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FUTURE
IN THE
CARDS
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HEALTH ★ CAREER ★ THE PSYCHE ★ TRAVEL
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Will you meet your true love?

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Will you ever get married?

Ideal Card Chemistry: 8D + 10H + 10D + 6H + AH

Will you make lots of money?

Ideal Card Chemistry: 2D + 5D + 10D + 8C + 8D

Will you be a career success?

Ideal Card Chemistry: 9D + 7C + 7D + 5C + 4D

Will you remain in good health?

Ideal Card Chemistry: 8C + 5H + 8H + 4C + AH

Will you find contentment?

Ideal Card Chemistry: AC + 7H + 4D + 10H + 10D

Look to the Handy Card Reader's Guide to the Best of All Worlds (*Reading Your Future in the Cards*, Part III), for clarification of your readings.

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"Louise's writing is the same as Louise herself: full of Love. Just terrific."

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*In loving dedication to
"The Little Flower,"
my tireless guide.*

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To my editor, Claire Zion, thanks for the sensitivity to recognize the importance of keeping content and intent intact!

To my illustrator, Brian Wall, thanks for the clear and attractive drawings.

Acknowledgments

Orson Welles said that those truly “gifted” with second sight are the anonymous few who live in hills and towns you’ve barely heard of, all over the world.

I believe he had the right idea. There are also those who have “quiet” followings of grateful clients. They very seldom get the limelight but are attuned to the voice within and channel it well. Their spiritually motivated counseling has helped many.

To that select community of metaphysicians, I add my thanks and support: Brenda of New York, Carolyn Fisher of Houston, Janet Slavich of Long Beach, Craig Carr of Canoga Park, G.(A).G. of Mahopac, and “Bubba Fayga,” who started it all for me.

Blessings, Peace, and Light,
Louise Woods

This book and its methods will not tell you if your next-door neighbor is a potential ax murderer. But it will let you know if you can trust him to babysit your cat or to repay the twenty bucks he's asking to borrow.

CONTENTS

Introduction 13

PART I MEANINGS

1	The Pack of Cards	23
2	Definitions	25
	Hearts 26	
	Clubs 31	
	Diamonds 35	
	Spades 40	
3	The Meaning of Pairs	47
4	The Meaning of Multiples	49

PART II
METHODS

5	In the Mood	55
6	Mastering the Reading	57
	How to Lay Out the Cards	57
	How to Read the Basic Layout	63
	The Quest Layout	73
	Responsibility	76
	Projecting the Positive	79
	Time Prediction	85
	When Nothing Happens	87
	Inaccuracies	89
	Letting Go the Deck	90

PART III
MIXES

	A Handy Card Reader's Guide to the Best of All Worlds	94
7	Love and Romance	98
8	Marriage	104
9	Family	110
10	Health	115
11	Career	125
12	Education	132
13	Money/Finance	135
14	Going for the Gusto	140

INTRODUCTION

Curiosity is a great thing. Will you meet a tall, dark stranger? A question like that is a real grabber, isn't it? Irresistible, you might say. Well, at least catchy enough to persuade you to flip through these pages quickly and find something that appeals to you.

Now go ahead, you won't hurt my feelings if you admit it: you are not a great believer in card readings. Good! That's a very healthy attitude.

But you are curious. And not too deep down within you lurks someone who's dying to know what tomorrow will bring, someone who would love to know the answers to some burning questions. . . .

Will that new career choice be the best one?
Is there a rival for your affections?
Will your daughter pass the Bar exam?
Will the next investment lead to a windfall?
Is there a baby in your future?

And, yes, will the next guy you fall for be Mr. Right, the tall, dark stranger of your dreams?

I once read the cards for a woman who was very much interested in love relationships, in finding the tall, dark stranger who would give her love everlasting. The reading turned out so well, with the card chemistry so ideal, that she took those five lucky cards and kept them in her bra for a week, right next to her heart. Did she find what she was after? Yes. Dozens of times!

During those moments of deep personal doubt, or when the front-page headlines seem unreal and unbelievable, I know you've told yourself at least once what a strange world we live in—uncertainty piled upon uncertainty, so many lives affected by so much beyond one's immediate control or ken. These days it's as if Dr. Anxiety makes house calls everywhere. Truly, it would be a fabulous remedy to get a handle on one's future, immediate or long-term.

Actually, many people through the ages have expressed a similar desire. While the exact origin of playing cards remains unknown, there's evidence they were a popular game in the Orient—China, Japan, Korea, India—hundreds of years before they were introduced into Europe, probably somewhere in the twelfth century, by knights returning from their crusades in the Holy Land.

One of the more popular stories of fortune-telling with playing cards involves Charles VI of France, a.k.a. Charles the Mad (1368–1422). Watching him suffer from repeated bouts of insanity (manic-depressive episodes? schizophrenia? glue sniffing?) beginning at age twenty-four, his mistress, Odette, sought new ways to soothe his torment. She asked some artists to decorate a pack of playing cards with pictures of the royal court, including a likeness of the king and herself. These were such a hit that he wanted to share his joy with all of France. So he ordered several more packs, thus launching a very lucrative card manufacturing business.

Enter an enterprising gypsy, of course. Reading for Odette, she revealed secrets known only to the king and his mistress. Word leaked out and soon the entire court was discovering plots via the cards. By the time Charles found out, news of the cards' vaunted oracular powers had become so widespread that the king was moved to ban them everywhere. The life of a royal, it seems, is tough enough without having the entire populace trying to outguess you.

Now that you're this far along, perhaps you're thinking maybe—just maybe—there's something worth reading about in these pages, some bright nugget that will briefly illuminate the unknown void.

I like this attitude. It tells me you're open to new possibilities, to new experiences. It also indicates another very special human quality: the capacity for optimism, for lightness of heart, or at least a strong desire to get beyond the idiotic mayhem mentality of the six o'clock news: "Up next—death on the freeway! We'll be right back . . ."

But let's get serious here. Let's "fess up."

Sure, you're seeking some entertainment, but what you really want are some answers. You want to know if your lover is true. Your emotions are telling you one thing, and your head is hammering you with the opposite. Or is the issue vocational? That is, should you be concerned about the office backbiter, the one who could give Iago lessons in treachery? Or perhaps there is a question about the wonderful new baby in your life? Are you nursing a future space scientist, concert pianist, or politician?

Even when pressed lightly, most everyone will admit to having concerns about tomorrow. But can a deck of ordinary playing cards reveal the future?

Only with your help. The cards alone do not have any power. They can't make things happen. They can only pick up the vibrations of possibility. Without your

insight and intuition, the cards hold no energy. They can best be described as coded impressions of things to come, or as a set of windows overlooking the future. With this book, you'll learn how easy it is to open the curtains to let in the light.

But there's more. Reading the cards can also be a great adventure in self-awareness, a way to get in touch with your own higher centers of consciousness, your own inner voice.

Well, why not? After all, any professional psychic worth his or her predictive salt will tell you there's more to the story than simply laying out the cards and reeling off their meaning. And so, when you read the cards for yourself or for someone else, there's a good chance you'll tap into psychic powers of your own, innate powers which all of us have.

You may be asking yourself at this point, "Why use ordinary playing cards and not Tarot?" There is a very good reason, but it is my reason.

As in every profession, there are those who have a true calling. So it is with the Tarot. I admire the gifted Tarot card reader who can cut through the symbolism and interpret wisely for his or her client. In the wrong hands, however, these cards tend to manifest the dark side of the occult.

Tarot cards, with their archaic, mythological, and highly stylized illustrations, are extremely structured and narrowly defined. Each card *is* story and storyteller. Because of their pictorial intensity and graphic depictions, they leave little room for your own awareness to emerge.

One can study Tarot a lifetime without ever employing individual powers of perception, just memorizing and reading them by rote.

I personally choose not to use them. For me an ordinary deck of playing cards becomes extraordinary.

The method I use, a system of my own invention, allows for your intuition to channel through. You and your insight are the weaver of psychic tales. For the broad definitions I have created enable you the freedom to develop your psychic powers. It is a method for today and the problems of the modern world we live in.

All of this is done with a sense of fun and in an entertaining manner. Entertainment? That's the main purpose of this book, to help lighten your load and enlighten your life, while offering some enjoyment, too. But at the same time, my aim is to help heighten your intuition, to open you up to that wonderful inner voice that's been there all along. We'll do this in three stages:

First, we'll look at the meaning of each card in the deck, some more troublemaking than others, but all of them ready to let you tell it like it is—or like it will be. These are the very same guidelines I have used successfully for more than twenty years.

Next, you'll learn how to set up a reading for yourself or for someone else. Here you'll be instructed in card layout and the importance of layout position. You'll learn about atmosphere, mood, how your focus on the cards can help you weave what you "see" into predictive stories and beneficial wisdom.

But what if prophecy fails? What if things don't happen the way they're supposed to? This section will also explain why there's no need to panic.

Once you've mastered the basics, it'll be time to put it all together—the meanings of various card combinations within specific categories: Love, Romance, Matrimony, Money, Health, Career, Relationships, The Psyche, Travel, Legal matters. Here you'll find lots of examples to help guide the way—some of them drawn from my own files.

Along with the fun in sharing your predictive knowledge and insights, there will be great potential for a tremendously satisfying odyssey, a special voyage

that can lead to deeper personal understanding and to greater trust in yourself.

Indeed, this is a powerful tool you're holding. Depending how you use it, it can determine how you'll feel about yourself and others. The more you practice with it, the more adept you will become. Your own sensitivity will be enhanced, your heart and mind more open to that inner guidance system in all of us. It will become as natural as taking a breath. And who knows, you may even shape destiny, including your own.

Still a bit skeptical? Perhaps if I tell you how the cards "found me," it will help your understanding. It was a lucky accidental discovery which showed me the depths of myself.

I was a working mother in the sixties, with the usual complement: one husband, two children, twelve mortgage payments yearly for a house in suburbia, and tranquilizers for stress "as needed." There was too much of the now to think about; visions of the future were cloudy at best.

You've heard of "The Little Old Lady from Pasadena"? I found the little old lady from Ronkonkoma. She was a card reader and able to cut through my cloudy vision with her clear-sightedness. We consulted on a regular basis.

One day she asked me to pick up the deck of cards and read for her. "I don't know how to do *that*," I nervously protested. She urged me to "use the cards in any way that seems comfortable to you." I awkwardly obliged, and it was then that my card system was instantly conceived, or "divined."

Frankly, I had no conscious idea of what I was saying, but it made perfect sense to her. She had succeeded in unlocking a part of myself I had deliberately tucked away as a child. The "Gift" was mine, then, but seeing things no one else could understand frightened me badly, and I consciously closed down.

My reading was right on the money for this little old lady. She gave me the cards with her client list and told me she was officially retiring. She had finally found someone she could trust to continue the work with integrity. She knew my potential long before I recognized it. In that way she became my first spiritual teacher, setting me on my path.

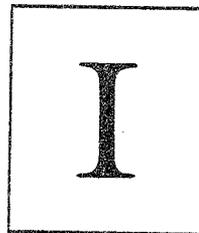
The more I focused on the cards, the more concentrated and precise my readings became. Without being aware of it, I was meditating through the cards, which is similar to staring into a crystal ball.

Thus began a series of inner changes that reshaped my life. Concentration led to meditation, meditation led to clarity of mind, clarity of mind became serenity, and serenity became patience, ultimately eliminating my stress and the need for tranquilizers.

This fearful, dependent woman started trusting herself. I began taking control of my life. It was time to give something back to all those I had leaned on for so long. I became more loving and responsive to my family, more in touch with the world around me, and, eventually, an experienced and empathetic counselor to clients, friends, and family. I was attuned to the voice within me, and I was listening!

My formula for reading the cards has been refined over the years, to the present system I share with you in these pages. You are encouraged to use it as your base and then, as they say, "Do your own thing!"

P · A · R · T



MEANINGS

The Pack of Cards

Most of us are very familiar with the standard pack of ordinary playing cards, and some of us, for a variety of reasons, a lot more so than others. But even if you haven't fooled around with playing cards in a long time, chances are that somewhere in your home, probably in that drawer where you stash an assortment of junk (string, tape, screwdriver, twist-ties, old bottle opener, rubber bands, and assorted birthday candles), you'll find a ratty old deck. Go fish it out. For now we need it just to reacquaint you with the old crowd.

Okay, let's hit the deck. Riff through it. Notice again its familiar fragrance.

Now, what have we got here? Fifty-two cards, not counting the Jokers; that is, if you still have them. (Bet you don't!) Forty cards are the "number cards," numbered sequentially from ace to ten. Twelve cards are "court cards," so named thanks largely to good old Charles VI. Go ahead, inspect them. Aren't these characters cute? So Continental, in a medieval sort of way.

The deck is divided into four suits: Hearts, Diamonds, Clubs, Spades. Each suit contains thirteen cards—an Ace, Two, Three, Four, Five, Six, Seven, Eight, Nine, Ten, Jack, Queen, King. Thus there are twenty-six red cards and twenty-six black cards. *Ecco il deck!*

2

Definitions

First a bit of advice. Suspend whatever preconceived notions you may have as to the meaning of any of the cards. Let them go, kiss them good-bye.

I am asking you to adopt a “beginner’s mind” here, to accept as valid only the definitions that follow.

Why? First, as you’ll see, most cards have more than one meaning. Second, as you’ll also see, during a reading it’s not only one or two key cards with which you’ll be concerned, but also the surrounding cards. All the cards in a layout are needed to derive a complete reading.

Finally, some of the definitions that may have filtered down to you through popular belief may differ considerably from the ones I’m offering. For example, Spades and Clubs, because of their dark suits, have long been associated with the negative side of life. People still flinch when they show up in a reading, particularly if they cluster in the same area. But guess what? It’s a bum rap.

In my readings these much-maligned cards are treated fairly. The hats we hang on them can be lily

white as well as jet black. Nothing in the cards is ever truly one extreme or the other. As in life, the potential for the good and the positive can be found even in the most dire of circumstances. Now let's get on with the parade.

Before you begin, please note that cards will be referred to as A, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, J, Q, K. Card suits will be referred to as C (Clubs), D (Diamonds), H (Hearts), and S (Spades). Put them together and you will find AC = Ace of Clubs, 9H = 9 of Hearts, 5S = 5 of Spades and so on.

When you use the cards as numbers, they also signify *amounts*, such as three (3) marriages, four (4) children, two (2) lovers, etc.

HEARTS

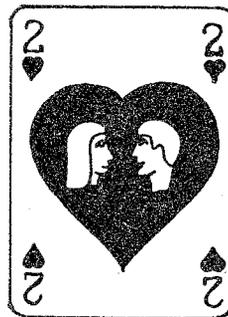


GENERAL ASPECTS

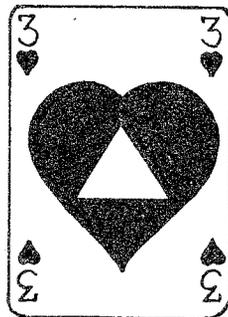
Hearts relate to the heart and all that lightens or enhances it: love, compassion, celebration, fun, comfort, good health, harmony. Astrologically, Hearts are ruled by the planet Venus.



Ace: (AH) This is the Good News card, signifying all forms of celebration, triumph over adversity, major personal or business success, a happy occasion. The Dodgers will return to Brooklyn. No longer will your thirty-year-old wet the bed. You'll always have a date for New Year's Eve.



Two: (2H) Two souls in tune. Lovers. Two people drawn to each other. A true loving relationship. When linked with the "creation card," AS, it signals the birth of twins. What's that—no twins in your family? Well, it seems the genes are about to shift. . . .

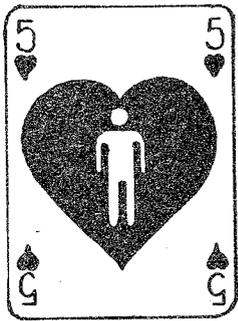


Three: (3H) Look out—it's a love triangle. And not to be sacrilegious, 3H also indicates the Holy Trinity, the perfect love trine, when connected with 10H and 10D. This lovely *tres* is a "Wish Card," albeit a minor one. What's a Wish Card? Just what it says—your wish will come true. It's the card that means all will end well. A positive outcome.



Four: (4H) The second time around; marriage, career, whatever. Here's your chance to go back and complete something left undone, to pay a Karmic debt. You will return to a place or situation you've known before, this time with a greater chance of a positive outcome. Sounds lovely, doesn't it?

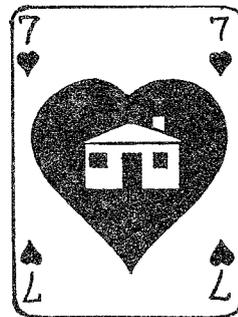
In two parts - twice



Five: (5H) The Good Health card. Good health physically, in your bank account, your home life, vocationally. Also increased energy and creativity. Boy, have you been eating your Wheaties!



Six: (6H) Harmonious and happy partnerships—marital, business, and familial—even with your crazy brother-in-law. Looking for some good friends? They're on their way into your life.



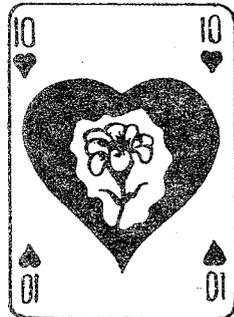
Seven: (7H) The home. A happy home environment. Personal fulfillment and increased self-esteem. But when this card is paired with the Seven of Diamonds (7D), watch out—the Red Sevens can be romantic hot stuff, usually an affair! (See “Mixes” for the tantalizing details.)



