

## **Tarot Interpretation:**

I prefer Tarot as a divining tool because it reveals your wants and illuminates your dreams, hopes and desires; most of all Tarot will show you what really is and can be, with a very objective opinion.

Tarot will tell it like it is without any sugarcoating or remorse, so if something you want is not right for you it may be harsh to have the tarot tell you what's really up. With that being said, it's important to know the real truth. The Tarot will also tell you what direction an outcome is headed towards, and most likely will be; it will give you advice regarding the future based on other factors in your life.

Confusion arises when one card can have different meanings based on the card alone; the best way to work through this is to ask the separate questions clearly. Another way is to look at the other cards in the reading, and decipher through the bigger picture.

Reading the tarot is classic sequential art in its finest form. It's like the way people who did not know how to read would recognise the story in stained glass windows of the medieval church through symbolism, or even the way a comic book can be read in any language by just looking at the panels.

Doing your own tarot is a good way to answer questions to something that may be confusing or unclear. However, even though I know how to read the tarot, I also have my own advisors and consultants who see things objectively and can spell it out for me.

Often I will read my own tarot and come to a conclusion on something important to me, (like moving, career decisions, love life) and then I will call my consultant for objective advice to see if it matches, or if they have a better or more clear idea of what to do.

### **THE CARDS**

The Major Arcana represents strong power and people.

The Minor Arcana represents elements, people, actions, and situations in the tarot reader's life.

Elements combined with suits and what they symbolise:

Pentacles = Earth element, stability, physicality, life, magic, prosperity, money

Swords = Air element, intellect, communication, law, logic, heartlessness, war

Cups = Water element, emotion, the chalice or vessel, art, abundance

Wands = Fire element, Inspiration, spiritual energy, sex, fertility, nature, warmth

Kings = Air element Queens = Water element Knights = Fire element Pages = Earth element

### **THE MAJOR ARCANA**

The Fool: Number 0 by being nothing he is everything. He symbolises life and the tentative grasp we have on it. He walks on the edge of a cliff and can fall into the unknown. He relies on his instincts.

Reversed: This symbolises someone out of touch with himself or herself, they act crazy and make fear based decisions. It is time to reassess.

**The Magician:** He symbolises masculine magic and creative power. There are two opposite but complementary sides to magic, light and dark, male and female, introspective and outgoing, etc. He is the male version of the High Priestess. Though all human beings have both gender qualities, so he does not always apply just to men. The magician represents the power to manifest magic in your life. He signifies success and accomplishment of goals, a man of dynamic personality with the will to succeed.

Reversed: All these qualities are misused, misguided, or used for evil.

**The High Priestess:** She represents an introspective time and wisdom in womanhood. Mysterious and intuitive, she reigns over the subconscious and dreamscapes. She will show you this side of yourself. She helps to accomplish inner peace. She keeps to herself, and senses things that cannot be consciously understood.

Reversed: The High Priestess becomes outgoing, she begins to interact with other people and has a desire to not be alone.

**The Empress:** Signifying the other Female Archetype, the Empress is sensual, passionate, and simultaneously a lover and mother. She gives all of herself in both ways. She represents pleasure, sex life, and joy, though this can lead to overly indulging herself. Though she can also show motherly care for another.

Reversed: She repels passion, thinking a thought through rather than going on emotion to understand and work through a conflict.

**The Emperor:** He is all about control, going by the rules, and following a structured guideline. Though this can help in organising something, especially business, it can also lead to repression. He is usually a father or husband executing control over the person in question.

Reversed: The good side is the Emperor has a heart, but he can become out of control because he is not well versed in compassion. He symbolises the laws of the Universe and the laws of man. If you are the type that can't stand laws, perhaps revising your philosophy and aligning yourself with the law of the universe is in order.

**The Hierophant:** He symbolises what is the cultural norm and what is expected in society. He represents conventional marriage, and other formal institutions. Whether this meaning is just for show and on the surface, or it has real meaning depends on how the other cards influence the Hierophant. Is this a marriage just for money or to please the parents, or a business set up just to make money? Or is there true meaning behind this union?

Reversed: When reversed, the hierophant becomes unorthodox and punk rock, however make sure there is a real reason to rebel, or else being a nonconformist with no real good cause will land you in trouble.

