

# TAROT GUIDEBOOK

Based on the tarot interpretations  
of Arthur Edward Waite

*Modified, expanded, and edited  
by Philip Young, PhD*

# Introduction

Reading Tarot cards can reveal insights into your past, present, or future. The premise is simple: the Querent asks a question, and then the Reader draws the cards and interprets the results.

Tarot reading has been used for divination since the 1700s, and every Reader develops his or her own methods for interpreting the cards. There are some fundamentals, but Readers are encouraged to explore and develop their own unique approach.



# The Deck

The Tarot deck contains seventy-eight cards: twenty-two Major Arcana and fifty-six Minor Arcana.

The Major Arcana represent the journey through life, and the archetypal stages that everyone experiences. Everyone begins life as the Fool, and ends life as the Fool.

The Minor Arcana represents the actions, thoughts, feelings, and material struggles that we all encounter in our lives. The Querent seeks to learn from every experience.

The Minor Arcana are made up of four suits and fifty-six cards, like a traditional deck of playing cards. Face cards consist of Knave/Page, Knight, Queen, and King. Each suit

is associated with one of the elements. Clubs/Wands/Staves corresponds to Fire, Cups to Water, Coins/Pentacles/Disks to Earth, and Swords/Spears/Arrows to Air. The cards in each of the suits take on the symbolism and essence of the corresponding element: Fire/Action, Water/Emotions, Earth/Work, and Air/Thought.

# Spreading the Cards

A spread is a layout for the Tarot cards which provides a framework for the reading. Spreads often follow a predefined theme where the position of the cards is relevant to how they are interpreted.

There are numerous different types of spreads. Certain spreads tend to work well for different types of questions. This guide will provide a starter spread, but you can research and find many predefined spreads. As you become more experienced, consider developing your own unique spreads.

# Three-Card Spread

The past/present/future three-card spread is the best and most commonly used starting spread. This simple spread is ideal for novice Readers and simple questions. Cards are drawn and read in the following order: 1) Past, 2) Present, and 3) Future.



Past



Present



Future

1. **The Past:** This card symbolizes the Querent's past experiences, recent or distant, that pertain to the Querent's question.
2. **The Present:** This card represents the Querent's current situation.
3. **The Future:** This card indicates a possible future outcome for the Querent, or a goal the Querent should strive for regarding their question or issue. The Querent can have an impact on his or her future via their thoughts and actions.

# Tips

Become familiar with your deck. Buy a journal and take a page to write about each card, starting with the Fool, in the Major Arcana, and going through all seventy-eight cards, in sequence.

Look at the pictures and use the explanations in this booklet to connect each card with one of your life experiences. Since the cards are archetypal, you have experienced all seventy-eight at least once. Perhaps you've experienced certain cards repeatedly. Write your corresponding life experience with each card in your journal.

The explanations in this booklet refer to the card being “upright” or “reversed”. After shuffling, drawing, and turning over the cards, some may

be upright while others will be upside down (or reversed). Reversed cards turn the meaning “upside down.”

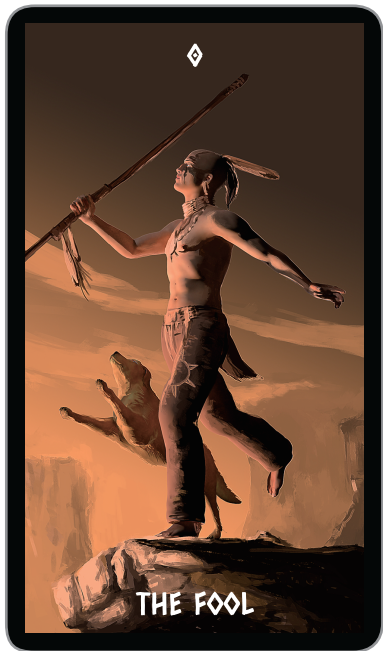
Pay attention to the symbolism in the artwork; the symbolism enhances, and provides nuance, to the meaning of the cards.

Tarot cards are not deterministic and life is not fated. The future is never set. The Querent can always alter his or her future by changing their course of action, changing their thoughts, or adjusting their feelings.

# The Major Arcana



# The Fool (0)



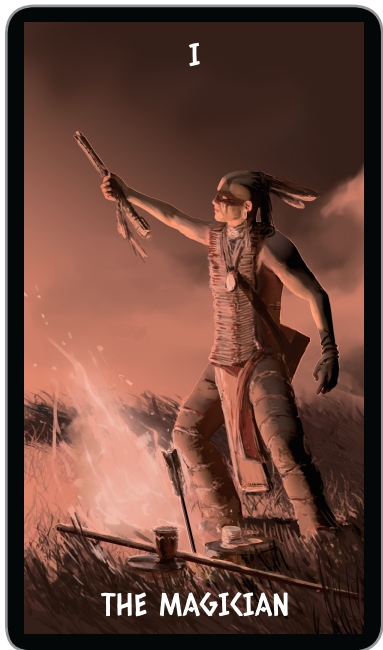
**Meaning:** The Fool represents a leap of faith, the beginning and ending of the Major Arcana journey we all take through life. We are the Fool; therefore, the Fool archetype is about curiosity and open-mindedness, going with the flow of life, and managing our way through the unknown.

