

INTERNATIONAL TAROT FOUNDATION

TAROT UNVEILED

August 1st Year Anniversary Edition
Newsletter

Welcome to the Anniversary Edition of Tarot Unveiled!

It is now one year since our official launch of the International Tarot Foundation, we are now officially one year old.

What a year it has been with progress being made on a consistent flow of energy.

Our team is settled and works so well, our member base is ever growing and students are coming to us more so since they know that we are here to genuinely support their Tarot development.

We hope to continue to grow in strength and with continued success, we feel it an honour and a blessing to be fortunate in journeying this path with so many wonderful people.

This issue is packed with interesting articles, offers and so much more so make your cup of tea, pull up a chair, read and enjoy.

Thankyou for your continued support whether that be as a Foundation member or simply reading this newsletter. We appreciate your energy and time.

We hope you are enjoying the Party in the study group! ;-)

Blessings from
Lara Houston & The ITF Team

The Catholic Pagan: A Paradox of Modern Ireland

By Tarot Dub

Ireland has long held the title of “Land of Saints and Scholars”, due to its extremely strong immersion in the Catholic Faith and the fact that the Catholic monks were the educated ones in the population, leading monasteries of learning, study and teaching. Ireland experienced a golden age while the rest of Europe was going through the dark ages from 600 Ad to 900 Ad. It is safe to say that this Catholic culture has permeated Irish society from then right up to present day. But strangely, Ireland has a “mish-mash” in its spirituality.



Before the Catholic Church so consumed the isle, a more powerful Pagan magic was coursing through our veins. That of the Celts- a Pagan group of people who occupied land from The British Isles to Galatia and who have their origins in Europe from 400 BC. The Celts had many pagan festivals, the most common one

being that of Halloween. The Romans called them Barbarians and thought them so wild, that no Roman invasion of Ireland ever took place. Which further strengthens the quite unique Irish spirituality at play. When Catholicism took roots the hierarchy had a distinct and unique problem. How to stop us locals from celebrating our Pagan festivals. The answer was simple. Plant one Christian festival over the Pagan one, that way everyone wins. In time the roots of these Pagan festivals have been lost, drawn in and hidden under the vestments of Catholicism. For example, Lady Day is a Catholic feast celebrated on March 25. This is also the feast held

in honour of the goddess of Cybele in ancient times. Even Christmas was chosen at a time to supersede a Pagan festival. The birth of Jesus is commemorated in the long winter nights as December 25 was so close to the winter equinox and marks the birth of the sun again.

I delve into the history of my country and Paganism to mark a point. As a Catholic here in Ireland, the issue of Tarot reading is one which is met with open hostility, fear, scorn and open hatred from some of my Catholic counterparts. While many would argue that Ireland is now a secular modern society, the shadow of the Catholic past looms strong in our culture. But for a religion which took on and incorporated so many Pagan feast days, why the open renouncing of Tarot reading? This is in a country where fairy bushes still hold the ability to reroute roads, you wouldn't dare bring hawthorn into your house and my mother is regularly seen throwing salt over her shoulder! Sensible adults believing in such things, in the same breath will tell you, "Don't bring those cards in here!".

For me, it's sad that many of my brethren have lost their Pagan magical roots, repressed for so long by a Church fearful of ANY move on its omnipotent power and that suppressed any belief that wasn't blessed by Rome. Fear was its main tool. And fear is a deep psychological one that runs deep, and is generational.

I remember my granny opening a new deck of cards, immediately finding the Jokers and promptly burning them, then spitting in the fire. No place for those in a righteous Catholic house!

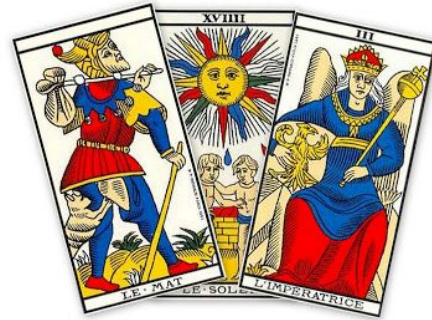
Still as a modern Irish man, brought up in a Catholic faith, I am now finally reconciling with my roots and realising that the old paths of worship were not wrong or evil. Throughout history there have been innumerable ways to connect with the divine. Does God, or Spirit, or The Universe really care what we call him/her? Or if we don't believe at all. I have an open mind and realise that many paths lead to the same final destination. The same cannot be said for some of my fellow country men and women. But that is changing and fast. Still, in the mean-time if the bus is full and I need a seat, I can always just take my tarot cards out of my pocket...