**The Lovers:** It symbolises union through heart, mind, and lovemaking. The two people are naked, bearing all truth, fault, and past, opening themselves to knowing each other fully and to being vulnerable; the only path to true love. The strength of two joined as one as a partnership, this card shows a long lasting mature, relationship. For a single person it shows this union is coming. It can also signify aid

from someone who loves you.

Reversed: It can suggest someone who is not ready for a real relationship, immaturity, and problems in your love life.

**The Chariot:** A masculine willpower, the driver of the Chariot is victorious and confident. This person will win through determination. It is best to remember willpower alone and will not win every situation, to keep the chariot in check with the ability to negotiate.

Reversed: The two beasts at the front of the chariot can be contradictory in nature and through conflict, tear the willpower in two. It also shows to take a new approach, one that has no controlling elements.

**Strength:** Have the strength to look within yourself and come to terms with what you see. Strength is inner strength, confidence and faith, being open to nonresistance rather than domination. You must self-love and learn to tame the lion of anger, passion, and desire with gentleness; letting these emotions be released rather than repressing them. But in a way that is transformed through love into positive feelings rather than letting the strong emotions consume the lady with negativity. She shows no fear in feeling.

Reversed: Negativity and weakness take over, strong emotions are overwhelming, giving up.

**The Hermit:** The Wise one, he secludes himself from the world and all its earthly problems to search for his soul. He finds solutions to things alone and in a mature way. He is also a teacher, and is a mentor to others.

Reversed: The isolation can be crushing. This card can also mean co-dependence and the fear of being alone, also a refusal to grow up, or it can mean it is not the time to withdraw from others.

**Wheel Of Fortune:** Transformation in life takes place as the wheel spins; this is the card of fate or karma. Through actions and circumstances beyond your control, life will change all around you. Seek the other cards to signify whether the change is for the good or for the bad.

Reversed: The person in question is opposed to change.

**Justice:** Examining and weighing all possibilities. Looking at your own actions, and how they have affected the outcome and actions of others. The scales are balancing past and future. The sword represents an analytical mind based on honesty and rationality.

Reversed: Injustice, self-blame, and unfairness.

**The Hanged Man:** The roots of the tree of life reach into the underworld and branches stretch to heaven. The hanged man is in between subconscious magic and high spiritual awareness, from past to future. The hanged man is free from fear and what normal life dictates because he is attached to life. He is an independent, self-reliant person who runs on the barometers of his own value. He smiles through adversity.

Reversed: The hangman dances like he is happy but inside is really worried about what other people think of him. He needs to learn to be more independent.

**Death:** Old things, relationships, and ways die and fall away. If we are resistant to change this can be shattering, but if we embrace change, this experience can be liberating. The reader needs to give up old patterns and take on a new way of life and philosophy. Growing pains and change can be painful, but life without change will stagnate.

Reversed: To cling on to old ways that will no longer serve you, to see the process of change as difficult and hard.

**Temperance:** A rebirth and renaissance that comes after death. To mix the alchemy of all aspects of life and be able to allow them to flow easily and openly from one aspect to another: tasks, luxury, affection, sensuality, tolerance, courage, perceptiveness, and action may all be merged. Temperance also shows to keep your life in check, don't

indulge in too many chemical substances, be moderate, don't go to extremes, but find pleasure in the real and simple things in life.

Reversed: Reassess and calm down, you may be taking things to excesses and have to reel in your behaviour.

**The Devil:** Lovers in reverse, (The Devil is 15,  $1+5=6$  The Lovers) this couple is bound by the opposite of love, such as control and jealousy. Co-dependence and repression bind these two together. However, this seemingly powerful bond is only an illusion, because the chains around their neck are large enough for the couple to lift and free themselves. They have given up part of their humanity to become passive, unquestioning devils under the control of a false demonic power.

Reversed: The person wishes to escape from the grasp of the devil and has now begun the struggle to free themselves from the chains. This process may bring up adverse emotions that have lain dormant, such as fear and anger.

**The Tower:** Remember, the same word in Japanese for crisis is opportunity. This is the philosophy that will get you through the crisis in which the tower brings. It is an apocalyptic card. Life has totally changed, in what can seem like a violent and destructive manner. The bolt of lightning blows up the stone tower in which the residents found security. In another way, this security can be seen as a prison that is now free from all preconceptions and comfort that the tower levels everything flat making space for new growth.