**Symbolism:** A young warrior and his dog are wandering carelessly across the land, about to walk off the edge of a cliff because they are looking up instead where they are going.

**Upright:** optimism, a journey without a destination, a new beginning, curiosity, and potential

**Reversed:** foolishness, gullibility, and ignorance

# The Magician (I)



**Meaning:** The Magician represents choices and creative problem-solving, a connection between imagination and reality. The Magician archetype is the first encounter for the Fool, indicating that we all must make crucial decisions on our life journey.

**Symbolism:** A medicine man performs a ritual demonstrating his command of all four elements with examples of each item from the four suits.

**Upright:** choices, problem-solving, diverse knowledge, solutions, and cleverness

**Reversed:** deception, conning, mistakes, something broken beyond repair, and failure

# The High Priestess (II)



**Meaning:** The High Priestess represents the knowledge and enlightenment that we attain while overcoming difficulties. The High Priestess archetype is the second encounter for the Fool, indicating that we must learn about our intuition, how to trust it, and when to seek guidance from others.

**Symbolism:** A young medicine woman stands beneath the crescent moon between two pillars, which represent the gateway between life and death. She uses this bridge between the worlds to help those in need.

**Upright:** divination, wisdom from experience, insight, and counseling.

**Reversed:** gossip, bad advice, incomplete knowledge, and misrepresentation

# The Empress (III)



**Meaning:** The Empress represents the feminine divine, the essence of beauty, abundance, and nourishment. The Empress archetype is the third encounter for the Fool, teaching you about the natural world, how to care for the world, how to nurture yourself, and how to care for others.

**Symbolism:** A mature woman is the spirit of the land; the crown of stars marks her as the Queen of the queens, of the four suits. She is the protector and nurturer of the land.

**Upright:** nurturing, abundance, the feminine divine, and sovereignty over the natural order.

**Reversed:** Hardships, scarcity, bareness, and neediness.



# The Emperor (IV)



**Meaning:** The Emperor represents the masculine divine, the essence of command, order, and power. The Emperor archetype is the fourth encounter for the Fool, teaching us how to establish order from chaos, how to shape the natural world to our needs, and how to build civilization.

**Symbolism:** An elder man is the Chieftain (King) of the chieftains (kings), of the four suits. He is surrounded by the spirit energy of the buffalo, the great beast of the plains and most powerful animal in the land.

**Upright:** authority, the rule maker, order, stability, and sovereignty over society and civilization

**Reversed:** abuse of power, cruelty, dictatorship, and narcissism.

# The Hierophant (V)



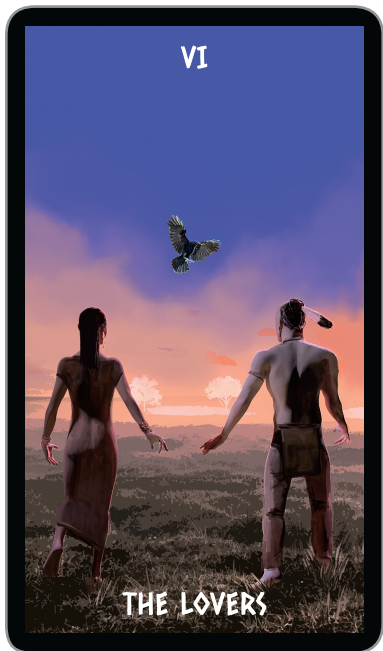
**Meaning:** The Hierophant represents wisdom attained through scholarship and exploring the world, the knowledge and potential wisdom we attain in our effort to make sense of life. The Hierophant archetype is the fifth encounter for the Fool, indicating that we need to go beyond intuition and emotion, and use intellect and experience to solve some problems. Or, we need to find someone with those qualities to help us.

**Symbolism:** An experienced warrior teaches young warriors his knowledge and skill so they will be able to protect and take care of the tribe.

**Upright:** wisdom, authority, knowledge, doctrine, and advice

**Reversed:** arrogance, elitism, hypocrisy, and charlatanism

# The Lovers (VI)



**Meaning:** The Lovers represents partnership, especially a profound connection with someone that is both intimate and romantic. The Lovers archetype is the sixth encounter for the Fool, indicating that we cannot fully experience life until we connect with someone intimately and deeply.

**Symbolism:** A young warrior and maiden come together; the hawk in the sky above them is a sign of a blessing for them from the Great Spirit.

**Upright:** commitment, status through union, connection, and soul mate

**Reversed:** jealousy, unfaithfulness, arguments, and separation or divorce

# The Chariot (VII)



**Meaning:** The Chariot represents willpower and drive; the intense focus we need to establish our identities and stand out in important and useful ways. The Chariot archetype is the seventh encounter for the Fool, teaching us how important it is to have conviction and intensity in our lives.

**Symbolism:** A skilled and fearless warrior rides atop two stallions, showing both his prowess and his courage. He is unstoppable.

**Upright:** victory, willpower, intensity, drive, and control

**Reversed:** anger, delay, indecision, and interference



# Strength (VIII)



**Meaning:** Strength represents our fortitude to live life, overcome struggles, and persevere; the journey through life will require strength to live fully and completely. Strength, as an archetype, is the eighth lesson for the Fool, showing us that life is a marathon and not a sprint. We must find the strength within that will help us survive and thrive in life.

