

TAROT UNVEILED

OCTOBER 2016



Blessed Samhain
October Offer
Talking Protection

Tarot of Eons Review
October Tarotscopes
'Tarot Gave my Life Back'

INTERNATIONAL TAROT FOUNDATION

Welcome to the October issue of Tarot Unveiled,

Yes, we are soon approaching Samhain and as such the veil is becoming gradually thinner, it is a great time to open up your intuitive feel and enjoy a deeper connection within your readings!

This month also sees our Facebook Tarot Study group grow to 8,000 members and a consistent and appreciated increase in membership with the International Tarot Foundation.

Our very own Sandra Geddes and Annie Dunlop are looking forward to attending the UK Tarot conference this month, so I am sure we can look forward to an interesting report in the November Issue.

The CARTA Awards nominations are now closed so we will be opening the final voting in December, which will allow us time to prepare for the Awards in March. We are very much looking forward to presenting the \$500 prize money to the Best Tarot Deck, so come on guys, get voting for your favorite when you see the forms!

So, get your tea or coffee, rest up and enjoy this month's edition of Tarot Unveiled.

Blessings

Lara

Tarot of Eons-Review

By Richard Avila

Divination In The Digital Age: Tarot of Eons

Author/artist – Vadim Temkin

Name of deck – Tarot of Eons

www.tarotfeons.com

Price: \$50 (shipping included in U.S.; \$15 add'l worldwide)

One of the mysteries and gifts of Tarot is the ability to change the theme and setting of the cards, and yet at the same time retain the same meanings. When a deck is done properly, it will speak to everyone in a universally understood language. Tarot of Eons (ToE) is that sort of deck.

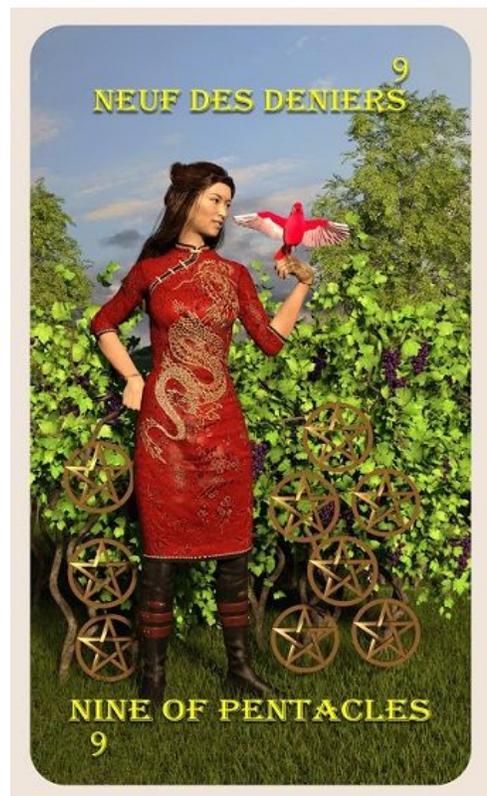
ToE is the brainchild of Vadim Temkin.

Originally trained as a physicist and employed as a computer programmer, he says that he is **not** a Tarot practitioner.

Despite this, he's designed an interesting and effective deck. ToE is very much in the Rider Waite tradition.

His deck has the traditional Major Arcana with the usual numbering & suits, and he draws his meanings directly from Arthur Edward Waite or Paul Foster Case. In terms of the metaphysical foundations, this deck is traditional in the best sense.

While he is not a practitioner, Vadim is an artist. Given his background in computers, his creative method is computer generated modeling of 3D

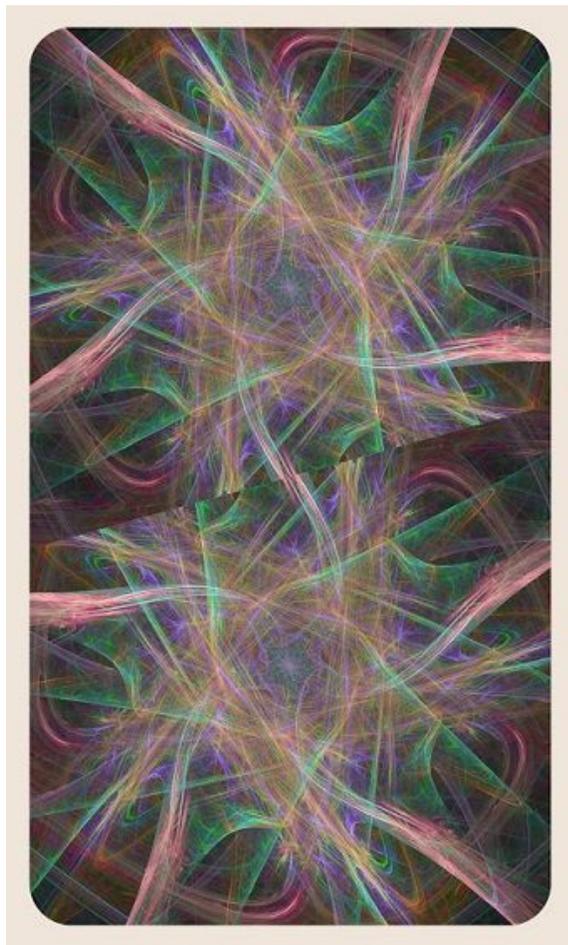


images, which gives his renderings an interesting mix of clean & precise, but still familiar.

