

TAROT UNVEILED

July Issue



International Tarot Foundation

Welcome to the July edition of Tarot Unveiled

We trust that the Newsletter finds you well and in good spirits!

We are busy as ever here at the ITF and enjoying every minute of it, new members to welcome lots of Tarot development taking place.

On a big positive, it finally feels like our structure is taking shape, our foundations are solid and we now have something secure to build the future on.

In one months time, we will be celebrating the launch of the International Tarot Foundation and what a party it will be! The work has sometimes been intense but worth all the effort and more.

We have new courses being developed and/or updated so we can bring our students something new and fresh everytime.

Certifications are being worked towards by the first sign up student and we are extremely pleased with how this is developing.

The recent study event of the Tarot Knights was, as usual, great fun. We love this interactive way of study events with the members.

Don't forget we welcome member submissions to the Newsletter, it is wonderful to have the involvement!

So, all that is left to say is, grab a coffee and enjoy the read!

Don't forget you can contact us on tarotfoundation@gmail.com

Best Wishes

Lara

Pearl Annie's Report

Event: - Knashing Knights! 27/6/16

It's "Study Group" again...and what another blast! It was well worth getting out of bed for. Mind you it was freezing cold, and I would have thought it a magical morning if the Knight of Cups showed up early for his appointment! Oh my, would he have warmed the cockles of my heart....ooh yeah! Not sure where he would park his horse though?

We had a few members turnout today and welcomed new ones to the study group too I think they were amazed at how fast we took off... Ha ha ha!

You thought I couldn't keep up? As soon as I heard the Knights were on their way, my hormones were dancing to "Footloose"!



The Knight of Wands

Jumping into Action!

There is no doubt that this horse and Knight team are off to an energetic start. The pair look to the right, leaving the grounds of the castle. Our Knight is on the move and he will stay just long enough to help you get on the move also. Will you enjoy some change and action?

The Knight of Wands

The Knight of Wands is always looking for action, he will help the damsel in distress but will not commit to anything more.

The Knights were fast, ravishingly daring, energetic, bold and exciting...

They exuded so much energy, they drove me wild!

While barely awake and drinking my coffee, the Knight of Pentacles plodded into the room on his horse.

He spoke of being up most the night securing the home and ensuring everyone was tucked into bed safely. He is indeed hard working and

very family orientated.

This Knight strives to maintain a sustainable family income. He is helpful, and offers vocational guidance and the education we need to bring satisfaction and job security. He really is grounding and knows how to make you feel genuine and worthwhile. As Connie so cleverly put it, the kind of boyfriend your mother wants you to have.

The first Knight to rush in, and believe me he was no fool, was the Knight of Swords. He galloped upon us at the speed of light, my heart beating faster than the horse's hoofs hitting the floorboards. He vigorously swung his sword and there was simply no escaping him. "Oh I have been a bad girl....come here you gallant knight, punish me!" But he was gone again in minutes and I guess I was lucky to escape his discriminating torrent. Robert referred to him as the Knight in Shining Armour... I sure wish I got to see more of him!

The next Knight to hastily demand our presence as he rode in on his gallant horse was the Knight of Wands. He dazzled us with his radiance, explosive energy and passion. There was such a creative, sexual energy that flowed and I must say ladies and gentlemen, we were all inspired and captivated by his presence. As Pamela said, it was like grabbing the tail of a comet with no warning label about getting too close.

The last Knight pranced into the room on his dancing palomino...As Loller appropriately called him, Prince Charming. Talk about a showman. One student couldn't help but notice and admire the knight's skinny jeans. The golden chalice captured the light and the Knight of Cups loving energy emanated throughout the classroom. He seemed to understand the compassion and nurturing we hungered for, and his gentle, poetic words continued to chime softly through our ears.

We learned a lot more about the Knavish Knights today and the assault and speed they bring to a reading. As advice in a reading they may lean towards what feat needs to be taken, and how quickly it's needed. They could represent a young, energetic male, of perhaps even a situation of exploitation or accomplishment.

So if you are a member of our International Tarot Foundation Associates, come along to the next study group. I am sure you will find the coming court intuitive and empowering! You can even catch up by reading through our previous study nights. I would love to see you there!