Eight: (8H) A major Wish Card. Its presence in the card layout enhances all areas of the reading, especially as regards money, personal desires, career, and home life.



Nine: (9H) Another Biggie Wish Card, this one enhancing all aspects related to career opportunities, travel, and personal philosophy.



Ten: (10H) The most magical and loving qualities of any card in the deck. True altruistic love. Whether such love is projected toward another person, a way of life, a belief, or your pet parakeet depends on the surrounding cards. The total Love Card, 10H is spiritually the highest card in the deck. Spiritual regeneration and transformation. Love and harmony in all that concerns you—marriage, relationships, and business environment.



Jack: (JH) Performing artists take heart. "Lucky Boy Jack" is another major Wish Card, enhancing the outcome of your future. JH is also a "Face Card" indicating any male below age forty, including children and grandchildren.



Queen: (QH) Fair-haired, fair-hearted woman. This is a Lady Love, a sympathetic and loving female just like mom. Also a Face Card for a fair femme.



King: (KH) Here is your fair-haired man over forty; blue eyes, hair gray or blond. In my experience KH also represents Air Signs (not airheads)—Aquarius, Gemini, Libra—as well as all sympathetic and loving men. Now, don't be cynical; there really are more than just a few of them around.

 CLUBS



GENERAL ASPECTS

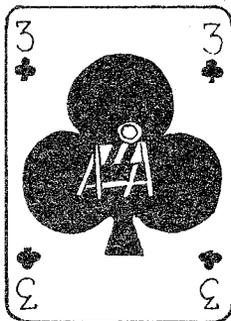
Fleet of foot like Hermes and ruled by the planet Mercury. The practical and the mundane. The nuts and bolts issues. Machinery, computers, media, technology, contracts. Clubs are the great communicators. Also heavily into all forms of travel, domestic and foreign.



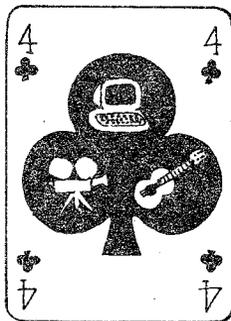
Ace: (AC) Property, residential and commercial. Also a "hot property," as regards creative projects. Time and again this Ace shows up in the readings of my successful TV and film clients.



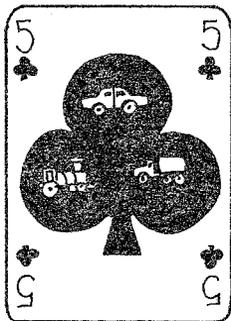
Two: (2C) Verbal communication, generally one-on-one such as telephone calls. On a higher plane 2C also anticipates greater understanding and knowledge, from a power higher than Ma Bell.



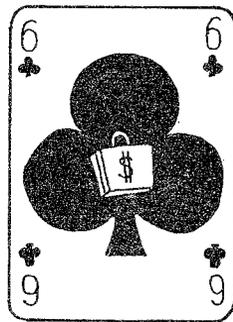
Three: (3C) Delays, postponements of all kinds. Nuisances and nuances, blocks, klinkers. You start a cross-county trip in an R.V. and a tire blows, or you're delayed getting to the "hot date" you've waited three months for and you need to call, but the only coin you have for the pay phone is a penny! Silly, yet annoying . . . that's the 3C!



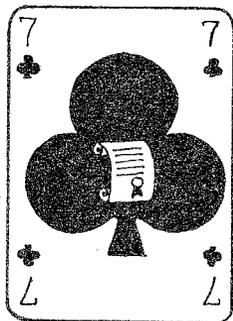
Four: (4C) This card wears several hats, depending on what surrounds it. Hold on. This gets a bit bizarre: all forms of computerized technology, including music synthesizers; visual technology, as in film and TV, X-ray and other diagnostic equipment, electronic communications; the inner workings of things, including the body. And depending on the company it keeps, 4C also denotes the cardiovascular system. Believe it or not, it also represents passports!



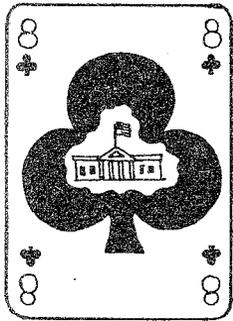
Five: (5C) All written communications—contracts, leases, books, letters, wills, even term papers! When paired with 4C, it's a screenplay. Get the idea?



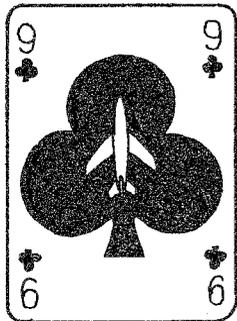
Six: (6C) Land and motor travel by car, bus, train, ambulance, motorcycle, truck. Also walking. The physiology of motion; movement disorders such as cerebral palsy, Parkinson's disease, stroke. And, depending on the surrounding cards, 6C could indicate an auto dealership.



Seven: (7C) Career and business, the Fat Cats. Employment opportunities. Benefits. Promotions. Combined with 7H, it means working from home. Combined with 7D (see below), it means a new career with big bucks.



Eight: (8C) All institutions—government, corporate, public, penal, private, educational, medical, financial.



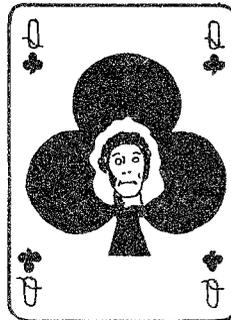
Nine: (9C) Off we go, into the wild blue: air travel, domestic and foreign; vacation and business. And while we're on high, 9C indicates spiritual journeys into higher realms as well.



Ten: (10C) Needless worry, nervousness. The proverbial Jewish mother of the deck. When paired with 5S (the health card), we're talkin' hypochondria. Got it? Get rid of it!



Jack: (JC) Your Tall Dark Stranger under the age of forty. The younger, curly-haired version. A Face Card for a dark-haired man, sensual, exciting. Also male children or grandchildren.



Queen: (QC) The female version of a Tall Dark Stranger at any age. A Face Card for a dark female. Also female children or grandchildren.



King: (KC) Here is the Tall Dark Stranger himself, the mysterious heart-throb in the Burberry. But not always, for KC can represent any dark-haired man over forty and serves as a Face Card for any male friends, lovers, or relatives you may read for.

DIAMONDS

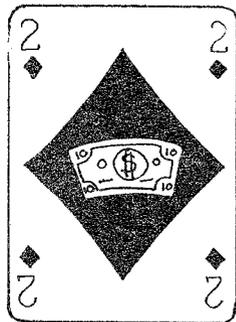


GENERAL ASPECTS

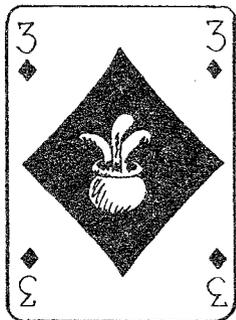
Ruled by the beneficent and lucky planet Jupiter, Diamonds anticipate all forms of financial opportunity and surprise. Perhaps that's why they're associated with the world of the professional. This is also the suit you can count on, literally. Diamonds are the numbers of days, weeks, months, years needed for your prediction to come true.



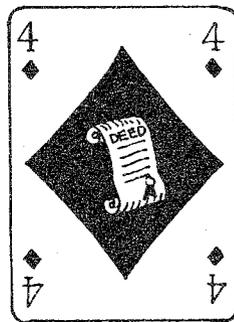
Ace: (AD) Travel. Out-of-state; with 4C, out-of-country trips, moves. These may be linked to offers and opportunities. When paired with AC (property), means relocation. "2 Aces a change of places." Got that? Also signifies the number 1 in predicting a particular event, as in one day, one week, one month, one year.



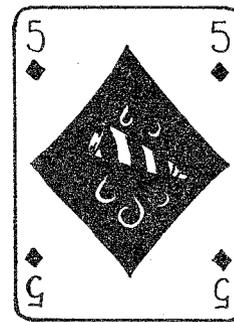
Two: (2D) Money, money, money; outgoing and incoming. Anticipate bids on property or contracts. Also, whatever's coming, money or anything else, will arrive in twos. Signifies the number 2 in terms of time frame for your predictions.



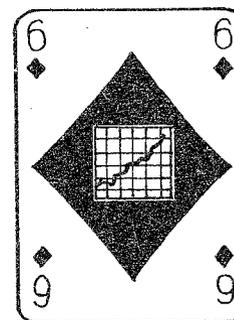
Three: (3D) Business collaborations of more than two persons. Personal "collaborations," ménages à trois. (Bad! Oh, bad!) Yes, it also signifies the number 3.



Four: (4D) Financial security. Also financial deals, mortgages, escrows. Certifications, degrees, grants, scholarships, licenses, approvals of all kinds. The number 4.



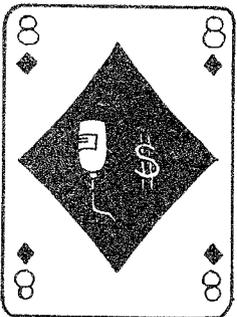
Five: (5D) Surprise, surprise! Something unexpected, wondrous is on the way. A financial goody—a bonus, gift, commission. A windfall! Unexpected visitors. Unexpected pregnancy. It's the unexpected in the most positive way. Together with AH and AS you've got a surprise baby shower! This card also foretells enhanced creativity. The number 5 for your predictions.



Six: (6D) Increased financial activity on all levels. Get ready to do it or get off the pot. Invest. Make that deal. It's money movement time. Also the number 6, as in time predictions, 6 days, 6 weeks, 6 months, 6 years.



Seven: (7D) All kinds of financial opportunity in connection with career change. Prosperity. A feeling of well-being that comes from increased self-worth and self-confidence, manifested in career and in relationships. Paired with its sister Red Seven (7H), we're looking at a romantic link-up. And it's the number 7 for time predictions, too.



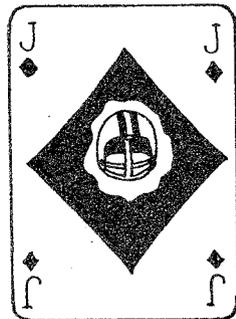
Eight: (8D) Surgery, major, minor, or cosmetic, depending on surrounding cards. Financial opportunities. Successful deal at a bank. Increased activity in investments, estate planning, tax planning. Signifies a major change in the state of your wealth, positive or negative. It's time to do your taxes carefully. The number 8.



Nine: (9D) Again, offers, opportunities, proposals of all kinds, both business and personal. Here's a new twist, however: increased interest in metaphysics, in matters highly spiritual. See, there's more to life than material gain. The number 9.



Ten: (10D) Extraordinary financial opportunity. Congratulations! The highest card as regards material wealth and success. All of it coming with public recognition. Use it well and share it with the Universe. It will return to you one-hundred fold. When coupled with 10H can pre-announce a great spiritual awakening. It is the number of unity and completion.



Jack: (JD) No, we don't mean juvenile delinquent. This is the active sports-minded male. The costumed or uniformed male—policeman, fireman, judge, doctor, lawyer, Indian chief, and working actor . . . call Central Casting! Also indicates your local Boy Scout or school-aged, sports-minded youngster.



Queen: (QD) Professional women, this is your card. Female authority figures; anyone from Mother Teresa to "Mommy Dearest" figures prominently. Teachers, health-care providers, CPAs, account execs, judges.



King: (KD) The male-over-forty version of the above. Add politicians, investment bankers, and entrepreneurs to the list. Definitely the custom-tailored crowd!

SPADES



GENERAL ASPECTS

If cards could sing, spades would be hitting the lower octaves, the bass as well as the baser notes of life—sexuality, obsessions, compulsions—the gamut of strong emotion. This is not to say Spades is the negative suit. Whatever their individual meaning, Spades can always be elevated to higher octaves by the surrounding cards. They are jointly ruled by Neptune and Pluto, because of the illusory quality of these cards; Pluto because it represents the depths and the heights in all of us.



Ace: (AS) It is said that the only things certain in life are death and taxes, and in the past, seers and subjects alike have added the Ace of Spades to that dreary list as a portent of doom, gloom, and the negative side of life generally. But take heart! AS is a card of *foretelling* not *foreboding*!

It is the card of *creation, life, power, regeneration, and transformation.*

The Ace of Spades (AS) is one of the most powerful cards in the deck, and coupled with the 10H, the energy is that of Universal Light and Love—Total Peace and Harmony.

It also indicates all kinds of creation—what we create from our bodies (children), what we create from our minds (art, literature), and the spiritual wholeness we create from within.

As well as *kinds* of creation, the Ace of Spades (AS) also represents the three *levels* of creation:

Creation fundamentally begins in our lower centers as sexual energy and sense awareness, in animals as well as humans. It is primitive, male energy seeking female, the north and south pole of a battery which together make electricity, the positive and negative in all matter which comes together to make a harmonious union.

We take this a step higher, because human beings have the reasoning power to transform the base concept and elevate it. It then becomes creative energy from conscious mind, i.e., intellectual ideas.

The third step is reached when we ultimately (and ideally) recognize that both male and female energy dwells within each of us in harmony. Therefore, we are already whole, needing no other half. This highest revelation is creation from the superconscious mind, i.e., spiritual awareness and/or regeneration.

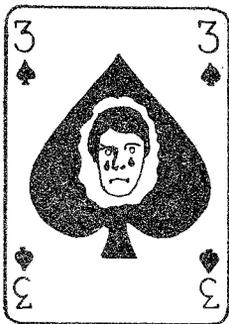
AS also rules the reproductive organs. It deals with the health and well-being of the lower centers. Birth, abortion, hysterectomy, prostate problems, sexual dysfunction, sexually transmitted diseases, and the use and misuse of this vital energy.

Gets you thinking, doesn't it? That's the idea!



Two: (2S) Secrets. A secret romance, a secret deal, a dark secret about someone you know. The unseen and unknown, including positive benefits not visible on the surface. And if this deuce turns up with 10S, look out for a con game or some other larcenous plot. Could spell trouble in a clandestine way. With 8C (penal institution) could indicate prosecution and incarceration.

The 2S can be lots of fun when teamed with 5D, which together signify a surprise party or shower. Some other wrinkles: 2S can create a Neptunian veil. For instance, in a reading on love and romance, "What you see ain't what you get!" The same applies to business deals (more details in the "Mixes").



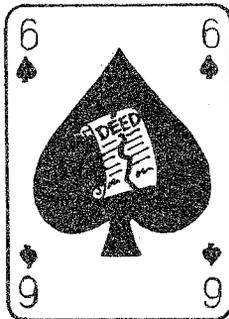
Three: (3S) The card of sadness, tears, and misery in general. Emotional responses to unhappy conditions. With 5C (screenplay), it could mean you've written a tragedy. But that, of course, will depend on the surrounding cards.



Four: (4S) This is not "Happily ever after." It means endings of a permanent and sometimes tragic nature. Each ending, however, heralds a new beginning.



Five: (5S) Illness of all kinds—physical, emotional, even business ills. Creativity blocked on all levels. Who ever said the bed of roses comes without thorns?



Six: (6S) Divorce and dissolution of all types of partnerships, business and personal. Also signifies a troubled marriage, a letting-go process in all kinds of relationships.



Seven: (7S) Unhappiness in the home. Personal dissatisfaction, lack of privacy, no inner or outer harmony. Something's troubling you. Can't stand the new furniture? Or is it some inner turmoil that's on the way?



Eight: (8S) Heavy emotions, but not necessarily in a negative way. Tremendous passion, feelings of the overflowing heart, extraordinary empathy and compassion. It could be deciding whether your longing is love or lust—or a little of both! It's gushy, mushy, feminine—the kind of emotion a “real man” would never admit to having, so you “find him out” through the cards. Tricky tools, aren't they? 8S is the fire behind one's response to life.



Nine: (9S) Disappointments of all kinds, but certainly not permanent ones.



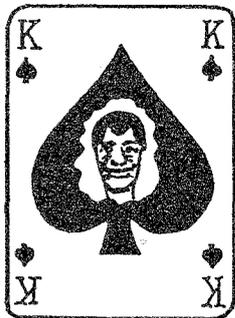
Ten: (10S) Tragic endings, especially when one is not ready to let go. Signifies the lesson of “letting go and letting God,” in other words, surrendering to God's will. Also life-space transitions. It represents endings to a portion of life, closing the door, letting go of the past.



Jack: (JS) Another Tall Dark Stranger under forty. However, this character is from a different ethnic background or country. If coupled with foreign travel cards, get set for an adventure you've only dreamed about. When JS shows up in a woman's reading, it represents Latin Lovers and those from Asia or the Third World. Are the Red Sevens present? So is a passionate romance!!



Queen: (QS) Older female—mother, grandmother, aunt. Sometimes less than agreeable. Temperamental “witch”—not the flying-broom variety, more the nagging, pouting, do-you-dirty type. Also women of different ethnic backgrounds.



King: (KS) A Tall Dark Stranger over forty from a foreign land. Not necessarily a Lothario or Rasputin, but it is suggestive of one. A foreign "lech" is always nicer than the home-grown variety. Also represents father, grandfather, rich or poor uncle, and an assortment of nefarious characters.

3

The Meaning of Pairs

Cards that turn up in pairs have their own special meaning. Here they are, presented poetically—well, at least there's rhyme—to help you remember what they represent.

