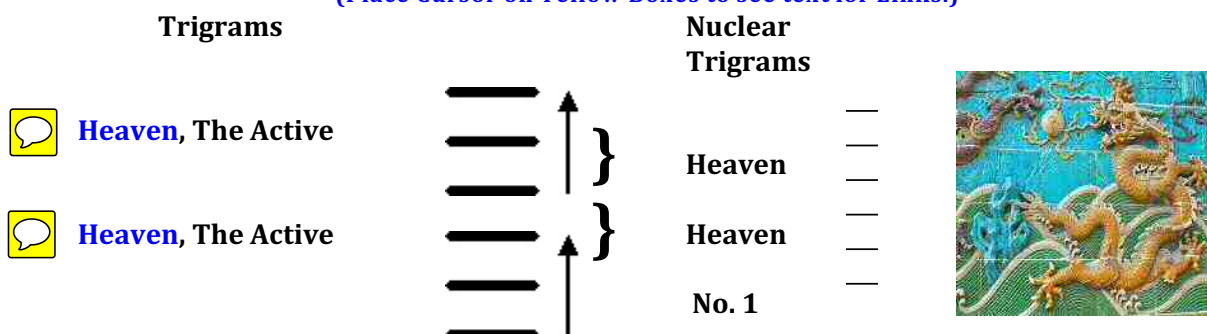


## HEXAGRAM NO. 1 - THE EXPANSIVE (creativity or authority)

(Place Cursor on Yellow Boxes to see text for Links.)



### Image and Structure of the Hexagram:

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Trigrams: Heaven above and Heaven below, both moving upwards, representing **powerful, dynamic energy** (*symbolized as dragons flying in the heavens*). It can also stand for creative promise, potential dynamism, a pronounced talent, or innovation. The presence of creative energy is reinforced by *the above Nuclear Hexagram No. 1*. The Trigram of Heaven signifies motivation, courage and a vigorous drive, indicating that a leading influence in a community or society is possible. Yet here it is doubled (with no balancing, Yin/receptive lines) suggesting overexpansion, forcefulness or overconfidence – either personally or in general. Thus a desire for more personal power, authority or status, would need to be directed towards the good of the whole, in a controlled way. Concentrate on developing unique capacities and using high energy wisely. If this is done, a powerful yet beneficial force can spread its influence. Hence the lines emphasize the importance of working with right timing.

A **Static Hexagram** (with no moving lines) counsels one to think seriously about *how* a powerful motivating force will be employed, before taking action. Also consider, which is the best outlet at this stage? For there are several ways that high energy and drive can be put to good use, in order to express marked creative ability.

### Tarot Links:

**Chariot:** Pronounced leadership, increased power, or recognition after consistent effort. A triumph over odds, without using force. Going with a perceived destiny. Self-expression. A vehicle.  
**Ace of Wands:** Invention and creativity. Seeking patronage.  
**Magician:** Being multi-skilled, or taking the initiative.

### Keynotes:

Confidence, power or ambition. (Upper Trigram of Heaven.)  
 Motivation and driving energy. (Lower Trigram of Heaven.)  
 Frustration, if patronage is not organized and creativity employed.  
 A call to constructive action – especially if feeling low in energy.  
 Creating the right conditions or best environment oneself.  
 Right timing and using high energy wisely, i.e. without over-expansion or *flying too high*, which would lead to a collapse.  
 A pinnacle of creative achievement or leadership is possible.  
 Also a test to see how power or influence is actually used.

The moving lines denote stages of increasing creative drive, culminating with noble leadership at the Fifth Line, then *over-reaching* and inflation at the Top Line.



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**BOTTOM LINE:** *A dragon has to be content to wait, hidden in the deep. [Dynamic energy contained, until more experience and confidence gained.]*



The above symbol stands for those who have much potential for further creativity or leadership. However the best way to express a marked talent is not clear, nor is the right opening for full commitment available. Powerful energies are in a dormant condition waiting to emerge or to be revived, when the time is right. The image is of *a hidden dragon* (symbolizing dynamic drive or latent ability) being held in, restrained or kept down. Yet someone would like a venture to take off or expand almost immediately! Thus at times, one could feel low in energy, discouraged, or very frustrated. Nevertheless, these reactions cannot be allowed to affect confidence in real abilities. It is as if a subtle ambiguous influence bars the way to progress, but this is happening for a reason. For current difficulties are part of a vitally important process, whereby energies are being transmuted and transformed in the psyche. Both inner blockages and creative ideas are being uncovered. (Meanwhile, preparatory work for future success can be done by supporting those in authority.)