Reversed: The reader will find that going with the flow rather than fighting the repercussions of the tower is the best way to deal, trying to influence the crisis or contain it will only drag it out longer.

**The Star:** As the tower symbolises the apocalypse, the Star represents the peace and utopia that are revealed after the crisis. She kneels confident and open in her nakedness and beauty. She is

at ease. At the same time she is in touch with her emotions while also being grounded (the meanings behind the water and earth seen in the card). Behind her activeness there is serenity. Her confidence lets her pour out all of her feelings and energy without the limits of self-control, and this carries her through all circumstances. This is

often the card representing a female musician, dancer, or other kind of artistic performer.

Reversed: The Star is subject to depression, she closes herself off and does not take advantage of all of her possibilities.

**The Moon:** The moon represents the primal side of humanity. It is the land of the subconscious, dreams and fantasy. It can also represent movies, and computer images seen glowing in the dark in a dreamlike way. To accept our deepest fears and anxiety, the strange side of our psychic vision, is the best way to harness the temporal power of the moon. Dada art and surrealism is born from this.

Reversed: The disturbing unsettling powers have taken over the reader, and they must come to terms with this or be overwhelmed.

**The Sun:** Simple pleasures and joy like a youthful baby riding a pony in the sun, this is an optimistic card showing excitement and fresh opportunities. All complexities, doubts, fears vanish under the light of the direct sun. The only negative aspect to this card is perhaps; way of life becomes too simplistic.

Reversed: The sun is still a happy card, but some introspection and complexity make it not so giddy.

**Judgment:** A new life emerges after all the challenges have been won; only after the hard work of coming to terms with oneself is done, travelling through darkness to get to the light. Judgment is similar to the Death card; it is your own day of reckoning. It can symbolise a catalyst for internal change or a milestone in the life of the reader, like the resurgence of souls rising from the grave. The reader is called upon to take on new possibilities of life.

Reversed: The reader fights against changes, hiding in the false comfort of the old ways, but this kind of procrastination will lead them no where.

**The World:** The blending of all the cards from the Major Arcana. The whole picture allows us a world of opportunities and freedom. The World is a hermaphrodite, blending both the male and female aspects dancing like only the fool does out of the Major Arcana. She carries a magic wand, which is double-sided, symbolising the unity of the two

sexes, a whole being. The world is the end where the fool is the beginning. The fool is innocence; the world has transformed this through all the major Arcana into ultimate wisdom, dancing through life's pain. All obstacles overcome, success is denoted.

Reversed: World can also indicate a time when you are close to reaching completion but for whatever reason, you lose focus and slack off right at the end.

## **THE MINOR ARCANA WANDS**

**King of Wands:** Kings are the suit at their strongest, so the King means someone with a lot of strength. The King of wands has achieved something in his life and has a strong self-image and worth. Because he has these qualities he can dominate others with his willpower. Sometime this can go too far into arrogance. He is a responsible King, and is often a fire sign. He is a loving husband and family man, and successful in his career. But at the same time his fiery nature makes him impatient, he still wants adventure, and wishes sometimes that he could leave all of his responsibilities to someone else and continue to seek adventure.

Reverse: Adversity wears down his ego. He ends up having more compassion towards those weaker than himself, but retains his power.

**Queen of Wands:** The Queen is an optimistic, passionate woman who loves sex and is in touch with the magic power this brings, she is a witch with a black cat familiar. Because she is aligned with the law of the universe she lives in abundance knowing that life will provide for her, she her fair and forthright approach make her lovable, unlike the king she doesn't need to dominate others, and wins the game of life with her whole hearted approach.

Reversed: If she can not resolve problems she can turn bitter and nasty, she can be a dangerous enemy due to her intellect. Life to her is joy and she has a hard time coping with sorrow gracefully.

**Knight of Wands:** The less established and younger knight has to have the freedom to move and travel to seek adventure. A journey is indicated through this suit. His over confidence may not always be the best plan of action, and his impetuous plans will flounder if they are not well laid.

Reversed: He takes action before thinking and ends up delayed and confused.

**Page of Wands:** Pages are even younger than knights and can symbolise children or a child like quality. They have less action and power than knights and represent the beginning of a new love, project, or stage. This card indicates a final decision, and also a faithful lover.

Reversed: can depict a person who is immature with a self-image problem. It could be someone who is mean-spirited and aggressive, or someone who is helpless and always a victim.