Contact Tarot Dub here <https://www.facebook.com/tarotdub/>

My First Tarot Reading

By Pearl Annie

The birds were singing joyfully as the tall palms swayed to and fro in the soft breeze. The sun warmly caressed the land with its pure radiance while I could hear the haunting cries of the native, black cockatoos in the distance. I lived at the foot of a small mountain, richly adorned with different shades of green vegetation and inhabited by energised, procreative wildlife. It wasn't hard to appreciate spring had arrived early in 2010.



Filled with excitement I was about to attend my first Psychic Fair, but no... not as a reader, as a potential querent! I had been studying tarot for about 6 months full time, but until this day, had yet to have an actual reading. Believe it or not, it was a very frightening ordeal for me, but the inspiration from the Queen of Swords gave me the strength to do it. I was slowly confronting a loss that disturbed me for years. The mere contemplation of a painful past regenerating the trauma and plunging its Ten of Swords into my back confirmed I needed to detach myself emotionally.

I imagined the town roads to be closed to traffic and adorned with brightly coloured tents, flags and people dressed in gypsy costumes. The humming sounds of singing bowls and chanting drums would softly saturate my ears, and wafting smells of sweet oils and smoky incense to tantalize my senses. With the Queen of Pentacles now in my thoughts, I would appreciate homemade creations from organically grown produce, elegant candles and magical crystals appealing to my appreciation of beauty. I have invested so much time in the virtual world of tarot and metaphysics, and finally, I get the opportunity to physically interact with a professional tarot reader!

Alas, why was the street so deserted? Did I arrive too early? There was a pittance of human activity, but nothing out of the ordinary for a Saturday morning in such a quiet little town. With the Prince of Cups driving me forward, I assaulted

this petite settlement, and stumbled across a very small sign. “Psychic Fair”! It pointed to the doorway of the small community hall.

I soon forgot my excitement and suddenly became quite nervous. I took a deep breath and reluctantly entered the hall. It was cordoned off into so many individual stalls. I felt several eyes suddenly incarcerate me, psychically interrogate and probe at my free spirit. I was guided to a display where I could see a photo and read the history on approximately 7 readers in attendance. One lady was dressed in a bright coloured, loose flowing garb not unlike a gypsy costume. There was a stately presence of an American Indian, dressed in traditional costume and several others dressed in average casual dress. Although a little nervous, I walked around the stalls and instantly connected to a tiny crystal. Of course I had to have it, and intended using it as a pendulum. Oh my mother would be so pleased.....(sarcasm)!

I was drawn to Evelyn, a warm and friendly lady; a descendant from a Gypsy background. She was a Spiritual Medium/Clairvoyant and Tarot Reader. Wow, multi-skilled! A tiny little scruffy haired dog had attached herself to Evelyn, and although not her pet, looked totally in tune with Evelyn’s soul. Although I sat at Evelyn’s little round table, I couldn’t help but notice the boxes of tissues on all the tables. Oh no, just what I suspected, the inevitable end to a reading – tears! I felt the Four of Swords coming on! The emotional force-field suddenly activated, and a cold chill passed through my body. Evelyn’s body shivered as she looked me straight in the eye and said “Did you feel that?” I just forced a smile, and the little dog then jumped upon her lap, not the least bit threatened by me.

Evelyn handed me some black tourmaline to hold in my tense hands during the reading, explaining that it would draw the negative energy from my body. She had four piles of cards in front of her but I was so nervous I couldn’t even recall the name or symbols of the deck she used! I know she revealed the Page of Cups, a new love in my life and lots of fun and happiness coming up. In all honesty I must have looked like a stunned mullet! I hardly spoke a word, but then, I was led to believe you weren’t supposed to. I was so sure Evelyn had some difficulty reading me, or so I thought. At the end of the reading, Evelyn gave me a little white angel. She called it my “Worry Angel”. Every time I was burdened with worries, I was to touch the little White Angel, and she would take on my anxieties. Evelyn took back the tourmaline stone and blew away all my worries. She gave me a big hug and reminded me to touch the Angel every now and then. I walked out of there in a daze. “Is it over?” I asked myself. I was

amazed, no tears, a little enlightened perhaps, but I doubted we connected like the Two Cups. I was happy to board my Chariot and head for home. It had been a very unusual and tiring day for me.

Strange how tarot urges you to look at what is happening in your life. It wasn't until I arrived home and relaxed a little before I started to make sense out of what Evelyn had said. It was as if the High Priestess was slowly unveiling her secrets. Wow, what a trip! Evelyn had quoted things that were happening in my life at the time, and although I was consciously aware of what was going on, I wasn't acknowledging them. She directed my attention to areas I focused too little on, and opposing areas of extremities. She spoke about my marital relationship, finances, and relationships with other family members. Evelyn indeed perceived my state of mind and her words echoed in my ears for weeks after.