Maintain strength of will and purpose, allowing a process to unfold at its own rate. Great harm could be done if a vigorous drive is allowed to burst forth, before the correct opening appears – the most suitable conditions emerge – or attainment is possible. A postponement or curtailment and much patience are necessary. It will be possible to proceed or make excellent progress in a public sphere, later. Any temptation to push on regardless\*, has to be avoided at all costs, as one would not be in control. A subtle undermining influence has still to be revealed and mastered. Therefore, a **supportive role** would be more fruitful for now.

(Links to: No. 44 - **Temptation**.\*) Tarot Links: **Magician Reversed**, Ace Wands Reversed



**SECOND LINE:** *A dragon comes out into the open, but needs to consult the Wise Elder or leader for advice. [Dynamic energy emerges.]*

The above image applies to a second stage, when those concerned need to *test* their abilities, in regard to gaining a more powerful influence in their community. Creative forces are now emerging or being revived. Blockages can be dealt with, or further backing will be found. It is time to seek out the best outlets for a chosen career, a vocation, a business project, etc. This can involve gaining approval, testing theories, or organizing pilot schemes and trial-runs. For energies need to be set in motion in order to gain increased public recognition. (If the Bottom or Third Lines were also received, this will have to be done part-time, or alongside another main avenue of support.) More experience, finance, specific knowledge, or patronage would need to be gained before total commitment or an ultimate form of success is possible. Meanwhile avoid cliques, or focussing upon only one area, method or type of person, as this could invite failure. A basic plan has to be much broader in scope!

It is essential to rely upon those who could give encouragement and assistance. This may incorporate community work, inspiration from a group, or further instruction and advice from a wise elder or a teacher. This also needs to include interaction with various types of people, as a keynote for this line is Unity in Diversity – despite differences in approach. \* Therefore be receptive to similar methods, or open to those aiming for related goals. By remaining awake to **new opportunities** for the expression of talent and seeking positive outlets for greater efficiency, support can be gained and the harvest will come. Meanwhile, beware of superiority, aggressive attitudes, or overconfidence – at this stage. Complete recognition, or a peak of expansion, occurs when someone is finally at the stage represented by the Fifth Line which is mastery.

(Links to: No. 13 - **Fellowship**.\*)

Tarot Links: **Magician**, Ace of Wands



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**THIRD LINE:** *A dragon flies in the day, but is overwhelmed by cares at night. [Dynamic energy, but a major defect, during a transitional stage.]*

This metaphor depicts those who need to persevere in gaining more skills and knowledge in the pursuit of a career, an investment strategy, or an important project. Much progress has been made. Others flock around and seek one out. Close associates may give praise and recommend aiming for the top now, as they recognize the potential for leadership. But avoid ego-inflation, as this is still a time of *transition* that could last for quite a while. If total public support or complete success is sought now, secure development would be sabotaged – due to insufficient backing, finance, or qualifications. Further application or experience is necessary, before one would be fully accepted by all those who would govern the situation. Such work might have to be done at night, part-time, etc. Hence extra personal resources are vital. Just now, one may also have to deal with a marked defect\*, e.g. a risky relationship, faulty plan or unstable association. This may (or may not) be obvious, but it causes misgivings or anxiety when alone, or at night. (If it involves equipment or property, beware of major mechanical or structural faults, serious noise problems, crucial defects, etc.)

When there is a goal to *rise high* in life, a very strong foundation for lofty aims has to be created first. Hence beware of uncertain offers, tempting alliances, or too hasty plans. Integrity could be violated by becoming sidetracked along a dubious path. Tread carefully! Concentrate on correct personal conduct and a path of moderation. Traditional patterns of behaviour, suitable for a person in one's present position would be wise. Be content that creative expression is possible. A good influence can be spread via a series of safer *stepping-stones*. Ignore the advice of overly ambitious friends. Accept whatever short-term compromises are needed and seek more **information**, as faulty or defective procedures are now being used or considered.

(Links to: No. 10 - [Treading Carefully](#).)