**10 of Wands:** He walks weighed down by the duties of life. What once started as a happy love life, or an exciting project, has now become a burden. Freedom has been lost. The reader has taken on all the responsibilities themselves.

Reversed: The burden becomes so heavy the reader has no other course of action but to throw them away. It can mean rejecting responsibility but also a mature solution of asking someone for help to share that burden.

**9 of Wands:** A stubborn strong man defends himself and confronts difficulties with aggression. He doesn't know when to give up, and this defensive attitude may be his only course of action.

Reversed: His attitude may fail him, or he may take a less aggressive approach.

**8 of Wands:** Things are in the process of reaching a conclusion. There is a definite end in sight; whatever the wands are flying toward in the reading will be the answer. A journey's end is indicated, or if flying toward a card indicating relationship it can mean "the arrows of love." True aim and specific actions are indicated.

Reversed: Confusion and unclear results. For lovers it means jealousy.

**7 of Wands:** Battle can be exciting, as long as one is the winner. Assurance and fortitude of the 7 of wands is resilient and wins over all obstacles. Compromise, solutions, and failure are not in his vocabulary. Fight until victory is his motto.

Reverse: He must face his difficulties and fears, he may grow tired of fighting, and the other cards in the reading tell him how to stop the fight.

**6 of Wands:** This hero believes in his own success so strongly it will bring about his triumph. He wears a laurel wreath and another hangs on his wand, friends and allies walk with him. He is a picture of pure optimism, confidence, and popularity.

Reversed: All these qualities are reversed, pessimism, failure, and defeatism will be his fate. The moral is to fake it till you make it. How much you believe in yourself will be the outcome.

**5 of Wands:** This is a sham fight; the boys are enjoying the work and competition it takes to achieve the goal, to engage in the battle of problem solving with enthusiastic energy, perhaps after a stint of lethargy. In love these fake conflicts can become wearying.

Reversed: The battle becomes unfair, sometimes this indicates pettiness or gossipy situations in the workplace.

**4 of Wands:** Liberty, life, and joy are seen in this card; families and relationships thrive in a beautiful home life. Everyone is basking in the happiness of being alive. All conflicts, suffering and quarrels are over. Peace and harmony reigns. Problems are all left behind the walls of the past.

Reversed: This is still a positive card, but some confusion makes it harder to leave the problems behind.

**3 of Wands:** He calmly stays behind and watches as his ships of ideas and dreams sail onward into success. He can get the benefits and rewards of his actions and accomplishments without risking his security, and can stay on shore. This card also indicates peacefully coming to terms with memories.

Reversed: Memories haunt him; projects are started in a way that doesn't work. On a more positive note, because the observer of the ships is depicted as being solitary, his isolation may soon be over and he may receive help from others.

**2 of Wands:** He's bored of being a big fish in a small pond. He has the world in his hand only to find out it's a small world. His achievements have isolated him from connecting with other people. But he was the one who cut himself off with his irritation at his loss of freedom.

Reversed: Adventure has outshined security.

**Ace of Wands:** Aces symbolise purity, and the concentrated energy behind the quality of that suit. I see them as a tool like the way a hammer or a key is a tool. Once the tool is used it will unlock or encapsulate the ultimate essence behind the meaning of your reading. The ace of wands therefore stands for the ultimate in creativity, in all the definitions of the word, potency, life, sex, and adventure; a focused destination. It is the kindling to start a fire, but this energy does not last for long and should be taken advantage of when it appears.

Reversed: This fire is burning out, creativity is fractured, or someone is trying to use sexual energy as a tool for manipulation.

## CUPS

**King of Cups:** Very much like a Gemini Man. A creative king, he is more the art director rather than the artist, and though there is power in this, it can also be frustrating for him. He seems tranquil, chivalrous, and philanthropic, but his emotions run in a complex labyrinth, his intellect is imaginative, and if the reader does work in the arts The King Of Cups is a sign of success.

Reversed: He is surly, and will use his creativity for ill will and backstabbing reasons. He can be self serving and immoral, and his approach to art may be childish and selfish.

**Queen of Cups:** One of the most powerful creative forces in the Minor Arcana cards, her strong will enables her talent to be focused like a laser beam. Motivation and inspiration are drawn from nature, earth, and the heavens, and all the beings around her. Like the Star, The Queen is firmly planted on land, which is her grounding force, and her link to the real world and people. However, her dress flows into the water, signifying that her actions are based in dreams, emotions, and love.