What a shame I felt like I wasn't really there, and how fear prevented me from connecting. I made a vow that my next reading would be a little more intimate and private. I guess being on display for all to see, would incite even the best of us to shun our emotions a little, and have it affect our ability to connect to the reader. We often talk about how we connect to a querent, but so much more can be achieved from a reading if the querent is connecting too.

A Past Life's Learning Rebalanced

By Lara Houston

This is very much a topic that is subjective, some believe in past life and some do not.

My personal experiences and professional experiences have directed me to understand that past life debts is a real occurrence that warrants consideration.

I read a statement one time that described how some Souls make a 'contract' with each other before their life begins. This allows them the opportunity to resolve past life issues with one another, Interesting concept?

It seems a very possible situation, it cannot be incidental or coincidence that we meet people in our life and feel that we have known them for years.

Some people come in and out of our lives and some people stay longer and some we learn from.

So how do we know that we have a past life debt?

Initially, it isn't always clear to see, often there is a 'connection' that is not easily explained. A feeling that we know this person and they will become important to us at some point and for some reason.

I am sure that most readers have experienced karmic relationships in their readings. Identifying such potentials within a relationship can allow the reader to offer often much needed guidance. The Devil card often makes his appearance when a bond is difficult to break away from.

Guidance in this situation can continue throughout the period, until finally, the break is made and we see the beginnings of independence.

Did the two people in this relationship have past life issues to work through?

Quite possibly but cards will indicate as such, what we are looking at in this article is the actual realization of the learning to be found in the relationship and then move forward with one's life.

With this situation in mind, I asked my Tarot deck to give me 2 cards that represent a past life debt that is now paid.

Using the Tarot Illuminati, I was presented with the Hierophant and Justice with the 6 of Cups as the shadow card.

Interesting cards I thought to myself, Justice is a card that I have often considered as dealing with universal balance so her presence was not unexpected. The Hierophant was less expected and together they are not a combination that comes to me often. In fact, I probably would not have chosen this pairing for this situation but I am confident that together they will be a wonderful representation.



The Hierophant asks us to question our beliefs, do we live by that which we profess to have faith in? Are we living by the example that we should be setting for ourselves and for others, after all, we know his guidance, we know how to choose moderation. Where we accept that the Hierophant can represent

our moral guide, we need to also keep in mind that one person's perspective on what is moral may be different to another person's. Likewise, one belief system will not be everyone's.

In card 2 we see Justice standing firm and undeterred, her scales held evenly with equal weight, her sword is upright, without falter. It is important not to forget that she weighs her balance without prejudice or bias nor opinion.

There is a satisfaction in this combination that the individual takes the path that will align him or herself in balance with the universe by choosing what is right (for him or her) both internally and externally.

The pillars that set the structure are visible within each of the two cards, standing ever so firmly.

The 6 of Cups as the shadow card, indicates the past life situation that we are re-visiting at this current time.

I think that it is fair to say that if this pairing came out for a question of a debt repaid, I would think yes, it most certainly is.

July Workshop at The Tarot Guild Australia

By Jenne Perlstein

I recently facilitated a workshop in July 2016 at **The Tarot Guild Australia Victoria** : Tarot and Psychology of Relationships- a shortened form of the Tarot & Psychology Conference presentation in New York at the Readers Studio April 2016.

I drew 3 cards about the Workshop, to see what learning would come from the experience.



Wheel of Change Tarot Deck by Alexandra Genettii

The cards– The Chariot, 10 Cups and Lover.

This shows movement and progress (Chariot) connecting to family, their past and present influence in the multi-generational family & repeated patterns of dynamics, especially the need for parental empathy (10 cups) manifesting in

current relationship dynamics, hopefully integrating and aiding more conscious choices in romantic relationships (Lovers). The Lovers literally showed the key topic and differentiation between the Self and Other (Genetti). The Chariot brings loss or gain in fortunes, depending on how power connects to the well-being of others, in relationship. (Genetti).

These cards synchronise well for the learning experience and relevance of the workshop: action with responsibility, influence of family, emotions and distilling self from the other, crucial for the client and the reader; balance and dynamism in the presentation, group contribution, sensitivity to feelings and a consciousness of the relationship between facilitator and audience.

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### **Post the workshop:**

Participants explored their own or anonymous client's relationships with a spread about attachment style, and the balance of Parent/Child within a client and between partners, thus co-dependency or an unbalanced relationship. The Lovers card shows the need to do the 'inner child' work of integration, to seek higher guidance and have a shared vision of the relationship and to face the fearful aspects of the Ten of Cups e.g. enmeshment and the inter-generational dynamics.