Review: Tarot of the Magicians

By Robert Scott

This review is based on a combination of the Golden Tarot of Wirth Grand Trumps as listed on Amazon.com by Lo Scarebo, in combination with the book *The Tarot of the Magicians* by Oswald Wirth.

First of all, this is a historical deck that precedes Rider Waite Smith, but which Rider Waite Smith is partially based off of. Books or material that refer to RWS or later are not applicable to this deck. The cards themselves are not only done beautifully, but true to Wirth's design.



The cards are loaded and packed with symbolism, one must not overlook the slightest inch or millimeter of the card.

It is trumps / majors only by design, because by Wirth's reckoning "that's all you need". Readings are referred to as consultations, which are

very much in line with the ideas and goals of using the tarot for a tool of guidance over that of prediction.

The box provided with the Golden Tarot of Wirth Grand Trumps, Lo Scarabeo, is nicely done, with a book of basic interpretations and keywords. However, for best use of this deck, I would acquire a copy of *Tarot of the Magicians* by Oswald Wirth which not only has divination meanings, but much on the correlation with Hebrew Kabbalistic forms.

His book also has specified spreads and reading procedures, which is notably different due to the deck being majors only

.The book has many diagrams as well that are of interest to the more scholarly or academic tarot scholar.

In addition to the Kabbala, also has listed a wealth of astronomical information, and Hermetic philosophy.

This text extends into geomancy and the I-Ching.

Wirth gives a bit of a scientific proof that yes, Tarot works, beyond the laws of probability, and that the "arcana answered questions so well that one would swear that they had been deliberately chosen to suit the case".

Some of the language is that of a professor, so some readers may be turned off, bored, or find it hard to grasp compared to some decks/books that are at a lower reading level.

Overall a valuable deck for study and divination, but not to be considered lightly or quickly.

Interestingly, the deck is also very suitable for a historically themed read in the late 19th/early 20th century!

A Guide To The Email Tarot Reading

By Sandra Geddes

Tarot and other forms of divination (that is, the art of looking for guidance through symbols and signs) has traditionally been practiced face to face, perhaps in the back of a dimly lit metaphysical store or a small wagon on the seafront. For some seekers, this is all part of the mystery and experience of having a reading.

Today however, the email reading is becoming increasingly popular and can help you to make your services available to many more clients seeking your skill, wisdom and guidance.

There are several reasons a client may prefer to have their session with you via email. We lead increasingly busy lives and it is not always possible for someone to be able to make time in their schedule to come and see you face to face.

Also the nature of things someone may need insight into can be quite pressing and need an answer more quickly than you can provide an appointment time in person. Others may be shy or nervous about what the experience will entail if it is their first time and enjoy the added anonymity of an email session.

From the point of view of the reader there are benefits as well. With an email reading you can work at your own pace and take your time over your reading, analysing the connections and patterns for as long as you need. This can lead to deeper insight. Once an email reading has been booked by a client, you will need a professional looking email to send to them. It is important to inspire confidence in the client that you are a genuine professional in your area and value their time and money by providing a quality service to them.

Planning your Template

It is a good idea to have a template for your emails. This will save you time which you can then concentrate on the interpretations themselves. You can create one in a program such as Word. A good template will include your business name and contact details. You may also like to include a cover image or logo.

Something attractive but simple that conveys your personal style or image is ideal for a cover photo.



Reading for: (Clients name)

Date :

Question:



Interpretation:

With a template created we can get started with our first reading.

Opening your reading

We all have different reading styles and approaches. A client seeking a Tarot reading may or may not know what to expect when they decide to book with you. If you do not do so on booking the reading, you may wish to give a brief explanation of your approach and what is going to happen.

For example I always open my readings by introducing myself as the person who will be looking at the cards with them before a couple of sentences about how I work. Something like this :

“Hello XXX , I am Sandra and I will be looking at the cards with you tonight. I read from the point of view of guiding you to make the best life for yourself rather than prediction per se. We will look at the energies and potentials around your situation to see where we can enable you to take control”

You may choose to also mention your ethics and/or policy on things such as health readings or legal advice readings but in my opinion that information should be on your website to be viewed by the client before the reading booking is accepted.

