

## **Class 21 – Introduction to Tarot and Major Arcana**

### Covered in This Class

1. The History of Tarot
2. Signifiers
3. Major and Minor Arcana Cards
4. Meaning of Major Arcana Cards
5. Meaning of Minor Arcana Cards
6. Meaning of Numbers in the Tarot
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### **1. The History of Tarot**

The people who created the modern tarot, all of whom were members of the Order of the Golden Dawn, designed the Waite-Rider, Morgan-Greer and Thoth decks. Arthur Edward Waite created the Waite-Rider deck (Rider was the name of the publisher) and Pamela Smith, also of the Golden Dawn, did the artwork for the cards.

Lloyd Morgan and William Greer disagreed with Waite's approach, arguing that the Waite-Rider deck was too austere, too mental and too intellectual. They created the Morgan/Greer deck by adding fancy symbols, such as vines, to the top half of all the cards in the Waite-Rider deck.

Aleister Crowley, who created the Thoth deck, disagreed with all of them saying, "You're all nuts. Everyone out in the world is all involved in all this mundane level stuff, and none of them are up to the point of starting the Tree of Life. They need to deal with their baser things. So, a pox on both your houses! We ought to work with the reverse Tree to throw them into that. If you haven't the sense to recognize that then it be on their own heads. If they get caught in the pit then it be on their own heads." For example, the 7 of discs is called Failure in the Crowley deck even though when it's upright it doesn't mean failure. It is how the majority of our culture deals with the issue of how our garden grows (or how well we are prospering or doing).

The underlying symbology and concepts found in the Tarot go back thousands of years. For instance, in the early Christian Church, around 600 AD, the priests had little memo cards with pictures on them. The gypsies also used similar cards. The old emerald tablets in Egypt also had pictures of plates and discs. These concepts are very old.

However, the modern Tarot is brand new, revised by the Order of the Golden Dawn to work more intimately with the Tree of Life and for spell work. It's a development of the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, and is, in our estimation, the major advance in magical practice within the last 2,000 years. The Waite-Rider, Morgan-Greer and Thoth decks were created by magicians for magic. These decks and only these decks can be used for:

1. Straight divination
2. Spell work (these decks are especially designed for spell work)
3. Working the Tree of Life (for doing a great work)

There are no other decks on the market that are designed for and capable of serving all three of these functions. Before these decks the Tarot could only be used for divination. For instance the Aquarian deck is a beautiful tool for divination if you are used to working with Zen or Hindu concepts, but it's virtually useless for spell work and has no relationship at all to the Tree of Life.

The word Tarot is a disguised word. It was originally spelled "Rota," which means wheel, because the deck represents all phenomenal experience, the wheel of life. We use the Tarot as a living form that is tied into the existing Universe. In essence, the Tarot is a simulacrum of the Universe.

Forget everything you have previously learned about the Tarot from books and other sources. Don't try to memorize the meanings of the cards because the meanings are in the cards themselves. All you have to remember is the correspondences and characteristics of each element and how the elements work with each other. The Tarot was originally an oral tradition so the idea of writing down the meanings of the cards in some ways defies the tradition. We have provided you some written meanings as a guide to get started but you should also strive to see the meaning of the cards as they pertain to specific readings. We will review the meaning of the major Arcana cards because the labels on these cards have archaic meanings that differ greatly from modern meanings.

## **2. Signifiers**

A signifier is a card that stands for someone or something. The signifier in a Tarot reading poses the question that we want answered. We tie our Tarot readings to specific issues and questions by using keyed signifiers. Most people who use the Tarot today do not use signifiers. We choose signifiers for people based on chronological age and sun sign.

### Signifiers for People

Page                      Conception to teenager

Knights	Teenager
Queen	Adult female
King	Adult male

<b><u>Air:</u></b>		<b><u>Water:</u></b>	
Gemini:	♊	Cancer:	♋
Libra:	♎	Scorpio:	♏
Aquarius:	♒	Pisces:	♓
<b><u>Fire:</u></b>		<b><u>Earth:</u></b>	
Aries:	♈	Taurus:	♉
Leo:	♌	Virgo:	♍
Sagittarius:	♐	Capricorn:	♎

Although these guidelines are useful for picking signifiers you can't always judge a person by their chronological age when picking signifiers. You also have to consider how they act and behave. A person may be only 9 years old but may act with such great responsibility that you may want to use a knight, queen or king as their signifier. In the Crowley deck the page has both a male and female card – the prince or princess. The adult male is signified as a knight in the Crowley deck because Crowley said that there are no adult males – males never reach maturity.

### **3. Major and Minor Arcana Cards**

The Tarot is comprised of Minor Arcana cards in four suits and Major Arcana cards, which are not in suits. The four suits of the Minor Arcana are Wands, Swords, Cups and Plates, which match the four elemental tools. Minor Arcana cards are the numbered cards in each suit (ace through 10) plus the court cards (page, knight, queen and king).

Major Arcana cards are all the other cards in the deck and are related to but not tied to a particular suit. They represent principles, concepts or ideals while minor arcana cards represent the many ways that those principles manifest in the everyday or mundane world. The ideas expressed in the major arcana cards are not taught in our culture so we have lost touch with them and we have no foundation for them. Therefore, we have to be careful not to apply present day meanings to these past time symbols.

#### **4. Meaning of Major Arcana Cards**

##### **1. The Magician**

Power and control. The person has individually learned and surmounted the four elements and controls the use of them by intellect and will. The Magician (or Magus or Magi) is adept at what he does. Also includes use of magic and magical spells either by oneself or by other people. High-level magic. Complete balanced use of magic. Hard magic (as opposed to the more psychic, intuitive “soft magic”). Knowing the procedures so well that you can produce the result over and over. Being open and available to using all forces that are available. Can be using other people's force since the magician, like Aikido masters, can boomerang and use other people's force. They don't even have to create their own. Can also indicate a spell that needs to be done and has not been done. Can refer to a spell done to someone, good or bad, especially if it's in past or present life (can refer to a past life spell that is following a person from lifetime to lifetime). Magi indicates a level of self-containment. Intentional miracle working and deliberate creation would fall under the Magi. Working with angels and totem spirits would come under Hierophant or Hanged Man. Working with tools, magical groups, teaching or studying magic and synchronicity would all come under the Magi. Most decks (other than Thoth and Waite-Rider) depict use of a quartz crystal rod – which is an infinite energy tool and includes the energy of all four elements.

**Reverse:** Can refer to spell-work done against a person or persons, particularly in past or present lines, or the refusal to use magic when it is called for. It can also refer to the inappropriate use of magic.

**Observations:** Can indicate the actual doing of magic or a strong intention about magic or a mock-up of magical spell or ritual. An ability to focus personal power, to know and work within the framework of Rules of the Road. To be unwilling to play codependent games. To avoid being the victim. Operates well on mundane and higher levels, but would appear to those on the mundane level to be operating outside of normal cause and effect realities. May seem unpredictable by normal social standards, or may seem like miracle working.