Enthusiasm in the room, with to and fro energy from myself and the participants, the adolescent client energy in the pursuit of romance, but hopefully with balance and discernment, was present (Chariot). Participants liked the discussion about gently challenging clients (Chariot) about their tendency to rescue or continue in destructive relationships.

One person was able to go deeper than the literal meaning e.g. seeing sacrifice (Hanged Man) as part of rescuing.

The ethics of exploring the relationship, with only *one* partner present, concluded that focussing on the client's reading primarily, and their influence on the relationship, and to be less predictive about the partner's behaviour

***e.g. are they having an affair?*** was key. The reader needs to be aware of their own projections and triggers.

The Parent Adult Child © JPerlstein 2015 spread was useful for experiencing the dynamic between two people.

As an example, the Chariot and The Fool in the respective Child positions, was used.

The Chariot may mean impulsive, forward moving behaviour from partner A, with open, maybe naive, overly trusting expectations/behaviour from Partner B, particularly as both are Major Arcana.

There may be tension, both wanting much emotionally, and Partner A impulsively 'rough shodding' over Partner B. Resources for healing would need to be drawn from the cards in the Parent and Adult positions for each individual and from the respective Partners.

We all continue on the path of these knotty and deep, complex relationship issues with our clients and ourselves!

Jenne Perlstein [www.tarotastrocounselling.com.au](http://www.tarotastrocounselling.com.au)

# Meditation on the High Priestess

**By Ash-Lee Jeanne**

I stand at the base of white marble steps. Above me looms the facade of a grand temple. A temple caught in mist and stars stands with so many pillars at the top of these overwhelming stairs. I feel tired as I begin to climb this flight of steps that is somehow suspended above and not deeply embedded in the dirt below. I reach the top and notice I am at the entrance of a long shadowy hall of sorts. This hall has pillars on either side. On the one side, each pillar is black velvet and on the other, each pillar is creamy white. Starlight and soft shadows catch the pillars giving them an ethereal glow and I stand in wonder at their almost luminescence.

A gentle wind comes to me from the end of the long hall and I feel my hair falling back and my loose dress flowing behind me. I take a tentative step forward with one bare foot and as I do, I look up and notice at the end of this long hall sits a woman. She is already looking at me with the most intense of gazes. I feel riveted by her deep eyes and unable to look away. They seem to see right through me. I am not close to her, but the power I feel radiating in that glance draws me forward and I feel as though I am floating toward her. I give myself to that drawing. She is so magnificent and yet almost frightening in the subtle strength I feel in her being.

And now everything seems to be a contradiction of sorts. On my left it is night and I notice the flaming stars through the pillars as I am carried forward. This is the universe and I am looking at it from the vantage point of the moon. The milky way swirls and ebbs and flows through the sparkling stars. On my right, it is a bright and sunny day. I notice desert sands and radiant heat. I feel deep coolness on my left side and I notice a slight wind not at all of this passage that is pressing me and I notice the stars are orbs hung as if they could be touched. I am so close to the universe as I glance this way. I am in the solar system but on my right I am on the earth. My body feels without gravity on my left side and on

my right I am very aware of this grounding and weight I carry. And yet there is a balance in the two sides of this passage.

Now I stand in front of this mysterious being. She is so radiant and flawless like the sun and stars I have just passed. Her skin shines with lights from within and her eyes are mercurial in their depths and I cannot plumb what her thoughts



may be. She wears a gown made of flowing water. It rushes over her legs and over a glowing crescent moon under her foot. But the water does not run anywhere but around her. The water flashes as if with diamonds and gurgles like a brook dressing her in the most shimmering and cool waves. I see her hand slightly hidden under the water but clutching a scroll that is drawn by the waves and the eddies. The scroll likens unto a skin, alive somehow and untouched. Unharmd by the rushing water that is her raiment.

And my eyes are drawn directly behind this priestess for a brief moment and I notice the garden of Eden. It is so lush and cool and I am aching to feel those beautiful garden breezes and smell the deep brown loamy earth. To feel the dappled sunlight on my body. I am jolted to realize I am now naked in front of this woman and I am not ashamed. She reaches out and somehow I feel a coolness that is comfort begin to surround me. I am covered in the same water now. Is this dress blue? It is clear but it isn't. I raise my eyes to her chest to notice a cross of perfect proportions. This cross seems to be made of sunlight and moonlight. One beam is yellow and bright while the other is luminous and pearlescent. This cross is completely balanced and I feel myself relax in looking at it. I feel my heart beat more slowly now. I didn't even notice that it had been beating so fast.