Reversed: She can be dangerous, because she still has the creativity and willpower but she is not acting out of love. Her ambitions will alienate her from others and she will lose touch with the real world and people.

**Knight of Cups:** He moves slowly on a plodding horse, he is lost in a daydream and feels no pressure from the outside world, he is not goal oriented in his career or in relationships. He is conflicted though, because as a knight, he is supposed to be a man of action, so sometimes, his lethargy makes him too uncomfortable for him to take care of responsibilities or become sexually aroused.

Reversed: He is forced into action, some one may make him commit, this may make him passive aggressive, sulky, and malicious. He likes to do things on his own terms and in his own time.

**Page of Cups:** He is introspective but to the point of being self obsessed. He has intuition and is a psychic but has not honed his abilities. On the positive side, it denotes a calm moment, objectively looking at life, and not letting anything faze him, leaving the problem solving to another later time.

Reversed: He becomes impulsive and thoughtless, he feels panic, what he sees and feels make him emotional but he doesn't know how to deal.

**10 of Cups:** Though life has moments of suffering, this happy family has each other for support and comfort. They can see the glittering rainbow overhead after the thunder and lightning have gone. The children are oblivious but still revel in their security. This is an indication of a safe childhood.

Reversed: Domestic troubles, mistrust, and a bad childhood.

**9 of Cups:** From Supper clubs to sex, drugs, and rock n' roll; all kinds of good times without responsibility or attachments. If the reader is just letting off steam this card denotes pleasure, but it's also one of irresponsibility and self-serving decadence. In small doses and



responsibility no harm is done.

Reversed: A true meaning of life is sought.

**8 of Cups :** This card is exclamatory of the concept of “moving on,” the man seen is relinquishing old habits, places or a way of life to go on to something else. Because the cups stand and have not been tipped over, this signifies that there has been no real misfortune. The moon being in an eclipse shows that this person needs to withdraw and be introspective and alone. If the Hermit also appears in the reading, this is confirmation of the introspective properties in this reading.

Reversed: This tells the reader to tolerate the current life condition, it can also mean that the reader is trapped and can't leave.

**7 of Cups:** Original inspiration is driving the & of Cups, but the reader is indecisive, the visions revealed in the cups are those of fame, fortune, and romance. Some of the visions are more frightening, like the snake. Everything is merely an intangible dream.

Reversed: Activity and motion take the place of daydreaming, the reader has to live in and choose their reality, to choose and take action, will make it come alive.

**6 of Cups:** Security is being handed to the reader and in a childlike way they can simply accept it without having to take responsibility for anything. The good side: it is a card of nurturing and childhood memories, the downside is that this relationship may be enabling.

Reversed: Looking to what is forthcoming rather than life in a past sense, this is a card of accepting responsibility rather than expecting someone else to take care of all conflicts.

**5 of Cups:** This card denotes loss or failure, expectations turn to disappointments. And the reader must now deal with how they feel about the absence of or mistake that was made. Two cups remain though, meaning that the reader does not get what they wanted, but they still have what they need and the essential part of what they are and what they have remains.

Reversed: The focus goes from loss to the more positive aspect of what remains. The reader tries again and takes a more optimistic attitude toward life owning their intrinsic power.

**4 of Cups:** Lethargy and apathy consume the reader, life has given him gifts and yet they are all not good enough, still more gifts are offered to him, but he refuses to shake away his blues and recognise the opportunities of new work, new love or any of the other wonderful things life has to offer.

Reversed: The reader takes action, and drinks from the cup of life.

**3 of Cups:** Friends dance in a circle sharing both the wonders and hardships of life, this card says that support from friends is all around. This is a card of participation and belonging, it can represent hope for an ideal group scenario.

Reversed: Support from friends is lost, people find it hard to co- operate and trust is threatened. It can also mean pleasant experiences with acquaintances, but no real emotional attachment or real friendships.

**2 of Cups:** The beginning of a solid relationship. A lovers pledge and partnership is made. The romance and elation of new love is felt mutually. This is a healing kind of love, and an indication

that the couple realises their lives can be more enhanced together than if they go it alone. The Lion represents sex and the wings represent the soul, together they make commitment, and this card shows the promise of a new relationship.

