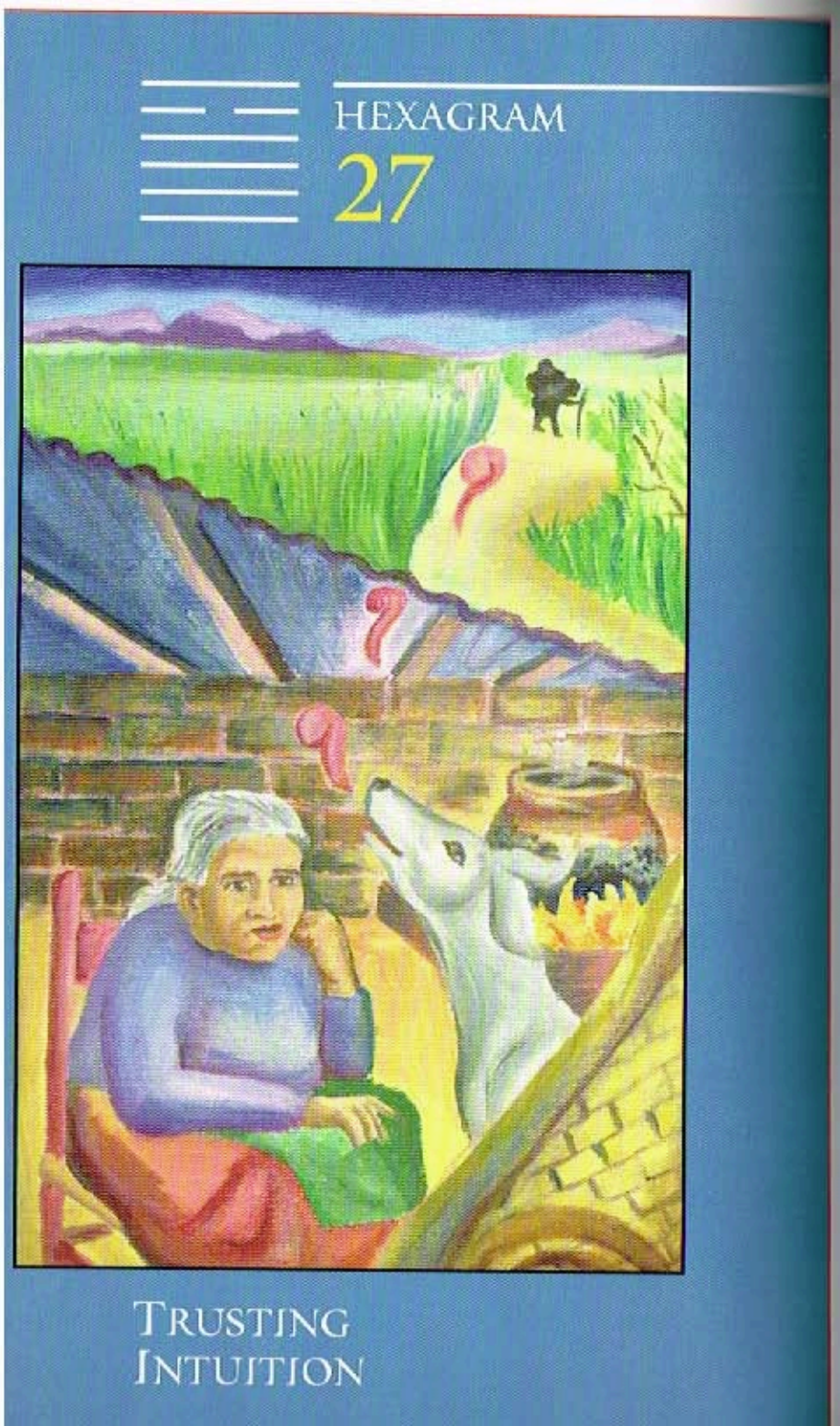

IMAGE | Within her home, a female warrior listens closely to her dog barking excitedly at an approaching figure. Approaching her house from the wilderness, the shadowy figure of a man walks with a cane, bent over from the weight of what he carries on his back.