Finally I find the courage to raise my eyes to hers. I am quickened by a liquid intensity. I am once drawn and compelled and also deeply aware of my own flawed self. She seems to know me completely in that one look and I am terrified. I don't know how to be or even how to stand. I feel tears escaping my eyes and yet that water blends with the water already flowing around me and I am washed as I feel this radiance and luminescence begin to become me. Her eyes are still so intense but she is warmer now as if with that one penetrating glance she has given me all clarity and all knowing and has gifted a part of herself into my own. She hasn't judged but rather she has found what was lacking and given me that which completes me. I am now as she is in that moment and I find myself not prideful but very sure of these things. I am now her and she is now me. We are the same but facing each other.

I glance down at the records she holds in her hand. They are the grand Akashic records and I long to read them. I long to know my past, my present and my connection, my deep deep unknown fibers. She smiles a tiny half smile with one corner of her mouth and slightly shakes her head.

*“In time. In time my lovely. You will know and you will find but for now it is enough to trust that your intuition is flowing . You are dressed in water as you never were before and you have been washed clean. You have been accepted and loved for who you are and you can trust this deepness, this knowing that you will contain from this point on”.*

And now she slightly moves aside and beckons to the garden that lays so perfectly beyond. It is a grove of pomegranate trees. I wonder at the large fruits that weigh on the branches so heavily. She asks me to take and eat and I pluck a pomegranate which seems suddenly right in front of me. I haven't moved and she still sits firmly between the two pillars of night and day. Yet I am peeling back the skin and seeing the plump and lovely seeds. I eat one and feel a whoosh of fire descend all the way to my toes and I feel so alive and so empowered. I am FIRE and WATER and I am EARTH and I am AIR. I am balanced and I am evenly weighted. Suddenly I notice I am outside of the temple again. I am now facing out to the world. There is a vastness in front of me. It is so hot and yet I am cool in this water that continually swirls over my being.

It is the desert radiating these waves of heat and density and I am comfortable. I will water and I will replenish. No longer will I doubt this voice and I realize the High Priestess's voice is inside of me and she has blended perfectly with mine. I am in awe of this and I refuse to doubt the voice of intuition inside of me. I have become the High Priestess in my own realm and no longer is the temple behind me but I am in the center of this grand circle of desert. I am illuminated and I illuminate - radiating truth and knowing. Bubbling rays of light and sparkling stars fill the raiment of water I wear.

Read more about Ash-Lee and her Tarot journey at <http://www.moonzoulmagic.com/>



# Fundamentals of Grounding

By Sheryl Turner



There are many aspects of a reading that are important and often the querent comes first but what about us, the reader, who looks after us?

Looking after ourselves is a good foundation for a reading and one of the ways to achieve a good foundation is by being grounded.

Being grounded keeps us centred, keeps us in the present and gives us a personal strength like no other.

## What is grounding?

Grounding is a technique by which we connect our energy or consciousness and anchor it into the present. By doing this it can give us many benefits

- It brings us into the now
- Helps us to stay in our power and in our own energy
- Keeps us balanced and centred
- Helps tame the ego
- Regains control of our emotions
- Brings about focus

By having this energy planted firmly in our bodies it aligns us bringing clarity and higher wisdom.

Being 'off with the fairies' or being spaced out doesn't help connect us with higher realms it is in fact being grounded that lifts us higher. Raising our vibration is different to 'being spaced out'.

The firmer the roots the higher and stronger you can grow. Think how roots of a plant or tree support and nourish what they are producing!

We want to rid the chaotic, scattered, blurred or fuzzy feelings by having our roots, our energy, firmly planted and connected to the earth giving us a clear clean slate to work with.

## **How to achieve a grounded state**

### **Meditation**

Meditation brings us into the present, meaning with a clear mind we stop thought about the future and the past. It centres us and lets us 'be'. Cyclic breathing also keeps our energy flowing.

A great way to enhance being grounded is to imagine tree roots running from the bottom of your feet, running deep into the earth grounding you to the core.

You can even imagine being grounded to a large earth crystal or an anchor firmly planting you into the ground.

### **Connection with Earth**

Walk bare footed on the grass. Touch a tree, its leaves a flower.

Dig in the dirt, plant something or just stop and take a deep breath outside. Being out in nature brings us back to our core, to our soul's rhythm.

### **Exercise**

Walking, Yoga and weight work are very grounding. Or just generally doing something physical and getting your body moving. Doing exercise reminds us that we have a physical body.

## **Eating**

Eating root vegetables such as Parsnips, Carrots, Sweet potato, Daikon or Turnips. Or have a glass of water, a cup of tea, some good quality chocolate or nuts.

## **Crystals**

Have grounding crystals around you while you do your readings or meditate with these

Black Tourmaline - Grounding and protection

Black Obsidian - Grounding and cleansing

Red Jasper - Grounding and energy boosting

Hematite - Grounding and mind stimulating

Smoky Quartz - Grounding and both psychical and psychic protection

## **Chakras**

If you're familiar with your Chakra system imagine a great cord of light running from the divine source through your body and flowing down deep into the earth.

