- The Tarot itself is symbolic; each card represents a different fate two different fates, actually, since the reading differs depending on whether you draw it upside-down or not. For example, the Lightning-Struck Tower (La Tour Abolie) card might mean disaster, "dissolution" or destruction if you draw it right-way up, or just upheaval and change if it's upside-down.
- The Countess' father was killed by a priest (a Catholic or an Orthodox priest, most likely) and so she places her faith in other superstitions or religions.
- Soldier starts to think about changing the Countess into "the lovely girl she is" and "cure her of these nightmares" he soon finds her dead. This is another reference to the irrevocable boundary between them she is a woman, "for whom all is as it has always been and will be" and her "cards always fall in the same pattern" whereas he thinks only of change and improvement, of fixing something that is permanently broken.

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