Reversed: This card denotes that the love is only a crush or it is not mutual. It also shows problems in a relationship, or a trust issue.

**Ace of Cups:** This is a depiction of the Holy Grail, something that one has been searching and striving for, the ultimate goal that pours out peace, love, harmony, and abundance in a perfect way. This is the pure gift of joy, and once it has been sipped from this cup there will be a completeness and sanctity of blissful optimism to the readers life.

Reversed: The enchantment is not recognised nor has it lost its luster. At its worst, the glee has turned sour.

## **SWORDS**

**King of Swords:** Militaristic and dominant in his approach, the King of Swords is mighty through his commanding intellect. He is an authority figure. At his worst he can be judgmental, at his best righteous. He takes on all his responsibilities with an air of authority, but also has no tolerance of those he sees as less than himself.

Reversed: His un-compassionate nature worsens, he becomes dogmatic and power hungry, ready to throw away anyone not as intellectual as himself or those who cannot aid him in any way.

**Queen of Swords:** Her wisdom cute through her sadness is borne of suffering; she is the picture of the widow. Her will and intelligence help her to honestly transform her strife into knowledge. She lives in the here and now, accepting fate and having faith.

Reversed: Her strength fails her and melancholy takes its place, she can also have a bigoted attitude.

**Knight of Swords:** Aggressive and brash, this Knight is brave but at his own risk, he rides thoughtlessly toward a problem with no fore planning or tact. He has the tendency to run over everyone, but is at least as equally tough on himself as he is with everyone else. Reversed: He becomes out of control to the point where he is in attack mode. This can also indicate he has picked a stronger enemy than himself and has been thwarted.

Reversed: Knight is incredibly impatient, impulsive and bursting with energy. ... The Knight of Swords reversed indicates that you need to go it alone in order to build up valuable life experience and maturity.

**Page of Swords:** He is a detached person. He has removed himself to a hilltop and looks over his shoulder, in a paranoid fashion with his sword ready to protect him. He is not in a safe place, and readies himself for a sneak attack. He thinks the concerns in his life and the lives of others are not for real.

Reversed: He becomes irrational and dementedly thinks everyone is out to get him.

**10 of Swords:** This is a card of extreme emotion; the reader is hysterical and should not take everything so seriously. Things are essentially all right if only the emotion will get under control and allow the reader to see the light.

Reversed: Problems seem to cease temporarily, but unless the reader takes this opportunity to really change things, the same conflicts will emerge once again.

**9 of Swords:** The true image of heartbreak, the woman's sorrow leaves her sleepless, she is mourning over lost love or is deeply concerned for another. This is a card of post-traumatic stress disorder. In a reading it can mean unresolved sadness even from something in the reader's childhood.

Reversed: The reader needs to heal some kind of pain or resolve a fear, if not they will continue to feel trapped, worried and baffled.

**8 of Swords:** The person depicted in the card feels like she is in danger, also she feels helpless and bound to someone else that is dominating her, she stands humiliated in the mud. However, her legs are not tied by the rope, there is really no one in the castle looking over her, and there are no swords of danger in front of her. She could escape from this unpleasant situation if she takes control and action.

Reversed: She puts action into place, and takes steps to free herself.

**7 of Swords:** He is foolishly pleased with what he has done, but really his actions have led to nothing. A solid plan is what could have made this move less impulsive, and this card is a warning to think before you act. This card also indicates cunningness and a resistance to work with others; the real motives are hidden.

Reversed: Gossip is indicated when one is seeking advice. Or it can mean that the person will finally accept the collaboration of others; however, sometimes the reader should figure out the conflict alone and the reversed card indicates confusion.

**6 of Swords:** A woman with a ship full of burdens takes a journey while in a state of depression. This is due to the fact that communication has been cut off and problems are not discussed.

Reversed: This refers to a difficult tumultuous trip with delays, natural catastrophes or other disasters. Or the person has taken an effort to confront the problem, and unleashed the pent up after effects.

**5 of Swords:** This a card showing defeat and a crushing blow. The subject in the card feels over powered by a life condition or by an enemy. This card depicts hopelessness. Pessimism has taken over, and perhaps other cards in the reading can show the way out. This is a card of warning, perhaps telling the reader to avoid the conflict altogether if possible.

Reversed: Defeat still presides, but the subject is attempting to get out of the previous trouble. New possibilities emerge from what has been lost.