##### **2. High Priestess**

A magic card. Can refer to a female magician or her use of magic. Women's power card. In the Crowley deck, the Princess and Queen of Discs are also women's power cards. Intuition and religion. Operates on emotional rather than intellectual planes. Religious social values or scripting, such as religious dogooders. People who pray for others without having sought permission or without being asked for help. This card may be used as a signifier if someone is proficient in magic, especially a female. Refers to the magical level, higher than mundane, except in the case of religious fanatics. Psychic abilities or soft magic may be

different from hard magic. Comes more from a religious base than from ritual magical training.

Lesser figure of the emporer, like the empress but on the personal level. Magic done a lot more on the emotional/intuition level rather than on the hard magic plane. Can often substitute for the Magi, if the Magi is tied up in the reading. Can be spell work that has been done or needs to be done.

**Reverse:** Negative religious values, religious dogma, and rigid adherence to rules and morals and use of these opinions to actively influence others. Negative spell-work against others, more from a psychic or emotional base than from magical training. Although certain heavily women's power-based traditions could have the Priestess Reversed show up to indicate negative spell-work. Religious or psychic persecution often coming from a mask of piousness or "Holier than thou" attitudes. In tribal systems and Wicca, witchcraft of a negative base or women's power used in negative ways. Bleeding deacons, false piety, megalomania.

### 3. The Empress

Natural government or planetary ecology. Natural laws (laws of the Universe according to Grandmother, the spirit whose body is the Earth-system). It may also refer to how things are working on the next level up from man. It represents world change or the growth and maturing of Grandmother's world or system – it can either be upright or reversed, but does not imply positive or negative valuation as regards these changes, but shows how the person is relating to world change. Female law in the tribal systems, like the High Priestess. It is the ideal archetype of womanhood, Mother Nature. More fair than right. Laws protecting nature, totem spirits, gods and goddesses of Greek mythology, Native American traditions, and values we have from Earth religions are all under the Empress. The Empress is also the laws of nature according to Grandmother, the body of knowledge contained in the Earth, and the spirit whose body is Earth. In addition, all beings who work in this system belong under Empress, including the Winds, the Old Ones, dryads, lawn vaders, and elementals.

**Reverse:** Being at odds with natural law. Degenerative or decaying systems that are at odds with natural order. Pollution and waste or abuse of natural resources. Any endeavor, which is inherently opposed to a healthy environment.

**Observations:** The Empress is concerned with laws that govern natural species, the animal, plant, and mineral kingdoms. Local landform spirits, the spiritual ecology of the Earth. The concept of the female quality of passivity and nourishment.

#### **4. The Emperor**

Relates to man's government or laws. Concerns of human-mundane government. Relates to how other people see you from social structure base. Also relates to issues of conformity and non-conformity. Mundane level affairs, such as legal or governmental issues. Male-related issues. Social values as seen from a male oriented base. Supremacy of male values, such as in Roman and English tort legal systems. Not concerned with issues of intrinsic fairness, but an unyielding system of contrived and strict standards for behavior. Authority figures such as judges or police, and their activities. Rigid code of ethics based on "An Eye for an Eye and a Tooth for a Tooth." Certain male systems ruled by Mars and Aries that are deemed acceptable by man's law such as "War is an acceptable means to procure peace." The belief that the taking of life is an acceptable means of administering justice. Can signify legal systems, court systems. Male power in the sense of power over others.

**Reverse:** Problems with the law, with authority figures, with governmental officials, tax problems, confinement or imprisonment, fines, summons, or lawsuits. Property, business, or investment losses, where legal problems may be the underlying cause. Problems with father image or male image.

**Observations:** Social scripting in a male-dominant system, such as "my right to protect my interests at any cost." Not willing to listen or recognize other's values. The need to be right and to be spiritually closed or operating mostly in the mundane. It asks the question, "Would you rather be right or happy?" On the spiritual level: adherence to a structure of fairness such as the laws of Solomon, which well illustrate a point, but may not be workable in reality. (The story of Solomon offering to cut a baby in half whose ownership was in dispute.) This level of laws is the highest that the Emperor can go – anything higher would be captured in Justice. Ruling classes – nobility. Courtly manners and mannerisms. Elegant male show-off behavior. Noblisse-oblige, and also chauvinistic behavior.

#### **5. The Hierophant**

The Hierophant is issues of spiritual fairness and mediation. Traditionally, the early popes of the Catholic Church up to 1100 AD took the position of the Hierophant, who was a just go-between for the people and God, making sure that communication existed, when necessary. A bridge between lower and higher levels. He was not necessarily representing God to man, nor man to God. He was merely bridging. If the people had a problem, and God didn't seem to be around, it was up to the Pope to say: "Hey God, the people have a problem. You and the people have something to work out." Or go the other way and say, "You need to get in touch because there are these problems." We don't care what the book of the law is. We care what's fair here. The closest thing in our culture to the Hierophant is the federal strike mediator or a couple's mediator. Does not take sides, does not get involved, no attachment. Beyond a certain point he doesn't

care what the law is. He cares that management and labor talk to each other and work out an agreement, making sure there is communication if it is called for. Also deals with ordinary agreements, issues of fairness, arbitration, and what we agree upon as spiritual beings.

In working with day greetings and endings, and exit rituals, we are learning to be the Hierophant. In changing the weather we are negotiating as the Hierophant. A shamanic or magical principle about communication. Being sure that communication happens when it's needed, forming a bridge between lower and higher levels, between communities. Has a lot to do with the role of the Shaman – lack of communication between people and God, like Neale Diamond Walsch and *Conversations with God*. Very little to do with the emperor, but actual fairness and what works, not what is right according to man's law. What will be a way out of this dilemma that really works, how can we all win? A level of appreciation, respect and fairness. Deals with communication between mundane and spiritual ecological systems. On the mundane level, it is an indicator of one's willingness to deal fairly with others in marriage, with children, parenting, teaching, counseling, or anywhere you deal with agreements, truth, or higher-level concepts of law or truth that are being introduced on a lower plane. We tend not to make ground rules, so to study good ground rules, test with the Hierophant. Hierophant is like owl it can see the hidden and the truth. The Hierophant gets to the true motivation.

**Reverse:** Engaging in a lot of spiritual unfairness, lack of negotiation, lack of mediation, unwillingness to communicate fairly. Fixed stubbornness, and unable to see another's point of view.

## 6. The Lovers

Don't use the Lovers for intimate personal relationships because it won't work, but you can use it for higher spiritual relationships, such as karmic relationships, destined relationships or soul mates. Lovers indicates primarily a spiritual relationship that we planned when coming into this lifetime, or strong spiritual ties and connections that we have from other lifetimes. Can also be relationship and balance to the overall higher aspect of community (not the normal social structure). Use the Two of Cups for intimate personal relationships. Lovers is the higher octave of Two of Cups.

This card is the Western/European magical equivalent of the Tai-Chi, the Yin/Yang symbol. This relates to how the spirit, within itself, is connected with both sides of its nature. Integration of masculine and feminine sides of oneself, or the integration of the dark side and the light side. Internal balance. In therapy and psychology, they refer to the anima and animus, the internal balance of our male and female sides. Are we missing critical information with regards to this balance, often shifting in polarity? Balance between forces of male and female. Most

mundane level love relationships are not balanced. How integrated are you as a spirit? How schizophrenic are you as a spirit? This relates to how the spirit is integrated in itself, in its entirety.