The reading

Once you have introduced yourself and outlined your approach you can move on the reading itself. Unless it is a general reading your client will likely have a question or issue they would like you to advise them on.

The most common issues are love, money and work related though you may also see queries relating to family, spirituality and personal growth. These are usually issues very close to the person's heart that may be emotive for them. It is important to always be empathic and never undermine or play down a client's concerns. It is serious enough to them to be seeking your help with therefore it should be serious to you also.

The way you phrase the question to your cards on your client's behalf will be quite crucial here to how clear the resulting message from the cards is and in turn how beneficial the reading is to the client. I would advise to take some time over this and phrase the question in the way you feel will give the clearest answers. Narrow down the query as much as you can. A vague question will lead to a vague reading.

Clients will usually appreciate a visual of the cards so you will probably want to include a clear image of your drawn spread along with a list of the card names and positions. This also allows you to reference the imagery in your interpretation if you wish to. The imagery is what gives us our intuitive clues after all!

“ See how The Knight is riding away from the Fool? What new beginning are you not embracing?”

Your interpretation can be as lengthy and detailed or as succinct and to the point as your personal reading style dictates. I would however advise keeping it relevant to the client and their question, avoiding being too technical where possible.

We may use various techniques to garner the information we do from the cards from Numerology and Symbolism to Astrology and Kabbalah but the client is only going to be really interested in what it means for them and their issue. Too much information could be confusing or otherwise off putting to them.

Closing the reading

Now that you are coming to the end of your reading you will want to bring things to a close. Summarise the reading and bring in any additional guidance to tie everything together for the client. Don't forget to refer back to the question. Lastly I would advise to always end a reading on a positive, or at the very least reassuring note. No reading should ever leave a client feeling helpless or upset. Alternatively they should come away from the experience feeling that they can handle anything coming their way, assured and in control.

As a final note I usually offer to discuss any aspect of the reading the client is unsure of or has questions about if they would like to email in reply.

I hope you enjoy reading by email as much as I do.

Good luck and happy reading!

Dramatic Cards: Mundane Reality

By Brooke Barnett

Some of the cards in tarot suggest major changes in our lives—events we all experience, some of which we may deeply fear—yet, when we draw them, the world around us doesn't seem to reflect the crisis. So what does the card mean in that situation.

A moment of panic

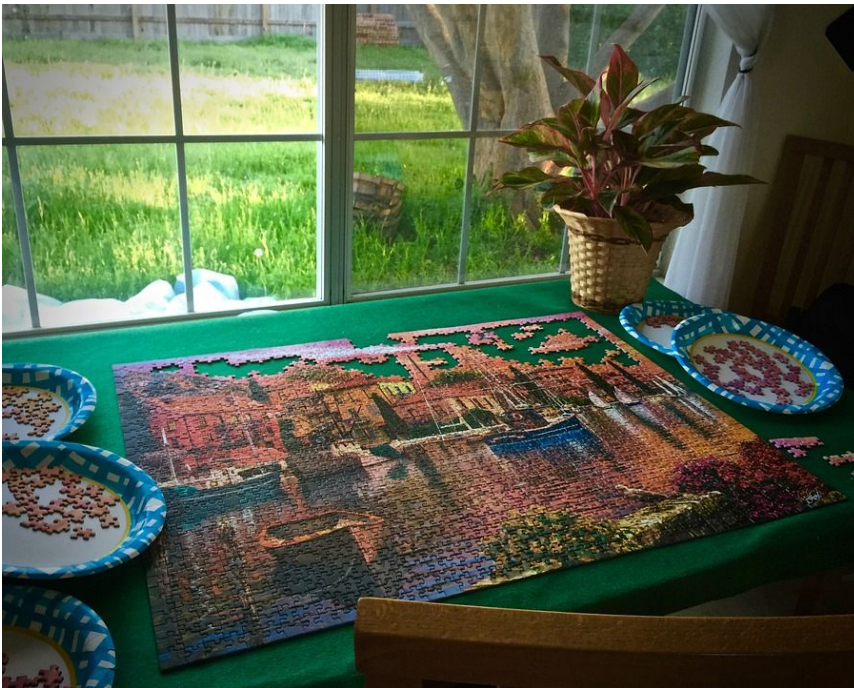
The Tower, the Devil, Death, 3 of swords, 5 of pentacles, and others point to ordeals that all of us endure—lessons we must learn to integrate into our lives.

