed several readings with the cards and was surprised by the accuracy and the ease with which a rapport was established. In spite of the muted colours and extreme seamlessness between each card which might have created a feeling of blandness, I immediately felt the quiet power and wisdom therein which beckoned to me and drew me into the world of these Southwest Sacred Tribes. As for the lwb, as the previous reviewer stated, there are some extreme meanings assigned to each card such as the Moon Card states: "Obscurity, Confusion, Deception, Danger, Falseness, Trickery, Being used or taken advantage of." To me, these key words seem totally off and only express a very one sided view of this intricate and beautiful card. The Moon Card also means dreams, intuition, psychic awareness, nervousness, hidden and subconscious fears/impulses/power/gifts....inner and outer magic, something that needs to be confronted and addressed....well, the list could go on! Also, for example the 7 of Swords has a peculiar assignment : "Hope, Planning, New Endeavors" I have never seen that meaning associated with the 7 of Swords--to me it has always meant going out on ones' own, the lone wolf, betrayal, diplomacy, quiet scheming, avoiding responsibility, success behind the scenes etc.....so many possibilities for each card according to each situation and querant but it's true some of the ones in the lwb are odd and off! So I highly recommend this deck and suggest to anyone interested in it to just go on with the regular Rider-Waite system or their own system and all will be well....Happy journeys!

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Attractive ART
By K. Christopher
I very much enjoyed the attractive art and symbolism of this deck. The companion book has yet to be found and is very expensive. After reading the tiny paper guide booklet included - I don't think I will be investing in it. Many of the interpretations on this deck strike me as very negative and disturbing...too bad - because I really do like the art. Another quality that is unfortunate - all the characters look very serious and unhappy. Wish there had been more balance.

1st book partially read, another glance through...