### **7. The Chariot**

Someone who is in full control of their power. He can move the lions and is in control of the situation. The charioteer constantly directs and drives, and is constantly making choices. Have you ever seen a chariot race? With the chariot there is nothing holding the team together except the lines that the charioteer holds. It is up to the charioteer and the training of the horses to keep the team together. Otherwise they would split and wreck on perfectly level ground. The issue here is one of personal power and control. How well is the spirit handling being responsible for its own fate. The charioteer has to constantly be paying attention to control the direction of the team and the chariot. Basically this is a Shaman's card or a high level ritual magician's card. We're talking about the focus being on personal power – no issue of fate or luck. I am responsible for what befalls.

Chariot and strength are similar, the major difference being that when you've used strength and studied it, you've come into the charioteer, having full control of your power. Being able to balance all the forces and control the situation. Won't let the craziness of the world influence your decision making. Card about personal power and control, and how well spirit is handling its responsibility of forming its own path, fate or destiny. Maintaining attention, much like Temperance and Star, but here it's equally in the physical and spiritual world. It's definitely the bridge between the two. It's how you are able to stay focused in all realms, no matter what's going on. Can use Chariot to test how insane people are being, or how well a business is being handled. How well are forces being handled, especially in terms of performance.

**Reverse:** A person out of control. Today, people are Chariot reversed often directly at one's own loss.

### **8. Strength (Lust)**

Strength with balance. The lion of the will is being tamed by intellect. The lady and the lion. Strength is a matter of will under intellect. Crowley said, "Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the law: Will under intellect." Crowley uses the Lust card in place of Strength because too deep of an emotional involvement can turn Strength into the negative aspects of Lust. Applies to what the person is doing with their own strength as a spiritual being. Relates to the person's own control of their will, control of their temper, control of their energy and their intellect. Control and direction. Perseverance that comes from a higher place. Using control, discipline, timing and forbearance to further principle in life, relative to the silliness and craziness in the world. Cannot be swayed from positions of appropriateness. Not force.

## 9. The Hermit

Classically every single adept, whether magical, shamanic, or mystic, would retreat to quiet places to seek understanding. Going out in the world and playing the devil for a while: making agreements, being in the community and having jobs to gain experience and knowledge. But the Hermit is a wisdom seeker, pursuing enlightenment, asking questions like, “What does this knowledge mean?” or “How does it all fit together?” The Hanged Man is seeking the knowledge, and the Hermit is contemplating out what it means. The Hermit is more in control than the Hanged Man. It does not refer to isolation without reason. If one is in this kind of a phase, it is proper for them to be withdrawn. Properly or intelligently seeking wisdom and understanding. Disengaging from activity to gain a properly balanced perspective. Working with angels or totem spirits.

When you have your experience (Hanged Man) and you intuitively learn from it, it's the Hermit. It's not about isolation, but more about where you are in yourself, living in the higher part of yourself, or living far more in your understanding. It can mean a withdrawal from life that is chosen and highly intentional. It's disengaging from activity to gain a proper balance. Can also be monastic, going on a retreat, studying retreat or meditation. A good way of testing whether something has sunk in or not. Does the person really own it? If they own it, the Hermit is upright, if not Hermit is reversed. Could also be a signifier for higher-level schools and university, particularly if it's not just about information, but higher understanding.

**Reverse:** Maybe the person should go into seclusion to seek some solitude and try to figure things out. Closing down to wisdom, failure to be spiritually open. Spiritual blindness. People who cannot trust themselves or go inside themselves.

## 10. Wheel of Fortune

The environment of the Universe, which is one step up from the World, and as high as we can go from our perspective. The overall Universe and the direction it's turning. The spiritual world and everything in it. The relationship of this world to the laws of the Universe and the relationship of spirits on this level to higher-level deities. It can indicate astrological influences in operation and how they are affecting conditions and beings on this planet (but not on a personal level, which would be the World card). Represents the higher level of “As above, so below.” Nothing in this card is personal or mundane! It's very much a relationship card, like the Lovers card. If you want to look at a principle and you want to relate the mundane to the higher levels, this is a good bridge card to use. Use this as a signifier to represent the higher level of the mundane.

**Observations:** How all things affect all other things. The forces operative in karma. Nothing to do with mundane level fortunes, but as a spirit. How am I

relating to the medicine wheel, the great wheel of fortune? What am I contributing to the medicine wheel?

### **11. Justice (Adjustment)**

What is just according to the law. An issue of the law. Justice is not what is fair here. What does the law say? Justice is a matter of the book. The old Hebrew would say, “Not even God is above the law. He may have written the law, but not even God is above the law.” Justice relates to universal law, not issues of whether it is fair or unfair, but issues of how things are going relative to universal law. Is the person as a spiritual being doing justice to things in terms of universal law? You can use it relative to lawsuits because it's a matter of the book – what is the book of the law? How are your actions being judged by others? There is another card for fairness.

Adjusting your position. This is what is just according to the law, consistent with Rules of the Road. Not about what is fair, but what is ordained, strictly referring to higher laws and the connection to higher laws and principles. Nothing to do with what one thinks about things, opinions. It also talks about the operational laws of the Universe, and how they work and interrelate. If you study Justice, you will never backslide. Once you are clear and you see what is involved with Justice, you will not go back to where you once were. Justice can also be an indicator around mundane issues, particularly what is appropriate and inappropriate with regard to them – legal matters, etc. Justice will show what connects to higher law. If you're not sure whether you would be serving or breaking Rules of the Road in a mundane issue, apply Justice to it.

**Reverse:** A major spiritual injustice according to universal law.

### **12. The Hanged Man**

This relates to the myth of Igrasill, the Tree of Knowledge, and Oden, who hung himself on the tree for four days to ask questions. Thirst for knowledge – he has knowledge, but he wants more. Major questions about knowledge. The Hanged Man is very heavily associated with the spiritual side of air. Is the person seeking knowledge as a spiritual being about some major issue? Or are they avoiding it? Confronting major issues of knowledge as a spirit. Introspection. It depends on using one's experience; not going to the gods for an answer. Knowledge being information, what you know from your experience. Working with angels or totem spirits.

Has a lot to do with what we do when we do homework – going out into the world and verifying the things that we are learning and studying. This is a good intro into a question circle. This is the higher octave of air, powder blue. The process of questioning. The use of intention in an alert way, seeing more, rallying one's perceptions, training one's perceptics to take in more. Question: Is a person really

seeking spiritual knowledge, or are they just game playing? Use Hanged Man to test if someone is in class for the wrong reason, to puff themselves up. If Hanged Man is reversed second carded by the 8 of wands, then that person is not playing upright with you – they don't really want new knowledge. May want to impress you with what they know. So open mindedness comes under Hanged Man. Honesty is also a part of Hanged Man. Seeking the truth and gaining it from your experience. There is a great level of commitment in the Hanged Man. Ready to go anywhere. Playing full out, not holding back.

**Reverse:** Incorrect way of going about getting knowledge. Doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results, which is insanity. Not paying attention to the lesson.