Imagine doing a daily draw for yourself and you pull one of these cards. Your heart leaps into your throat. Your pulse quickens.

Are you going to lose your job? Will your partner leave you? Will the medical test come back with devastating results?

Most likely, the answer is 'no.'

The Tower probably doesn't mean your house will be struck by lightning.



The 3 of swords probably doesn't foretell that your partner is leaving you today. The 5 of pentacles probably doesn't mean that you're going to lose your house to the bank tomorrow.

So does it mean anything at all?

The puzzle pieces

Tarot cards, especially the majors, represent dynamic, subtle, constantly bubbling undercurrents of our

existence. For example, consider the Empress card. Each of us has a relationship with her—the mother archetype, the abundant creativity of nature.

Our conscious and unconscious relationship to her grows over the

days, months, and years of our life. Sometimes the connection emerges strongly, other times it's in the background, but it's always there, as our knowledge, intuition and understanding grows—sometimes slowly (or even regressing) and sometimes more quickly.

Each time the Empress emerges in your life, it doesn't mean that the whole and utter experience of EMPRESS is going to manifest—WHAM—all at once, right now. Rather, another piece of the puzzle—maybe a little one, but a significant one, nonetheless—is going to fall into place.

So when the Tower shows up in your daily draw, and then your life doesn't fall apart around you, try not to get discouraged. ;-) It doesn't mean that the cards are meaningless, that you did something wrong—or, knock wood, that the other shoe is about to drop.

Rather, it may mean that there's a teaching about the energy of that card available to you now. Take heed of what you see, hear and learn that day; there may be messages about how to incorporate the Tower experience when it happens, a small nudge toward the larger meaning of the Tower in your life.

Trust that the lesson of the Tower (or whatever card you've drawn) is ongoing and multidimensional.

You may receive the message piecemeal—learning more about the unstable foundation of the tower, or the fear of falling, or the bolt of lightning—just one piece of the jigsaw puzzle at a time. Trust you are right where you need to be in your journey toward the big picture.

Salt of the Witch

By Steve Dailey



Blessed salt, witches salt, black salt, devil's teardrop...all of these are names for a very powerful form of protection that you can use in some aspects of your journey through tarot. Often, people will use a tarot card during meditation.

Meditation is a form of channeling, and when you channel you stand the chance of inviting something in that in reality, isn't very nice.

Maybe you use a tarot card in a spell. Real spell casting also has the inherent risk of bringing forth something that you may not be prepared to deal with as well. Before I get into how you can make your own black salt, let me enlighten you a bit on my wife and me.

My wife and I walk the same path, and practice it together. We have also been investigating the paranormal for over 10 years. We have been in some of the most haunted locations in America, and worked with many of the people you see conducting

paranormal investigations on television. Today, we primarily remove malevolent spirits from homes, and have done this for the Dead Files show. About 5 years ago we had a

very horrible experience that forced us to reconsider what we thought the paranormal really consisted of.

Our path turned darker; we found that the best way to fight a dark spirit was to have the help of an even darker spirit.

The recipe I am going to give you is not my own. It belongs to the lovely daughter of Hecate that I have been married to for 23 years. In reality as she dictates, I am typing her words.

- ❖ You need to use wood from a tree, not plywood or 2x4's...wood from a tree.
- ❖ Three days before the full moon; when it's waxing, you need to have a fire with the wood. It needs to be a happy occasion, with laughter and good thoughts.
- ❖ The next day gather a handful of the black cinders and ash from the fire and set them aside. You also need to get your salt; either Sea salt or Kosher salt.
- ❖ On the day of the full moon, and at night, grind the ash and cinders using a mortar and pestle. It's very important that you visualize the cinders protecting you; you are charging the cinders with your energy. Next you mix the salt in with your fingers, again picturing the black salt protecting you.
- ❖ Finally, if you work with a specific deity, you can do a ritual asking for their blessings upon the black salt as well.