Because of the 3D imagery, the deck has a definite video gamey look to it – which can be a plus or a minus, depending on how one feels about that.

Nevertheless, there is real precision here, which we see in the rich colors and clean lines of his images. He says it took approximately a year to complete the deck, and the time he took shows.

The cards are standard size: 2.75"x4.75"; card stock is 330gm with a black core & smooth finish. They shuffle well and in terms of quality are as good or better than decks from US Games/Lo Scarabeo. Although the two are very different,



the deck is reminiscent of Tarot of Prague in places, owing to the computer rendering common to both.

The image on the back of the cards is interesting. It is a colored fractal pattern which has been doubled, making it reversible.

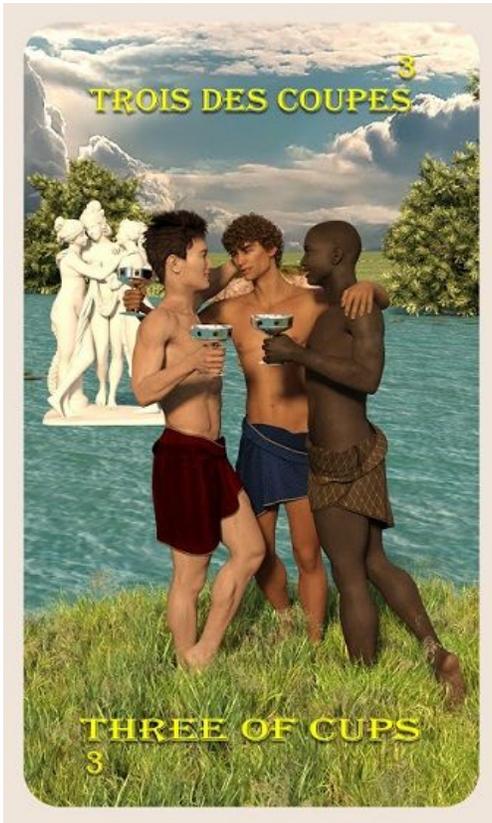
When we turn the cards over, we see the images have no borders. They run all the way to the edge of the card. Some attention has been paid to symmetry, as the English title on the bottom of the card is matched on top by the title in French: Wands/Batons, Pentacles/Deniers, Cups/Coupes, Swords/Epees.

While the French titles add symmetry, they are also a throwback to the history of Tarot and a nod to the Marseilles tradition. The number of each card in both suits and majors is shown in the top right and bottom left corner, also contributing to the symmetry.

One of the complaints about a standard Rider Waite deck is the lack of cultural

diversity. Pamela Coleman Smith's images are a product of their time, but in Tarot of Eons they have been updated.

Each suit is devoted to its own time or culture. Wands are African figures, Cups are Greco-Roman, Swords portray medieval Europe, and Pentacles are Asian images.



Three of Cups is a definite nod to the multicultural aspect of the deck, and while providing a twist in terms of presentation, clearly brings across the card's stated meaning. Three of Cups in its composition also references Italian neoclassical sculpture: Canova's Three Graces.

(The suit of Cups also has renderings of existing sculptures on most of the cards.)

Nine of Pentacles gives us the same type of cultural twist on the Rider Waite's lady of the manor.

We cannot discuss the deck without mentioning the box. While most decks come in a paper tuck box, ToE comes in a wooden box! It measures 6"x4"x2".

The box the review deck came with fit the deck very closely. It is a very nice dark grained wood with a pentacle on top, and a Tarot of Eons logo on the bottom.

The boxes are sourced from India, and are a wonderful complement to the deck. Between the CGI art and the box, ToE is a deck that stands out. (Note: the box appears several times in the deck itself. As Vadim said about it, "The real world invades the pictorial world, the metaphysical world.")

Because he is using traditional meanings from Waite or Case, Vadim has not included a LWB.

However, he is currently adding information on all the cards to the website. He is also working on a Tarot of Eons Android app, so this is a deck which clearly will have the artist's continued support.

While the Rider Waite may be the standard, Vadim Temkin has put an interesting and worthwhile spin on it, both in terms of artistic presentation and cultural diversity.