**4 of Swords:** When in trouble, the subject of this card has opted to seclude themselves rather than appearing weak. It can also indicate a period of rest in a sort of exhausted state, where the subject will return to action after rest is complete. It may also indicate a state of isolation with the feeling there is no one to care or help.

Reversed: The subject wakes themselves up and becomes part of life again, either from their own action, or from the kindness and aid from another who has broken through the barriers.

**3 of Swords:** An image of a wounded heart in torment, the cause will be revealed in other cards. This is a card exemplifying emotion, rather than action. However accepting the pain is the first step to healing, and other cards will indicate the outcome.

Reversed: The reader tries to deny the pain but that only makes it last longer, healing will come only with recognition.

**2 of Swords:** She holds herself in a protective stance, keeping harm away. She uses her swords to distance herself from others. She cannot see and discern friend or foe but just keeps everyone equally at bay. She is emotionally stabilising herself, but this is a risky stance, she can easily fall back into the waters of emotion.

Reversed: She has allowed others to approach, or sadly, she has become overwhelmed by them.

**Ace of Swords:** Truth reigns in this card and intellect cuts through whatever situation presents it so the reader perceives a better understanding. Powerful emotion is depicted as well as the ability to master it with the mind. The hand has a firm grip on the sword because all the mental power is difficult to keep under control.

Reversed: This card acts as a warning to not let your emotions run wild, keep things in check.

## PENTACLES

**King of Pentacles:** Pentacles depict all the stable elements of life: money, nature, and work. This King relaxes in ease knowing he has the abundance of all of these elements and what he has done to get them. He does not need to dominate, nor does he feel repressed, he just lives in the moment and is happy to be alive.

Reversed: He is unsatisfied with his life and wants to accomplish more.

**Queen of Pentacles:** This Queen is very close to Nature she does not concern herself with accomplishments or power plays in society, she lives and loves her simple magical life, she is fertile and enjoys being a mother, she also finds pleasure in sex but is less aggressive about it than the Queen Of Wands.

Reversed: Self-esteem is lacking and life is not appreciated or as simple as it once was.

**Knight of Pentacles:** He works like a machine, practically doing his tasks completely immersed in his work. Doing the best he can to make everything efficient and perfect. He simply does his job, but this can become boring, tedious and he may need to do something to stir things up.

Reversed: The reader is severed from that which gives their life purpose, and needs to return to doing something meaningful.

**Page of Pentacles:** The “student” who is self-absorbed thinking of nothing else but his studies. No other concerns, problems, or people touch him. He works with a disregard toward rewards of fame and money, merely fascinated with the process of his work.

Reversed: His studies are not real, but merely whims that may go nowhere.

**10 of Pentacles:** The people live in a beautiful home in a beautiful town and have an abundant garden. A lovely secure home and magic abounds all around them, however they take it for granted and find it mundane. They also do not communicate well with each other though they remain in each other's company.

Reversed: Risks shake the reader from their doldrums but this could be a foolhardy action.

**9 of Pentacles:** This card denotes the rewards of self-reliance and discipline. Her success has been won by talent, intellect, imagination, and passion; she has skills and these have won her valuable rewards in life.

Reversed: Projects are abandoned and failure takes over. This can be due to indecisiveness or mere sloth.

**8 of Pentacles:** An apprentice practices his trade, his only focus on becoming adept at his skill, finding joy in the process of learning.

Reversed: he is consumed with jealousy and cannot focus his attention on what it is he needs to do.

**7 of Pentacles:** This card shows satisfaction in a job well done; the subject can now take solace in their life, or their accomplishments or has finished setting up a business and now can step back and let the process take place.

Reversed: Frustration arises when the efforts are stagnated or blocked, and the love affair or business is not moving forward.

**6 of Pentacles:** This card simultaneously refers to the two kinds of subjects depicted in the card. If the reader feels like the beggars, then they will be given some money or a gift, but it will be carefully rationed. If the reader feels like the merchant, they will be in the position to help someone. This card can also show a dominance of spirit of one over another, and a feeling of inequality.

Reversed: It means selfishness or that ego stops someone from asking for aid when they really need it, positively, it shows that the people involved now have the chance for equality.

**5 of Pentacles:** The couple struggles as a team through ill health or poverty, they have to watch out to make sure they don't keep the bad luck going in order to retain their relationship. This card may denote a fear of success.