My wife always consecrates everything in the name of Hecate. You can place the salt on your reading table, altar, or just wear a sachet with the salt in it. We use this stuff on every house cleansing that we do, and it's seriously effective at not only providing protection, but keeping nasty spirits away.

Tarot Business Tip

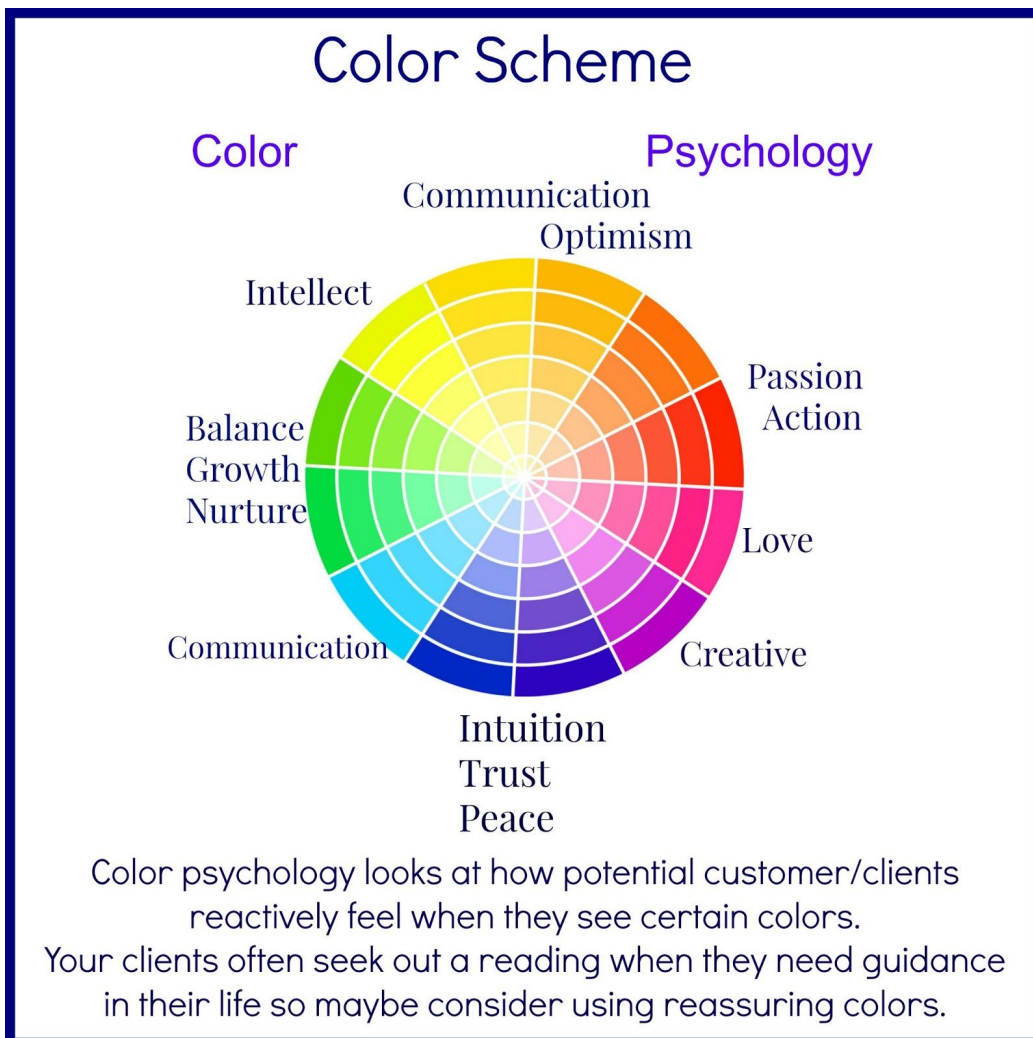
By Lara Houston

When choosing your color scheme for your business, consider some useful color psychology, you will be surprised the difference it could make.