AC + AD	Two Aces, a change of places.
2C + any other Two	Two Twos, abundant news.
4D + 4C	Two Fours, money pours.
5C + 5H	Two Fives, creative vibes.
6H + 6D	Two Sixes, marriage enriches.
7H + 7D	Red Sevens, hot romance beckons.
8D + 8C or 8 H	Pair of Eights, power waits.

48 / READING YOUR FUTURE IN THE CARDS

9C + 9D	Two Nines, the trip's fine.
10H + 10D	Red Tens, spirit ascends.
JC + any other Jack	Pair of Jacks, someone comes back.
QC + QS	Pair of Queens, gossip is mean.
KC + any other King	Two Kings, news brings.

Oh, yes, the threes, as in 3C+3H. No special rhyme in pairs, but accept them as kindly, unseen spiritual guidance—The Holy Trinity.

10C + 10H - years of stability
10D + 10S - difference of opinion

4

The Meaning of Multiples

When three or four of the same card are clustered together, such "multiples" serve to increase the predictive power of that portion of the reading. And so now we have another little list, but this time without the poetic twist.

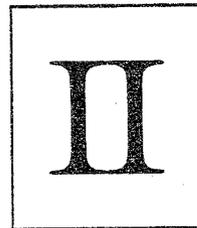
ACES: Tremendous change in one's life. No matter how these changes come about, it will always be for the better. If you're the type who doesn't cotton too well to change, these show you you're ready to take control of your life. Your independence and power shine.

TWOS: Whatever's coming will be doubled; twice the money, birth of twins, a pair of free-loading relatives, or a warning to stay away from Geminis.

- THREES:** Nothing mundane. Awareness on a higher plane. An initiate, a budding spirituality.
- FOURS:** Financial opportunities abound. Time to start buying the more expensive house.
- FIVES:** A good sign for people in the arts. Indicates peak creative energy. Success and awards are sure to follow.
- SIXES:** Crucial decisions about sharing and pairing in personal and business life.
- SEVENS:** Extraordinary career changes. Tonight you're a computer whiz kid. Tomorrow you become a corporate giant. How about that?!
- EIGHTS:** The power multiple. When the power 8s cluster in the card layout for a professional person, it's a sure bet great recognition is in store. May I please have your autograph?
- NINES:** The guru in you awakens. Great outer and inner journeys. Change of philosophy. Changes in attitude. Really getting to know yourself a lot better. Increased insight and intuition.
- TENS:** The intangibles will be enhanced—love, harmony, spiritual and personal fulfillment. Who would turn down such rewards as these?

- JACKS:** If you read this in the cards of an older female, it means she likes lots of younger men, much younger. If you read this in the cards of a man, it means he is teacher, mentor, or someone who works with the young, male or female. In the cards of other females it's a gauge of their "attraction" quotient.
- QUEENS:** You have strong female allies, loving and supportive. It indicates participation in clubs, guilds, and creative organizations.
- KINGS:** Ditto! Powerful allies in this world and the next. You will meet with people in high positions who can help you achieve your goals. Also represents the Magi.

P · A · R · T



METHODS

In the Mood

I know you're itching to get going. Chances are you've already taken a peek at what's ahead, maybe even flashed on something near and dear to your concerns. It's as if that pack of cards on the table is beginning to vibrate. Well, hold your horses, and learn a little something about setting the mood before you lay out the cards. It could enhance your own psychic sensibilities.

True, not all gypsies are psychic and not all psychics are gypsies. But any good psychic, gypsy or no, will always be concerned with setting the right mood before a reading, golden earring and incense notwithstanding. This isn't done strictly for dramatic effect, but to create an atmosphere of tranquility, a quieting of spirit, mind, and body. Whether reading for yourself or for someone else, when you set a relaxed, tranquil mood it can help open the channels to one's higher centers of consciousness. And it can improve concentration. It's also part of the fun.

Here are some tips for getting into the mystical mood, whether reading for yourself or someone else:

1. Light a few candles—either pink or white will do nicely. They are highly spiritual colors.

2. Incense? Of course. Make it fragrant but not cloyingly so. Use only enough to gently cleanse the air around you.

3. If you want music, listen to whatever relaxes you *before* the reading. Music during a reading, even soothing New Age music, can be distracting.

4. No need to dim the lights or shut the blinds unless you're worried about the guy with the telescope across the way.

5. Sit comfortably, regally if you must. Keep both feet on the floor; no need for cross-legged contortions. It could block psychic energy flow. Remember, you want to be able to reach the cards easily and see them clearly.

6. If you think they may pose a problem, gently banish the kids and pets to another room. If you've flunked Parent Effectiveness Training, try bribery.

About those golden earrings: If you've got 'em, flaunt 'em! Couldn't hurt. Now let's put a solid-colored cloth on the table, a glass of water on the side, and we're all set.

And remember this: I'm all for fun and games, not compulsion or unnatural bonding to a deck of cards. *You* provide the insight; they provide the tool to help focus your consciousness.

When I first started reading at house parties and for church organizations, I went the whole nine yards: flowing caftans, turbans, hanging earrings, long polished nails. I was terribly exotic. The only residual affectation these days are my long nails.

6

Mastering the Reading

HOW TO LAY OUT THE CARDS

THE BASIC LAYOUT

Let's do this by the numbers. It's all very simple.

1. Open a pack of ordinary playing cards and get rid of the Jokers. We won't be needing them.
2. Pull a Face Card that reflects the age and coloring of your subject:

QC—Women of any age, darker coloring

QH—Blondes and redheads

JC—Men to age forty, darker coloring

JH—Fair-haired men to age forty

KC—Men beyond age forty, darker coloring

KH—Fair-haired men beyond forty

Please Note: Only the card sitting in the center of the layout is designated the Face Card. It represents the

subject of the reading. Face Cards are depicted by Hearts and Clubs exclusively (see Fig. 1). All other Jacks, Queens, and Kings are hereinafter referred to as Picture Cards.

3. Place the Face Card in the center of the table, face up, as in Fig. 2. This card now represents you or the subject of the reading.
4. Shuffle (if reading for yourself) or ask your subject to shuffle the deck well, until you feel ready. No need for fancy cardsmanship; just some efficient shuffling will do fine.
5. Fan out the deck face down. Choose, or ask your subject to choose, any twelve cards. Then put aside the rest.
6. Take the twelve cards and deal them out clockwise and face up, starting at the top, as shown in Fig. 3. **IMPORTANT:** Deal them around the Face Card to the four compass points (North, East, South, West). This will yield four spreads, three cards in each.
7. Fan out the rest of the pack face down (*don't reshuffle*), and select, or ask your subject to select, nine more cards. Again, set aside the remaining cards.
8. Deal out eight of the nine cards, face up, one at a time, two to each of the four sectors. These will be added to the three existing cards, yielding a five-card spread in each sector, as in Figure 4.
9. Place the ninth card, face up, on the center card (the Face Card). This is the "Destiny Card" (see Fig. 5).
We'll discuss its significance later.
10. Scan the sectors—North, East, South, West. Make sure all the cards are face up and that each sector contains five cards. Your reading will start with the layout in the North sector, and then you will travel to the East, South, and West.

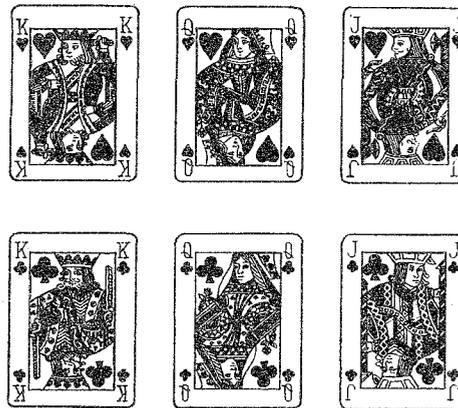


FIGURE 1. Face Cards

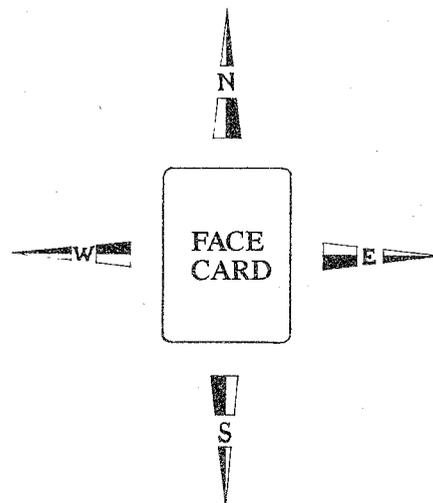


FIGURE 2.

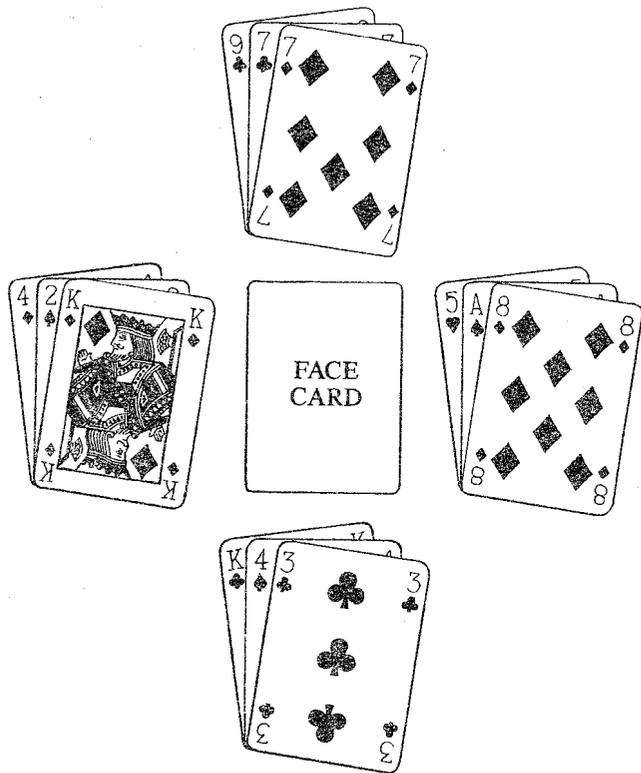


FIGURE 3.

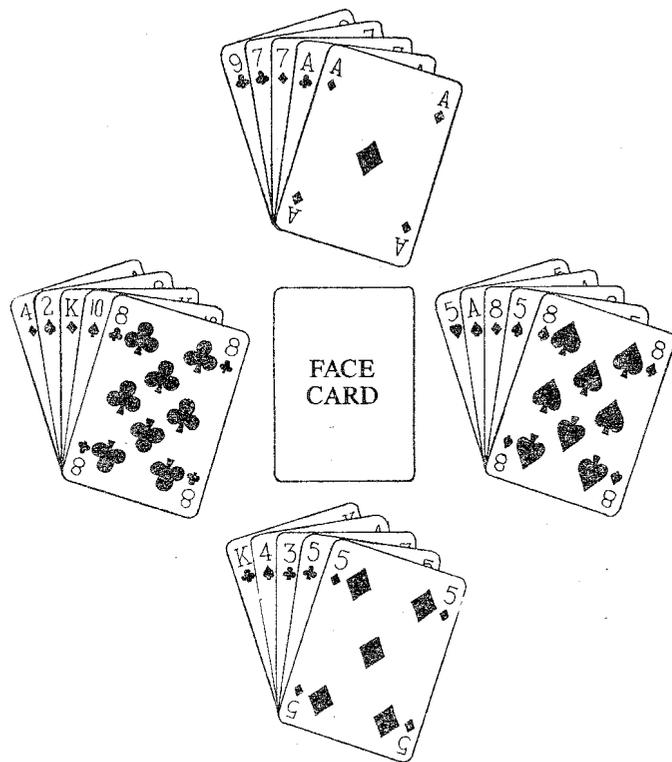


FIGURE 4.

HOW TO READ THE BASIC LAYOUT

PRACTICE, PRACTICE, PRACTICE

You're all set to go. You've laid out the cards properly. The little cuties are out there waiting to reveal their secrets.

Seated just across the table, your subject quakes with anticipation, while you, a limpid pool of tranquility, remain open to every psychic vibration. It's so quiet you can hear the candles sputter.

But have you done the most important thing, done it even before deciding to lure someone over for a reading? What am I talking about? You know—*home-work!* It's a lousy word. Who wants to study when it's games you want to play?

But remember that old joke: "How do you get to Carnegie Hall? Practice, practice, practice." Sure I want you to have some fun. Lots of it. But you'll enjoy the cards even more if you practice a little bit before luring your first subject into your parlor. You'll have just as much fun and less time will be wasted in flipping through the pages for the card meanings. And, once you are familiar with the meanings of each card, you'll be more free to tune in to your intuitive sensibilities, the source of your own psychic powers.

Furthermore, when I say practice, I really do mean play—the kind of play that challenges your imagination to go beyond the individual definitions of the cards. What we're talking about here is storytelling, stringing together little stories about each of the five-card spreads in our basic layout: North, East, South, and West.

So before you read for someone else, I advise that you read for yourself. Vary the Face Card to fit an imaginary subject. Then lay out the cards and play with

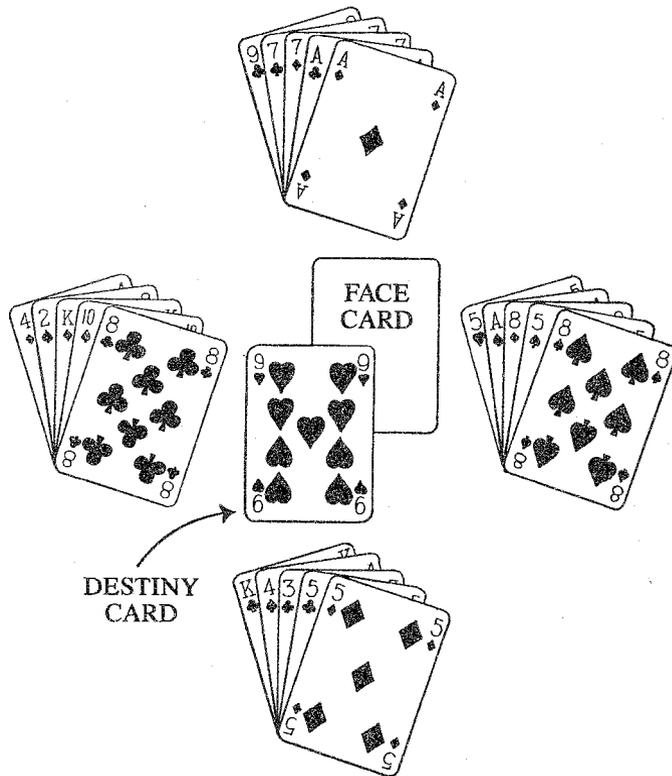


FIGURE 5.

the definitions as you learn them. Add definition to definition to get a story for each spread. Learn the fun terms, the catch phrases ("2 Aces, change of places," "Red Sevens, romance beckons," etc.).

The secret here is to let your creative mind take over. Go beyond a simple patchwork addition of definitions. Use your creativity to invent a scenario. And keep in mind that a card's meaning is often shaped by the company it keeps.

Let's get down to the nitty gritty and look at the cards in the basic layout.

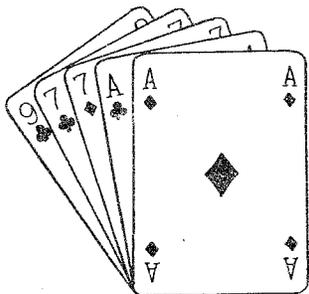


FIGURE 6.

Figure 6. The North spread contains these cards, from left to right: 9C, 7C, 7D, AC, AD. Now let's check out the definitions of these beauties:

9C = Travel. Sounds good. Is it for career or vacation? Let's see . . .

7C = Career and business career opportunities. Aha! But will it pay . . .

7D = Financial opportunities in connection with . . . career changes! All right!

AC + AD = You guessed it—two Aces, change of places. So what's the story from the north? A relocation for a potentially lucrative career opportunity.

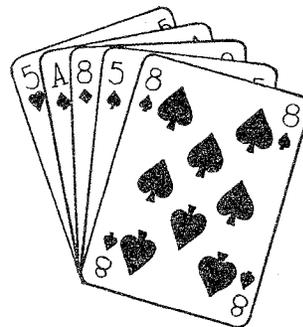


FIGURE 7.

Figure 7. Now let's head East.

5H, AS, 8D, 5S, 8S. Hmm. This looks interesting.

5H = Good health.

AS = Creation or sexual reproduction. So far very intriguing.

8D = Let's go with surgery here.

5S = Illness, probably physical.

8S = Some heavy emotion.

The cards tell a story: Surgery possibly involving the reproductive system (hysterectomy?) with the outcome in doubt, at least for a while. Now if the fives were reversed in their position, the reading would be somewhat more optimistic—surgery to alleviate a problem in the regenerative or reproductive organs with a stable and healthy outcome.

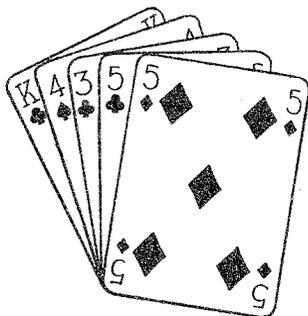


FIGURE 8.

Figure 8. Time to head South for the winter.

KC, 4S, 3C, 5C, 5D. Let's check this together.

KC = An older male figure, perhaps a relative?

4S = A passing.

3C = Delays of some kind.