All of the cards are currently visible on the website and are available there for purchase: www.tarotfeons.com. Look, and judge for yourself.

Samhain: The Thinning of the Veil

By Steve Dailey



Unless you're Pagan, a Witch or something along those lines, mentioning the word "Samhain" to most people would get you a blank stare in return. To us with an understanding of what Samhain actually represents, we kind of get this "giddy" feeling inside of us at this time of year.

However, do you really understand what can be accomplished this special time of year? If not, then sit back and journey with me, as we explore the mystery behind Samhain.

Let's look at the word first. Samhain is a Gaelic word that is pronounced "SOW-en."

It is most commonly known in general terms as “Halloween.” While that’s all good; I mean... how you can not like Halloween; the original cause for celebrating the holiday was vastly different.

This was a time when the Celtic people and their society would enter the “dark half” of the year. Winter was coming and the hours of sunlight available were starting to diminish. So in effect, they were celebrating the end of the current year, and simultaneously bringing in the New Year, because sunset on the day of Samhain marked the beginning of the Celtic New Year.

So, Samhain was a time of festivity and celebration...kind of like what we do on New Year’s Eve.

However, there was also another aspect of Samhain, that I am sure we will all find quite interesting. The Celtic people believed that Samhain marked a point where the “veil” was the thinnest, meaning the separation between their world and the spirit world.

Now before I delve into this I need to explain how the Celts viewed time as opposed to how we view time. The vast majority of people see their life in a “linear” fashion, meaning a straight line. It starts with birth, ends with death and in between there’s a “marker” placed at each year.

The Celts didn’t view it in that manner. To them, time was basically “circular”...it never really ended; it just kept going around and around. So, why is that important?

It’s important because with time essentially going in a circle, the Celts knew that with a thin veil, not only could they communicate more easily with spirits, but the opportunity to gain insight into the past, present and future was also at their disposal.

A straight line does not allow that, but a circle does...those Celts were pretty smart, and yes, my roots are in Ireland.

Essentially, this meant that if you practiced divination back then, this was your time of the year. During that period, we are probably talking about runes/stones or scrying into a bowl of water or even the surface of a pond when it came to divination.

Unfortunately for them, they didn't have a wonderful tool at their disposal that you have...your tarot deck.

What a perfect time of the year to break out your deck and try to communicate your ancestors or spirit guides! With our deck we can ask advice for our present and future. We can ask what past events are still influencing us in the present day. In essence, with our tarot deck we are able to view time in a circular fashion, just as the Celts did. This is a powerful time of the year...let's not waste it! Grab your deck and get to work!

Now I'm going to be very serious Spirit work in itself, can be dangerous.

The wife and I are working on 15 years studying the paranormal. We also walk the same path and call upon spirits on a regular basis when working our craft. You need to be cautious when working with them. Here are a few pointers or steps that you may want to follow when you want to work with a spirit.

- 1. Cleanse your deck before doing the work. Get any and all energy off of the cards. Make sure the deck is one you know well.*
- 2. Have a spirit in mind and SPECIFICALLY call in that spirit. If you leave the door open a crack, anything can come in that door.*
- 3. No phone, television or fans should be turned on in the area you will be doing this work. No loud children or people bothering you. You really need to be alone.*
- 4. Light a single candle; no, color choice does not matter. Let it burn for a few minutes and watch the flame. Understanding how the flame burns will alert you to any deviations. Often when a spirit comes forth, that flame will signal their presence by waving, flickering, increasing or decreasing. Sometimes you will notice a temperature drop or you may even feel their touch. Now we're ready to call the spirit forth. Again, use a specific name. If or when you feel their presence, tell them that they cannot occupy your body or mind and explain to them why you have called them. Now you can shuffle your cards as normal. If you wish to know about the spirit, lay your cards in a fan. Ask the spirit to guide your hand over the cards, and stop over*

the cards they want revealed. Pull the cards out and turn them over as you are lead to them.

Search for clues within those cards for information.

About the spirit.

If you have a specific question you want answered, you could use a yes/no spread. This can work two ways. The first way would be to pull 3 cards and read those 3 as your answer. You could also do a 5 card pull where cards 1-3 are read as the answer, while 4 and 5 are guidance as to the reason behind the answer. Once you are done, tell the spirit the session is over and **that they must now leave!** Then I would HIGHLY recommend a good smudging of the area and yourself.

In closing, once again I stress this point to the reader: You need to be very careful when doing this type of work. This is not unicorns and rainbows. While this work can be extremely beneficial and revealing, it does have the ability to go very wrong as well.

You need to be very sure that you are physically and mentally prepared when it comes to spirit work.

I wish you a safe Samhain.