### 13. Death

Death has very little, if anything, to do with physical death. Death traditionally in magical and mystical circles is a major, usually a sudden, unexpected ending and beginning. Not just an ending, but an ending, which becomes a new beginning. Sometimes it can be expected. We're talking about something major happening in the spiritual realm, to the being as a spirit. It may be making some real positive shift or some real negative one, depending on how it shows up in the layout. It's sunrise, there's wealth and everything here. It's a complete cycle. All endings are beginnings, all beginnings come from endings. It may or may not affect the physical level. Transformation and changes of cycles. When it is upright it may be more in control of the person, or at least they may be more aware of the process, and perhaps more in tune and in agreement with it. The changes will be more beneficial.

Physical death would be Ace of Discs reversed second carded by Tower, or Sun reversed by Death. All the different kinds of cycles we live in. It can be used to tell how you deal with change or whether you see change as positive or negative, how comfortable you are with change, or to study your ability to complete cycles. May be transformation, rebirth or starting over. Being aware of the cycle of things. Understanding the principles of "As above, so below" would come under the death card. The law of signatures, things that represent things, seeing the equivalency of things, would come under the death card. Knowing when to let go, walk away, not repeating the same things over and over again. Understanding the cycles and what they are showing you, getting the lesson.

**Reverse:** The person may be caught by surprise, or less able to deal with the situation. The changes may appear to be more disruptive and damaging.

### 14. Temperance (Art)

The idea of Temperance is balance being maintained. He's walking the tight-wire, and you notice that his balance is internal. He's got his emotions in balance

and they are being held in place, basically by a combination of intellect, will and feeling. He's got to be constantly focused on keeping that balance and making little motions to adjust, just like the guy walking the tight-wire in the circus. It implies a certain level of self-observation and vigilance, not from a place of apprehension, but desire for something higher and the wish to be impeccable. He's got to really pay attention to and concentrate on what he's doing. It's the next step up, above the Moon, mid-way up the path. Maintaining balance with a lot of use of the will. Constant alertness. Making constant choices on a spiritual path. It's a spiritual choice card, similar to Two of Discs and Three of Swords on the mundane level. It is the higher octave of Three of Swords. A balance between the spiritual and material, but with a lot of tension. The water is flowing between the cups, but it's kind of choppy.

This is where we have begun to set our intention in terms of that relationship (air, fire, water) and maintaining it. One of the laws of tarot says that a small change in the present produces a larger change in the future. When we are at the level of Temperance and walking the tightrope, we are making small adjustments, which produce larger changes in the future. Acts of power are ruled by Temperance. Attention, or holding of intention, is also ruled by the law of Temperance. You have to let go of something lower to gain dominion over something higher. Willingness plays an important part here. Will is maintaining the energy to be able to observe our behavior. Higher octave of all choice cards – all the twos. There is a tendency to have yellow orange and powder blue reactive during this time. Temperance is also akin to the 7 of swords – do I keep my energy, maintain it, and conserve it? To go forward, I have to stop doing things which steal my energy, which trap my attention, or by living the causes and values of other people.

### **15. Devil**

The Devil has very little, if anything, to do with the Christian Satan. You notice that the pentagram is upside down. One of these designs draws from the tip and puts out through its feet. If you reverse it, as it is here, it's drawing from the lower levels and broadcasting to the upper levels. The chains around the two beings are loose. Those people aren't bound except by their own choice. From a magical and mystical construct, materialism doesn't have to drag you down. In the ancient writings from India, the Upanisheds, there are repeated verses that say that there are two major errors. One is to become totally materialistic. At that point these chains become clamped and you get weighed down by materialism. The other error is to become overly concerned with spiritual things and to negate the material. Of the two, according to the Upanisheds, the second is worse. The reasoning being that you can get totally in materialism, but bodies don't last forever, and you are forced to deal with the spiritual side of things periodically. But you can get totally involved with the spiritual so much that you get out in the void and there will be nothing to ever force you back, and you can become totally

isolated. That way lies the pit. The Devil relates to how the being, as a spiritual being, is handling its agreed-upon contracts in the material. It's a good contract card for long-term contracts like house mortgages. That's an agreed-upon contract or burden in the material. Basically we're talking about how the being as a spirit is handling the contracts it makes through having a body. If it's upright then I'm handling it fine. If it's reversed then I'm mishandling it. I may be getting too spiritual, or may be getting too materialistic. The Devil has no relationship to evil in any context in our culture. He is depicted as the Goat of Mendes. "Mendacious" comes from this. It means to not tell the truth, to hedge, the trickster in Greek mythology.

Be careful if you have a lot of social, religious scripting. How we spiritually work in the material world – how do we create our effect in the material world as a spiritual being? How we are able to deal with the material world and maintaining our spirituality. The Navajo Beauty way helps us enhance the Devil card and deal with our contracts spiritually. These are contracts we have made, so commitment and impeccability are keynotes here. How we are able to manifest in the material world and how we deal with our materialism has to do with how balanced we are between spiritual and material. We came to enjoy world plane stuff, otherwise, why take on bodies? Can also do with higher-level contracts, particularly those that cover a long span in our lives, and holding to Rules of the Road. i.e. buying a house. You have to show up over a long time. Devil is different from Emperor in that Emperor always stays on the material plane, whereas the Devil, like Hierophant, is always on the higher and lower. If you are just signing a contract, then it's emperor, but if the contract has to do with honoring your birth vision and spiritual contracts and showing up, then it's Devil. Devil contracts lead us back to the spiritual contracts and commitments we made before we got into a body. Something of Heyoka, trickster, in both Devil and Fool (see goat in devil card). Money being the root of all evil is a trick on humanity.

## **16. The Tower**

The tower is very heavily materially oriented from a spiritual direction – it stands on the earth but stretches to the stars so it covers the whole gamut. The Tower is talking about sudden abrupt chaos in the material realms, caused by spiritual forces outside of one's control. The lightning strike comes from outside the picture. The Tower talks about complete material disorganization or chaos, caused by spiritual forces beyond one's control. When the Tower is upright, there could be natural disasters, one may be able to deal with, and the changes that would come about would be an improvement. It isn't an issue of karma, on the mundane level, except that we happen to be in the area. If it's reversed, the change will be very destructive and you'll have a terrible time trying to pick up the pieces. If it's upright, it's going to be a natural chaos function. But the change can create an improvement over what has been and would be a productive change. Everything is falling apart, but it's not of your doing, just ride with it. If

it's reversed, maybe it's something you've bought into, maybe you got crossways with Deity, or it may be a reflection of breaking Rules of the Road or matching that type of energy. If it's upright, it's not karmic, but if reversed, it may be. The severity is not indicated by upright or reverse. Deity-level change. Changes in the outer world. Major upheavals in the material world that are violent or drastic. This card has shown up a lot in the last years, tying in with world change and galactic change.

### **17. The Star**

Next above Temperance is the Star, which is again an issue of balance. But this person has attained to a point spiritually where the balance is automatic, and instead of just having it internal and walking the tight wire between getting caught up in things and not, this person doesn't have to pay the same kind of attention. It comes from a higher place inside. As a spiritual being they are in balance and this reflects out into their external world. They can make the spiritual-material interchanges; the emotional-mental balances are there for them. The Star is a balance card, where conscious attention has now been acquired through past efforts, and the balance is maintained as a part of the process of inner work. The effort and attention that were needed in Temperance are not needed here. The spiritual path has become a central part of the person's being, there is more of a sense of relaxation in efforts made. There are no roads or paths in the card, they are no longer needed. Higher path schools.