**Symbolism:** A young maiden strokes the head of a wolf. They are symbols of civilization and instinct co-existing and supporting one another. The maiden greets the wolf with compassion; he will be her protector.

**Upright:** power, courage, compassion, and gentle strength

**Reversed:** weakness, anger, and abuse of power

# The Hermit (IX)



**Meaning:** The Hermit represents our individual pursuit for personal truth in a world of competing truths. The Hermit archetype is the ninth encounter for the Fool, teaching us that sometimes we must detach from the flow of life to discover ourselves, bringing what we learn in isolation back into the world of social connections.

**Symbolism:** A elderly man travels across a stark landscape with his torch lighting the way. He travels forward in search of truth. His staff is for his support on the long journey and defense against any threats.

**Upright:** introspection, discovery, wisdom, truth-seeking, and taking time away from society

**Reversed:** loneliness, escapism, depression, and being cast out

# Wheel of Fortune (X)



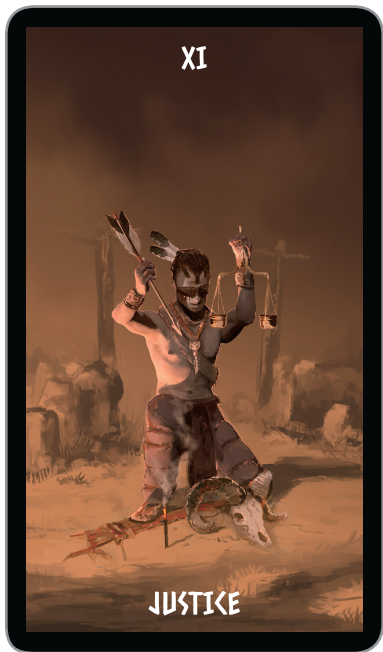
**Meaning:** The Wheel of Fortune represents experiences and circumstances outside our control. The Wheel of Fortune archetype is the tenth encounter for the Fool, indicating that we exist in a dance between Fate and Free Will. This card teaches the lessons of Fate, the external world, and how others with more power force us to react.

**Symbolism:** A medicine wheel floats in the sky, indicating the role of dreams and fate in the lives of the people. Spirit animals and gods occupy each corner of the card, reminding the native people that worldly and divine forces impact them.

**Upright:** what is inevitable, destiny, and the passage of time

**Reversed:** misfortune, powerlessness, and unpleasant circumstances

# Justice (XI)



**Meaning:** Justice represents detached decision-making, logic, and the power of knowledge outside emotions. Justice, as an archetype, is the eleventh teacher for the Fool, showing us the importance of objectivity and analysis for determining outcomes and making important decisions. Life can be fair if we act with integrity.

**Symbolism:** A young warrior is prepared to receive complaints and solve disputes. He holds a scale in one hand, representing fairness and logical analysis, which he will use to make his determinations. The arrow in the other hand symbolizes clarity, which he will use to give a final answer that will be accepted and honored.

**Upright:** detached decision-making, responsibility, consequences, cause and effect, and logic

**Reversed:** injustice, missing information, indecision, and bureaucracy



# The Hanged Man (XII)



**Meaning:** The Hanged Man represents knowing sacrifice, when we realize we must accept a short-term difficulty for a long-term gain. The Hanged Man archetype is the twelfth encounter for the Fool, showing us the importance of devotion, surrender, and sacrifice as ways forward that are just as powerful as the willfulness of the Chariot lesson.

**Symbolism:** A young man hangs upside down. He knows he must wait and learn by being patient, as well as by changing his perspective, which is what happens when you view the world from a reversed position. The light around his head symbolizes the insight and wisdom he gains from his changed viewpoint.

**Upright:** knowing sacrifice, change in perspective, and patience

**Reversed:** helplessness, impatience, confusion, and selfishness

# Death (XIII)



**Meaning:** Death represents endings in the cycle of life, and the power of regeneration. Death, as an archetype, is the thirteenth encounter for the Fool, reminding us that life is finite, which helps us appreciate how well or poorly we are doing in our pursuit of life experience and soul growth.

**Symbolism:** Death, disguised as a warrior, rides over the battlefield, which is strewn with the dead from two different cultures.

**Upright:** death/rebirth, transformation, inevitability, and cycles

**Reversed:** arrogance, depression, hopelessness, and severe grief

# Temperance (XIV)



**Meaning:** Temperance represents balance and equilibrium that has the chance to develop with greater and greater life experience. Temperance, as an archetype, is the fourteenth encounter for the Fool, indicating that we all need to step back, from time to time, and assess where we are so can determine if we are in or out of balance.

**Symbolism:** A young maiden pours water down from one cup into another. One foot is in the water and one on the land, indicating the connection between emotions/imagination/spirit and the physical/practical/limited world. The Sun rising in the background represents the ongoing cycle of renewal in life.

**Upright:** calm, health, well-being, balance, common ground, and harmonious action

**Reversed:** imbalance, disruption, anxiety, frustration, and pettiness

# The Devil (XV)

XV



THE DEVIL

**Meaning:** The Devil represents consequences we face as our choices become more and more significant the farther into life we travel. The Devil archetype is the fifteenth encounter for the Fool, teaching us that we are responsible for our lives and our choices. If we make selfish choices that harm others, we will not enjoy the outcomes.