ITF Tarot Study Group Member Sash Bekier in the Spotlight



Interviewed By Pearl Annie

Pearl Annie: Hi Sasha, I was so pleased when you agreed to do this interview with me for the International Tarot Foundation Newsletter. You only joined our Facebook Group recently and I remembered asking you what tarot deck you used. When you told me you were in the middle of creating your own, I was thrilled, but never thought for one second how much talent and expertise you were putting into such a meticulous deck.

Thank you for doing the interview, and perhaps you would like to let us know a little more about yourself?

Sasha: Thanks for talking with me Pearl. When I was eight, my school librarian gave me a book to read, 'Macabre Tales,' it was a collection of excerpts from classic fantasy fiction. I must have read it cover to cover 10 times before I returned it and went searching for the full books the stories came from. Reading fantasy fiction led to fantasy role playing, (Dungeons and Dragons, that kind of thing) which blossomed into an interest in all things esoteric as I reached my teens.

Then, life kicked in and I couldn't find the time to continue growing in that path, it was all left behind with my stamp collection. About five years ago I came out as a transgender woman, like a slowly building wave my entire life had backed up to the point where it all inevitably had to come crashing down and in that breaker I lost pretty much my whole beautiful plastic li(f)e.

I found myself, healthier and happier than I had ever been, but utterly adrift, relying on the kindness of my friends to keep my head above water. A couple of

years later, I moved across the country, from Melbourne to Broome chasing my wonderful, now, partner.



Pearl Annie: *What led you to tarot Sasha?*

Sasha: Since moving to Broome I have found myself in a comfortable, safe environment which has allowed me the luxury of returning to the things in life that I am truly interested in. Following those interests about a month ago I decided to

take a sincere interest in the Tarot, a subject I had previously largely avoided. I think, maybe, that it is only now that I am ready to hear what she has to say.

Pearl Annie: *How long have you been learning the tarot?*

Sasha: I have been actively studying the Tarot over the last month as I have been building this beginner's deck. I had read through some Tarot stuff before but had never really exerted any serious thinking on it.

Pearl Annie: *Where do you resource your tarot information?*

Sasha: The internet is a wonderful place. I found a lot of good info at learntarot.com as well as a few other sites. I also read Arthur Waite's Pictorial Guide to the tarot and Crowley's Book of Thoth.

Pearl Annie: *What was your main inspiration for designing your own deck?*

Sasha: There is a question with layers. I can give you a reason for each suit ;)
Pentacles: I didn't have the financial resources to readily source a deck in the short term and, the local options are pretty limited.
Swords: I felt that if I went through the process of building the deck it would really help me to lock in the nature of the cards for me and provide me with an excellent opportunity to spend time focussed on the ideas of each and every one.

Wands: I felt that a deck that I made myself would be well attuned to my personal energies and be likely to work well for me.

Cups: I felt that making my own deck would be the most emotionally enriching way to obtain a deck.

Pearl Annie: *You recently posted the images of your stunning tarot deck, and the response was amazing. Did you expect to get such a positive and favourable reaction?*

Sasha: I was totally stunned by the response. I find it very difficult to assess my own work, all I see is the myriad ways in which it could be done better but the community response in the facebook group was phenomenal. I'd like to take this moment to thank all those who commented and particularly to thank the group admins who do an amazing job keeping such a large group with such positivity.

Pearl Annie: *Did you model your deck after any particular deck and have you chosen a particular system?*

Sasha: It's a bit of a hybrid, when I got started I didn't have a very clear picture of where I was going with it. The attribution keywords are mostly Rider Waite, with a few other bits and pieces from here and there, but I have taken a lot of the structural thinking provided by Thoth and tied in some bits from that.

Pearl Annie: *How much time would you estimate as having spent on each of the cards? Which cards did you find the most difficult ones to create?*

Sasha: The first few took a couple of hours each, because I was still figuring out how to go about it. After that I got it down to about half an hour per card for most of them, although a few took longer to draw. The whole deck came to probably about 50 hours to draw. In the deck the court cards cover some of the kingdoms of life, so Pages (Maids) are all flowers, Knights are all insects, Queens (Ladies) are all birds and the Kings (Lords) are all mammals. I had initially made Knights and Kings, helms and crowns respectively but I wasn't at all happy with how they turned out so I redrew them.

My personal favourites are 'The Moon' and 'The Maid of Wands,' who both turned out really well in my opinion.

