



## ***Mouse: Scrutiny***

Mouse says, "I will touch everything with my whiskers in order to know it". Paradoxically, this is both a great power and a great weakness. It is good medicine to see up close. It is good medicine to pay attention to detail, but it is bad medicine to chew every little thing to pieces.

Mouse has many predatory enemies, including birds, snakes, and cats. Since Mouse is food for many, it has a highly developed sense of danger at every turn. So-called civilization is a highly complex set of components which calls for more and more organizational skills and scrutiny to detail every year. Mouse is a powerful medicine to have in these modern times. Things that might appear insignificant to others take on enormous importance to Mouse.

Mouse people anger many other medicine types because they appear to be nit-pickers. Mouse people will spot the lint on your coat, even if it matches in colour. They will try to convince you that the simplest task is fraught with difficulty. They are fixated on methodology. They sort and categorize and file away for later use. They may seem like they are hoarding, but this is the farthest thing from Mouse's mind. They are merely putting everything in order so that they will be able to explore it more carefully at a later date.

The chiefs tell us that without Mouse there would be no systemization of knowledge. Mouse ended *Renaissance Man* and harkened the age of specialization. Mouse knew from the very beginning that "there is always more to learn". One can always delve deeper and deeper and deeper.

If your personal medicine is Mouse, you may be fearful of life but very well organized, with a compartment for everything. You should try to see a larger picture than the one staring you in the face. Develop largesse of spirit. Become aware of the Great Dance of Life. Realize that even though you may be sitting in Los Angeles, there is also a New York, a moon, Consciousness. Jump high, little friend. You will glimpse Sacred Mountain.

As Mouse has arrived for you today, its medicine is telling you to scrutinize. Look at yourself and others carefully. Maybe that big hunk of cheese is sitting on a trigger that will spring a deadly trap. Maybe the cat is in the pantry waiting for you. Maybe someone to whom you have delegated authority, such as a doctor, a lawyer, or even a plumber, is not doing the job faithfully. The message is to see what is right before your eyes and to take action accordingly.

When Mouse brings a warning it may be telling you that you are spending too much time with matters of great consequence when you should be paying a traffic ticket or cleaning up a mess. You may have let yourself become slovenly. You may have developed a disdain for authority and order. You may be procrastinating about something that needs immediate attention. Bring Mouse medicine to your life's chaos and you will soon have everything tidy and shipshape.

Another warning message of Mouse may be that you are "pipe dreaming" about your own importance in life. Are you wondering why you have not been nominated for the Academy Awards? You can't be recognized if you are not taking care of life's details and working in humility. Remember that all good things come to those willing to work toward wholeness. Little Mouse needs to see the big picture, but only assimilate the information the picture gives a little at a time. Expansiveness can be overwhelming if you forget to take it step by step. Confusion is a product of "too much, too soon". Little Mouse can conquer any task by using its scrutiny. Slow down and right the wrong as indicated by the warning. Stop chasing your tail or being confused by the maze and start observing the details of your present pathway.

*Adapted from: Jamie Sams and David Carson's book, Medicine Cards. (Santa Fe: Bear and Company, 1988).*