**Symbolism:** A horned figure takes his prisoners, a young maiden and warrior, to be slaves or converted to another culture.

**Upright:** self-interest, temptation, consequences, and choice

**Reversed:** unwise choices, lust, wanton abandon, and manipulation



# The Tower (XVI)

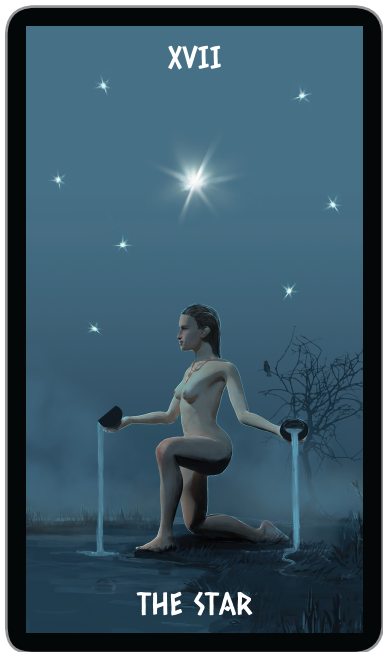


**Meaning:** The Tower represents sudden, unexpected change that takes something we have built over time and quickly forces us to start over or reset. The Tower, as an archetype, is the sixteenth encounter for the Fool, teaching the lesson that life is a construct and, at any time, it can be “blown up”, forcing us to make unexpected adjustments.

**Symbolism:** The tower of a fort is struck by lightning and human figures fall from it. Nothing, and no one, is secure from nature’s wrath, which is a greater force than civilization.

**Upright and Reversed:** unexpected change, sudden catastrophe, and shocks to the system

# The Star (XVII)



**Meaning:** The Star represents hope, and vision for the future. What do we see as our life's purpose, and how do we get to it? The Star, as an archetype, is the seventeenth encounter for the Fool, indicating that we all need hope and optimism about the future. We need to have dreams to enjoy this life.

**Symbolism:** A nude young woman pours water into a pool and onto the land while kneeling beneath a guiding star. The star is her hope; pouring water into the pool and onto the land shows the connection between the physical and spiritual worlds. Her nudity symbolizes innocence.

**Upright:** hope, inspiration, promise, purpose, and faith

**Reversed:** doubts, confusion, delusion, and despair

# The Moon (XVIII)



**Meaning:** The Moon represents the feelings we need to explore and express. The Moon, as an archetype, is the eighteenth encounter for the Fool; it illuminates our deepest feelings so we can understand the emotional framework that is reinforced, suppressed, and shaped by our family and closest relationships.

**Symbolism:** The face of the Great Spirit looks upon the land at night through the moon. The moon sits between two pillars, and a dog and a wolf look to their master. This position indicates the need to balance and navigate our emotions.

**Upright:** dreams, positive emotions, intuition, and soul purpose

**Reversed:** delusion, nightmares, negative emotions, and despair

# The Sun (XIX)



**Meaning:** The Sun represents revelation and “the light of truth”. The Sun, as an archetype, is the nineteenth teacher for the Fool, showing us the lesson of honest revelation and how we deal with clear truths in our lives. What do you learn when you see a situation or a person for what they really are?

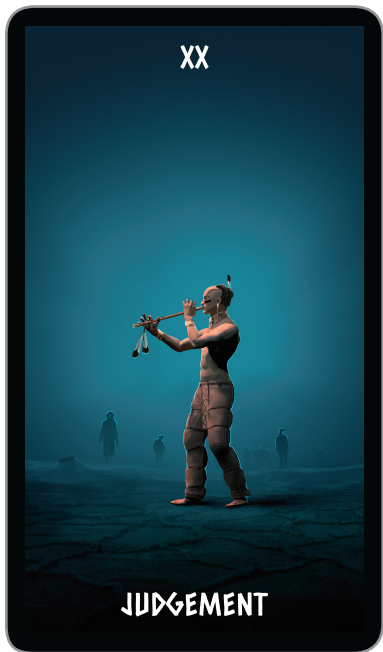
**Symbolism:** The Great Spirit inhabits the sun and looks down upon a boy riding a horse through a field of sunflowers; the boy represents the promise of a new generation.

**Upright:** revelation, greatness, vitality, and truth

**Reversed:** excessive pride, arrogance, blocked action, and lies



# Judgement (XX)



**Meaning:** Judgement represents significant and life-changing decisions, as well as the judgements from the world around us. Judgement, as an archetype, is the twentieth lesson for the Fool, teaching us the need to use all we have learned through encounters with others and the lessons we need to make the most important choices in life.

**Symbolism:** The Great Spirit, in the form of a young warrior, plays a flute to call the departed souls for judgement. They answer his call, as they must, and will be judged to determine if they are to be punished or rewarded.

**Upright:** deciding for others, being judged, consequences, and closure

**Reversed:** prejudging, stereotyping, lazy thinking, and abuse of power

# The World (XXI)



**Meaning:** The World represents the ending of a cycle to prepare for a new, repeating journey for the Fool (us). The World, as an archetype, is the twenty-first encounter for the Fool, showing us that life is constantly changing and we are meant to build upon our experiences. In this ending is another beginning.