Offers stand out wonderfully in orange and if you want someone to feel relaxed and calm when they visit your site then go for purples and blue.

If it is a love reading, add a touch of pink to the page or red for passion.

Take a look at the chart below and consider how you could plan your business front or logo. Have a little play around with your color scheme, you may be surprised the difference it makes!



Tarotscopes

By Sandra Geddes

Aries - Careful planning looks to be the order of the month for you Aries. Your leadership skills will come in handy with this and managing new projects as well as existing ones. You may have to sit back and let some things take their course also.
2 of Pentacles/7 of Pentacles

Taurus - Take a chance on what makes you happy this month Taurus! You are not biggest fan of change or anything new but opportunities are coming for you to expand those horizons and you'd be a fool not to take them.
The Fool/ The Sun

Gemini - Some believe a good argument clears the air, but does it really Gemini? Be careful of how you communicate with others this month. It may be tempting to stir things up a bit, but is it ultimately worth it?
5 of Swords/ 4 of Cups

Cancer - A little bit of what you fancy does you good! So they say. Temperance is here this month to remind you, my dear Cancer of the importance of moderation, especially when it comes to those little tempting luxuries. This may not be the best time to start that new diet or swear off shoe shopping.
Temperance/ 9 of Pentacles

Leo - This looks like a lovely month with happy news, family celebrations and get together on the cards so dust off that party outfit and your best hat Leo! I think you are going to need it.
3 of Cups/10 of Pentacles

Virgo - Recent worries start to resolve this month Virgo as things settle back more into their usual routine. This should come as a bit of a relief, though the routine can get boring after a while.
6 of Swords/8 of Pentacles

Libra - You may find yourself in two minds on an important decision this month Libra. Luckily weighing things up before acting is what you're good at so we know you will make the right choice in the end and restore balance to those scales of yours.

2 of Swords/6 of Wands

Scorpio - You are your own worst enemy at times Scorpio. What is truly stopping you from taking that first step towards your goal this month apart from your own self doubt? Be brave and plant that seed.

8 of Swords/ Ace of Pentacles

Sagittarius - As much as you love helping others Sagittarius you do need to look after yourself also. Make sure you're not giving more than you get back this month in terms of energy and effort. Take a break to recharge.

6 of Pentacles/4 of Swords

Capricorn - When it comes to relationships are you looking at both sides of the story Capricorn? Trying to see things from the other person's point of view will help to get things back on track.

The Hanged Man / 2 of Cups

Aquarius-

Honesty is not always the best policy when it leads to conflict Aquarius, consider your where your loyalties lie this month perhaps and adjust accordingly.

Knight of Pentacles/5 of Swords

Pisces - Hard work you have put in will start to show results this month Pisces. Things look stable and steady with you firmly in control.

3 of Pentacles/The Emperor

The Dark Night of the Soul

By Lara Houston

"As with all the Major Arcana cards, they teach and guide us and the Tower is no different.

At this point in the journey, we have been given signs, advice and opportunity to change the collision course but some don't see it and some don't want to see it. Even in it's stark imagery there is a good reason for this card's influence and energy. The Tower is a structure that we build around ourselves, we 'think' it is real, something



tangible and stable, secure. We are satisfied, even in our comfort but who are we trying to fool? We can be stripped naked in a flash, a second in fact and don't we know it.

If you think you are safe behind your walls within your castle in the sky, well take heed because it is not a nice experience. Some unfortunate souls, serve as an example to others of the wrath of the

Gods but does anyone really learn if they have not experienced it?

Was the Tower not built in the belief that people would be closer to God?

Over time, we add the bricks and the bigger the Tower the more we feel imprisoned because deep down this is not a happy place.

We reflect our true self and the essence of the Devil is nearby..who looks on, smiling and we realize that we don't even know the way out anymore

The shock of the Tower throws the lovers from their entrapment and into the dark abyss.

Did their ego serve them well?

But do not pity them for they are free and the course of their life is changed.

The path to enlightenment never comes easy.