Reversed: The couple finds relief from their worries, or matters may become so bad that they must take initiative to make their lives better.

**4 of Pentacles:** A selfish penny pincher, this card can also represent someone dealing with crisis by creating structure through regulation, a fixed routine, etc.

Reversed: The rigid patterns are broken down and the person becomes more giving of themselves and their resources and time.

**3 of Pentacles:** Through spiritual accomplishment and rigorous training, the artisan is commissioned to carve stone in a church; the subject is a master of his skill and is affluent in his career. If the reader does not currently hold this title, it is something they can attain and aspire to.

Reversed: Boring blandness in the work environment or life can be overcome with hard work.

**2 of Pentacles:** The subject dances while juggling, the reader is able to multitask but still retain a sense of humour about it and have fun. This is a card that gives good advice and shows a positive attitude.

Reversed: The dancing is forced and their happiness is false; underneath they feel stress. Perhaps the reader is feeling social pressure to not cause drama.

**Ace of Pentacles:** Security, peace, abundance, accomplishment, and the promise of elevating one's position in life, the love of nature, and life in general are all seen in this card. This state is not permanent, but it is a gift nonetheless. The path leads to a magic future; security enables the reader to make a better life for him or herself.

Reversed: The reader becomes too dependent on money, their identity and security is too tied up in material greed. It can also mean leaving the garden of safety to try one's luck in an unknown future.

## SPREADS

Shuffle the cards three times. Put your intention into the cards, and ask your question. Or say your name and the name of the person or situation three times as you shuffle. If you do not know the name say your name and "my destiny" three times.

Then separate the cards into three sections, place one on top of the next in sequence from left to right, shuffle one more time, place them face down, and begin turning the cards over from the top card on the deck.

## SIMPLE SPREAD

To read the cards, place the signification first at the top. If the signification is a person it represents the quadrant of himself or herself or someone they are involved with. If not, it represents the question or life condition.

- Pages represent a child or someone who is immature.
- Knights represent people in their teens and twenties or someone who has a youthful attitude.
- Queens and Kings represent mature adults.

Then draw the other cards, the first is past, the second is present and the third is future.

If you need more details keep drawing cards in sets of three. Don't forget that the future is simply showing you the trajectory in which things are moving, you do not have to go this way if you want and it can help you to see the future so as to not go in that direction, or to accommodate what is happening so it will go the way you want even more.

## CELTIC CROSS

1. Cover card: This is showing you the main concern or environment.
2. Crossing card: It is a card showing the clash or what crosses the first card.
3. Keystone card: The base reason for the purpose behind the reading; the true cause.
4. Recent Past: This shows what just happened in the person's life, or a recent emotional state or person that has affected them.
5. Viable Outcome: Illustrating the direction in which things are progressing, it is not definite, and is mutable.
6. Near Future: Showing the reader what is currently revealing itself, again this is a transitory state.
7. Self: This is about the person being read for, it can also exemplify the feeling the person has or something they are doing.
8. Environment: The external setting and surroundings of the person whose cards are being read.
9. Expectations: This shows the hopes and fears of the person. Remember, the energy you put out is the energy you attract.
10. Fate: Adding up the situations in all the other cards, this card shows the way things will most likely manifest.

### Chronological Spreads: Week:

Make a seven-pointed star by placing the signification in the centre and the other 7 days of the week around the middle card.

- This will show you the progression of events in the coming week.
- The first card represents Sunday the others in corresponding order.
- The cards will represent each day individually or events leading one to the next through out your week.
- This is a good way to consult if an interview, date, meeting, or party will go well on a certain day.

### Year:

Shuffle the cards and lay them out with number 13, the last one in the middle, this is the first one you will read. It sums up the entire year.

Starting with the first Card, representing the first month, January, go through all the months. Each one represents what that month is generally about, and in this way you can also see the progression through out the year. This will enable you to anticipate and take control of your life and what is to come.

### Rainbow:

The Rainbow reading has less distinct rules, take your deck of cards and spread them out each one after the next so they all show into the arc of a rainbow.

Draw the cards and lay them in the centre of the rainbow, people represent people, the other cards being situational or emotional states. You can do them in groups of three if it makes it clearer.

There are no reversed cards in this layout, the opposite aspects of the cards will be revealed in another upright card that signifies the same thing.