**Symbolism:** A warrior performs a ritual dance as a rite of passage. When he steps from the ring, he will begin a new journey (as the Fool again).

**Upright:** fulfillment, completion, conclusion, the sum of your efforts, and success

**Reversed:** stagnation, failure, and final obstacle

# The Minor Arcana

# The Suit of Wands

The Suit of Wands is associated with the element of fire, representing passion, energy, willpower, and strength. The cards of this suit provide archetypes of human actions and reactions. The Fool takes his or her journey through this suit to make choices, seek adventure, and deal with challenges.

# Ace

**Meaning:** You need to be inspired or excited; something or someone needs your spark.

**Symbolism:** A spirit being holds a single staff in the clouds as a symbol of new energy for the land.

**Upright:** inspiration and spark

**Reversed:** lacking energy and hinderance



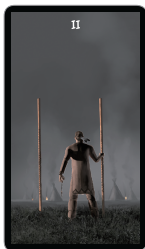
# Two

**Meaning:** You need to choose a direction and take steps to move forward.

**Symbolism:** A man watches over his village, prepared to defend his people if necessary.

**Upright:** determination and confidence

**Reversed:** fear and indecision



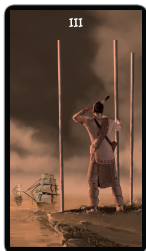
## Three

**Meaning:** The path is clear and you need to invest your time and energy to succeed.

**Symbolism:** A warrior holds one staff, while two staffs are beside him; he watches newcomers arrive to his land from the sea, bringing unavoidable change.

**Upright:** adventure, and optimism

**Reversed:** delays, and broken promises



## Four

**Meaning:** Gather friends and family around you and celebrate together.

**Symbolism:** Two figures dance just outside the four staffs to celebrate an important day or major accomplishment.

**Upright:** celebration and socializing

**Reversed:** unfinished work, and no time to celebrate





## Five

**Meaning:** Conflict and competition are necessary to keep moving forward.

**Symbolism:** A group of young warriors challenge one another, using competition and conflict as the way to determine their strength, and who should lead them.

**Upright:** conflict, or competition

**Reversed:** poor leadership, and trouble-making



## Six

**Meaning:** Victory and success are yours; be sure you act with dignity.

**Symbolism:** A successful leader returns from battle; his staff has a flag of victory, and his warriors walk behind him.

**Upright:** victory, and desires fulfilled

**Reversed:** public humiliation, and failure



## Seven

**Meaning:** You are right; hold your ground. Any lack of integrity will be your downfall.

**Symbolism:** A warrior defends the land, using courage to hold off those attacking him. He can succeed because he fights from the higher ground.

**Upright:** courage and valor

**Reversed:** treachery, and lack of conviction



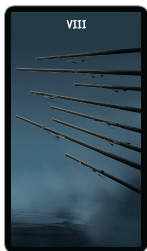
## Eight

**Meaning:** Be focused and intense; let nothing distract you from your goal.

**Symbolism:** Eight staffs point in the same direction, representing clarity of intent and the swiftness of action.

**Upright:** intensity, and drive

**Reversed:** frustration, and confusion



# Nine

**Meaning:** You have a duty to uphold; others look to you as a role model.

**Symbolism:** An injured warrior remains loyal and ready in the face of adversity, resolved to set an example for others.

**Upright:** loyalty, and discipline

**Reversed:** disloyalty, and stubbornness



# Ten

**Meaning:** It is time to say “no” and set limits; you do not have enough energy right now.

**Symbolism:** Ten wands weigh heavily on the figure carrying them, but the situation calls for persistence and sacrifice; the wands are a burden that must be carried.

**Upright:** obligations, and devotion

**Reversed:** exhaustion, and oppression



# Page

**Meaning:** You have a lot of excitement, but you need to find some focus.

**Symbolism:** A young warrior, full of energy, waits to be inspired and given direction. He holds his staff high in the air indicating his readiness to act.

**Upright:** enthusiasm, and creativity

**Reversed:** unpredictability, and foolishness



# Knight

**Meaning:** You need to go on an adventurous quest; get out of your routine and explore.

**Symbolism:** A warrior rides a stallion; he charges forth with his staff raised to attack his opponent.

**Upright:** driven, and passionate

**Reversed:** headstrong, and reckless



# Queen

**Meaning:** You need to show confidence; if not, fake it until you feel it!

**Symbolism:** A powerful woman displays her energy confidently awaiting supplicants for her favor. Her staff shows her power to judge and the black cat is a symbol of feminine wiles.

**Upright:** confident, and honorable

**Reversed:** insecure, and vindictive



# King

**Meaning:** Show others how it is done; you need to lead by doing.

**Symbolism:** A powerful man sits on a fallen log waiting for the right moment to act; he contemplates battle strategies. The lizard behind him represents passion, immortality, and the ability to withstand fire.

**Upright:** role model, and independence

**Reversed:** selfish, and impatient



# The Suit of Cups

The Suit of Cups is associated with the element of water, representing emotions, feelings, and relationships. This symbol indicates what is happening in the heart rather than the head.

# Ace

**Meaning:** Open your heart to a new relationship or reinvigorate an old one.

**Symbolism:** A divine hand holds a cup above the land; the water pouring out nourishes the land. A bird feather descends towards the cup, indicating a gift from heaven.