Pearl Annie: *In creating your tarot deck, what materials did you use and what drawing implements did you employ?*

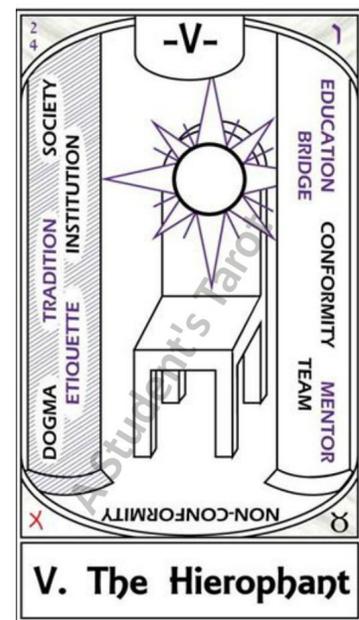
Sasha: This deck was constructed from heavy watercolour stock and felt tip markers. I stuck with the felt tip markers because they made it easy to generate continuity, each suit works primarily with only two colours and because the starkness of raw lineart served to stop me getting bogged down in tiny details that wouldn't add anything meaningful to the designs.

Pearl Annie: *For those tarot readers who you have inspired, what advice would you give them when creating your own tarot deck?*

Sasha: Go for it! It is so worth it.

Start by laying out the framework of the Tarot, once all the labels are in place you have a useable deck to start experimenting with. Set yourself a target, I started with 1 card a day, although once I got fully into it I was doing up to 10 a day.

Personally I let the cards decide which card I was supposed to do next and then dwelt on the ideas personified until I figured out how to capture those ideas as simply as possible. Lastly, don't get hung up on perfection, better your own full deck, warts and all, than 3 perfect cards and the rest lying blank. After all, you made it yourself, you can upgrade individual cards as you make the time and energy to 'perfect' them



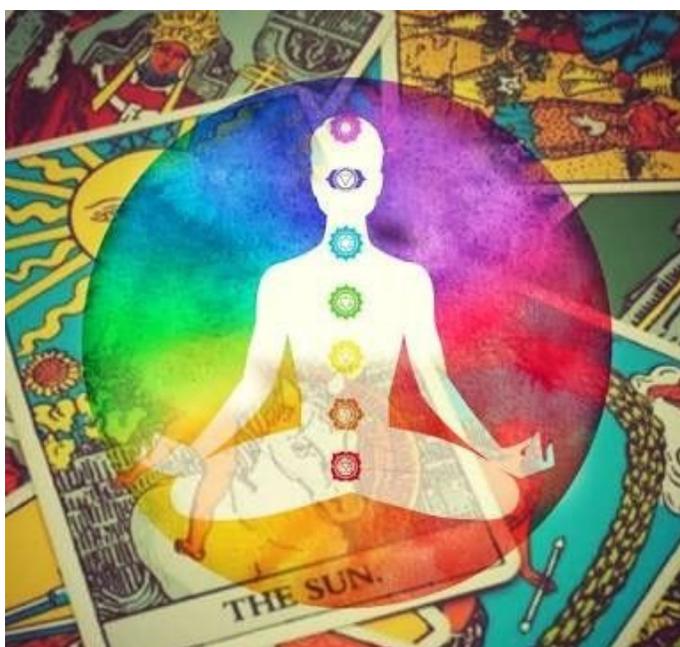
Pearl Annie:

Sasha Bekier I thank you for being so generous with your time and advice. It has been an honour to meet you and I wish you well on your tarot journey.

Fundamentals Of Protection

What is protection?

Protecting ourselves basically means protecting our energy. As everything is energy including us we are not only susceptible to attracting positive energy we are also susceptible to attracting lower energy or negative energy.



Our energy is known as many different things - an Aura, our soul, our space or our energy field. It's the non-physical facet of ourselves.

The energy around us is an extension of ourselves and protecting this non physical part in turn protects our physical.

Our energy can be made up of thoughts, feelings and emotions, all holding different vibrations.

The energy around us is forever changing, by what we and others

put into it and by what we attract to it. We also have incoming and outgoing energy transference, the exchange of energy. Different energies all have an effect on both our body and mind.

Everyday we are exposed to these energies whether doing a reading, going to the shops or being around our family and friends.

Although protecting ourselves isn't about putting a wall up and not letting anyone

or anything in, it's about being selective about what comes in, a filter as such.

Protecting ourselves, but from what?

You may hear people talk of 'energy vampires', but as scary as that sounds it's just referring to people who may drain your energy. As humans we do not intentionally drain other people's energy, it's just the law of attraction and the process of energy transfer. Even places, houses and cities can drain us and some people are more sensitive than others. It is also true that lower entities, Spirits, are attracted to our light, like moths to a flame.

The best way to avoid attracting lower vibrational entities is by raising our vibration. So we are essentially protecting ourselves from lower vibrations, in whichever form they may come. The main benefits of protecting ourselves is to keep our energy up, we want our energy to vibrate at a higher level, that way we attract only higher level energy in turn attracting higher vibrational things into our lives.