Thankfully, the Star is their saving grace and she will pick up the pieces like the loving mother and soothe the pain.

The Moon is in our midst, our journey is not complete but we can now see the light ahead.

In the extreme this is the Dark Night of the Soul, quite possibly the most challenging experience one can go through and those who find their way out will come to a new awakening...in time."

The Dark Night of the Soul, is often a misunderstood experience but one very dynamic experience.

Identifying when someone is actually enduring this period is highly invaluable to the individual.

Guiding them and showing them that there is a way forward and out of this period can mean all the difference to an individual of coping or not.

Yes, medical guidance is imperative and has always to be advised but there is a sad fact that many doctors would quite possibly not recognize the Dark Night of the Soul.

Depression is often misdiagnosed when the individual could very possibly be going through a spiritual experience of transformation.



It is important to note that if this is being experienced by the 'sitter', know that this is a dark and difficult period. It could even be the most difficult period of one's life.

When I experienced this I felt numb inside and so different to everyone around me. I was watching the world from the outside whilst wading the murky waters of the Abyss. I was disinterested in those around me, so much so that I asked people to stay away.

Life held almost no interest, conversations seemed pointless. I know the events that led to my Dark Night, they were traumatic and not just one. I saw the warning signs of this being on its way and I still resisted and this was my downfall in thinking that I could face any challenge.

The Hanged Man came along firstly, I still ignored the gentle request from the universe, then Death, which I did not surrender to.

Finally, the Mars invoked Tower took center stage and put me in my place. The Tower has dealt with many an ego stripping and when it hits, it hits hard.

Yes, this is highly likely to benefit the individual significantly but just imagine the casualties that have been quite possibly caught along the way. Some people cope better than others and even with the best intentions in the world, not everyone can successfully endure this experience, especially not without support

For some, the hopeful aspect, is that the Tarot reading being asked for in the first place will be the first step in the right direction for them. As we already know, when the workings of the universe are in play, it can be a daunting situation for someone who is not familiar with such workings.

So what is our role as a reader?

If we can identify this experience, we can, at least go some way to helping the sitter to understand what they are experiencing.

So what cards would we expect to see?

The Tower may be an obvious one but I would really expect it to be present. The Devil may be in the past or/and additionally the card that shows how the energy of the Tower was brought in.

Justice could be in the wings and hopefully the Star will be on hand to guide our individual along. The Moon may be around and the Sun, showing themselves in the future.

The cards that I have just mentioned will reflect progression of of the situation. The concern would be to see cards of loss following on from the Tower.

The often lengthy period that is sometimes referred to the Abyss, is a dark place indeed, and would seem a hopeless place too.

I am sure that everyone will experience it differently but look for unusual pairings, the Hierophant and the 10 of Swords and how wonderful it would be to see the Sun card next.

The Empress and the Moon can herald serious depressive thoughts, the Devil, Star reversed and the Tower, when one feels hopeless.

These are just some of the cards that may turn up.

The Major Arcana does show the development of this in stages, especially in the latter Majors as these focus more so on the Higher Realm of Soul development.

As mentioned earlier, always make your first point of advising medical advice and then give your guidance.

Losing the ego, is not for the faint hearted.

In fact, when I thought that I had learnt and was experiencing my awakening, along came the Devil.

He seemed to be there to confirm if I truly understood the meaning of balance of choice, had I truly acquired temperance?

Alas it seems not, I came face to face with the Devil in my life and journeyed some more!

If we can assure the individual that an awakening awaits, a re birth, it can give the hope that they need to hold on to.