**Upright:** new love, and new emotional connection

**Reversed:** misplaced feelings towards someone, and emotional immaturity



# Two

**Meaning:** Enjoy a mutual attraction and shared positive feelings with someone.

**Symbolism:** Two lovers exchange cups and vows as the way to acknowledge their connection to each other.

**Upright:** attraction, and connection

**Reversed:** unrequited love, and rejection



## Three

**Meaning:** Gather your closest friends and celebrate something ... anything!

**Symbolism:** Three women dance in celebration, showing their appreciation for life.

**Upright:** celebration, and sharing

**Reversed:** overindulgence, and discord



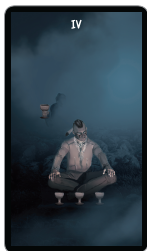
## Four

**Meaning:** Find some time to meditate, or at least rest; your emotions need soothing.

**Symbolism:** A warrior contemplates three cups in front of him while a mysterious figure prepares to deliver a new cup, and new emotional responsibility, he will have to address, but does not yet see, feel, or understand.

**Upright:** rest, and meditation

**Reversed:** boredom, and isolation





## Five

**Meaning:** You have a disappointment you must accept; hidden possibilities have not revealed themselves yet.

**Symbolism:** A man in mourning stares down at three spilled cups; behind him are two that are still upright that he is unaware of. He does not realize it yet, but all is not lost.

**Upright:** disappointment, and sadness from loss

**Reversed:** depression, and despair



## Six

**Meaning:** Reach out to someone you care about and share a memory or create a new one.

**Symbolism:** A young boy gives a cup to a young girl so they can feel the joy of sharing.

**Upright:** happy memories, and the positive legacy of childhood

**Reversed:** unhappy memories, and the negative legacy of childhood



## Seven

**Meaning:** You have an important decision and you need to know what motivates you to make the choice you want to make.

**Symbolism:** A warrior has many choices before him, so he needs to select the cup with the symbol of what he desires most.

**Upright:** choices, and motivations

**Reversed:** wishful thinking, and inaction



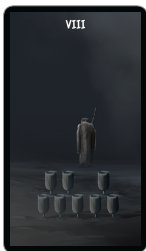
## Eight

**Meaning:** You must let go of something or someone that was once emotionally important to you, but no longer has any value.

**Symbolism:** A man walks away from eight cups, leaving behind unwanted and empty relationships that filled his life with joy a long time ago.

**Upright:** letting go, and moving on

**Reversed:** denial, and self-deception



# Nine

**Meaning:** Embrace and accept what truly makes you happy. Your fulfillment is most important right now.

**Symbolism:** An accomplished warrior sits satisfied in front of nine cups, which symbolize the fulfillment that comes with success in his role.

**Upright:** contentment, and self-satisfaction

**Reversed:** arrogance, and selfishness



# Ten

**Meaning:** Profound joy in relationship is what you need or need to appreciate (if you have it). Happiness with a partner is key.

**Symbolism:** A man and woman embrace while their children play under a rainbow; ten cups align along the rainbow; their life is full and joyous.

**Upright:** mature love, and blessed union

**Reversed:** disagreements, and unhappiness in relationship



# Page

**Meaning:** Emotions are strong but flowing wildly; they need a proper container.

**Symbolism:** A young warrior has a fish in his cup, which symbolizes imagination, and the need for him to understand and express his emotions.

**Upright:** imagination, and charisma

**Reversed:** emotionally stunted, and confused



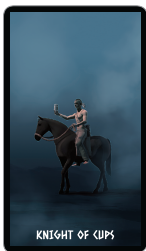
# Knight

**Meaning:** The warrior carries a cup with an important elixir or cure, to be delivered where it is needed, regardless of the challenges.

**Symbolism:** A warrior rides on a quest to find his passion and purpose.

**Upright:** romance, and seeking what you love

**Reversed:** possessive, and clingy



# Queen

**Meaning:** You need to act with conviction regarding a significant relationship.

**Symbolism:** A wise woman sits upon rocks by a river with a large chalice in her hand; she is relaxed, but focused, a symbol of emotional conviction.

**Upright:** nurturing, and emotionally supportive

**Reversed:** passive aggressive, and overly sensitive



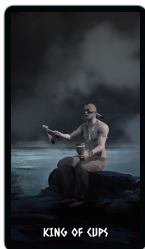
# King

**Meaning:** Accept and embrace your responsibility for the care of others as your way to be empowered and lead others.

**Symbolism:** A wise chieftain sits on a large stone by a river holding a cup and medicine rattle. He is a symbol of compassionate leadership.

**Upright:** influential, and responsible

**Reversed:** narcissistic, and cruel



# The Suit of Arrows

The Suit of Arrows is associated with the element of air, representing intellect, logic, thought, and decisions. Since this suit deals with the mind, many of the cards reflect the dangers of negative thinking and poor decision-making. When these cards appear in a reading, they often provide a warning for the Querent.