INTERPRETATION | The female warrior symbolizes the feminine creative force, who nurtures and encourages human nature in order to increase its sensitivity and loving-kindness. That she is in her home means that you rely on your inner resources and not others' opinions when deciding how to respond to change. The dog symbolizes the loyalty of the spirit companion, who helps guide us through life by alerting us to approaching changes that are not yet perceptible to our senses. That she listens attentively to the dog's barking means that you trust the spirit companion to alert you to change and do not ignore its warnings. That the approaching figure is shadowy and indistinct means that you wait until the impending change comes closer before deciding whether it is strange or familiar, threatening or promising. That he walks with a cane means that change comes slowly and that you have ample time to prepare for its arrival. The wilderness symbolizes the unexplored, unknown, and undomesticated realm. That he carries many things back from the wilderness means that you are open to the limitless possibilities change can bring. Just as the dog can tell her that the man approaches but cannot tell her what he carries, these symbols mean that although you trust intuition to tell you when change comes near, you do not expect it to tell you what kind of change is coming nor how you should respond to it.

ACTION | The feminine half of the spirit warrior relies on the intuition for help navigating the road of opportunity. Because the world is a web of intersecting strategies, rational thought and past experience cannot always be relied on to anticipate what lies just around the next bend of the road. Because others' strategies are based on misleading and confusing your rational thought, it is necessary to develop the insight to grasp the actual direction and momentum of change in a direct and intuitive way. Because others' strategies are based on

taking advantage of the expectations you have derived from past experience, it is necessary to develop the insight to grasp the true potential of the future in a direct and intuitive way. Just as a ship creates a prow wake by pushing water ahead of itself, all strategies create prow wakes in the spirit realm. No matter how distant the strategy's origin or how much its effects may be attributed to random chance, its movement through the sea of spirit creates waves ahead of itself that the spirit companion senses and conveys as intuition. Listening closely to your spirit companion, you are able to avoid mistakes and seize opportunities, timing your decisions so that you neither move too soon nor too late.

NTENT | In training ourselves to trust the spirit companion, it is essential that we not mistake our own hopes and fears for genuine intuitions: The more we talk to ourselves, the more difficult it is for us to hear the spirit companion. Likewise, it is essential that we not be influenced by the hopes and fears of others: The more we listen to the insecurities of others, the more difficult it is for us to rely on our own inner sense of security. By constantly refining your relationship with the spirit companion, you become increasingly aware of the web of strategies making up the world. With the help of the spirit companion, you become attuned to the way in which spiritual intentions intersect one another, resulting in events that may be no further away from you than the lifespan of a mayfly or no nearer to you than the lifespan of a star. By reducing hopes and fears at this time, you find the whole world is your home and its changes are but the fields in which we sow and harvest.

SUMMARY | Your sensitivity is growing, take care what you believe. Calm the body's instinct for fearful watchfulness and hungry wakefulness. Calm the mind's habit of positive and negative imaginings. Calm the heart's reactions to the hopes and fears of others. Believe the song you still hear after all the static has been taken away. Seek a variety of opinions but act on your intuition.

THE LINE CHANGES

1ST Success comes very early to some, leading them to believe that they are somehow intrinsically superior to others. Such ingratitude and vanity are due to immaturity and cause long-term harm. Consider your legacy and the quality of the work you still wish to produce—keep learning.

2ND Some understand that success is beyond an individual's control, so they are humble and generous with their blessings. Donate your efforts to a worthwhile charity—or establish something reflecting your own values. Puncture the bubble around you and learn from those less fortunate than you.

3RD Some successful people do not believe they are bad judges of character, yet they listen only to self-serving flatterers while ignoring well-founded advice. Look for people you can learn from and do not trust those who gossip and slander. Do not cater to the superficial whims of the distracted.

4TH Some successful people hesitate to contradict the thinking of those above them—this is a lapse of ethics and causes long-term harm. Those above depend on you for solid information. Present what you know, its consequences, and viable responses in a way that challenges no one's authority.

5TH The window of opportunity opens—ultimate success depends on surrounding oneself with gifted people while adapting to circumstances without creating any resistance. Learn from all but depend on your intuition. You see the terrain ahead more clearly than those around you.

6TH Success comes late for some, leading them to believe they are less competitive and less materialistic than others—such ingratitude and vanity are due to envy and cause long-term harm. Every lifetime has its lessons to be learned. Your success and lessons are one and the same.