By this level, it really shines. There's a definite sense of glowing – you are very visible and people want to be with you. People want what you have in a real way. There's a huge level of spiritual attainment, the balance is much easier, and instead of it being an internal issue, it is a radiative issue, you are definitely affecting the outer world a lot. You are constantly learning to shift your focus in and out (not in terms of self-absorption, which would be Moon reversed or 8 Cups reversed), but it is a true valuation or sense of self projected into the outer world. This is the beginning of true flow of manifestation. In the class on the Earth element, there was a brief discussion of the five-pointed star – if you want to communicate to the lower level of the mundane, put the point of the star down. If you want to project up, point the star up. This is the point where we can start to project what we have to guide others. In Star, we really have it – and we can't give it away unless we have it. It takes a lot more to cause you to fall off the path. The economy of energy here is noticeable – you are beginning to relax and enjoy life.

### **18. The Moon**

As a spiritual being, crawling out of the sea of emotion and embarking on the middle way, spiritually. The Moon is the beginning of the spiritual journey. Not the straight and narrow path, it's pretty zig-zaggy. It's an issue of the being falling back into a bunch of emotionalism or beginning spiritual progress. We're

either progressing or falling back, always. You have the little being crawling out of the waters of passion and embarking on spiritual progress and growth on a spiritual path. The Moon speaks of transformation of the emotions from lower levels of passion, greed, and neediness to a higher level of compassion and understanding. Here the being is more open and able to give from the heart, without expectations and manipulation.

This card comes out of the 8 of Cups (the lower octave of the Moon), which is a man walking out of a swamp, many rivers and waters, going to higher ground. He's just made his choice to leave the baser level of emotions and go to higher things. The Moon is where he's headed for. This is where we crawl out of turbulent or chaotic emotion, the living in drama, and we embark on the middle road (reference to the Tree of Life). The Moon is rather capricious, so the path is not straight and narrow. It has a lot of perils, we face our issues, and we have to confront our fears. We're just starting to consider letting go of self-absorption and craving something higher. A lot of people know there's something higher, but what is it? The Moon relates to the hidden, the subconscious, so it isn't so available or easy to see. It is the beginning of being open to intuition, the heart, all the water things, and letting go of expectations and manipulation.

**Reverse:** Falling back into emotionality and passion, de-volving spiritually, instead of evolving. Not being willing to go on our spiritual journey, wanting to be comfortable, wanting to be safe, not wanting to take risks. Using feelings as coercion tools on others. Issues of controlling others with emotions.

### 19. The Sun

Spiritual-level health or ill health. Growth potential. Spiritual level nourishment, basically it is an environment card – how is the person's environment affecting them on all levels. It can apply to how the person is using their health and growth. If you want to work with just physical level health of the body, use the Ace of Discs. The emotional level health would be Ace of Cups. When there are issues that clearly affect spirit, mind, and body – these would be signified by the Sun. Fulfilling our birth vision (which could also be represented by the Devil for spiritual contracts), and the level of communication and allowing that we are capable of. This is a good card for spell send backs because it brings the Sun into the situation. The reason we use our sun signs as signifiers is because it indicates how we press ourselves out in the world (or express ourselves), so it makes a verifiable indicator of who we are. It is the spiritual expression of who we are. The Sun also means how do I give back to the environment? How can I contribute? How can I demonstrate? How can I be a living example of higher principle? A radiative principle. How I affect my environment.

## **20. Judgment (Aeon)**

With Judgement the spirit is accessing its entire life path and judging itself according to its own experiences. It is not related to being judged by outside sources, which would be Justice or Adjustment (in the Crowley deck). It relates to the spirit's own judgement as a spiritual being. The spirit is raising the ghost of its past and passing judgement. That's how I'm dealing with my condition as a spiritual being, based on my past. What kind of judgments have I passed on my own past experiences? How good is my judgement as a spirit? We'll raise the ghosts of the past, and we'll re-judge it the last day, the last trump, when everything gets judged. Spirit reviewing itself between lifetimes, and being fully aware of the folly and correctness of our own behavior in the situations of our lives. Evaluation of spirit of its own appropriateness of its own experience. If it's right side up, the person, as a spiritual being, is integrating its past experience and using good judgement as a spirit, regardless of what our social system says. This does not imply anything about judgement from outside, it's our own judgement as spiritual beings, and how we're relating to our past, in passing those judgments. How much are we paying attention to what we know as a spirit from the past? Connected to sun yellow and powder blue. When I use Judgement properly, it's compassion, in which I can shift, choose and change. If the card is upright, it refers to the integration with your past experience, which implies a balance, and your ability to manifest is very high.

**Reverse:** Its judgement as a spirit is terrible and it's probably: A. Making wrong judgments about what it's done and not done, and: B. Not using its past experience as a basis for present time judgement. It means we're not paying attention to what we know as a spirit, not using our spiritual judgment. We are caught up in judgement about ourselves and ignoring what we know from our past experience, or we are way off track, being wild, being mechanical, making wrong connections or understandings to things, not being sound spiritually, being ineffective spiritually and mentally.

## **21. The World (The Universe)**

The World card relates to the world's environment. What is the world's progress doing? How is the world turning today? Harmonic convergence indicates that the wheels of the world and the universe are suddenly matched. World and galaxy. The wheel of the galaxy turns at a different rate and on a much larger scale. The wheel of fortune relates to universal change, while world relates to changes on this planet. The Tarot, as far as putting a lot of things together, is the major advance in magical practice in the last 2000 years because it gives you the tools to handle anything at any level. The world is the material physical world also, and how someone relates to it, or how their world affects them. This card doesn't have a lot of personal use unless you are studying higher order laws, such as how the Universe is put together, in which case you might also use Fortune. This card relates to galactic level things, astrology, and how the planets

interrelate. It also refers to how well we are doing with relation to the extra-terrestrials hanging around and messing with us. This card is also useful in representing our current situation of being in danger of using up our natural resources – use it in readings to find out how this will affect our commerce and our governments. In readings, the World indicates higher conditions that are affecting the situation or at stake – but it's not personal. It can also indicate a person going through a major astrological change.

## 22. The Fool

The first and last card on the Tree of Life. Just above the aces at the bottom of the tree. The last step on the tree is the Fool. Medieval court jester – most knowledgeable in the court or the most apparently stupid. Could get away with saying most anything at the court because of his all-over knowledge and perspective. Had to see everything that went on. Has a balanced perspective which has become inherent, and which aids him in the starting of any spiritual endeavor. Can afford to be optimistic, because he knows the pitfalls. His balanced perspective is maintained through the spiritual realms. Can be a spiritual novice or an adept, but mundane level is balanced in order to do so. Happy – everything in balance – so things can go either way. He has everything under control. Waite: Doesn't have to worry about the cliff he seems to be stepping off – he knows he won't fall.