5C = Written communications, probably legal papers.

5D = Surprise, surprise—could this be a money windfall?

Call it! You've got it: looks like there's a legacy coming your way from the passing of a male relative, albeit after some delays after probate of a will.

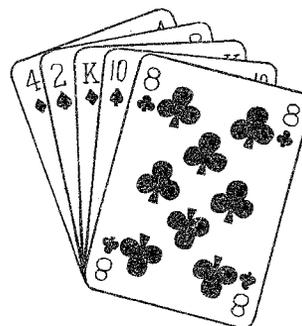


FIGURE 9.

Figure 9. Time to go West, young . . . whatever!

4D, 2S, KD, 10S, 8C. This contains some subtleties.

4D = Financial security. Nice, very nice.

2S = Uh-oh—secret goings-on. Maybe something tricky.

KD = Professional man, older.

10S = Tragic endings, maybe having to give up something?

8C = Institutions, probably financial.

What we have is a warning. It's time to change your accountant or business manager. Why? There's a good chance you're getting fleeced. Or to put it more gently (which I prefer to do), take a closer look at the person who's handling your finances. With all that cash about to flow in, it's best you check for any leaks.

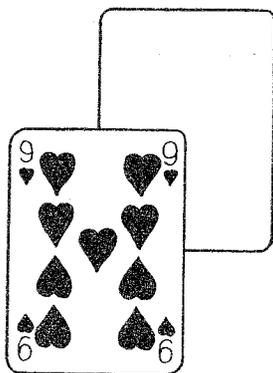


FIGURE 10.

Figure 10. Now we take a look at the Destiny Card. Wonder of wonders. You are certainly sitting beneath some benevolent stars. It's good old 9H, the Wish Card foretelling good fortune to you no matter what the reading suggests. How about that!

That wasn't so rough. Shall we try another? This time you are on your own, no illustrations to look at, just the layout of cards on the table. Time to get the feel for handling the deck. Here's a little extra tip. Why not write the definitions on 5" x 7" cards and use them with the cards at the beginning until you get the hang of it.

I'll give you the first two spreads, North and East, with definitions, then you choose the cards for the South and West. Don't forget to use a Face Card in the center (your choice).

Reading from left to right, in the North spread we find: 10D, AS, 5C, 8S, 9H—check the definitions:

10D = A financial windfall.

AS = Creation, but what kind? A book, a baby?

5C = Written communication—contracts, book, screenplay?

8S = Emotional pressure or stress.

9H = A major Wish Card. Further reinforcement that all will be well.

Let's put all this information together.

There will be a financial windfall from a creative venture. A writing project. Even though you've got the success and money, there is still some emotional pressure or stress. Take heart (excuse the pun)—9H to be exact; everything is going to turn out fine.

Now try reading the East spread, again from left to right (*a must!*):

7H, 9D, 3C, 10C, 7S—This looks intriguing.

7H = Happy home life.

9D = Offers, opportunities.

3C = Delays, postponements.

10C = Needless worry.

7S = Unhappiness in the home.

Well, here's a new wrinkle. We start out with a happy home and end with an unhappy one. Let's connect the cards, one meaning after another, to get the story.

Basically, you have a happy home life. You are waiting for a major opportunity, but it is delayed and makes you a little crazy (needless worry). If you bring that worry home with you, your home life will be affected. If I were reading, I would caution my client to be wary of allowing any work-related turmoil to spill over into the home life. Do you remember that 9H Wish Card from the North spread? Look, it's there on the table. You could confidently predict that ultimately all will be well.

You've chosen the rest of the cards for South and East, so look at how they lay out and interpret for yourself. I think you're getting the idea.

First you learn the card definitions. Then you play with the cards by connecting the meanings, in sequence, to create a story. Give yourself the freedom to express what you "see." Don't hold back, let it flow!

Should you take your play seriously? That is, should you look for any psychic significance in the layouts with which you're practicing? The answer is *maybe!* Some of you will develop your psychic skills more quickly than others. Remember, though, you're not in a race. This is strictly for play, not for keeps. It's just a rehearsal, but you could be "tuning in," even at this early date.

However, only when you feel more comfortable with the meanings should you try reading seriously for yourself or someone else. Remember, take your time!

I say this not because of some mystery about the cards. The reason is quite simple. If you begin reading without some practice, you'll only handicap yourself by blocking the energy flow between you, the cards, and the subject. Spontaneity will be inhibited. And as a result, so will the sensitivity of your intuitive awareness. Which is what you're trying to tap into through our vehicle, the cards.

So please don't go looking for the future as soon as you start riffing through the book. A little time and a little patience can't help but add to your enjoyment.

Think of it this way: if you were an Indian rehearsing a rain dance, would you expect the heavens to start pouring rain? Or would you be happy with a little drizzle, just something to let you know that you're on the right track?

YOUR SUBJECT'S IDENTITY

It helps to know the identity or the occupation of your subject. But even if you are reading for a stranger, you'll be surprised how quickly the cards will reveal something specific about that person's identity or occupation.

A good example of this comes from my numerous experiences with media personalities, especially actors and actresses. Over the years I've discovered that my readings for these individuals often present a problem. I have difficulty distinguishing reality from illusion, real from reel. The scenarios I paint based on the cards might reflect a role the performer is undertaking, or about to undertake, and not the reality of his or her real life.

I was visited by a media client who was in a muddle over his career. Part of the reading involved travel out of state, successful investments, a large estate, power. I kidded him (so I thought) about giving up acting and becoming a Texas millionaire. Perhaps his future would be in Dallas, I said. Pack your boots and grab your Stetson.

The poor guy looked at me as though I were mad. Sounds like you missed it this time, he said on the way out. Well, two months later he called to apologize, and to tell me he was up for a role in "Dallas." What I had described, he said, fit exactly the character and the plot.

Here are some of the cards in that particular layout. In the North spread I saw travel (9C along with AD, the latter indicative of travel out of state), 10D (lots of bucks), and 8C, 8D (power eights). The East spread contained the nugget of the episode scenario: QH, 10H, QS, 8S, 2S (two women, a triangle, difficult personal involvement, secrets).

Even if you don't know who your subject is or what he or she does for a living, sometimes it will jump

out at you that this person is an accountant, doctor, policeman, actor, or even a film producer in the midst of a big negotiation. And sometimes there's something in the reading that tells you what career path or lifestyle this person should be following.

The message? You must allow your intuitive awareness to work with the cards. Let it through. Don't let distraction block that energy, distractions such as having to look up the meanings of the cards. So I say again—practice, practice, practice. It will help keep the intuitive energies flowing freely. And, when you get a little message in your head about this person across the table from you, do spill it out. Even if what you're about to say seems strange, say it anyway. Trust yourself. Chances are it will be right on the mark. It's just a matter of opening your intuitive sensibilities to those coded impressions of the future, the playing cards.

THE DESTINY CARD

Remember the ninth card in the layout, the one we placed over the Face Card in the center? This is the Destiny Card. It is the card that puts an additional coloration over the reading. For example, if this card is 9H, one can assume that all will turn out well no matter how bad things appear to be.

But a word of caution. Don't be alarmed if this card is not the most positive in the deck. It's just a piece of the puzzle, not the entire picture. Moreover, what you see in the cards is never inevitable. This is true for three reasons:

- First, it is your *interpretation* of what you believe you see and, therefore, always speculative. It is an educated guess, and the more experienced you become, the more intuitive and closer to the mark it will be.

- Then, there's *free will*. The subject's personal decision to accept or not accept what you say. If you are putting up a warning flag about a particular problem and someone **CHOOSES** not to see it, the outcome will be different than intended.

- Selective hearing is the third reason. The subject hears what he or she wants to hear. You communicate the information in one way, and it's received in another.

Nothing you say is set in stone. And that applies to the Destiny Card as well. Say, for instance, 3C is the ninth card, the Destiny Card. Remember the meaning? Delays, postponements! The prospect of delays and postponements may be annoying to some, but to others they can offer a chance to reassess one's goals, even find more effective ways to achieve them. Again, it is the exercise of free will. The cards don't control the future, the individual does.

THE QUEST LAYOUT

After reading the basic layout, either for yourself or someone else, there will be specific questions requiring a more in-depth reading. Say, for example, you see in the basic layout indications of a health problem or crisis. If you're reading for yourself, let me caution you not to take everything literally. You may be reading a spread in which it's unclear who the person is. Perhaps there is more than one Picture Card involved or none at all. Issues such as these can be tackled directly in a Quest reading.

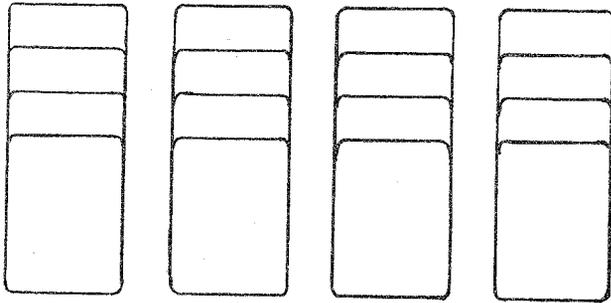


FIGURE 11.

Again, by the numbers:

1. Reshuffle the deck.
2. Fan out the cards.
3. Choose any sixteen cards.
4. Of these, select any four.
5. Ask a specific question aloud.
6. Turn over each card, face up, in an overlapping line as in Figure 11.
7. Read the answer, from top to bottom.

Using the remaining twelve cards, repeat steps 4 through 7 for each of three additional questions. Thus the Quest answers four questions.

(For numerology fans: We call this the Quest because the number 16 in numerology is actually a 7 (1+6). And the number 7 in numerology = a quest.)

Say, for example, the particular question is "Will my lover become my life partner?" (Everyone involved romantically is dying to learn the answer to that.) Okay. Reading from top to bottom, let's turn over four cards: 2H, 6H, 10H, AS, as in the first column of Fig. 12.

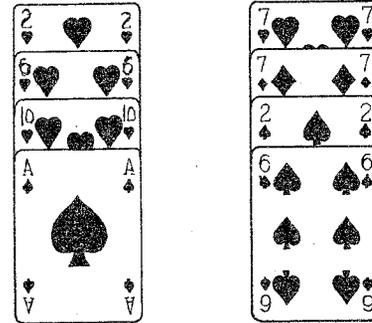


FIGURE 12.

2H = Two souls in tune

6H = Harmonious, happy partnership

10H = Love and harmony in marriage

AS = Creation and/or sexual intimacy.

Start shopping for the rings, call the preacher, and rent the hall. The answer is *yes, yes, yes!* Your mate in love will be your mate in marriage, and there'll be a family to complete the picture.

But what if you turn over the combo in the second column of Fig. 12? 7H, 7D (hot passionate romance), 2S (deception), 6S (divorce). Forget the invitations, keep your ads in the personals column a while longer, and meanwhile enjoy this for as long as it lasts. Looks like a bright beginning that may not end so sweetly.

Part III of this book (Mixes) contains many examples of card combinations applicable to the kinds of questions you are bound to encounter in your readings.

RESPONSIBILITY = DISCRETION + POSITIVITY

It's bound to happen, maybe not during the first few readings, but you can be certain it will occur. The cards show it plainly: a passing, a death.

Perhaps it will appear in a configuration involving 4S and 10S. Or perhaps it will be associated with an illness, 5S. It may turn up during the Quest reading, in response to a specific question regarding a loved one.

How should you handle such dire prognostications? Do you lay it on the line, call it like you see it? It can be a difficult decision, but it will pose less of a problem if some guidelines are followed.

1. Use discretion. If your subject is someone you think can't handle such information without great difficulty, don't give it. Remember, you are reading for someone's pleasure and enlightenment. We want to lighten the spirit, not induce anxiety and pain.

2. Recognize that you are not the final word on key issues of life and death. This is only your interpretation of the cards, what you think you see. Moreover, miracles do happen every day. During a reading, when I am faced with life or death issues, I pray for a positive outcome.

3. Note the position of the spread from which you are reading. It can make an important difference in how you present the information. For example, Picture Cards in the South spread may relate to someone who is more on the periphery of your subject's life.

4. Note the neighboring cards, including the Destiny Card and those in the other spreads. Even the most unfortunate of card combinations can be influenced by the overall reading.

But why be concerned about responsibility? Isn't all this really in the cause of fun? This is a good question, and a very important one.

No matter how casually one approaches the reading, there's still some trepidation about its outcome, about what will be revealed or predicted. It's only natural. For many of us, bravado is often a disguise for insecurity. In other words, you can assume that your subject will experience some anxiety about the reading, no matter how lighthearted. In fact, I'd guess that anxiety is very important to the experience of fun. It's what gives us the goosebumps, the chills, that thrill of anticipation when entering the realm of the mysterious, the unknown. Like card readings.

Your subject's anxiety or slight trepidation should be respected, never abused or manipulated. Remember, too, that they are vulnerable. All of my clients—famous or unknown, rich or poor, true believers and skeptics alike—bring with them a need to know, a desire for answers, for alternatives. To that extent, they are vulnerable, open to suggestion. After all, it's their lives we're discussing. Respect their vulnerability, no matter how well disguised it may be.

What does this mean in terms of your own responsibility? For one, it means no power trips, no attempts to manipulate meanings consciously for the sake of your own ego. That's a serious no-no. It's what charlatans do.

I am reminded here of a woman who came to see me for readings a lot more frequently than most of my clients. Whenever my predictions were right on the money, she would come back and say, "Louise, you are so tuned in to me. If you would tell me to go jump off a bridge, I would do it."

Well, just for the record, I don't feel comfortable with that kind of power; I don't like it. That's a trip for some, but not for me. But be warned that some people for whom you read—even when it's just for laughs—may marvel so much over your "powers" of prediction that they'll fall into a kind of discipleship, as if you were

their guru or mentor. Be very aware of this. You never want to be placed in a position where the other person is giving you personal control over their own destiny, a "tell me what to do and I'll do it" attitude toward you.

How can you do this? Very simple. First, don't let your ego get in the way. Avoid dependency situations with your subjects. You present the reading with love and affection and that's it. Stay away from giving advice, from telling people what they should or shouldn't do with their lives.

Second, in all instances you must be as objective and nonjudgmental as possible. You must let the cards take you out of the situation, as it were, so you can become an observer rather than a participant, albeit an observer who is also concerned with preserving the well-being of the subject. By allowing greater objectivity, you will also allow greater clarity as well as greater openness to answers you might otherwise not see.

And finally, you must strive not to inflict pain or cause harm. It is the responsibility of the card reader to project a positive outlook, to reinforce or accentuate the positive, to present optimistic alternatives to otherwise negative circumstances as revealed in the cards.

All that I impart to you, I had to learn. It took me a long time, as it will you, but always trust that your best instincts will surface.

When I first began working with the cards, I read for friends and family and anyone who would let me practice on them. Since it was all so new, it was fun a good deal of the time. Occasionally it was serious business.

Along with a group of friends, I went on a vacation to Pennsylvania. We were all "antique nuts," and this particular area had tons of them for sale. We had some rain and gathered in the hotel lobby to wait it out. As usual, I became "entertainment du jour." Boredom dissolved, as I gave some mini readings.

While focusing on one of the guys in our party, all I saw was disaster upon disaster. I was still a novice then, asking myself, "What do I do now? How do I tell him what I see?" There was a feeling in the pit of my stomach, and I knew my instincts were right.

Diplomatically yet firmly I suggested that he and his wife not spend so much money on antiques this trip. Perhaps he would be wise to use his cash making changes around their home or saving for unexpected travel and insurance matters. I also told him that if he had some investments, this would be a good time to make changes in his portfolio.

Boy, did he laugh. He said all his stock was in the company he managed and it was "rock solid."

When we returned home, a series of events took place in this man's life. His truck, sans driver, plowed into his garage door. He was overcome by toxic chlorine fumes while cleaning his pool. There was an emergency visit to a sick relative in another state. His stock took a nosedive. His company went bust and he lost his job.

He has a new understanding of "Kismet" and a terrific sense of humor. He's still a good friend, but suggests I'm lucky we don't live in Salem, Massachusetts.

PROJECTING THE POSITIVE

But what about the cards? What if you look at the little beauties, as I did, and they're all dressed up in their downside suits? Do you say, "Uh-oh!" and then deliver the dire news?

No way! To repeat, the cards themselves don't have any power. Nothing they indicate is set in stone,

fated to occur. Give the subject the opportunity to turn it around. It's up to readers to show people that they have the ability to empower themselves, that they are free to turn a potentially bad situation around completely.

This is how I now approach these situations. Should I perceive an illness, a loss, a separation, I take it as my responsibility to present it more positively than negatively. I'm not referring to telling lies or creating deceptions. My aim is to prepare the clients for what's to come and to do so in such a way that they are able to accept it and find a better way to approach it.

It is also the responsibility of the reader to set limits. Not every subject is open to metaphysical answers. Some feel more comfortable with the traditional. It is my rule to refer and to defer to licensed practitioners, to steer clients to prevention hot lines and support groups like Alcoholics Anonymous. I respect the healing community and have found through their referrals that they respect me as well.

In a health crisis situation, for example, you always suggest the client see a physician for a checkup or perhaps a nutritionist for an evaluation. You present options, and not in a dire tone of voice. You, the reader, present various alternative paths to action based upon your own positive outlook and your own intuitive awareness. You show opportunities, but you do not make decisions. You leave it up to the person to choose.