## **Aromatherapy Oils**

Burning essential oils is a great way to balance out our energy and calm the mind. These oils are not just great for grounding they also evoke other healing qualities.

Sandalwood (*Santalum album*): Calms and harmonises the emotional body

Frankincense (*Boswellia carteri*): Helps disconnect from mental chatter, uplifting, balancing Cedar (*Cedrus altanica*): Calming, purifying and grounding.

Myrrh (*Commiphora myrrha*) Grounding, healing, protective and purifying

## **Grounding Fast!**

Grounding doesn't need to be a long drawn out process, for instance we can ground quickly in between readings just by having the intent, by saying the words "I am grounded" and imagining you are being anchored into the earth, feeling the pull of the earth's gravity.

Whichever way feels right for you use it in your daily life and the clarity will come flowing. Bringing your own energy into yourself brings back your power and it will not only benefit you it will benefit your reading.

### ***Sheryl, Spirit Medium***

AdvDip Nat., Dip. Nut., Dip. RM., Cert Aroma., Certified Angel Intuitive

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# Interpretation Tip

## Referring Back to the Question

**By Lara Houston**

As simple as it may seem, one of the most effective ways to support an accurate interpretation is by referring back to the original question.

It is all too easy to become carried away by wandering down a path that leads to a misinterpretation when the original question is deterred from.

I have seen all too many readings become somewhat confusing to a reader when a different tangent is taken.

It is a basic and fundamental foundation of every interpretation to keep to the topic or subject.



This is a simple tip, upon the onset of your interpretation, look back to the original question and ask yourself:

“How does the reading laid out in front of me answer that question?”

Once you begin your interpretation, continue to remind yourself of the original question and referring back to it during your interpretation.

This will help you to stay on track and in the right direction.

Once you have completed your interpretation, remind yourself again of the question and read through your reading:

‘Did you answer what was asked?’ If the answer is no then take another look.

# Tarotscopes

**By Sandra Geddes**

**Aries** - You may have to curb your tendency to want to be in charge this month Aries and take a step back from any stresses. Cooperation and compromise may be needed to keep things in balance. Don't be too proud to accept help if it is offered. *Temperance/4 of Swords*

**Taurus** - You are not generally known for your tact at the best of times Taurus and communication, especially when it comes to dealing with family matters could bring out your blunt side this month. Try to stay grounded and think practical.  
*Queen of Pentacles/Queen of Swords*

**Gemini** - A situation could come to a head this month Gemini, but don't worry it's not going to be the end of the world, though it could feel that way at the time. New beginnings are right around the corner. This will especially apply to your family and home life.  
*Ace of Pentacles/10 of Swords*

**Cancer** - I know you can be a sensitive soul Cancer but you need to stop letting your fear of past hurts hold you back this month and take some decisive action. It is your choice whether to move forward now or carry on licking your wounds.  
*9 of Wands/ 2 of Wands*

**Leo** - You may need a mental break this month Leo, that's a break not a breakdown ;) Take some time out from those stresses to reflect and relax. Book a Spa day with all that birthday money perhaps. This is not the time for big decisions.  
*4 of Swords/King of Swords*

**Virgo** - You may find yourself doing a little soul searching this month Virgo. But take heart that what you are looking for is a lot closer to home than you realise. A little self belief and faith in yourself can go a long way.

*The Star/The Hermit*

**Libra** - All good things must come to an end Libra and it appears as though this month will bring the need, the opportunity, or perhaps both to cut some things, or people, out of your life that no longer fit with your needs.

*Queen of Swords/ The World*

**Scorpio** - If you have not already booked a little summer getaway now is the time to do it Scorpio! Literal sunny days and travel will bring you happiness this month. Enjoy!

*The Sun/The Chariot*

**Sagittarius** - You really can be your own worst enemy at times Sagittarius. This month be careful of letting your own negative thoughts manifest themselves into reality. Accept that you can worry far too much and start to move on.

*8 of Swords/ 3 of Swords*

**Capricorn** - They say it is better the devil you know but is that always the case? He may add a bit of spice to your personal relationships this month, but be careful as it can become addictive. Too much of a good thing is never too healthy.