Has to do with spiritual mastery. He fits into any world. He knows the pitfalls of mundane life and spiritual life. Can represent the novice or the adept – question of whether you are high on the mundane level and starting on your spiritual adventure, or high on the spiritual level and helping others on their spiritual path. Joy and happiness are part of the Fool's dominion. Letting go, appreciating, does not have to be concerned with balance, gratitude. Having personal power and maintaining control in the real sense, care for others without caring – a shamanic type place of it's all OK. Not getting caught up in all the worldly concerns. In a reading, the Fool will often represent the higher choice in the reading, or the highest possibility. It also has to do with spiritual stability and openness, that proverbial empty cup, being available, capable of experiencing and learning more, being poised, being nimble. The Peaceful Warrior and Socrates are great examples of the Fool. Playing the Fool in anything where you know exactly what you are doing. Stalking and warriorship come under the Chariot, the Fool and the Hierophant.

**Reverse:** Foolish – crafty – deceiving – spiritually bankrupt – a con artist with a golden tongue. Capable of playing the devil's advocate. A false prophet. Spiritual obsession or mania-confusion about one's spiritual path. Refusal to see one's spiritual side or acknowledge spirit. Arrogantly atheistic. It is not spiritual materialism, which would be the Devil card.

**Observations:** Mundane and/or spiritual stability and awareness, openness of heart, speaks from the heart, has an empty cup, capable of learning and experiencing more, nimble and poised. Love of life without taking life too serious.

## **5. Meaning of Minor Arcana Cards**

### **WANDS**

General: Ideas, Knowledge, Intellect, Rational Thought, Reason, Mental Processes.

**2 Wands:** Choice between 2 ideas, deciding what ideas will work in the world. Thinking about choosing, thinking about changes. The process of being discriminating. Making up one's mind. What you go with. Has chosen one idea about the world. **Rx:** Choosing without integrity. Not keeping one's will consistent with one's integrity.

**3 Wands:** Positive ideas, having your ideas available to you. Planning one's way, a stable base of ideas from which to go out into the world, planning for the future. The resolution of making a choice. Can be travel by land. To begin a journey.

**4 Wands:** Coherent ideas, harmonious ideas with others. Celebration or harmony of ideas. Concepts that create harmony and balance with oneself or with others. All the ideas working together. Ideological and physical harmony. Multi-signified. Can be marriage – mental or ideological aspect.

**5 Wands:** Differences of opinion, arguments, quarrels, ideas that are in conflict, testing your ideas or beliefs against those of other people. One's own ideas that are not compatible with other ideas one has. Mental strife. Excess thinking or worry that causes mental agitation. Resolving adverse beliefs or ideas in conflict.

**6 Wands:** The power of one's thinking. The sharing of ideas, concepts or beliefs. Victory of ideas. Planning for major undertakings where a lot of concepts have to work together for a specific cause. Cause oriented belief structures. Use of public opinion to further one's cause, aim or goal. Crusading with a winning idea, holding a superior idea.

**7 Wands:** Hanging onto one's own ideas, taking responsibility for one's knowledge. Standing firm on one's beliefs or convictions. Standing in one's truth. Using one's knowledge base to test the validity of ideas that one meets with on one's path. Use of new ideas to deal with past convictions or ways of thinking. Using one idea to defend against others.

**8 Wands:** Incoming thoughts, new thoughts coming in. Challenge about being open to new ideas. Crowley = swiftness, inspiration. Ideas or thought and plans about travel. Communication, telepathy, networking. Thoughts about the relative value of different groups of ideas or plans. Being receptive to other systems of knowledge. **Rx:** Not open to new ideas or don't have any new ideas. The I'm right card.

**9 Wands:** Being complacent with one's knowledge. Everything you know supports your position. A mundane level scholar. Being strong in one's understanding of one's position, based on past experience. Defending your ideas, and making them work for you. Kind of like the VI but stronger. Courage of your convictions. Holding onto an idea while being of suspicious of others.

**10 Wands:** He's got his thoughts together, working at what he's doing. Taking responsibility for one's knowledge, having a lot of knowledge and being able to handle that appropriately. Proper use of knowledge. Has many ideas well organized and ready to implement. **Rx:** Using his thoughts oppressively or in a negative way, or not using his thoughts right. A pedantic person, being burdened by what you know, forcing one's knowledge on others. Being suppressed by others' opinions. Manipulation, coercion, pushing knowledge on others, brainwashing. Think of the Spanish Inquisition.

**Page Wands:** New ideas, an alert mind, inquisitive, curiosity, young ways of thinking, wit, puns, frivolous talk, chit-chat. A plan about to materialize, playing with ideas, a play upon words.

**Knight Wands:** Active idealism or idealistic. Intense thinking, energetic plan making, compulsive communication, intense need to know, ambitious planning, putting one's plans or ideas into motion. **Rx:** Destructive thinking, failure to act on one's ideas, rash or immature thinking. Self-deception.

**Queen Wands:** Thinking as a woman in optimistic ways, practical knowledge, mature common sense. The point at which a plan begins to flower or bear fruit. Intuition or knowledge that comes through inspiration. Mature feminine ideas, rationality.

**King Wands:** Mature logical mentation. Plans that have come to completion. Mentally authoritative. Jurisprudence, legislative authoritative figures, judges, the epitome of fairness. A person who judges critically and fairly and can give us a sense of evaluation of where we stand. **Rx:** Judgmental, overly critical, interfering in areas of communication and free thought, contempt prior to investigation, narrow-minded.

**Ace Wands:** Lower octave of justice and hermit. Pure thought, rationality, the power of mind. The force of belief. The container of one's belief, the basis of one's whole ideology, the world of communication. Like the Winds of Knowledge.

## **SWORDS**

General: Wills, Desires, Drives, Enthusiasms

Reversed = Angers/Frustrations/Tempers

**2 Swords:** Making appropriate blind choices about what one wants. Choice of action. **Rx:** Blind choices, unintelligent choices of action.

**3 Swords:** Balancing will, intellect, and emotion. The will controlling the emotions. A person's wants and desires are being controlled by their will. **Rx:** Heartbreak card.

**4 Swords:** Staying out of hassles. The "burying the hatchet" card. A new resolution. Resting from strivings, taking time to smell the roses.

**5 Swords:** Resolution of open enmity and warfare. Going beyond. Being at peace. Healing the wounds of the battle. Ability to use one's powers. Picking up after battle, getting it together to move on after conflict. **Rx:** Not gathering up one's energies or failure to get in touch with one's energies. Open enemies, open enmity and warfare.

**6 Swords:** The genius card. Talent. Can be travel by water. Change in regards to what one wants, change of desires, journey card. Sharing one's energies. Sharing talents and abilities from past lives, bringing them with you into this lifetime. Reconnecting with former powers and abilities. Beginning a journey armed with/based on desires and enthusiasms. **Rx:** Not in touch with these talents or this potential.

**7 Swords:** Keeping your power. Maintaining energy, life force. Being able to complete projects. Achieving goals. Gathering up needed desires and enthusiasms and leaving behind unnecessary ones. **Rx:** Jealousy or envy. Someone stealing something from you is envious of what you have. Giving away your power. Loss of energy or power.

**8 Swords:** The freedom card. Challenges of the will, of your power. Can be power struggles, coercion, manipulation, power over others. Being bound up but needed to be. Self-restraint. Being restrained by others or by outer conditions, where taking action is not called for. Holding back. Keeping still (also 4 swords), but with some difficulty or conflict. "Endeavor to persevere." **Rx:** The need to be

right. Surrounded by desires and drives and unable to see the open path do to blinding thinking.