I was reading for a couple, a man and woman who were planning to get married. I had the feeling that turmoil ruled their relationship, that they were having a rough time together.

In the card layout the North spread contained 10H (love), 2H (two people bound together), and 6H (marriage). These are good news cards for marital prospects. But then 6S and 10S (bad marriage, tragic end-

ing) were in the picture. The cards told me the marriage would not take place.

But rather than hit them with that, rather than tell them to skip the whole thing, I chose instead to suggest they seek counseling to iron out whatever problems they were having, any disharmony between them. In other words, I did not want to take away from them the ability to make their own choice in the matter. I offered a positive alternative. After all, an improvement was still possible. As it turned out, however, the marriage did not occur, and they're still together, still having a hard time, and still in counseling.

If I see questionable news in store for someone, say, a possible accident while on a car trip, I suggest they check the car, have a tune-up, and try to instill a sense of caution and awareness before the trip begins. I never say "skip the trip, you're gonna have a crash."

Do I ever sound alarm bells? Yes, indirectly. A woman came to see me in New York City. She selected a North spread that contained 5S (health problem), 8D (surgery to alleviate the problem), 4C, 4S (circulatory difficulties, life threatening).

I suggested she was long overdue for a medical checkup. I conveyed a sense of urgency about this, but with some humor as well. "It's time for that three-thousand-mile checkup," I might have said. She told me she wasn't feeling so well and would promptly set an appointment with her doctor. She turned out to be bleeding heavily from ulcers and was hospitalized that same night. Fortunately, she pulled through.

She made a "free-will" decision, based on the information given to her, to see her physician. I do not wish to make anyone anxious, but it is my responsibility to read in a manner that conveys the importance of the information, but as tactfully as possible.

In the matter of death I recall reading for a woman, a widow, who appeared to be very stressed. There was

a certain sadness in her face matched by an almost palpable heaviness in her demeanor. She appeared fatigued, as if a tremendous burden lay upon her. As we chatted while I laid out the cards, she made a brave attempt at conversation, barely smiling, on the verge of tears.

There was no need for me to ask her why she was so sad. The answer appeared in the cards, beginning in the North spread: QS, 5S, 4S, 5C, and 8S. I saw a passing due to an illness, a woman close to her, perhaps her mother. There would be all that paperwork, the kind of sorting through of insurance forms, legal papers, and correspondence that often follows the death of a loved one. And, of course, tremendous sadness.

In the East spread there appeared KC, 10C, 2S, 10H, and 2H. She didn't have to worry about being alone. She would find happiness again. But she was so blocked by her pain that she couldn't see what was coming—love and companionship.

The remaining spreads were associated more with travel and financial matters. It was obvious, at least to me, that she could look forward to a life of fulfillment. Even the Destiny Card predicted as much. It was 4H.

So I told her about the passing of a woman close to her, about its associated sadness. I said she would find peace of mind soon, despite the emotional distress. That the paperwork offered an opportunity to cope with her sadness. It required her attention. I asked her to consider the possibility that her worries and pain might prevent her from being open to a potential companion, a love relationship. That she needn't worry about finding someone. Yes, it would all turn out just fine, I said. . . .

Her smile was gratifying to see. I knew some of the burden had been lifted. She told me of her mother's terminal illness, that her death was imminent, and that yes, there were numerous documents to sort through.

Her letter from Portugal arrived about three months later. She was traveling through Europe with her boyfriend, a man whom she had known for several years, her mother's neighbor. He had helped her through the crisis and became her loving companion.

The above reading is not unusual. I could relate dozens like it. You'll note how I went somewhat beyond the card meanings in that reading. You could say I embellished a bit in favor of the positive. But it felt right. The story came to me as if it were scripted.

I invite you to go ahead and be a little creative. Chances are excellent that the stories you tell, the scenarios you describe, will be coming from your intuitive awareness, an awareness you won't be aware of until you tell the story.

It is important that your reading be shaped by all the spreads, that you present an overall picture. I can't stress this often enough. No matter how dire the news in one spread, look at the entire layout before presenting the reading. It will give your subject the benefit of the whole picture, a more cosmic view.

And always remember the Destiny Card. It can be a great help to you and to your subject, like a messenger carrying news of better times ahead.

What about people who are in the midst of making changes in their lives? I can't say enough about accentuating the positive for these individuals. The cards will offer the clues with which to do that. Look for them and they'll be there. I've never had a reading where there wasn't something positive to say. A reading is never totally negative.

I did a reading for a major media personality, a syndicator of television programs. A lovely woman, but morbidly obese. Her cards indicated she was heading for an illness of major proportions. But I told her this problem would pass and that she would be okay.

During the reading, I told her she should make time for herself, that her whole life was her career. There was no personal life, no time for play. Her health could be in jeopardy.

Months later I heard via the media grapevine that she was in a critical care unit fighting for her life. Months after that, she came to see me again, bearing a lovely gift. She told me how grateful she was for my reading. She had been in a semi-coma with a major viral infection. She had received the last rites. But while in this semicomatose state with all the goings-on around her, she kept telling herself she would be okay. She couldn't understand why everyone was so concerned. In her heart and mind, she told me, she knew she would be all right. And indeed she was. She survived. Her positive will pulled her through. Do you see the great power in communicating positivity?

Metaphysical specialists everywhere have learned to appreciate the power of positivity. Time and again we've seen how people who feel optimistic about the future will manifest that optimism often in very tangible ways. Especially people who are facing change in their lives, including those who have opted for action as opposed to inaction.

These passive individuals are frightened by the uncertainties, concerned about making mistakes. They fear not being up to the task ahead. In times of great sadness and loss, they experience difficulty realizing the options ahead, the opportunities for growth. Even if it means falling on one's face, people are willing to confront an uncertain tomorrow as long as there's a good chance things will turn out okay. It's your responsibility to help them realize that sense of optimism. You should strive to give readings that uplift, that are healing. Better yet, you should strive for readings that form the wellspring of laughter and good cheer.

And guess what? Its benefits will travel to your

side of the table as well. How so? Well, suppose you are in a lot of pain, perhaps dealing with your own personal problems at the time of the reading. Your mood, your distractions, could color your awareness during the reading. And you don't want that to happen, especially during fun-and-games readings for others. Listen to your words. There's a message in them for you as well.

One sure way to remove your subjective self, your own tumult, from the situation is by delivering positive reinforcement. It will open your own awareness. It will give you the energy needed to cope more effectively with whatever you are questioning personally, whatever is troubling you.

TIME PREDICTION

Time is a maniac scattering dust. The poet I'm paraphrasing knew what he was talking about. Time never stands still for anybody and laughs at those who think they can make it do so. It's also most slippery when psychics like me try to pin it down for predictions in terms of days, weeks, months, or years. I find it the most difficult aspect of card readings. Why this is so, I'm not sure. All I can say is using the numerical Diamonds for time predictions can be very tricky.

I offer you no tips on this. It's something you literally need to feel out for yourself. I believe our own individual life cycles can affect the rapidity with which events occur. I'm not saying the more active you are, the faster things happen. By life cycle—and here's where it gets a little mysterioso—I'm referring to the karmic Big Picture, the preordained master blueprint that you-know-who has laid out for us. The broad out-

lines are set for each of our life cycles. All we do is fill in the details. If we create a masterpiece, we need not make the rounds again and again. After our day of reckoning, we get to enjoy some well-deserved eternal R&R in that Great Wherever.

So, you see, the cards may pick up a piece of the blueprint image, and sometimes the time comes through clearly. It depends mainly on the reader's intuitive sensitivity. Beginners are usually able to make six-month predictions.

Readings for people in the arts, in my experience, often come true within a six-month period. There will be times when a numerical Diamond seems out of place in a spread. These pop out at you as a time element. And, yes, there are instances during Quest readings when someone asks a time-related question, and there it is, a red card flashing the numerical answer. But even on these occasions you must reach deeply into your intuitive center to come up with an estimate in days, weeks, months, or years. All you've got is the number, really. But otherwise, you must feel your way.

My advice is to try not to make time predictions unless you feel very secure about it. Sometimes you'll know when it's right on the money—you'll almost feel it. Other times it's better to tell your subject that you can only estimate. And whatever you do, do not give in to a desire to please the subject by offering a time prediction that's more sooner than later.

No matter how long it takes for something to manifest itself, the lesson is in how the individual handles the time in between. Is everything being done to create change? Or is someone just waiting for it to happen?

A classic example of how mystifying Time can be comes from my own experience. But first, a question. Would you still have confidence in the psychic who

kept repeating the same prediction for over ten years and it still hasn't happened?

Fortunately for me, it didn't alter the close relationship I built with a favorite client, for the last decade. I read for this woman often, and for the most part each reading brought her new insights and information. They always hit home and within a period of months began manifesting themselves in her life. Yet, there was a repetitive message that never quite came to pass. It alluded to work with communications media, presentations, and foreign travel. The prominent cards were 4C, 4D, 9C, AD, 7D, and 7C.

This lady is strikingly beautiful and deliberately chose a less visible role with her firm to project her ability rather than her appearance. And, indeed, she is now well respected for her business acumen. Intelligent and gifted, she earned her place as a key officer in the hierarchy of an internationally known securities company. Her behind-the-scenes successes are legendary. Recently, it led to a major coup: a fantastic opportunity, designed exclusively for her, along the lines of that ten-year continuing prediction. It took that long to materialize, but materialize it did!

WHEN NOTHING HAPPENS

Very seldom do I draw a blank during a reading. Should this occur to you, I suggest you try *not* to create something that isn't there. Better to have the good grace to say you are not getting anything from the cards. "Nothing seems to be coming through," you might say, or "I can't read you today." Let it go at that.

When just starting out you are bound to draw a

blank from time to time. As you become more experienced, more adept at tapping into your intuitive awareness, rest assured this will occur less frequently.

And while we're on the subject of drawing a blank, let me tell you about events of a similar stripe, yet much more baffling: readings that turn out to have absolutely nothing to do with the particular person seated across the table. It's as if the psychic wires were crossed, the party line unplugged.

During these instances, your subject will look at you blankly, quite puzzled. And rightfully so. And somewhere along the line it dawns on you that this reading is not for that person. But you also realize it is important they share it with someone else. This has occurred perhaps three or four times in my entire career.

On each occasion, the information came through as if it were compelled to, as if channeled by some inner voice. It came through very concisely, very directly. It flowed easily. But the reading had nothing to do with my client. Yet within days the client would tell me that the information had been delivered to someone who needed it, as if we were the messengers.

Once, it happened while I was visiting in Houston, Texas. The subject was a woman involved in radio, her own talk show. My reading of the basic layout included information about colors, interiors, designs, material fabrications. There was a caution about contracts or partnerships.

Yes, there were clusters of Hearts in the layout, which could mean many things when they appear in one spread—music, color, harmony of color. And perhaps even cardiovascular or circulation problems. In this instance I was compelled to see these Hearts as color and its use in the selection of fabrics for interiors by someone profoundly gifted to do so. Not my client's strongest suit, I might add.

And the layout also contained 6H (partnership or marriage), together with 5C (contract), 2S, 10S (deceit or goings-on beneath the surface). Somehow it was abundantly clear to me that whoever this partner was, he or she was scheming a con job. The target? Our woman with the gifted decorative sensibilities.

My client and I knew the reading dealt with someone else. Indeed, she admitted to having an awareness of who it might be. The reading was taped, and I told her not to erase it, that she should save it for whomever it was meant.

About two weeks later I received a call from Houston. Not from my client but from an acquaintance of hers, the one to whom she had given my reading.

This young woman told me about her would-be partner's attempt to falsify a contract in order to cheat a wealthy interior design client. The rotten scheme was exposed in time, thanks to the reading.

INACCURACIES

Three major reasons for inaccuracies:

1. The subject is a conduit for someone else's reading. It's not unusual to be tuned into a close friend or family member.
2. The subject is tired—reading requires the combined energy of subject and reader.
3. The subject is defensive or has just come along for the ride, or perhaps has been pushed into the situation.

The most unusual "misreading" I did involved identical twins, Leslie and Lisa. I gave Leslie the reading for Lisa and Lisa, Leslie's. Fortunately they recorded the sessions. They simply exchanged tapes.

LETTING GO THE DECK

By the time I complete about fifty readings, I swap my old deck of cards for a new one. Why? To keep my readings free of the energy vibrations of too many people.

After fifty or so readings with the same deck, a curious and sometimes disconcerting thing begins to occur. There's leftover psychic residue. For my non-drinking female client across the table, I "see" happenings more suited to a swaggering male alcoholic. Sometimes there's a sense of vocational confusion; reading for a doctor, I feel compelled to talk about a career in the theater. Sometimes, the confusion is right on! The doctor wants to be an actor, and the teetotaling woman is in love with a heavy drinker.

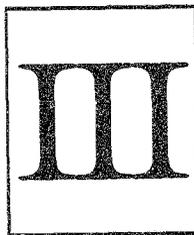
I advise you to swap your deck for a new one after fifty readings. What you don't need is a lot of confusion in the ranks.

Time for you to practice, practice, practice. In the next part of the book you'll find numerous examples of spreads related to specific areas of life, specific issues you'll confront in your readings. They won't provide all the answers, but should help your psychic sensibilities gain a sharper edge.

And last but not least, here are my sincerest wishes for you: 10D, 10H, JH, 7C, 5H.

Blessings, Love, Good Luck, Success, and Good Health.

P • A • R • T



MIXES

When clients come to me for readings, they don't often show up with a multitude of problems for consideration, but are in crisis about a specific problem, a particular area of their lives.

I find it very effective to gear my reading to that particular area, be it love or romance, career or finances. This is where I assign my intuitive focus. Any other aspects that develop in the course of a reading are also integrated. However, the emphasis remains on the issue at hand.

It's safe to assume, however, that the bulk of your readings will be just for fun and curiosity. You'll be touching on many areas in the same reading. In order to enhance the fun, I've decided to load the deck (as it were) in your favor by providing you with a lot of the prognostic keys—sample spreads applicable to the ten most visited lifespace areas during card readings: Love, Romance, Marriage, Money, Career, Education, Family, Health, the Psyche, Relationships.

For our purposes here, Love and Romance have been combined. Same with Career and Education. The Psyche and Relationships are mixed in throughout, as they often are in real life.

A WORD ABOUT CARD CHEMISTRY

In this part of the book we will be using a new concept, something I've called "Card Chemistry." It means the same as card spread, just a term that's more convenient for "Mixes."

However, before we get into the specific "Mixes" for each category (Love and Romance, etc.), here is a cheat sheet. It contains a list of the ideal Card Chemistries for each of those issues uppermost in the minds of most people seeking answers from the cards.

First we'll state the issue in the form of a question. Then we'll turn to our "Card Chemistry" for the best possible spread to look for—one that's free of any negative connotations. Study it carefully. You will find it very helpful.

**A HANDY CARD READER'S GUIDE
TO THE BEST OF ALL WORLDS**

Love and Romance

The Big Question: Will you meet your true love?

Ideal Card Chemistry: JH (QH) + 2C + 2H + 10H + 8S

JH (QH) = Mr. or Ms. "Right."

2C = Communication.

2H = Two hearts in tune.

10H = Love and Harmony.

8S = Heavy emotion.

Clearly, the answer is yes. But will he or she be a good lover? That we can't guarantee. (See Mixes for the details.)

Marriage

The Big Question: Will you ever get married?

Ideal Card Chemistry: 5D + 10H + 10D + 6H + AH

5D = Surprise, probably the ring.

10H, 10D = Spiritual ceremony.

6H = Partnership, marriage.

AH = Celebration.

If AH is replaced by AS, your next celebration will take place in the maternity ward, for the bride is pregnant. (See Mixes for more details.)

Money

The Big Question: Will you make lots of money?

Ideal Card Chemistry: 2D + 5D + 10D + 8C + 8D

2D = Incoming bucks, checks or cash.

5D = Unexpected financial windfalls, bonuses, commissions.

10D = Financial wealth.

8C = Financial institutions.

8D = Investment opportunities.

Don't walk—run to the bank. Your cup is about to run over.

Career

The Big Question: Will you be a career success?

Ideal Card Chemistry: 9D + 7C + 7D + 5C + 4D

- 9D = Offers, opportunities, proposals.
- 7C = Promotions.
- 7D = Financial accrual through career. Prosperity. Enhanced self-esteem.
- 5C = Contracts.
- 4D = Financial security.

When we add 10D to 7C and 7D? Oh, boy—it's a very successful career with public recognition and lots of bucks. What did you do to deserve this? But don't allow yourself to get too crazy over your success. Hang on to your integrity as if it were life itself.

Health

The Big Question: Will you remain in good health?

Ideal Card Chemistry: 8C + 5H + 8H + 4C + AH

- 8C = Medical checkup.
- 5H = Good health.
- 8H = Major Wish Card.
- 4C = Test results.
- AH = Celebration.

Just keep getting those twelve-thousand-mile inspections. It's always nice to receive good news. Keep your life in balance in all areas, work and play, to assure continuing good health.

Family

The Big Question: Will you have your own family?

Ideal Card Chemistry: 8C + 5H + AS + 2C + AH

- 8C = Medical checkup.
- 5H = Good health.
- AS = Creation.
- 2C = Good news.
- AH = Celebration.

Is there a baby in your future? You bet there is!

The Psyche

The Big Question: Will you find contentment?