Tarot Links: [7 Swords](#), Nine Swords



**FOURTH LINE:** *A dragon hovers [when deciding]. There is no blame in this. [Choice between life-paths – one high-powered, the other not.]*

The above metaphor portrays someone with ability or leadership potential who is at a crossroads. They will need to give careful thought to *any* important decision made soon. For it could have major consequences regarding a choice of life-paths. In general, one needs to allow events to unfold organically – despite a desire for immediate expansion or recognition. Someone may be held back from total success and needs to temper a vigorous drive and a powerful will, as there is more to do or to learn. Hyper-activity or over-exertion would prove to be useless, as a process cannot be hurried in this way. Feeling rebellious or depressed is inappropriate. Be confident that unique ideas or current work will eventually receive acceptance or appreciation. Meanwhile, new offers are received or a choice of paths will arise. (Or what is being considered now, could be handled better by making such a choice of life-paths. Hence deal with this main issue soon, rather than a side-issue.)

One path could involve serving society in a more public, prestigious way. The other may require a greater focus on personal development, with less community interaction – yet would be just as important. There is **no right or wrong choice**. Just be true to oneself and do what is known deep down to be fitting at this stage. Either course will call for self-discipline, responsibility and perseverance. Qualifications, resources or backing may need to be bolstered. Ongoing study, application or consolidation is crucial. Saving money and using restraint\* are also key factors. Thus avoid rushing any major decision, as there is more than one path or option.

(Links to: No. 9 - [Restraint](#).)

Tarot Link: [Queen of Cups](#)



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**FIFTH LINE:** *A dragon or Sage flies in the Heavens, becoming an example for others to admire and respect. The wise Elder can be consulted. [Outstanding talent, a leader, or public recognition.]*

The above metaphor represents a peak of expansion – a time of harvest – the completion of a noble task – or the recognition of great ability. It signifies a fifth stage when a powerful influence for good spreads in society. *(Especially if other moving lines were received, further work, training or knowledge could be involved. This may take a decade from start to finish.)* This line stands for a Wise Elder, the master of an art, the head of a community, or even the ruler of a nation, whose wisdom, talent, or awareness motivates and enlightens many people. It may be necessary to rely upon such a leader, or to consult one of their representatives. For pronounced leadership and creative potential can now be developed through deference to a wise leader, a Sage, or a set of inspired teachings. Yet humility and co-operation are still vital. *(A stronger support base is crucial if the Top Line is also moving, as someone is about to overreach and fall, despite a noble or powerful influence.)*

A splendid achievement will result in a legacy of greatness, to which many persons can contribute. Wealth of some kind\* (resources, knowledge, experience or ability) is made available for the benefit of society. Therefore encouragement can be received and given to others. Much dedication, consistency and generosity are required. For a leader of others has to remain principled, incorruptible and aware of the serious responsibilities entailed. There also needs to be a willingness to work for the welfare of all. A mutual attraction will take place, like a meeting of natural forces. Those of like-mind, aspiration and strength of character will be drawn together and can work for the common good – if power is not misdirected or energies overextended.

(Links to: No. 14 - [Wealth](#).\*)

Tarot Links: [Chariot](#), The World



**TOP LINE:** *An arrogant dragon flies too high and will have cause to repent. [A warning about being pushed, or overconfidently taking on too much.]*

This line refers to someone with marked creative ability, or the potential for strong leadership, who is determined to overextend (or encouraged by others of like mind to do so). There may be extravagance, wrong timing or aggressive tactics, as a drive for increased status, power and social influence is in control. Yet resources or ideas are meant to be utilized in a more moderate way. Otherwise, overexpanding could lead to isolation or a fall within a year (a process that may have begun already). How would everyone cope if badly affected by a cyclic downturn – an unexpected *drought* – or a decline in health or capital? The image is of an ambitious person *climbing to the top of a lofty tower or flying too high*, thinking that power, money or energy is unlimited. Yet this imbalance could swing over to an opposite extreme, suddenly!

This advice might be ridiculed, as the Top Line represents a state of inflation and a lack of grounding. (A temptation to overextend may have not yet occurred.) There is a choice. One needs to *come down to earth*, by reinstating a humble, grounded position in life. For instance, make capital-guaranteed investments, secure employment before making changes, or complete a project **stage-by-stage**. Being more modest about relationships, housing or business can be done, as compulsive behaviour is not in control right now.\* However, if one maintains a proud attitude that anything is possible, then a sharp turnaround or unexpected crash may follow. Avoid pride. Conserve energy and resources for one year, or organize a cautious middle path. If this is taken seriously, someone can avoid repercussions that could affect many other people. Power or influence needs to be used positively, but moderately.

(Links to: No. 43 - [Determination](#).\*) Tarot Links: [Tower Reversed](#), Ace Pentacles Reversed.