**9 Swords:** The bank card. Nightmares. Buried angers and frustrations. Compulsive behaviors or tendencies. Being aware or dealing with “bank” issues of buried anger, fear or grief. Dark emotions with a lot of charge.

**10 Swords:** The proper use of power. The benevolent leader. Can mean hidden enemies. Taking responsibility for one’s power, dealing well with issues of ambush or self-destruction. Issues of aggression, total power corrupts totally. **Rx:** Ambush, other’s anger, betrayal, hidden enemies, self-undoing, suicide, playing the victim. Action or activity based on denial, action stimulated by resentment, taking action based on resentment, action based on 9 swords (buried compulsivity).

**Page Swords:** Brand new desires, enthusiasms with lots of potential. Childlike enthusiasm, new initiating activity, new enterprise, budding will.

**Knight Swords:** Enthusiasm, aggressive, drive, activity. **Rx:** Active angers and frustrations, could be from an idealistic base. Zealously not using action the right way. Strongest destructive card in the lower arcana. Very harsh. Immature, angry, vindictive, jealous.

**Queen Swords:** Highly active, mature woman. Ambitious. Unstoppable. Opposes distractions, fierce, determined, willful. **Rx:** Lacking in those qualities, or filled with pride, disdain, envy and malice.

**King Swords:** Action that has come to completion, mature, resolute, strong leadership qualities, powerful male influence, strong willful authority figures, highly engaging social activators, political and legislative visionaries. **Rx:** A man’s anger. Foppish, given to decadence, lacking in leadership qualities, avoiding responsibility, headstrong and bullish, tenaciously holding to stagnant ideologies or beliefs, overly assertive and overcome with self-importance.

**Ace Swords:** Pure will, life force. The whole embodiment of one’s will projected onto the background of human interreaction (i.e. the typical forces that we deal with in the world that maintain social and cultural archetypes – for example, the whole criminal system based on an eye-for-an-eye and tooth-for-a-tooth). It’s the energy that maintains that in the realm of living. It’s the projection of the Winds of the South into our lives. **Rx:** Anger and frustrations.

## **CUPS**

General: Emotions, Gut Feelings, Serenity, Love, Reversed = Depression, Dissatisfaction

**2 Cups:** Signifier for emotional involvement of partnerships. The love card. Reuniting, coming together. One on one intimate emotional sharing. **Rx:** Emotional ambush.

**3 Cups:** The family, friendships, community. Multi-lateral emotional sharing.

**4 Cups:** A new emotional experience is coming. Your family is in place and supportive. Emotional conservatism. Resting from emotional activities, emotionally satisfied. **Rx:** Being emotionally extreme or unstable, needy.

**5 Cups:** Good present-time base to contemplate past emotional losses. Being able to look at past emotional problems. Letting go of old hurts and disappointments. **Rx:** Not learning from past emotional losses, caught up in past losses, not free of them. Issues of grief, disappointment, past hurts, sorrows, particularly for creating harmony. One sees oneself as a martyr. Could also be justifying for “hanging onto” old stuff as payment for past misdeeds, like a cop-out.

**6 Cups:** Child-like emotional innocence, making positive emotional exchanges, maybe with children. Children in the garden card. Issues of self-esteem around childhood. Getting one’s fair share emotionally. Free and innocent emotional exchange, no hidden agendas. **Rx:** Betrayal, but usually where a child is concerned, like child abuse.

**7 Cups:** Emotional optimism. The Addiction card. Achieving a good emotional balance or sense of self. Appreciation. **Rx:** Not letting go, sliding into addiction, misuse of the “goodies” in life.

**8 Cups:** Emotional fulfillment. Starting the transform and want something higher. Walking away from things that no longer serve. Crawling out of the mud, so to speak. Lower octave of the Moon card.

**9 Cups:** Positively emotionally stable about something. Having your emotions make you feel protected and not being emotionally vulnerable. Being surrounded by a strong emotional support team or group. Higher belief, faith, trust. New emotional outlook. Creativity. All ducks in a row relative to the emotions.

**10 Cups:** Emotional attainment. Radiance. Joy. Satisfaction. Orgasm. Can be marriage – emotional. **Rx:** Disappointment, lack of attainment, apathy, disgruntlements.

**Page Cups:** About child's feelings or new feelings. Fantasy, imagination in the deeper sense of the spirit behind it, the feelings that illuminate it. Ingenuity, innocent wanting but not desire (which is fire), the childlike free flowing loving and caring and appreciation of all that is. A person who is fresh, uninhibited, innocently caring and expressive of their feelings without inhibition. **Rx:** Spiteful, emotional excess, self-centered, self-important display of one's feeling in a dramatic outpouring.

**Knight Cups:** The Holy Grail card. Spiritual attainment, goal setting and pursuing of visions and quests where the attainment is humanitarian and basically selfless (for example: a youthful Mother Teresa), a harbinger of social justice, very outspoken, very active campaigning for higher cause. **Rx:** Active negative emotions. Arrogance, aggressive emotional display, megalomania, championing causes for the wrong reason (for example: pro-choice versus pro-life).

**Queen Cups:** Emotional nourishment, the energy that cements the family together, mature clear visionary womanhood. A lady who understands freedom and puts principle before personal need. Has great empathy for family and community, and is emotionally responsive and comfortable with self. **Rx:** Emotionally deplete, womanhood that has been stripped of its power and fulfillment, the crone who has lost her sense of vitality and purpose.

**King Cups:** Peaceful captain of his ship, a place of serenity, purpose, a leader who inspires humanity to be all it can be, a person of great stature and dignity who walks his talk and lives his dreams, inspires others to go the distance. An adult who has embraced the emotional side of life and lives full in spirit. **Rx:** Avoiding one's emotional responsibility, limiting one's flow of feelings, discomfort with male expression of female principle, at odds with the feminine side of life.

**Ace Cups:** Emotional grace. Emotional health. The outpouring of grace and virtue into the phenomenal world. The flow of empathic, magnetic forces that bind all of humanity together. The field of dreams. The picture of paradise that was painted in the movie "What Dreams May Come." The highest sense of attainment that lures humanity to walk the path of virtue. The lesson that stands behind our experiences, particularly that of sickness versus health, that reminds us that spirit is all that we are. **Rx:** Powerful unstable emotions. Disbelief in the world of spirit, refusal to acknowledge the limitations of the world of mind, and the folly of living outside of the flow of feelings.

## **DISCS**

General: Materiality, Physical Health, Money, Stability, Practicality.

**2 Discs:** What is important to you in the material world. Juggling. Making appropriate choices on the material plane.

**3 Discs:** Agreement about what we are going to work on – practical foundation for a relationship. Signifier for money issues in partnerships. The planning card – of future jobs, creations, building homes. Career plans.

**4 Discs:** Hanging onto what you have materially – material conservatism. The home card. Foundation card. Current. What you have created. Old job you've been doing. An old home (versus 3 discs might be a new home).