Ideal Card Chemistry: AC + 7H + 4D + 10H + 10D

- AC = Home, inner and outer.
- 7H = Happy home, personal fulfillment, self-worth.
- 4D = Security.
- 10H = Inner spiritual growth.
- 10D = Unity, completion.

You can postpone that trip to the guru in the Himalayas. With 10H and 10D in your Card Chemistry, you are sure to find the answers where they've always been: inside yourself.

7

Love and Romance

Oh, Romeo, Romeo—wherefore art thou, Romeo? The eternal question, born of an emotional longing. I can't tell you how many different versions of this theme I have heard in my experience as a psychic reader.

No matter what other pressing powers prevail, corporate kings to just down-home folk, nearly everyone wants to know when they will find their own true love . . . and if it will be forever.

Candidates for love and romance keep coming and going. Your heart feels like a revolving door. Your present relationship looks like it's headed for the dumpster. You are ready to dismember daisies petal by petal, chanting, "He loves me, he loves me not."

Answers, answers are what you want. I urge you to give ecology a break. Save the daisies; read the cards.

Even I, mistress of my own fate, turn to the cards when I get the crazies. I shuffle and deal endlessly, North, East, South, West, until the emotional crisis has passed the momentary anxiety of wondering if last night's "Mr. Wonderful" will be around for breakfast the next 100 years.

One is a very solitary and lonely number, and I hear the question forming in your mind.

Will I find my soulmate?

Card Chemistry: 2H + 10H + JD or QH means you'll find the most loving relationship of your life, your true soulmate. Sweetheart, these three beauties (2H, 10H and JD) indicate your love troubles are over.

Will it be only physical?

Card Chemistry: AS + 7H + 7D means you can lay off aerobics for a while—it will be a physical and sexual alliance. But with whom? Or with what? Check the Picture Card to find out.

Is it just for the moment?

Card Chemistry: 10S + 4S with the Red Sevens says enjoy this bonfire for the moment. But do learn to let it go; it can burn you badly.

Tired of short flings? Tired of becoming passion's slave? Then just think of it as good preventive health care, good for the circulatory system and good for the prostate.

Will we be sexually compatible?

Okay, okay, so the cards say you'll find your true love. But while he may be the TDS of your most romantic dreams, or the mysterious lady of your heart's desire, does it mean that you are sexually in tune?

Card Chemistry: KC (or other appropriate Picture Card) + 7H + 7D + AS + 5H means yes.

Your lover's self-confidence will spill over to make your personal life one that's happy and fulfilling. His (or her) sexual forces (and apparatus) are in excellent condition.

And if 4H climbs aboard the formula, you'll get

lots of repeat performances from this sexy character. Encore! Encore! After all, 4H means more than just the second time around.

But here we are in the age of the sexual jitters. So you ask:

Will sex be safe with this person?

Card Chemistry: AS + 5H = Safe partner. But watch out if AS is accompanied by 5S. It could mean an unsafe or unhealthy situation, possibly a sexually transmittable disease.

Can I trust my lover?

This is mainly for the ladies (gents can shift Picture Cards).

Card Chemistry: (KC, KS, or JH) + 2S + Red Sevens (or AS) + 9C or 6C. No way! He's a bum. Forget him.

I say this because it's right in front of your nose. There's deception (2S), a secret romance (Red Sevens or AS), he's taken her on a trip (9C) or maybe to a motel (6C). Hell of a note, isn't it?

Why hasn't he called?

A good question. Maybe things aren't working out so well between you or maybe . . .

Card Chemistry: (Picture Card) + 2c + 3c + 4H + 7C. Just as I thought. He's delayed in getting back to you (2C, 3C) because of business (7C). So don't worry; he'll call again soon.

Are we in harmony with each other?

Card Chemistry: (Picture Card) + 10C + 10H + 10S + 8S means sorry, you two are not on similar wavelengths. You're in two different worlds. It's going to end with a great deal of emotion. The two different tens

(10C, 10H) indicate different worlds, backgrounds, and opinions on important matters. It's an incompatible situation, but who knows? Opposites often attract. And depending on the beasts, this same card chemistry could indicate someone only different from you, not necessarily incompatibly so. See what else is in the layout before getting hot and bothered over this spread.

So love's not working out?

Your love relationships don't seem to do too well. Typically on the slippery stones. You're emotionally overwrought. What should you look for now?

Card Chemistry: 2C + QKJD + 8S + 8H + 10H. It's wise now to communicate with a professional, a counselor who can help unburden all that heavy emotion and get you centered in love and harmony. And with the good old Wish Card sitting there, it will happen. You just need to feel more deserving and self-confident.

Will things get better?

Things have gone pretty badly, all right. You're feeling down, not too terribly high on yourself. But we know there's that little spark inside of you that wants to become a flame. Will things get better? Let's look at the card chemistry for the answer.

Card Chemistry: 8S + 9S + 3C + 8H + 5H tells the whole story: heavy emotion, disappointments, delays. But there's the Wish Card and the return of good health. Yes, things will get better.

Now if in addition to this you find spreads containing *clusters of Picture Cards*, you have a lot of power to attract others. So no need to worry about achieving that second chance at love, about picking yourself up and starting over again. You are magnetic. Your charismatic charm is flying high again. Soon you'll be back in the center of life. Get the new hairdo.

Buy the new outfit. All those reinforcing cards arrayed before you are shouting the news.

What about the potential rival? Will the ex or old flame interfere with my happiness?

Card Chemistry: KQH (Face Card of your beloved)+2C+J or Q of another suit+Red Sevens (7H, 7D). This could be a heavy-duty rivalry. Alert yourself to the possibility that your lover may consider reopening the lines of communication with the former flame or ex.

But don't get uptight about it now. You mustn't let your insecurity surface just because there's another Picture Card staring at you. Take the next spread for example.

Card Chemistry: KQH+2C+J or Q (another suit)+5C+4D. The rival is in the picture. But your sweetheart is talking over with that person matters of financial concern (5C, 4D). Or it may be another family member for whom your caring mate is taking financial responsibility. So check out the rest of the layout for more details before you make a hasty assumption.

I've let him go. Now I want him back. What are the chances?

You are pulled in two directions at the same time. Although emotionally bruised, you don't want to be hasty. Is there a Card Chemistry formula that'll help you sort thing out, that can offer some optimism? You bet there is.

Card Chemistry: J+J+4H+10H+7H. Let's read this together. A pair of Jacks, someone comes back. A second chance. True love. A happy home. The answer is obvious, yes?

Remember, though, that your only source of optimism in romantic bustups or potential breakups isn't only the ideal layout like the one above. Many other

card chemistries can bring similar tidings of good news. And remember, too, what may apparently be the pits also contains a positive side. Seek and you shall find.

Here's some Card Chemistry that applies to friendships as well as romance:

Is the relationship or friendship kaput?

Card Chemistry: Picture Card (your partner)+8S+9S+3C. A rift in the relationship, but not a permanent one. The relationship is sick, but not terminal.

However, if instead of 9S you get the 10S, and there's a 4S in place of 3C, then something serious is going on. Perhaps a permanent rift. (Notice here how we read 10S and 4S. It's not a death in the literal sense. But an ending nonetheless.)

8

Marriage

Nobody knows the troubles I see, but let me tell you something: We may live in an enlightened (and perhaps sexually chastened) age, but most of us keep on singing the same old songs, nursing the same old insecurities, and wondering if our remaining days on this planet will be lived out alone, without a mate.

And not just any kind of mate. It's marriage our madding crowd is obsessed by, even to the point where many of us insist on doing it again and again. We can't escape the basic fact that the human being, despite the overgrowth of gray matter, is still an animal driven by the primordial urge to mate. But unlike animals, all of us want a *permanent* sharing, no matter how much we try to convince the world and ourselves otherwise. For as long as I've been peering into people's yesterdays and tomorrows, no issue has occupied as much of my psychic time as marriage. Bliss or blunder.

Marriage has all the Machiavellian twists and turns you'd expect to find in boardroom corporate shenanigans, and perhaps even more. But the cards, as usual, are always straightforward when read for marital

matters. And the issues remain the same down through the ages.

Will I ever marry?

Card Chemistry: In the guide, you already learned about the wedding combination: 6H + AH. Add 10H and 10D, and it will be a religious ceremony. But with 6H + 8H + AC, call the judge, for it will be a civil ceremony, probably at home.

While the good old 6H and 10H means a harmonious, loving, long-term marriage, watch out for the Red Sevens together with 2S. The question they address is:

I've had so many crazy relationships, I want to know: Will my mate be faithful?

No, not with those three troublemakers on the loose. 7D + 7H + 2S makes for some nasty Card Chemistry when it comes to marriage. They point the way to a secret affair. All that's needed is AS to lock it in sexually.

In my present relationship, can I expect permanence? Will he propose?

It depends, but life becomes particularly trying when these babies turn up:

Card Chemistry: AS + 2H + 6S signifies that you can expect a sexual fantasy come true, but with a lover who fears permanent commitment.

With AS + 7H + 10S, it's passion's flame, but doused by the cold water of reality. Hot, Steamy, Gone!

Will he be a good provider?

Can you ask such a question in this age of women's rights? Of course you can. You want to know if you have an equal on every level. You don't want to support the guy. You need a financial "maven"—some-

one with fiscal smarts. He may make terrific deposits in bed, but if he's withdrawing at the bank, he's no bargain. All of this makes the next question perfectly reasonable.

Should I propose a prenuptial agreement?

Card Chemistry: 5C+4D+6H+10D+10C means there may be a difference of opinion, but you'll sign the papers anyway.

Will the in-laws cause trouble?

What do you think? Not that all of them are problematic; it's just that their role as parents becomes somewhat confused. When children finally achieve independent status as adults, the parents are left with the last remaining vestige of parenthood, the role of advice giver. What may appear to be meddling behavior may only be an expression of that role. In their opinion you're new to marriage and need their advice, badly. But take courage. The cards may hold the solution.

Card Chemistry: AC+AD+6C+4D+10C. Lucky you. Your in-laws are relocating (two Aces, change of places). They'll be traveling by car or motor home, perhaps to the security of retirement, and you shouldn't be concerned about supporting them financially.

Not far enough away for you? If 9C shows up nearby, the distance will be great.

Oh, by the way, the same Card Chemistry applies to removal from the immediate scene of an ex-wife or ex-hubbie. Toodle-ooo . . .

Should I worry about separation or divorce?

Much of what applies to rifts in romantic relationships also applies to marital schism. In terms of *Card Chemistry*, 6S signals divorce or separation, depending on which cards come next in the spread.

Card Chemistry: KJQD+6S+7D+5C+4S. You'll be seeing an attorney for advice about your breakup, the divorce papers will be signed but you won't get everything you think you're supposed to get. Things will turn out better financially if 7D shows up at the end of the formula.

But can you be sure you will get what's due you?

Card Chemistry: 6S+8D+2D+2S+KJQD. In this divorce situation it looks like your mate is up to some financial hanky-panky and might be hiding something. I'd check with a pro about this, namely, someone at the IRS.

What about keeping your house?

Card Chemistry: 6S+AC+AD and you're moving, kiddo. Sorry. But if the chemical mix is 6S+8C+4D+5C, then your divorce will allow for your financial security. The deed is part of the package.

I think we still have feelings for each other. Can we reconcile?

Well, I suppose such a thought would cross your mind. Unless the marriage was a total disaster, one's heart may be prone to thoughts of reconciliation. Besides, it's so familiar and comfortable, much easier than stepping out into the cold, cruel unknown. Yes, I've heard every rationalization in the book. Enough said. Let's check the cards:

Card Chemistry: 6S+9D+6H+2H+7H. Yes, a reconciliation and a happy future as well. Like the man said, "Marriage is the only adventure open to the cowardly." If KQJD and 2C follow, counseling will improve communication.

I remember reading for a couple who were planning to marry. I had the feeling they were going to marry one another twice. It was somewhat puzzling until these cards turned up:

North spread: In QS+5C+AH+4S+6C, an

older person receives an invitation to the wedding (celebration). But her illness keeps her at home.

East spread: 5S + 8C + 6H + 8S + 4H. This person, probably an elderly parent, would be hospitalized (8C) and would not be able to attend the wedding; so the wedding will come to her.

And that's exactly what happened. A chaplain performed the ceremony in the hospital room, which was followed by a formal wedding and reception for family and friends elsewhere. Even I was surprised and delighted with the accuracy of the reading scenario. I never take my gifts for granted.

There are marriages, and then there are *marriages!* A young woman came to me for a reading. She had been encouraged by a friend to give it a try. There was a gentleness about her as well as a noticeable insecurity. It wasn't difficult to see that something important was troubling her.

I took the cards she chose and started laying them out around her Face Card (QH), which was in the center.

At the top was the North spread: KH, KD, KC, QD, AH.

To the side, the East spread: 8S, 6H, 10H, 10D, 4D.

It appeared that there was going to be a wedding with very powerful guests, but I could not see the groom. The other significant factor was 3H, 3D, 3C (a multiple) side by side in the West spread; the South spread yielded no additional clues, so I was on my own.

Suddenly it came channeling through, clear as a bell.

KH, KD, KC were powerful men, the Magi; QD, a professional woman; AH, a celebration with (8S) heavy emotion; 6H, a marriage; 10H, 10D, spiritual

unity; 4D—certifications, documents; and 3H, 3D, 3C, spiritual guidance, or the Holy Trinity.

This young woman was wondering whether she had the true "calling." She wanted to be a nun, but had her doubts. I told her that the potential was there for her to complete her spiritual studies successfully and to take the veil with her final vows. The ceremony would be officiated by bishops of the church. Yes there would be a marriage, a very special spiritual bonding.

9

Family

Perhaps "Children" would be a better title for this section. It's *the* family issue most often asked about during my readings. And why shouldn't it be? After all, children are the family jewels.

Will I have children?

As more and more women opt for careers and delay the decision to bear children until well into their thirties (and beyond), concerns about having families of their own become increasingly more intense. The question is on the minds of many men who come for readings as well. They are concerned about passing along the genes to a new generation, but usually in regard to a specific woman. For women, however, the question is one that stands alone, regardless of a male attachment in their lives.

Card Chemistry: AS+2C+AH signals the right combination for an affirmative answer—creation, good news, celebration.

Will the pregnancy be healthy?

Card Chemistry: 5H+AS is a healthy pregnancy. When coupled with 2C and AH, this card combo could also refer to the birth of a healthy baby.

But will it be a boy or a girl?

Card Chemistry: AS+2H. It could be one of each! "Double your pleasure, double your fun . . ." You are about to launch a pair.

Now check this out: 5H+AS+2H+8D+8C is the birth of twins by Caesarean delivery. Here, of course, we've got the healthy pregnancy combo, the twin card, coupled with a surgical procedure and a hospital (medical institution). *Voila!*

Will the baby arrive on time?

Oh, boy—that's a toughie. But the cards can offer an answer. Only 3C indicates delays, so don't worry.

Card Chemistry: 5H+AS+8C usually indicates yes. But watch out for these characters:

AS+5D+5H+6C+9S means a big surprise. All will go well during childbirth, but it's gonna take place in an ambulance or car. Just a minor disappointment, right?

Okay, you've been trying hard to have a baby and so far no go. Or you're concerned about miscarrying again. I often discover such a history in spreads like this one:

Card Chemistry: 9S+4S+AS+AH+10H. No matter what the past reproductive history and tragic disappointments, there will be a healthy pregnancy and the birth of a healthy child.

And don't worry if 8D figures into the formula either as a minor medical procedure to accommodate a pregnancy or as a C-section; all will turn out well.

Will I have a large family?

For some of us ethnics, the question never comes up. Any number less than five, according to family tradition, is unheard of.

Card Chemistry: AS + any numerical Diamond is the number of kids you'll have. If AS is followed by 4S, good possibility of fertility problem. But do not be discouraged! Look to other spreads for 5H (good health) or AH (celebration). No matter what the cards say, if the Master plan is for you to be the earth parents of a soul needing life, so it will be!

A question about abortion or miscarriage?

Card Chemistry: 4S + AS indicates the termination of a pregnancy. Along with the 5H, it means the event will occur without continuing poor health or repercussions.

Will my child be a success?

Now that you've birthed the baby, you'd like to know if the child's future will be rosy. Or perhaps you'd like to find out if you can retire at an early age, thanks to junior's help. Here are just a few tips from the cards:

Lots of Hearts around a child's Picture Card usually indicates involvement in the performing or creative arts. A proliferation of Diamonds means success in a material way. And if many Clubs appear on the scene, chances are your child will opt for a more practical career, one with less risk involved, a career which will use analytical and mechanical skills. Don't be upset if you see many Spades; in this instance it could very well indicate a career helping the disadvantaged or disenfranchised.

Now the age old question:**Will my child become a doctor?**

Card Chemistry: 4D + 5H + 8C + 8D + KJQD = yes. Reading from left to right we have the educational

institution, the trio indicating a medical institution or the healing arts and the Face Cards of the pro. See the "Career" section for more specifics on predicting your child's vocational direction. Add 8C, 8D, 4C and perhaps your child will be trained in a foreign medical school.

A story comes to mind about a client who once expressed concern about the future of a two-year-old boy. She didn't say if he was hers. And she didn't tell me the child had been examined and found to be greatly limited in physical and mental capacities. The following cards turned up in the North spread of the boy's reading: 8C + 4D + 5S + 5H + AH.