# Ace

**Meaning:** Time to decide; consider a new way of thinking; use logic regarding the situation or relationship.

**Symbolism:** A divine hand holds a single arrow upright in the sky, symbolizing the power of thought.

**Upright:** new thoughts, and logic

**Reversed:** ignorance, and misinformation



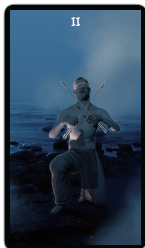
# Two

**Meaning:** Be at peace with your decisions; do not look back or revisit decisions that brought you to this point.

**Symbolism:** A shaman is holding two arrows, awaiting questions he will help decide, and conflicts he will help negotiate. The blindfold symbolizes his impartiality.

**Upright:** an important decision, and need for logical resolution.

**Reversed:** self-deception, and obstinance



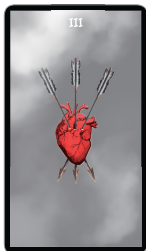
## Three

**Meaning:** You are getting mixed results and must find a way to face the frustration and sorrow of the situation or relationship.

**Symbolism:** Three arrows pierce a heart in a grey sky; the heart is whole, but filled with pain from each arrow that pierces it.

**Upright:** sorrow, and cognitive dissonance

**Reversed:** self-pity, and anxiety



## Four

**Meaning:** You need a mental break; you need to disengage to save your sanity.

**Symbolism:** A canoe has three arrows upright and one lying on the body of a dead warrior who gave his life protecting his tribe. He is finally at peace.

**Upright:** rest, and contemplation

**Reversed:** burnout, and stress





## Five

**Meaning:** There is a loss or defeat you must accept and work to overcome.

**Symbolism:** A warrior collects the arrows of the defeated after they have left the battlefield, vanquished, and heading for home.

**Upright:** defeat, and argument

**Reversed:** despair, and distrust



## Six

**Meaning:** You need to move from one “shore of thinking” to another; you are currently in-between and need to complete the journey.

**Symbolism:** A warrior takes a woman and her son to a new land; the six arrows represent the transition from an old way of thinking to a new one.

**Upright:** transition, and the old gives way to the new

**Reversed:** fear of the unknown, and forced change in thinking



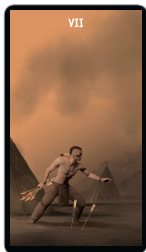
## Seven

**Meaning:** Time to take your ideas and thoughts elsewhere, and you may need to do so quietly and secretly.

**Symbolism:** A thief has five arrows and prepares to get the other two; he shows his prowess by stealing from the enemy undetected.

**Upright:** secrecy, and stealth

**Reversed:** theft, and deception



## Eight

**Meaning:** You must address negative thinking, anxiety, and self-denial or remain trapped in a mental downward spiral.

**Symbolism:** A woman is bound and blindfolded, surrounded by eight arrows, completely trapped.

**Upright:** trapped, and restricted

**Reversed:** victimhood, and hopelessness



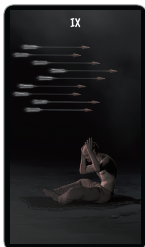
# Nine

**Meaning:** There is a fear you need to face; this card also warns you to protect yourself from the cruelty of others.

**Symbolism:** A medicine man wakes from a nightmare with nine arrows above him, indicating that he must take care of himself or suffer the fate of the Ten of Arrows.

**Upright:** warning, and foreboding

**Reversed:** torment, and cruelty



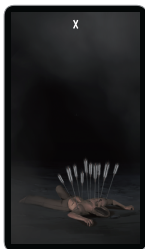
# Ten

**Meaning:** A warning card telling you that you need to accept that a situation or relationship is ruined and it is time to move on.

**Symbolism:** A warrior lies on the ground run through by ten arrows; his choices ruined him and brought his thinking to a dead end.

**Upright:** warning to change thinking, and “the writing is on the wall”

**Reversed:** ruin and destruction



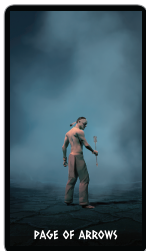
## Page

**Meaning:** Lots of ideas, but no focus. Great energy for generating new thoughts, but eventually choices must be made.

**Symbolism:** A young man wants to be a warrior, but he needs training and a purpose.

**Upright:** curious, and excited

**Reversed:** easily distracted, and unfocused



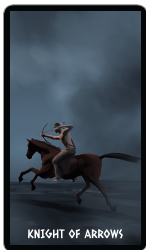
## Knight

**Meaning:** Use clear-headed and logical thinking to achieve your goals; be decisive.

**Symbolism:** A warrior rides his steed into battle with clear purpose.

**Upright:** clarity, and decisiveness

**Reversed:** brash decision-making, and fanaticism



# Queen

**Meaning:** The situation or relationship calls for detached and logical thinking; be strategic.

**Symbolism:** A regal woman sits on her throne, ready to answer questions and offer guidance with her wisdom and strategies for life.

**Upright:** strategic, and just

**Reversed:** cold hearted, and insensitive



# King

**Meaning:** You oversee the decision and do not need input from others; make your choice and inform everyone else once you have decided. You may be called to negotiate a dispute.

**Symbolism:** A young king makes important decisions, and the arrow he holds represents his clarity and decisiveness as a leader.

**Upright:** the final decision-maker, and judge

**Reversed:** intimidating, and argumentative



# The Suit of Coins

The Suit of Coins is associated with the element of earth, representing prosperity, health, security, and stability. Coins deal with tangible possessions. Money may be the first thing that comes to mind with this suit, but the cards refer to the material world more generally and what we need to take care of ourselves.