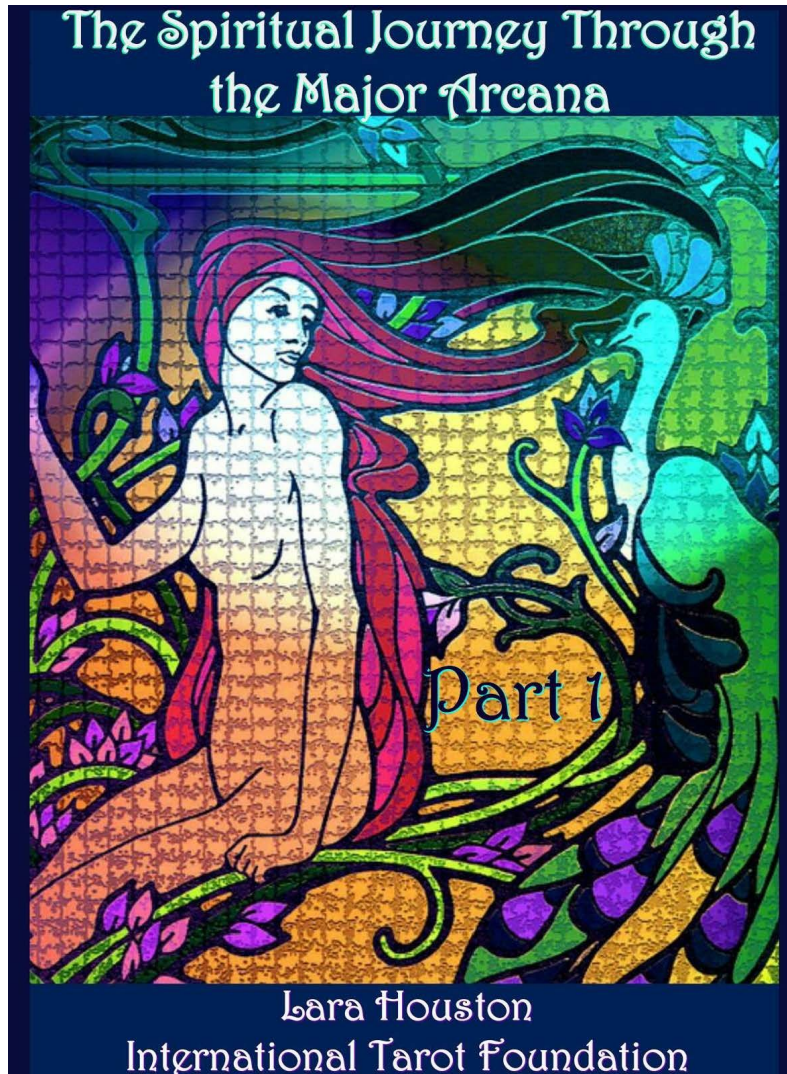
After all, the Sun is on the other side of the Moon!

One may have lost friends along the way and sometimes more but there is no better feeling to compare to the pleasure that you feel in life and the joy after enduring this period.

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Suddenly, it all makes sense,

A Question of Spirituality



To understand the Spiritual journey we firstly need to consider how we perceive spirituality. To many people it will represent varied meanings which may depend upon their own understanding of spirituality and their own philosophy. Much of this will depend on individual experience and belief systems, upbringing, culture etc.

For me, spirituality is the essence of what we develop in our search for Divine affinity. There is sometimes a misconception that spirituality is religion based, religion and spirituality can co exist within one's life but they are two separate ideals. One does not need to be religious to be spiritual and

one does not need to be spiritual to be religious.

Religion offers a way of life, living within a set of rules in accordance to that religion. Religion can represent believing in one or several Gods, as is defined by each individual religion.

Spirituality is internal, at Soul level and is a way of being.

Of course, not everyone will seek their own understanding and development of spirituality. Some people seek out their own learning and understanding of spirituality and others are nudged along in this direction.

Our life experiences sometimes lead us to spirituality as we search for inner peace but whatever the reason or purpose, I believe it is a worthy journey to embark upon.

Tarot offers us teaching on how we develop along this journey and also how our Soul develops as we work through life's lessons, the struggles and changes that we work through.

As we travel this journey, the ideal is that we learn intrinsically, internally. This way we can develop a higher vibration of understanding of ourselves and the reason for our existence.

Lara Houston

(Taken from the new ' Spiritual Journey Through the Major Arcana' Course)

If you are interested in knowing more about this 3 part Course, then please see the Course preview page on the website.

It is one of our significant courses for Tarot Certification but is also offered for members and non members (discounted) as an individual course.

The course is a total of 3 courses in one!

[Click here for more information](#)



www.internationaltarotfoundation.com