Think of it as energy hygiene, just like brushing our teeth every day, it's a good idea to clear, clean and protect our energy!

Some signs and symptoms of an 'energy breakdown' or a 'weakened aura'

- Feeling tired, especially after a reading
- Feeling unfocused and unable to concentrate
- Falling ill often
- Feeling drained or a lack of energy
- Feeling lost and scattered
- Headaches or Migraines
- Feeling low or slightly depressed

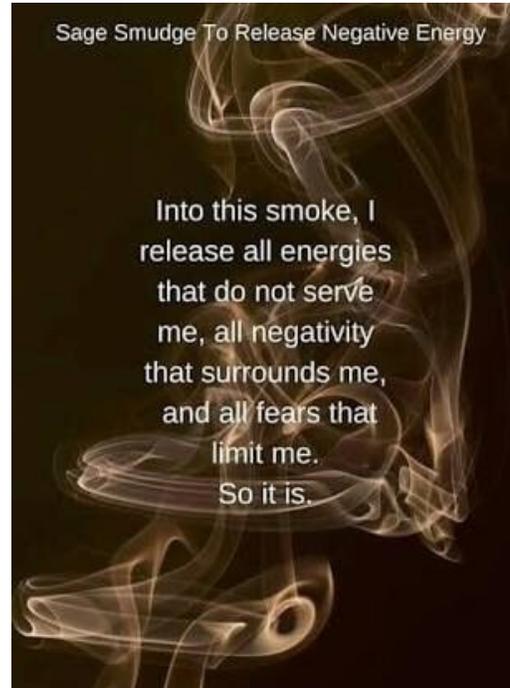
Obviously these can be signs for other health problems so don't ignore these symptoms, your intuition and common sense should give you some guidance on this.

Ways to protect ourselves

There are many ways we can protect and clear ourselves. Some of these techniques and rituals are quick and others, such as Meditation can be as long or as short as you feel comfortable with.

Take control of your energy and whatever does not serve you will bounce right off!

- Sage yourself and your space
- Incense sticks
- Crystals
- Mantra or Intention setting
- Stay positive
- Meditation, you'll also raise your frequency
- Aromatherapy Oils
- Setting up your space or home with a higher vibration
- By coming from a place of love and light
- Meditation
- Sound, such as a singing bowl or high vibrational music
- Using a bubble of light
- Being out in nature
- Spiritual healing/reiki
- Sleep/rest
- Personal affirmations
- Deep breathing and relaxation techniques
- Grounding yourself and aligning your Chakras and Aura Largely all these come from a place of intent.



Crystals for protection

Some of the many crystals for protection (remember to cleanse them often).

- Black Obsidian
- Amethyst
- Onyx
- Smoky Quartz
- Black Tourmaline

Intention for protection

Saying a mantra or affirmation is letting the universe know what you want. Here is an example of an intention, this can be said at any time and definitely beneficial to say before a reading. Setting an intention calms the energy both around and in you. It's a state of being organised and focused removing energy clutter! Take your awareness in and say out loud or within you.

I am protected from any negative energy that comes my way. I only allow positive energy to enter my space. I now surround myself in a white light of protection, cleansing me from the inside out and the outside in. Only higher level beings can see my light, lower level beings cannot see my light and will not enter.

Now imagining a bubble of white light surrounding you, filling your whole being and aura.

For the highest and greatest good, let it be so. Thank you, thank you, thank you.
And it's that simple!

You could also ask your Spirit Guides, Angels or Arch Angels to stay by your side. Or imagining a waterfall of light continually flowing over you. Try what feels right for you. What's right for one may not feel right for another.

Aromatherapy for protection

Just some of the many oils for cleansing and protecting

Rose oil (*Rosa damascena*) an ancient oil used for its high vibration.

Frankincense (*Boswellia carteri*) for cleansing and removal of lower energy.

Sage (*Salvia officinalis*) for protection and clears you and your space.

Lavender (*Lavandula angustifolia*) helps clear stale energies around you and your home.

Cedarwood (*Cedrus atlantica*) strengthens your protection and helps with grounding.

Whatever you believe, using any of these techniques will be beneficial. Remember if something doesn't feel right it probably isn't!

By Sheryl, Spirit Medium

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

www.universalsoul.com.au

<https://www.facebook.com/universalsoulwithin>

Event: - The Charismatic kings! 02/10/16

By **Pearl Annie**

Finally, we get to meet His Majesty the KING! It is such a mild morning, and my house guest sleeps soundly in her bed as I tiptoe down the hall at such an ungodly hour. With a large cup of coffee in my grasp, I reach for the Samsung and sit quietly at the kitchen table.