*2 of Cups/ The Devil*

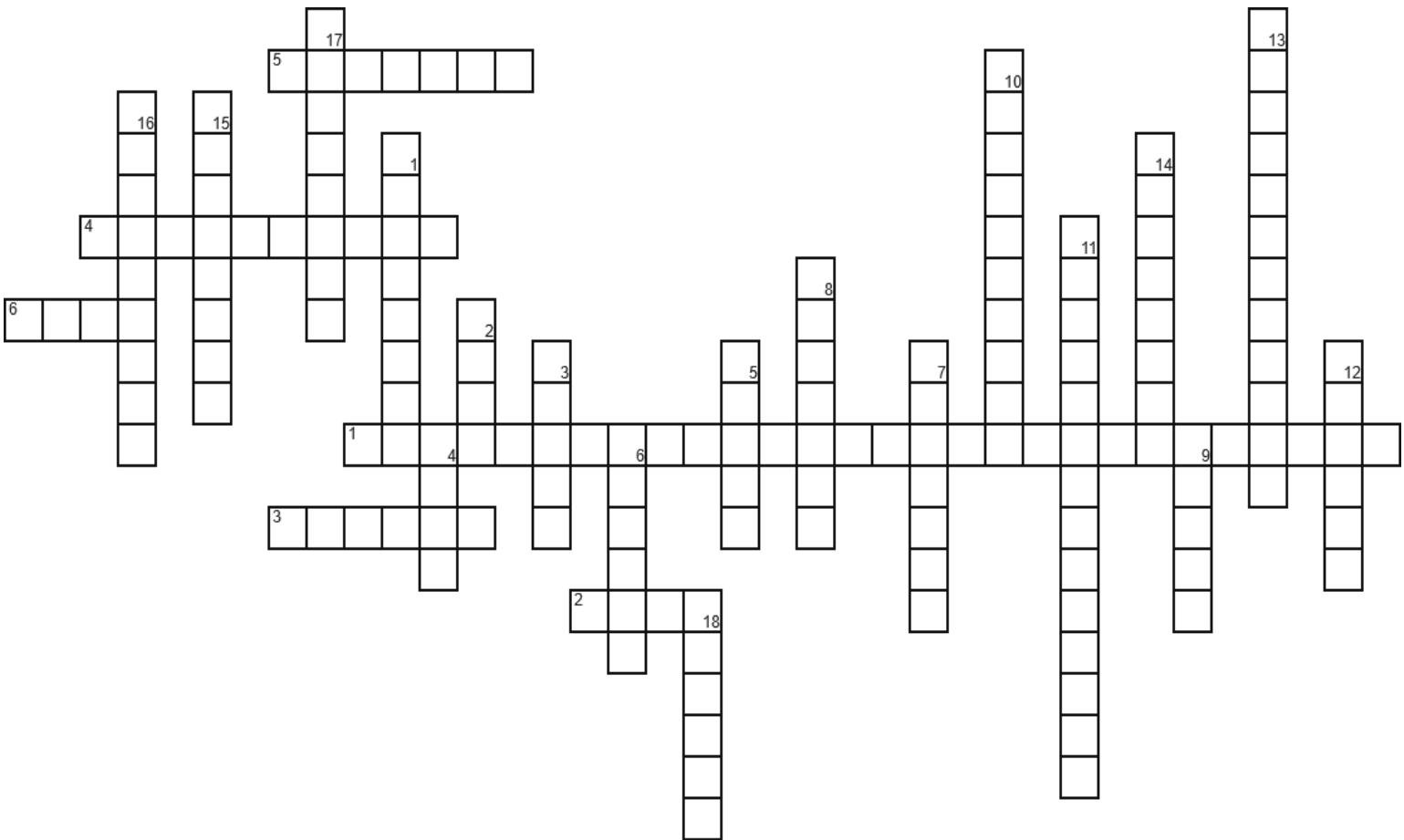
**Aquarius** - This month sees you regrouping your thoughts and planning your next move after some less happy times. Take the lessons that you need and leave the rest behind Aquarius.

*7 of Swords/6 of Swords*

**Pisces** - If you have been making plans now is the time to start putting them into action Pisces. The groundwork is laid, research done. Time to start doing!

*3 of Wands/Page of Pentacles*

# I.T.F Birthday Crossword



Crossword answers will be displayed in the September Newsletter!



## Across

1. ITF
2. Water
3. Gemini is attributed to this Major
4. Enhances a reading
5. Planet next to Pluto
6. Capricorn



## Down

1. Trickster
2. Court child
3. Fire
4. High priestess holds it in her hands
5. Goddess of love
6. The bull
7. Closest planet to the sun
8. We light them on a cake
9. Sex drugs and rock and roll
10. Spiritual teacher
11. Spins with karma
12. Air
13. Placed under a spread
14. Opportunity to cleanse your cards
15. Inner control
16. Gut feeling
17. It swings over the top of your cards
18. Cards are laid into a what?

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# What's in Your Bag?

**By Robert Scott**

As someone that reads tarot all the time, I've started to have a packed bag or case for appointments, and a box for fairs/expos. I'm going to share with you what I have, and my suggestions of what to pack for each.