I was convinced the cards foretold triumph over adversity. The child would be educated in a controlled environment (8C, 8D), but would exceed the limited potential that had been diagnosed. I felt very strongly about this prediction, without any reservations. The woman cried when she heard this news. Of course, the child was hers and had been given a poor prognosis. The reading occurred nearly eighteen years ago, and the boy has profited from special schooling to go well beyond the initial dim prognosis. Today, living in a community-based group home, he holds a job and is a productive citizen. He also has a girlfriend.

Here's another issue that crops up most summers, especially when your child decides to backpack his or her way through Europe. Is my child safe and well? Here's some news that should cheer you up:

Card Chemistry: K + K + 4C + 4C + 2D + 5H = Two Kings, news brings, this time via a telegram from your treasure. "Doin' fine. Please send cash." It will cost you a few drachmas, but at least your mind is at ease. Your kid had the good sense to make contact, and he or she is well.

So what family enjoys perfect harmony all the time? Spats and feuds are almost inevitable, depending on the size of your kinship circle. Let's see what spells trouble.

Card Chemistry: QD+8S+QS+4S+4H. You've got it! Friction between two women in the family; perhaps older sisters or aunts, perhaps between Grandma and Mom or Mothers-in-law.

But despite the fight and the strong emotion, there'll be a reconciliation sometime during the next millennium. Aren't families wonderful?

Years ago, I read for a man who was estranged from his father. It was apparent from the cards that the estrangement needed to be eliminated. Reconciliation was not only desirable but necessary. The father was close to death. KH, 8S, JH, 5S, 10H, 2H, 4H, 10S—these cards showed up in more than one spread.

I gently suggested that the feud had continued long enough, that the son might feel much better if he reached out one more time. He did and both he and his father were at peace.

10

Health

They say ours is a nation of hypochondriacs, a society with an apparently insatiable need for health information. Witness the dozens of consumer-oriented health magazines, newspaper columns, radio talk shows, the plethora of health books. Then there's the latest phenomenon: the ubiquitous TV doctor, the M.D. who regularly shows up on the morning talk show to plant the fear of imminent doom while you sit there with your coffee and Danish as he cautions against the health hazards of caffeine and sugar.

And for those of us in the metaphysical subspecialties, issues surrounding health and well-being are as commonplace among our clients as weeds in a summer pasture.

But we're not doctors and we don't give out medical advice. If anything, we serve the healing arts as prime referral sources. And some of us claim more than a few doctors among our clients. Why not? These professionals are so committed and focused on their work that they need help getting a clear picture of other areas in their lives.

A word of advice. Some of what follows refers to specific health problems. When these turn up in a reading, remember to always reinforce the idea that your subject will be able to overcome the problem and in many ways become healthier and more enriched in the process.

Should I worry about my next checkup?

As I pointed out earlier, 5H is the good health card. So if you're due for a visit with the good doctor, here's what you'd want to find in the reading:

Card Chemistry: 8C + 5H + 8H + 4C + AH. The exam (8C) won't uncover any problems. In fact, the test results (4C) will be cause for celebration. But if you've been feeling a bit under the weather, look for 5H in the formula; it signifies a return to good health.

Will I need surgery?

Card Chemistry: 5H + 5S + 8D + 4S + 8H means yes, it looks like you're in store for a health problem that requires surgery (8D) to remove the problem (4S). Don't worry, however. 8H tells us you'll be restored to good health.

Should I get a second opinion?

When the following cards show up, it's time to check things out with another qualified professional.

Card Chemistry: QKJD + 2C + QKJD + 4H. Get that second opinion. The Picture Cards of the medical pros, the communication card and the card indicating a second chance are solid indications for getting another consultation.

Will I be getting tested?

Card Chemistry: 5S + 8C + 4C + 2C + 8H shows a health problem will require some tests (4C), but the news will be just fine. But a Spade Picture Card +

8C + 8D + 8S + 10H means an older significant other will need to go for some tests. This person, according to 8S (emotion) will need some TLC from you to help get through the ordeal. If 10C shows up in the formula, no need to worry about the situation at all.

What about cosmetic surgery?

Concerned about whether or not to get that tummy tuck or the nose job? Is it time to fight off the effects of gravity and get a little lift here and there? Or are you going to need an elective surgery that you hadn't planned on?

Card Chemistry: 5H + 8D means cosmetic or elective surgery. In the absence of 5S or 4S, it's not for any organic problem. Could mean a facial surgery, oral surgery, body lifts, etc.

Will the cosmetic procedure turn out okay?

5H + 8D + QKJD + 8C + 8H. You'll get what you want from the procedure. The good old Wish Card is there to guarantee it. But if 3C shows up with the above chemistry, it's wise to wait. Don't rush into the procedure.

Another word about cosmetic surgery. Whenever the cards tell me that a client is preparing to have cosmetic surgery, I always recommend that they find out about any sensitivities to anesthesia, and that if they smoke, to give it up for at least one week before the operation. I suggest they drink a lot of fluids after surgery to help cleanse the system of toxic chemicals.

You've been through a serious health crisis and are not feeling too energetic.

A cluster of 5's indicates your physical health is much improved and that you are being transformed and regenerated into better health.

A cluster of A's says you've grown and learned and are going through a new cycle—becoming more of an individual, more intelligent about making decisions. Through adversity, you are arriving at a higher consciousness.

On the issue of health and death.

Card Chemistry: 10S+5S is a passing due to a health problem, or illness.

Card Chemistry: Picture Card+10S+5S+5C+2D means there'll be some paperwork to complete (5C) and a cash outlay (2D) following this person's passing due to an illness or other health problem.

Card Chemistry: 5D+10S+5S is an unexpected passing.

Perhaps you or your subject knows and cares about who has a critical or terminal health problem. Maybe you'd like to know that they are ready for the eventuality and that you are doing all you can for them. Along with the 10S and 5S, look for two Red 10s, which indicate a passing with dignity, one for which the person is prepared spiritually.

But when the 10s in the spread are of a mixed color, the person still needs to tie things up, and has not yet made peace with himself. Your help may be needed here. Go and see, communicate and suggest the intervention of a spiritual counselor or anyone who can aid in bringing that sense of peace and completion.

This issue, generally, requires the utmost diplomacy and compassion on the part of the reader. I was in Connecticut recently and did a reading that brought that message home to me, loud and clear.

For several years a prominent businessman there has been a client of mine. He was in a tumultuous marriage of twenty years and deciding to leave. He always had a strong sense of family responsibility and

felt guilty over his part in the decline of this relationship. From the cards there was clear indication to me that his wife would be stricken suddenly and pass. I did tell him that his wife had some hidden health problems which could create a critical episode. I further suggested that he hang in a bit longer. Perhaps this situation would rectify itself through an act of divine intervention. He said it would take a miracle to straighten things out. (Talk about selective hearing!)

We were both right. The night before his wife's passing, she came into the study, hugged and kissed him, and told him what a good husband he had always been to her. The next morning she was gone. Imagine his guilt if he had left her to die alone.

They were both given a gift; she the grace to forgive and he the opportunity to receive her love, one last time.

HEALTH SPECIFICS

I've discovered that the cards relay warning signals about potential health problems. When these turn up, you might suggest your subject check with a qualified health care professional.

Cardiovascular system—look for a cluster of *Hearts*. Indicates potential problems such as high blood pressure, hardening of the arteries, or impurities in the blood.

Digestive system—5S+AS+4C (digestive tract) signals a potential problem in the lower digestive tract. These cards may also indicate kidney stones or a kidney problem.

Reproductive system—AS+5S means possible problems in female or male reproductive organs or bladder infections. For a man, these cards may also indicate sexual dysfunction (impotence, premature ejaculation) as well as prostate trouble.

Having trouble bearing a child, but it can be treated surgically? Look for these cards: *Card Chemistry*: AS + 5S + 8D (surgical procedure) + 5H (return to health) + AH (celebration). Whoopie! Chances are you'll have that baby after all. And these same cards for a guy indicates successful medical treatment for a sexual dysfunction.

Nervous system—6C + 5S is motor activity dysfunction, perhaps associated with Parkinson's disease, or Alzheimer's disease.

Endocrine system—8S (heavy emotion) + 5S denotes glandular or hormonal disturbance perhaps associated with thyroid or other endocrine troubles leading to an imbalance.

Respiratory system—4C + 5S. Your physical computer may go awry and might involve cardiovascular troubles as well. If you haven't already, it's time to quit smoking, including the old weed.

Here's an interesting example. It concerns a troubled mom and her daughter, age twelve. This woman was concerned because the child was "acting emotionally erratic." This behavior, according to Mom, was not normal, and Mom didn't know whether or not to check with a psychiatrist. My instincts were already in high gear. The cards only confirmed my suspicions:

5H (good health) + AS (reproductive organs) + 8S (emotion) + 5S (ill health) + 10C (needless worry).

What was the trouble? Yes, you're right—the young girl had begun to menstruate. She was experiencing that wonderful shift in her life cycle. I recommended she visit the family doctor to confirm the emotional reaction to these changes. I also suggested

she see a nutritionist who might recommend a diet that would help offset the reaction to these changes. Couldn't hurt.

Interestingly, I might see the same cards for a woman going through menopause. The possibility that emotional swings may be associated with the condition in some way could help alleviate the guilt someone might feel about not being able to control oneself emotionally. Besides, the possibility of a change of life is an issue that deserves to be demystified, explained clearly by a qualified professional. Menopause need not be considered the end of womanhood, as some people still believe.

Drug abuse, alcoholism, and other substance addictions—The object here is to look for Spades in spaces, a cluster of spades. Particularly these no-goodniks: 7S, unhappiness in the home environment; 8S, heavy emotions, fear. Problems of the mind, anxieties, worries. Mental problems; 5S, substance dependency leading to a serious health problem.

This coupled with 4S and 10S indicates a downward spiral in health or a potential overdose situation. Medical intervention and/or A.A. is needed. Time to call that hotline number.

2S means the person thinks he or she has a secret no one else knows about. But really everyone knows.

How can I tell if the problem is alcoholism? I look for a Spades cluster that includes 7S (unhappy home life) + 9S (disappointments). And you know what? These same cards together with cards of other suits suggest a depressive atmosphere, usually in the person's home life.

So, in a layout (especially North or East spreads) showing 7S, 8S, 9S, 5S, with 4S, 10S, or 2S, it's best to recommend psychological and/or medical intervention. Try to be upbeat about it; reinforce the positive. If

the subject denies it, all you can do is point to the cards and say that's how you see 'em.

And if you're reading for a friend or relative of the substance-dependent person, suggest ways they can intervene. When the above Spades cluster in a reading for parents of teenagers, you can safely bet the problem involves the kids. Gently but firmly stress the importance of intervention, or an attempt to open communication on the issue between parent and child.

How expensive is the habit? If the reading shows a strong 10S+2S+heavy duty financial cards, a dangerous, expensive habit is present, one that may involve deceit, cunning, thievery—the 10S, 2S combo.

But all may not end in bleakness. Especially if the Spades cluster ends with Hearts, particularly the 8H or 9H Wish Cards. Whew!

The topic of substance abuse reminds me of the time I read for a husband, his wife, and his girlfriend in the same day. I didn't realize the connection between them until the third reading. The scenarios I had given for each were so similar, the readings so interconnected, that I felt my face redden as I got deeper into the third reading.

The husband was a policeman. He was totally open with me and said he was an alcoholic and that he had come to find out about the future of his extra-marital affair.

His North spread was 6H (happy marriage/partnership), 6S (partnership gone bad), 2S (secrets), 3H (love triangle), and AS (sexuality). These indicated the man was in a marriage that once functioned well, was no longer the same, and that he was hiding a sexual relationship.

His East spread contained Red Sevens, QH—face card of light-haired woman (his wife's hair was dark), and 8S. Clearly, this guy was having an affair that

wasn't going too well; 8S indicated emotional stress associated with the relationship.

As we proceeded to the nadir, or South, spread of the layout, 5S plus other Spades indicated excessive drinking with possible major health impact. I suggested he get back on the wagon, that he consult with the police chaplain or go to A.A. or to counseling to work out his personal/emotional life. His profession, after all, demanded that he be sharp on the job and in top shape, physically and psychologically.

Well, a few hours later a woman with dark hair arrived. From the top of the layout the KD and several Spades indicated a man in uniform who was a troubled soul with a drinking problem. The East spread showed 6H, 6S, 2S, all indications of a marriage partner who was stepping out on her. After the reading, after hearing her tell me she wouldn't tolerate her husband's continued drinking anymore, I suggested she seek professional counseling, perhaps join AlAnon as well.

If my suspicions about these two readings had been aroused, they were confirmed by the arrival that evening of a blonde whose emotional problems centered around a married man in uniform whose marital and emotional problems were associated with alcohol. And so it dawned on me that I had witnessed the three principal players in a love triangle melodrama. It taught me a valuable lesson: As a psychic reader, give the best you can, without judging and without criticism and without moral pronouncements. *Read for each person as an individual, for their best and highest good.*

In my experience as psychic counselor, I find that the cards are used as a metaphor by troubled individuals. Accepting responsibility for certain conditions and problems of their own making is often painful. They need to shift their focus.

By highlighting situations through the cards, with-

out moral judgments or criticism and in a relaxed and positive atmosphere, you create a willingness to listen. The subject becomes an observer, viewing the cards as if detached from his or her own sensitive issues even though that is exactly what is being discussed. For this reason, some therapists refer their clients to me when the traditional is not going to break through resistance.

The individual does absorb information more or less unconsciously and understanding may be achieved. During a reading, too, individuals get the notion that there are alternatives to whatever situation prevails. You, the reader, have no axe to grind. All you do is present the scenario as you see it in the cards and trust that the universality of the human condition will prevail. It works!

11

Career

You consider yourself the consummate professional. A dedicated careerist always in control of any situation, you are all business, all the time. Self-confidence is the message you convey on the job.

Yet behind closed doors, the idiosyncracies are acted out. You rub the belly of Ho-Tai for luck before the start of your day. You check your daily horoscope and you flip the I-Ching coins. And if that isn't enough, you fondle the hell out of your worry beads to protect against stress.

But aren't those machinations too passive for you? Aren't they, for the most part, just unrewarding habits? Don't you think it's time to become the aggressive, assertive person who makes things happen?

The answers are all in the cards for you to read for yourself. Sharpen your business and career acumen and have fun at the same time.

No, I can't promise you'll reach the boardroom or get that major promotion, but this tool can provide insight into the career concerns of greatest importance to you. Use it with grace and style. Stop looking over your shoulder.

Please note: In this section of the book, I am going to use some new variations to individual card definitions. You'll also find some new combinations to ponder. So, to avoid confusion, card meanings will be included in many of the formulas.

Will I be successful?

Card Chemistry: 9D+7C+7D+5C+4D equals success. Here we have it all—offers and proposals, career opportunity, financial accrual, contracts and benefits, financial security. And if 7C, 7D are joined by 10D—oh, boy! A very successful career with lots of public recognition and lots of bucks.

But be cautious. Be on the lookout for 10S and 2S (secrets, deceit, an end). If they show up, perhaps you're going to be used in some way, taken in under false pretenses. Perhaps an impermanent job. Don't be conned.

Will my new job involve travel?

Card Chemistry: 9C+AD is distant travel, probably by plane (9C). With 4C (passports), it will be international.

But even travel for business may have unexpected complications.

Card Chemistry: KQD+9C+Red Sevens+2S in this case means your boss (man or woman) may be deceiving you (2S) into taking a business trip that's strictly for monkey business. Watch out for sexual harassment.

But 9C+AD+4C+KQC+10H shows a trip to a faraway foreign place where you'll find love and romance with that "tall dark stranger," whoever he or she may be.

Is it a good company?

Card Chemistry: 10D (financial resources)+AC, AH (expansion)+KD, KC (strong male partnership) means yes, a winner. But beware 4D (financial security)+4S (failure)+5C (legal papers)+8c (courts) + 10S (dissolution of company). The big cards here are AS, 5C, 8C. Period.

Here's another more subtle, downside possibility: KD (corporate head)+10D (financial strength)+10S (disaster)+2S (secrets)+2D (money outflow). What looks great on the outside can be rotten to the corps.

Will I get promoted?

Here's a question you've been asking yourself since kindergarten. Hard to believe one's life can still be so haunted by it.

Card Chemistry: 7C, 7D (promotion opportunity)+QKD (boss)+5D (unexpected surprise or opportunity)+AH (celebration). Need I say any more? Yes. Yes, yes. And Yeesss!

Should I change careers?

Card Chemistry: 8C (learning institution)+7D (career moneys) + AC, AD (Two Aces, change of places). You might want to go for it. Note here that 8C means retraining or educational program.

Will I become a partner?

Tired of doing junior briefs at the law firm? What's your potential for getting your name on the door? Check these beauties:

Card Chemistry: 8C (here, the legal profession)+5C (paperwork)+9D (offer)+6H (partnership)+3C (delays) shows it's going to happen. But be patient and keep doing the best job you can.

How will my presentation go?

Card Chemistry: Several Picture Cards + 4D (security) + AH (success) are a sign that it will go well. If your Picture Cards are clustered together, you've got lots of allies present. If they're separated, it'll be a much harder sell.

Will I win the award?

Many of my clients have won awards, even an Oscar. One of these individuals won an Emmy for producing an animated TV show starring a cat.

His North spread card chemistry included: 4C (media, TV) + 5C (publicity) + AH (celebration). It was clearly the case that there was a winner across the table from me.