I was so relieved that the King couldn't see me... A mass of tasselled brown hair reaching up to the ceiling, squinty grey eyes, and lines etched into my cheeks from the creases in my pillow case. I am not exactly dressed for a royal audience, wearing an old thready singlet hanging over a pair of bright pink floral pyjama pants. Like a stone wall, the kings stood tall, powerful and impenetrable, undisturbed by our presence.

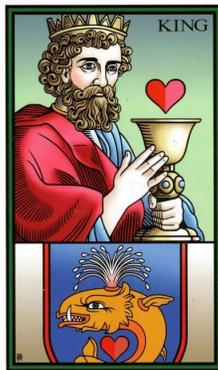
THE KING OF CUPS

He rules with supreme assurity with his cup.

His Cup represents the water element so the domain of emotions & feelings.

Therefor his responce to situations, lovers, family even work colleagues will be emotionally based BUT controlled

This is positive in most aspects BUT not all.



LET'S DISCUSS SOME OF THESE ASPECTS OF THE KING OF CUPS.
HOW CAN SUCH EMOTIONAL CONTROL BRING A POSITIVE ENERGY TO YOUR LIFE AND/OR A LESS THAN POSITIVE ASPECT.

Wow! How majestic they look... grandiose, elaborate and sophisticated: Powerful, stately and dignified. Wendy pointed out how the active Kings were standing and the receptive Kings were sitting, interesting! Loller pointed out that the 'sitter position' dominates over those that stand before him, much like the times we were called to the principal's office when accused of doing something wrong, and Steve was quick to agree! But as Billy said, the kings hold their elements closely, without worry or confusion, because they have mastered their elements.

We met the King of Cups first, and all agreed at how masterful he was of his emotions. In fact, he could even turn our emotions on

and off if he needed to. He is the ideal person to put his own feelings to one side and use his strength to take control in emotionally upsetting situations.

Tess suggested that he was excellent at redirecting that emotion into action, such as planning a celebration of a deceased family member.

Personally, I believe that the King of Cups wastes little time on fantasies and tends to focus more on the dreams he knows he can bring to life and benefit his people and family.

When the King of Swords looks at me, I instantly feel judged, my every effort and expression scrutinized.

I see him reading my thoughts and knowing my intentions. I have to say, I applaud his honesty and his courage to speak out.

I think Tamara was spot on when she mentioned one of his negative traits is speaking out thoughtlessly.

Lara agreed on the quick judging king, having an urgency to speak his mind.

But as Loller also said, he has the wisdom to diffuse situations by asking people to put down their swords, an important character trait the knight has yet to learn!

But hats off to Dub for comparing him to King Solomon of Israel where the bible says he used wisdom and brutality to identify the truthful mother of a baby boy.

Kim and Rita both agree to the King of Swords ideal as a lawyer and rightfully so, he is extremely clever, and knows how to manipulate the truth for his own benefit. Paisley also sees him as a judge, and we know how his sword can discriminate against the tactics used by lawyers too, in the bid to avert justice.

He would be a powerful play on words if his negative side came into play!

We now meet the King of Pentacles. He is warm, kind and dependable. He offers such stability and is always around to give you some sound, financial advice.

As Beth says, he is grounded in his business ideas and implements them with skill and hard work.

The price for his efforts is success, and as Sandra says, his home is his castle. I can see him now, sitting in a recliner, watching his big screen television, fine chocolates and a sweet red at his side, but is it a luxury limited by the demands of his work? Wendy, Elaine and me were quick to accept the king's kind invitation to his court for tasty foods and fine wines.

The King of Wands, although more mature than the knight, has sufficient charm and sex appeal to seduce even the youngest of maidens: His eyes entrancing,

his voice seductive and his movements tender and passionate. He is the master of manifestation and will.

The King of Wands is competitive and energetic, focused and motivating. He no sooner gets the job completed, and begins another, almost immediately. He strives for movement and gets bored quite quickly. He is clever in all he undertakes.

Sandra believes his negative side can display a mean temper, be over impulsive and take thrill seeking to the extreme. Tamara sees him as egotistical and insecure to a fault at times.

I see this too.

This brings an end to the study of our enchanting courts.

What an exhilarating few months it has been. Over the months, our group has grown and continually grows, bringing more interactions, ideals and experience to the fun lessons.

Next month we can look forward to another awesome, monthly study session: Tarot Timing!

THE KINGS OF WANDS

He rules with confident assurity, wand in hand, which represents the fire element

He rules the domain of ignited energy, passion and determination. Some call

him the 'Master Magician'

For insight from this King, consider how he masters his domain and uses his element.