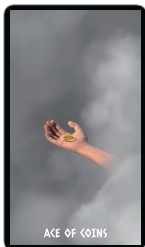
# Ace

**Meaning:** Now is the time to start something that will be real in the world.

**Symbolism:** A single coin is offered to humanity by a divine hand, representing the potential to shape and manifest outcomes in the material world.

**Upright:** investment, and getting started

**Reversed:** delay, and resistance to change



# Two

**Meaning:** Time to experiment and try different actions to get better results.

**Symbolism:** A warrior dances while holding two coins, representing the constant change needed to keep the material world alive and flowing.

**Upright:** adaptability, and activity

**Reversed:** interference, and stagnation



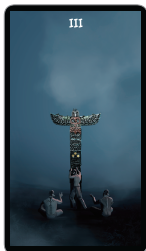
## Three

**Meaning:** Hard and consistent work is what is needed to succeed and push forward.

**Symbolism:** Two village elders approach a craftsman to enlist his services, knowing he has the skills to build the totem they want.

**Upright:** creativity, and teamwork

**Reversed:** missing skill, and incompetence



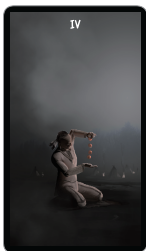
## Four

**Meaning:** Be careful with your resources; it is a good time to save and be conservative with finances.

**Symbolism:** A warrior counts his coins, making sure he knows how much he has earned.

**Upright:** conservation, and cautiousness

**Reversed:** miserliness, and hoarding





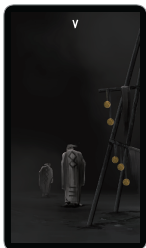
## Five

**Meaning:** Be prepared to face material difficulty; you may need to ask for help or borrow money to get through a difficult time.

**Symbolism:** A man and a woman seek shelter with a tribe, but are turned away; they must persevere to the next opportunity.

**Upright:** debt, and illness

**Reversed:** loss of resources, and persistent health problems



## Six

**Meaning:** Share your wealth and success; be grateful for what you have achieved.

**Symbolism:** The seated warriors gather to hear the story of success from the standing warrior.

**Upright:** shared wealth, and a valued role in community

**Reversed:** greed, and stinginess



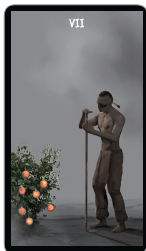
## Seven

**Meaning:** Time to consider how you will invest your success; put resources back into what you have that is successful, or start a new venture.

**Symbolism:** A young warrior guards a fruit bush with seven ripe oranges (coins), symbolizing abundance; his tribe is successful.

**Upright:** long-term planning, and dedicated persistence

**Reversed:** lack of vision, and wastefulness



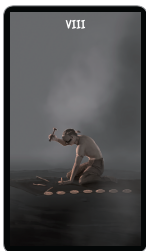
## Eight

**Meaning:** Use your skill and experience to improve your financial status and improve your security.

**Symbolism:** An artisan perfects his craft making new coins of the finest design.

**Upright:** craftsmanship, and expertise

**Reversed:** deception regarding skill, and laziness



# Nine

**Meaning:** Focus on your purpose and use it to attain the wealth you desire; be your best to earn the most.

**Symbolism:** A maiden goes to collect the coins (fruits) of her labor; the effort she has put in yielded fantastic results.

**Upright:** financial independence, and empowerment

**Reversed:** egotism, and pride

# Ten

**Meaning:** Embrace or seek the fulfillment that comes with a partnership that will help you both attain a great and safe life.

**Symbolism:** A warrior and maiden commit to one another, each brings equal value to the relationship, which will double their wealth once they are together.

**Upright:** long-term gains, and inheritance

**Reversed:** missed opportunities, and burdensome obligations



# Page

**Meaning:** Experiment; try not to get lost in starting, but not finishing anything.

**Symbolism:** An able-bodied young man holds a coin in front of him, contemplating where he will seek his fortune and find his direction in life.

**Upright:** apprenticeship, and practice

**Reversed:** lack of ability, and lack of ambition



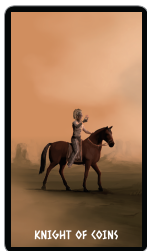
# Knight

**Meaning:** Time to take decisive action that leads to concrete results; find the solution and act on it.

**Symbolism:** A warrior travels to deliver the coin he has, which is a symbol of commerce between two tribes and among people.

**Upright:** goal-driven, and reliable

**Reversed:** stubborn, and misdirected



# Queen

**Meaning:** Get your life in order; review your finances and make sure all important legal documents are in place. Assess your material life and fix anything that needs attention.

**Symbolism:** A matron of the tribe holds a coin in her hand, representing the wealth she can share with a worthy supplicant. The rabbit beside her is a symbol of fertility and abundance.

**Upright:** stability, and necessity

**Reversed:** instability, and desires leading to debt

# King

**Meaning:** Use your wealth, status, and influence wisely; others look to you for leadership.

**Symbolism:** An accomplished elder warrior has attained enough wealth that others come to him to borrow money and receive guidance to succeed in their earthly affairs.

**Upright:** power, and prosperity

**Reversed:** corruption, and excess