Another example is the gal who adapted a Tony-winning stage production into an Oscar-nominated screenplay. What did I see in her layout?

Card Chemistry: 5D (surprise nomination) + 4C (visual arts) + 9S (disappointment) + 4D (financial deals). She would win a nomination for the Biggie, but wouldn't get it. However, she would become a hot property in Hollywood.

Changing jobs, changing companies?

Card Chemistry: 7C, 4C (job change) + 8D + 7D is you making a change voluntarily, one that will pay off very handsomely.

And if these cards should be accompanied by a Picture card (JQK), it means you have the backing of a very powerful ally.

Is my job secure?

It's no fun to get fired, whatever the euphemism. But it's always best to be prepared, especially in the face of these characters:

Card Chemistry: 7C (career) + 7D (career money) + 4S (ending) equals end of job by firing.

But if the cards are accompanied by 9C (travel) + 9D (business offers) then there's a better offer to relocate. Being let go frees you for a better opportunity.

Do I have what it takes to make it to the top?

Card Chemistry: Clusters of Aces, or Aces in the strong sectors of the layout, mean executive ability and administrative talent. You are independent and utilize your own ingenuity. You are a risk-taker, although you take calculated risks. You know how to change your life for the better.

Multiple Aces and Multiple Eights? These are the signs of power, enormous power. Use it wisely. Remember, what goes up must come down. With power comes responsibility in this plane of consciousness and in the higher realm.

Is my job merely a stepping stone?

So you want to know where this job is going to take you. Will it offer promotions, relocation, advancements of any kind?

Card Chemistry: Diamonds, generally, especially clustered with 4D (financial security).

What about the help of others at work?

Card Chemistry: Look for 6H with diamonds, especially clustered with 4D—financial security. It means you'll have the help of others. Keep in mind that there may well be more wisdom in sharing (indeed, some outfits prefer teamplayers) because in the act of sharing one may achieve the greatest benefits and opportunities of all. And that goes for life outside the workplace as well.

That's a notion most important for people in real estate who face decisions to co-broker. Also for those

involved in sales presentations who need a partner to do some legwork and follow through in other ways. 6H also refers to co-authors and agents.

Competition in the workplace?

Card Chemistry: Picture Cards + 8S + 6S shows coworkers not in harmony with you.

Here's where you must learn to be light of heart while doing the job. Don't allow negative fallout to attach itself to you. Program yourself to be confident, and go out and do what you must do for yourself to achieve those goals. Think of it this way: If the competition wasn't concerned about you, *then* it would be time to worry. Understand?

CARDS FOR SPECIFIC CAREERS:

Sometimes it's fun to figure out for yourself the career of the person in the layout or the subject of your reading. We can't offer an exhaustive listing here. But do apply your card sensitivity and knowledge to figuring out your subject's vocation. Meanwhile, here are some shortcuts:

Real estate: Picture card + AC (property) + 8D (investments, licenses) + 4D (mortgages) + 5C (leases, contracts) and/or any other Picture Card reveal real estate or mortgage banking. The key, of course, is AC.

Health care: QD or KD + 8C + 8D + 4S or 5S means a physician or other health care professional. Can you see why?

Accountant: KQJD + 10D (big bucks) + 2D (cash flow) + 8D (finances) + 4C (computers). If the formula ends with 8C, probably a *lawyer* here.

Mechanic: 6C (machinery) + 6S (repairs needed) + 4C (technology) + JD (uniform) + 8D (prosperity!).

Athlete who might turn pro: JD (athlete) + 8C (college) + 8D (scholarship) + KC (coach) + 5C (pro contract). See how much fun this can be?

Minister, priest, rabbi, anyone deeply involved in their faith: Red Tens (spirituality) + QKJD + 8S + 8C.

I recall a reading I did for a wonderful lady. The North spread revealed a strong spiritual side to her. The East showed an array of Hearts and 4C. I pondered that momentarily. Then—aha! She was a very spiritual person who also played the organ, probably in church. Or was she a fundamentalist who enjoyed tinkering with computers? Well, the first guess was the right one, thank you.

12

Education

Education is most often linked to career these days. The following are some mixes that pertain to schooling.

Civil servants and allied health care professionals (technicians, nurses, pharmacy assistants) often want to know how they can step up to the next level within their profession. A nurse in general practice may want to specialize in neonatal care. Should she take those extra courses? Will she pass the tests?

Card Chemistry: (Picture Card) + 8C (health care site, school) + 7C (career) + 4D (certification) + 4H (in two parts, or more than once) + AH (success!). You, he, or she may have to take the tests twice, but they will pass eventually.

Toward which career should I (or my child) aim?

Card Chemistry Clues: JD: sports (for males & females). KQJD: healing arts; the law. Hearts: creative or performing arts. Clubs: business areas; communications.

Test overload?

Often when reading for students who are stressed by tests, it will be reflected in the cards:

Card Chemistry: 5C (written exams) + 4C (typing, computing) + 5H (good health) + 5S (illness) + 7S (stuck at home or infirmary). When you see a spread like that, encourage the student to avoid overload, to get some balance between work and play, or he or she will be a candidate for mononucleosis.

Will I win the scholarship?

Card Chemistry: 4D (scholarship) + 8C (school) + 4H (second choice of school) + AH (celebrate).

If AH appears after 8C, then you've got your first choice. 10C, of course, would indicate needless worry about the whole thing.

Athletic injuries?

Card Chemistry: JD + 5S: That's the combo to watch out for. Suggest that the athlete wear protective gear necessary to avoid the problem, or that he or she exercise properly before competing. Keeping fit is essential.

Should I worry about the dangers of campus sex?

These days of rampant sexually transmitted diseases may make that question moot. But do be careful especially if AS + 5S crop up in your reading. And I do mean *careful!* Should the 2S appear in the layout, know the problem is there but dormant or hidden.

It is my policy not to read for children. A wrong word here or there could be devastating to them. Besides, I believe they all have a bright future ahead.

However, I do read for young adults. I accentuate the positive and am careful never to crush the dreams of youth. If I see them going down a path that is clearly

wrong for them (and even that is open to doubt), I show them alternatives. Give them other options, but never take away their hopes.

Friends of mine had a meeting with their daughter's school counselor. They were told that they should forget about her going to college. "She would be wise to just get a job after high school. She doesn't have what it takes to get accepted by a college and couldn't compete intellectually."

My friends and their daughter were distraught. She wanted very much to go to college and get a B.S. Degree. It was her dream. To their credit, her parents encouraged her to try regardless. She was accepted by the college of her choice, made the Dean's List each semester and went on to graduate with honors. Can you imagine if she would have given up on herself?

DRIVE WITH CARE!

This is my pitch for motor vehicle safety. Auto accidents are among the top killers of young adults, so watch out for the following meanings in a reading:

Card Chemistry: 10S or other Spades (possible tragedy) + 6C (car travel) + 8D (citations) + K or JD (police) cautions us to guard against motor vehicle violations by obeying the law and avoiding driving after drinking. All young people who come for readings, particularly those in out-of-town colleges, get this as a standard part of their reading, whether I "see" it or not. A word of warning from a psychic is taken seriously and reinforces safety and good driving habits.

Money/Finance

During the late 1950s, I worked with a major real estate broker in New York City. He was the exclusive representative for land purchases by the best-known computer corporation of that time. He was a brilliant Scot with an excellent reputation for integrity and business acumen.

However, he was a man of eccentricities. Before he started each business day, he would set up his little amulets on his desk in a particular manner (objects from his travels round the world), and then he would toss a 20-dollar gold coin ten times in a row, catching it behind his back.

If he missed, he would start all over again; ten tosses, ten catches. Then he would prepare his tea in a special China pot and cup. I often wondered if he read the residue of leaves on the bottom. All of that ritual to guarantee a lucky and successful business day! He could have saved himself and the office staff a considerable amount of time and much grief just by a toss of the cards.

I can't promise you a killing in the stock market or

a major win through a lottery. But the cards can offer some important insights into mergers, business manipulations, and financial mayhem.

Will I come into money someday?

Card Chemistry: 5D (surprise goody) + KD (attorney) + 5C (legal papers) + 8D (change in wealth status) + 8C (the courts). Yes, somehow, through a legal transaction, you will receive some unexpected cash. Probably an inheritance. How much you'll get depends on the number of Diamonds in the nearby spreads. Remember, 5C with 8D and 8C means inherited cash.

Will I make lots of money?

Here we're talking about the old-fashioned way, earning it. While there are a number of card combinations to suggest an affirmative answer, here's the one that packs the greatest psychic wallop:

Card Chemistry: 2D (checks, cash) + 5D (surprises, bonuses) + 10D (big bucks) + 8C (financial institution) + 8D (investments). Don't be surprised when your hard work pays off; you'll have earned it handsomely.

Is it time to buy that house?

You've been certain about it for some time now. Should you or should you not make an offer on that house or condo? Is the investment potential worth it? Now that you're finally realizing some success, you're wondering if it's the time to buy real estate. Yet there may be another wrinkle to consider.

Card Chemistry: KJQD + 8C + 8D + 9S + 6H. You'll get your new home, but you'll need a partner either to co-sign the note or to buy the property outright. It's right there in the spread: the broker, the bank, a financial investment, some disappointment, and

a partner. Perhaps you're wondering why AC (property) isn't part of the formula? Well, is it really necessary? Nope. One need not be bludgeoned by all the details to interpret the message properly.

Is property a wise investment?

Card Chemistry: 8D + AC + 5C + 4D means yes. Invest in it for longterm security, says the 4D. Note again that we interpret 8D as high finance. Surgery just wouldn't fit in here, unless it's an operation on the bankbook.

I'd like to invest; how secure is my financial situation?

Card Chemistry: 7C + 10S + 8C + 7D + 4D predict some shaky times ahead. Your career is linked with a loss, possibly a job loss. You'll go to school for some new training, perhaps a new career. But all will end with financial security; so says the 4D again. Meanwhile, think twice about making that cash investment. You'll need the money to invest in a new career.

In the matter of investments, perhaps you are a banker interested in dropping some cash or securities into a foreign country. This is confirmed in the following formula:

Card Chemistry: 8C + 8D + 4D + AD (relocation) + 4C (passports/certificates) is read as a banking institution investing in a foreign market or country.

Are there real risks in my property investment?

If a spread like this one turns up, the answer is yes:

Card Chemistry: 10S (loss) + 5C (mortgage) + AC + 8C + 4S (loss) signals foreclosure on property and/or bankruptcy leading to foreclosure.

The ways of corporations are many and varied; sometimes they multiply like microbes. Concerned about your company's status? Check out this scenario:

Card Chemistry: 6S (divorce)+7C+AC+AD+6H (partnership)=Reorganization of company. Partnership and location changes for a new merger.

How stable is my new business?

Card Chemistry: 5H+4D+2S (the unknown)+5S (ill health)+8D warns that an apparently healthy business will get in trouble and will be in need of new capital to regain its health. Things are shaky but should show signs of stabilizing.

Sometimes a card spread can read like a fortune cookie. Here's one that says caveat emptor, let the buyer beware.

Card Chemistry: KQD (professional)+2S (secrets)+4D+7D (career monies)÷10S (loss). Don't let yourself get taken in by seemingly legitimate salespeople who promise a financial killing. If it sounds too good to be true, it is.

Shall we merge?

That's the big corporate dance craze of the eighties. But now that you're about to get on the floor, you're concerned about getting your toes stepped on or worse.

Card Chemistry: 6H (partnership/merger)+8D+7D+7C+10H (harmony). Swing your partner do si do, promenade around the hall! This merger will bring excellent career opportunities and personal fulfillment.

Is the market Bullish or Bearish?

Card Chemistry: 4C (certificates)+5H+5S+2S (the unknown)+8D (high finance) indicates that the stock market is too wobbly right now. A bear with

horns. A bull in ranger's hat. Be very cautious. Lots of highs and lows, but no insight into the whys.

About a month before that black day in October '87, when the market declined, a client called about a financial decision he was contemplating. I'm not a financial adviser and for the most part stay away from this area (except for a "feeling" now and then). He was heavily invested and had a "feeling" of his own. I told him not to go against his own instincts. He didn't and saved himself a good deal of aggravation—his financial future. *Never steer anyone away from his or her own sixth sense.*

14

Going for the Gusto

A Bonus: The Full Deck Reading

Now that you've mastered all the definitions and mixes, practiced the layouts, and perhaps astounded your friends, it's time to take the next step, to go for the gusto and enter the realm of the "Reader Extraordinaire." You deserve it!

You are now ready to expand the readings to include the entire deck—all fifty-two cards. But do ditch the Jokers; they'll only spoil the fun, as often happens in life.

Reading the full deck offers the opportunity to let your newfound intuition and psychic awareness really blast off into unexplored realms. It will also help you become a better teller of tales with the cards as your guide.

I will provide you with two variations on a full deck reading. After that you're on your own. Be creative!

Shuffle the deck and lay out seven cards horizontally in rows, face up, seven times, one line beneath the other. This creates seven columns and seven rows. Read each row separately, left to right. Read each column separately, top to bottom (see Fig. 13).

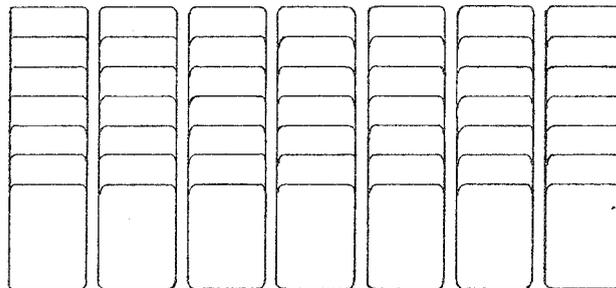


FIGURE 13.

Each column and row reveals a secret or a prophecy. Use the skills you've developed and become a Psychic Storyteller. Let's read this example of a seven-card layout (Fig. 14):



FIGURE 14.

2C—You're getting a phone call.
 AH—A celebration is brewing.
 AC—It's at someone's home.
 KH, QC, QH—Guests.
 5C—An invitation.

So what's the story? That's right, you're being invited to a house party. Bring this book along and grab a deck of cards. Don't leave home without them. Delight everyone with your prophetic prowess and have a ball!

Wait a minute! Whoa! Something's missing. What about the remaining cards, that lonely trio out there on the table (see Fig. 15)? We've got only forty-nine cards in the layout, right?



FIGURE 15.

Correct. This is the frosting on the cake. These cards represent the Destiny Cards. To be effective psychically, they need not cover a Face Card in a full deck layout. Just fan 'em out and see what you can see, reading from left to right. Here's a for instance:

3C (delays) + 10C (needless worry) + 8H (Wish Card). Don't worry about delays blocking your path. Ultimately your wishes will come true.

Variation number two of the full deck reading is the most fun of all. It's an extension of the Quest reading, strictly questions and answers. (If you still

need it, refer to the Quest reading and the illustrations in that section.) But this time, the Quest has lots of twists, thirteen of 'em, in fact. Here's what you do:

1. Ask your friends to prepare a total of thirteen questions.
2. Shuffle the deck.
3. Select four cards for each question (face down).
4. When the question is asked, turn over the four cards and read the answer from top to bottom.

Use your imagination. The possibilities are endless. Every social gathering—slumber party, bridal shower, or bachelor dinner—has a flavor of its very own, complete with the potential for unusual and sexy questions . . . and equally tantalizing answers. This is a great ice-breaker. It's better than backgammon or mah-jongg! Try it, you'll love it. But before you run off to that party, deck of cards in your hot little hands, I'd like to share my favorite and funniest experience, with you.

Psychics are sought after and consulted all over the world, and some of them can be found in the most bizarre settings.

I was traveling in the Middle East; while in Israel I took a stroll on Dizengoff in Tel-Aviv. Its equivalent in the United States would be Westwood in Los Angeles or Columbus Avenue on the Upper West Side of Manhattan—streets teeming with people, shops, and outdoor cafés crowding the sidewalks.

On the sidewalk, between two shops, a woman had a deck of cards spread out on a shawl. "Read your future?" she asked. Her English was as battered as my Hebrew. I approached and told her that I did the same thing in America. She wanted to know what street corner I worked. After explaining that I did my readings from an office, she asked if I would consider an

144 / READING YOUR FUTURE IN THE CARDS

exchange of services. So there we were, in the middle of one of the busiest streets in Tel-Aviv, reading cards for each other.

And now I have a mini-reading for you with all my blessings:

10H + 10D + JH + 7D + 5H

With Love and Light,

Louise.

WILL YOU MEET A TALL DARK STRANGER?

Is your career about to take off?
Will you inherit a fortune?
Is your lover faithful?

With this easy-to-use guide and an ordinary deck of playing cards, Louise Woods, gifted psychic and astrologer to the stars, shows you how to get the answers you want—now! You'll be fascinated as you learn what each card means, the importance of positioning them—and how combinations reveal startling surprises. Her method helps you to know what's really in the cards—for you, your loved ones and your friends:

10 ♥ - A Biggie! Love and harmony in marriage, relationships, business.

7 ♣ + 7 ♦ - A new career with big bucks!

A ♦ - You'll travel, maybe even move. You can count on it!

3 ♣ - Delays, at every turn.

8 ♣ + 5 ♥ + A ♠ + 2 ♣ + A ♥ - There's a baby in your future!

Go for the unknown!

Astound your friends!

Become a Reader Extraordinaire!

Enjoy...

★ READING YOUR FUTURE IN THE CARDS ★



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