In my appointment bag I have:

- ❖ Tarot deck, minimum 1 but probably a couple for to choose from
- ❖ Pens, pencils paper, notebook, - you or the questioner may want to write notes. You may also journal the reading
- ❖ Appointment book – to ensure you are at the appointment on time, and the right place. You may also make a follow up appointment
- ❖ Business cards – always always take business cards.
- ❖ Card reading mat or card reading cloth – protects the cards, and gives a better appearance to the client. A nice cloth also helps with the read to create focus.
- ❖ Tissues
- ❖ Breath mints – you will be talking, and probably up close and personal



In my fair expo bag I have all of the above plus:

More decks – more readings mean I may need to change decks, also different questions or different people may seem better suited to another deck . I like to have a mix of the decks, a slightly lighter fun deck, and a slightly more direct/blunt deck. Know your audience. What are the taboos or considered off limits?

What themes or styles do they like? If a party or convention, is there a prevalent theme?

**Timer** – with one on ones a clock is usually available. With fairs you will be doing multiple reads which are usually time based. Cell phone timer app or kitchen timer will work. I will be using a sand timer.

**Pretties** – 1 or 2 pretty objects, maybe a statue, maybe a nice stone. Be careful not to overkill. Too many pretties tend to be distracting to the client. Do include one or two items for mood, but don't overwhelm the senses, and don't get confused for a store.

**Tissues** – where you might need tissues at a one on one appointment, at a fair/expo event I can guarantee you will need tissues for your someone

**Light** – I find I like to have either a candle, lamp, or light to give a little more light to the cards, both for to see them visually, focus , and atmosphere. Know the safety rules of the venue concerning electric lighting and open flame.

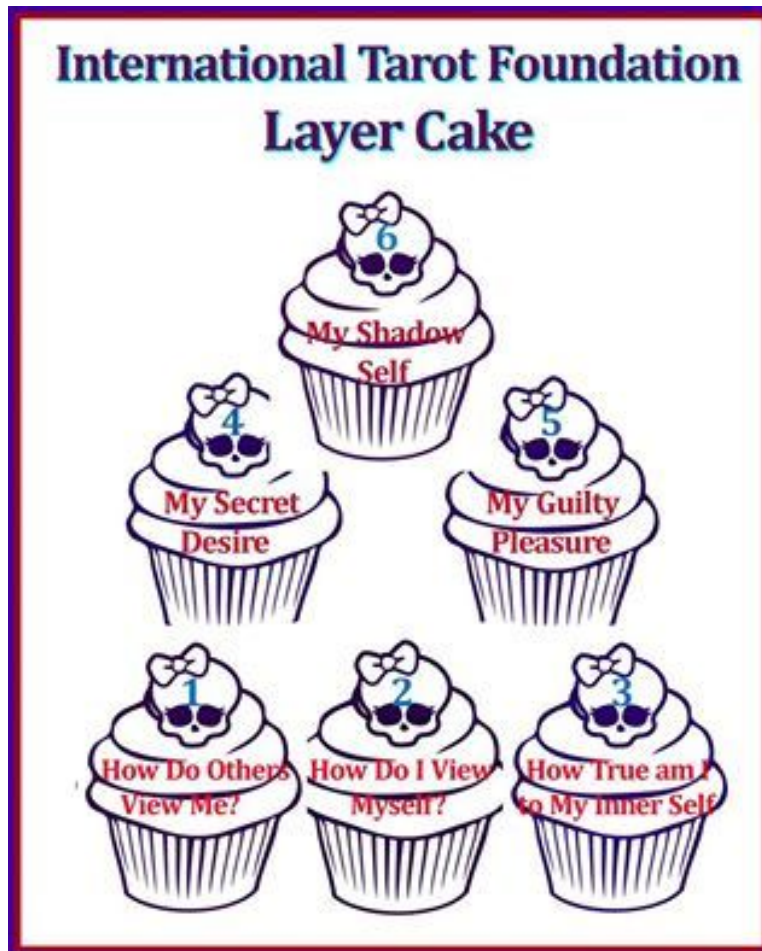
**Snacks and water:** at expos and fairs you will be reading all day. So you want a couple easy to grab foods. I suggest protein bars, peanuts, beef jerky as they are easy and have high protein which is important. Grapes and fruits that are not overly juicy are good. Small chopped vegetables make a good snack as well. Water of course is best not only for your thirst, but you will be talking a lot, all day.

**Signage** – have signage to let people know who you are, what you do, and pricing and rates at the minimum.

What do you have in your bag? Please share with me and let me know!

Email on: [tarotfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:tarotfoundation@gmail.com)

# 1st Birthday Anniversary Spread



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