**5 Discs:** Issue of abundance and poverty on the material level. Sacrifice: the people could go into the church and get warm or be nourished, but they are on a mission or a quest, and don't need to satisfy their immediate requirements. Willingness to explore not having material things or being OK with giving up material abundance for one's own reasons. Struggling with concepts of how one deals with materiality, minor arcana of the devil. Issues of scarcity or abundance.

**6 Discs:** Material level of the hierophant (issues of fairness). Getting your fair share, doing well financially. Weighing and carefully disbursing material and physical resources.

**7 Discs:** Contemplations about one's material growth. Issues of how you "grow your garden." How do you do in life? Issues of success and failures. Always about issues of self-image and linked to the material world. Contributor to the Devil card. Practical and rational contemplation of material and physical resources.

**8 Discs:** Career card. How are you manifesting it? Making money, job or work. Making a living. **Rx:** Impractical handling of affairs.

**9 Discs:** The lady of the castle, role of mother, lady in the garden. The female who cares for and nurtures the physical aspect of the home and garden. She has a falcon in her hand, which implies status. A falconer was not a peon. The party card. The entertainment card. Women's role. Putting on/taking off the dog. Showing off. Being appropriate in the mundane world. How well do you fit into your environment? Related to the Strength card.

**10 Discs:** Having it all. Also the marriage card – physical. The material aspects of home, family and marriage.

**Page Discs:** Brand new start on material plane. A new endeavor past the planning stage, the gathering of resources to begin again. The desire to own material things that drives us. The beginnings of appreciation of the value of being capable in a material world, appreciation of resources. A fresh look at some of the foundation principles of life, such as money, ownership, property. Page/Tower: in a past life, could be a marriage. **Rx:** Indulgence, wasting of resources, aggressive petulant abuse of the physical world.

**Knight Discs:** Pure achievement. A champion for environmental causes and issues, a person who prefers to use their force in the world of form. Highly capable people who become business leaders, often characterized by aggressive competitive winner take all views in world affairs. **Rx:** Wasting of resources, overly competitive and deceitful business practices, ownership of material things that feeds one's self-importance.

**Queen Discs:** Women's power card. The nourishing side of materiality. The woman's champion and connection to Grandmother's energies, the old image of matriarchical religious practice (lower octave of the Empress), the champion of Athena, campaigning for women's rights, the mature aspect of the Lady of the Garden card (9 discs), the nourishing force behind the dynamic interaction of the male/female principle. The epitome of the Queen of England role in world affairs (that position is an archetype structure) **Rx:** Some disempowering source from the female side of things. Turning one's back on causes and conditions of community affairs, not willing to accept one's role in taking responsibility for maintaining societal integrity. Abuse of one's role with regards to society and personal relationships.

**King Discs:** Men who understand the balance between personal freedoms, supremacy of the individual, and the rights and needs of state and community. The diplomat. The statesman. The champion of the League of Nations. Belief in the Navajo principle that says, "It's OK for someone to starve as long as everyone is starving. Seeing the bigger picture. The essence of the role of the King of England, stately behavior that transcends the ego. The lower octave of the Fool. **Rx:** Over-indulgence, me first, abuse of the system, the lower octave of the Emperor Rx (absolute ownership is the key to my sense of power and control), abuse of status.

**Ace Discs:** The physical health card. Also the wealth card. The principle that stands behind the Navajo Beauty Way. Physical health that comes through having it all (meaning that all of the parts are in contribution to the whole – nothing is left out). Says that I understand value and significance, and that I honor commitment, service and demonstration. This card brings service into the field of possessions, where the principle of Thanksgiving assures the flow that says, "What goes around, comes around." Anything in the world that is complete and has all its parts. **Rx:** Fragmentation, misapplication or misunderstanding of the principles of

health and disease. Seeing the trees instead of the forest, applying band-aid therapies instead of seeking the cause.

## **6. Meaning of Numbers in the Tarot**

**Two:** Choices

**Three:** Paths, or a foundation.

**Four:** Bringing in a new force or condition or influence.

**Five:** Resistance (can be the new energy of the four)

**Six:** Reward

**Seven:** Achievement

**Eight:** Obstacles or challenges.

**Nine:** Completion

**Ten:** The one – the fullest principle on the material plane of the element.

**Page:** Anything new. Novice. To be attempted.

**Knight:** The aggressive teenager. Idealistic. The true aspirant. Visionary. The highest point of energy, but not maturity. Undercurrent of the Fool.

**Queen:** Anything nourishing, sustaining, benevolent. Mature but not the completion. Feminine principles.

**King:** Mature to the old age stage.

**Ace:** Over all the suits. One's whole use of knowledge; embodiment of emotionality; use of will, pain or anger; physical health or material success. It's like dealing with the winds.

## **7. Possible Situation Signifiers**

World: Same, the overall planetary environment

Fortune: The overall Universe environment, physical and spiritual

Empress:	America (every country has an overall personality which can be translated into a signifier. For example, Mexico might be King of Swords and Germany might be Emperor.)
Emperor:	President
Queen of Discs:	Denver (as with countries, each city has an overall personality which can be translated into a signifier. Denver is the “Queen City of the Plains” and is a commercial and money center. Pittsburgh might be the King of Swords, and New York might be the King of Discs.)
Ace of Discs:	Money/the Economy/Body Health
Ace of Swords:	Spirit Vitality
Ace of Wands:	Mental Health
Ace of Cups:	Emotional Health
Aces in General:	May indicate the general positiveness or negativeness of the environment relative to the subject’s well being.
Emperor:	The President, Contracts
Sun:	General Health (Spiritual, Mental, Emotional, and Physical)
Justice:	Legal Matters, Lawsuits, Legislation
Devil:	Large or Long Term Material Contracts, Birth Vision, Spiritual Contracts
8 Discs:	Job/Work/Business (use as job in multiple signifier)
6 Swords:	Travel by Water/Talent
9 Swords:	Compulsions
10 Swords:	Hidden Enemies
Magician:	Knowing magic, consciously and knowingly done magic, good for determining whether to do a spell or other magical operation, or whether one is under directed magical attack.

## Class 21 – Introduction to Tarot

- Priestess: Religion/Subconscious Magic, inadvertent (non-conscious) magic, usually resulting from some moral or religious beliefs giving rise to emotional brooding or praying (may create some really negative effects on one, no matter how unaware or well intentioned the doer may be) and not seen as magical working by the perpetrator. May also indicate “doing it to oneself” on a basis of unrecognized moral or spiritual values.
- 10 Discs: Marriage – Physical, Family, Home. NOTE: In Tarot, marriage, family and home are not single things – they are a result of harmony of emotion, thinking, and material cooperation, hence there is a separate card for each.
- 10 Cups: Marriage – Emotional, Family
- 4 Wands: Marriage – Mental
- 2 Cups: Lovers/Relationships, intimate emotional or passionate couple relationships, these being. Tarot-wise, of the mundane or worldly existence, even though they do affect people’s spiritual conditions.
- 3 Cups: Friendships, emotional sharing among friends.
- Hanged Man: Higher Level or Esoteric Schools  
Star: Spiritual Schools
- 8 Wands: Travel by Air
- 3 Discs: Career Plans

\*Note: Marriage signifiers also apply to family situations.

### **8. Exit Ritual**

For your Exit Ritual, Day Greetings and Day Endings (6 directions) this week use

“In Willingness.”