**WILL HIS WAND ALWAYS
BE USED FOR GOOD
INTENT AND PURPOSE?**

**LET'S DISCUSS SOME OF THESE ASPECTS OF THE KING OF
WANDS HOW CAN THE KING'S INFLUENCE COME INTO
YOUR LIFE?**

October Tarotsopes

By Sandra Geddes

Aries - 'Be careful what you wish for as you might just get it!' is an expression I'm sure you are familiar with Aries. This month something you wanted and made you happy once achieved, may begin to feel restrictive. Is it just the way the you are looking at things though? A little positive outlook may help here.



8 of Swords/9 of Cups.

Taurus - It's good to be confident Taurus and it is definitely something you can lack being as down to earth as you are. This month comes with a warning however to keep it reined in a little so you do not become arrogant, especially over things you may see a little more rosiely than others. Give yourself a pat on the back by all means, but hold back on the full body hug eh?

King of Wands/6 of Cups

Gemini - This looks to be a good month for exploring your creative side Gemini and new projects in that

area will be good for you. You may have been weighing up the pros and cons for a while and agreements if not already reached may well be reached during this month.

Page of Cups/6 of Pentacles

Cancer - Be on the lookout for gossip and think about who you trust with your secrets this month Cancer. Not every friend who lends an ear has your best interests at heart, especially when it comes to your love life and other close relationships.

Page of Swords/Two of Cups

Leo - If you've been putting off a decision Leo now is the time to get on with things and start implementing things. You know exactly what you need to do. Stop waiting for opportunity to knock on your door and get out there!

3 of Wands/Ace of Swords

Virgo - Great news Virgo! All your recent hard work looks set to pay off this month with a hard worked for and hard wished for goal being reached. Whoever said perseverance doesn't pay off? Enjoy your spoils!

The Star /9 of Wands

Libra - Libra have finances been playing on your mind lately? Whether or not to make a purchase or another step that will have effects on your physical security? These worries should ease these move as you move towards less troubled times. Accept a guiding piece advice if it is offered.

6 of Swords/3 of pentacles

Scorpio - If the stresses and strains have been piling up lately Scorpio this month looks to be a great time to step back and chill out a little. Things will become clearer and calmer but you need a little you time first. Have you thought about taking up meditation or yoga to help with all your mental energy?

4 of Swords/10 of Swords

Sagittarius - Sometimes the time comes when the only thing you can do is walk away from something that no longer makes you happy. A weight on your shoulders needs to be lifted this month and you may well need to be the one to do your own lifting. It is probably for the best in the long run.

8 of Cups/ 10 of Wands

Capricorn - It looks as though you have been doing some soul searching lately Capricorn, looking for that inner spark of inspiration to motivate you and light your fire, stir up some passion. This month should bring you closer to finding the answers you are looking for.

The Hermit/Ace of Wands

Aquarius - Are you remembering to nurture yourself as well as your loved ones Aquarius? This month sees you needing to refocus your energy on yourself and what it is you want to achieve. What are your goals and desires? What do you really want from life? Some exciting new opportunities could be coming your way.

The Empress/Page of Wands

Pisces - Oh Pisces, what have you been up to!? You may have been indulging in some not so healthy habits that are proving not so easy to break, mostly because you don't really want to! Some steady progress forwards can be made this month however.

Knight of Pentacles/ The Devil



Tarot Gave my Life Back

By Peal Annie

Just how choosy are you when it comes to picking a tarot deck that works for you?

When I was first learning tarot, I used to pull a card every day to help me memorize the images and understand the meanings. It was the Sharman & Casselli Tarot Set that I selected from the bookstore and I absolutely loved it. I grew up reading and loving the Greek and Roman myths and legends, so this deck comfortably took me into a world of mythic dreams.

I had heard a few unsavoury things about tarot, so deep down I had some trepidations, mind you I wasn't one to back down from anything metaphysic!

In regards to this tarot deck, even though I related it to my daily life, it still felt like a fantasy world.

You could say I saw my life in a more mystical, but animated way.

If I couldn't match the cards to something that happened during the day, it didn't matter, because

reading larger spreads were so much fun and stimulated my imagination!

Why, I could have written children's stories!



When I completed this journey, it was time to select another deck. I primarily chose the Rider Waite, but to be honest the images weren't as numinous in comparison.

Someone recommended the Aleister Crowley's Thoth Deck and although I was a little reluctant at first due to the occult stigma surrounding the author, so many friends were already enjoying the deck. The geometric images were dramatically different than the Rider Waite, and there were some changes within the actual Major Arcana I needed to adjust to.

Eventually I learned more about the author and the artist Lady Frieda Harris, as well as touching on the Golden Dawn System of Astrology and Qabalah.

Some of my self reads were mind blowing, whether to do with work situations or the comforts of home. Even when it came to being so isolated from my family and dear friends, spiritually I still felt very close to my loved ones. I lived in a beautiful part of the country with rich green paddocks, densely vegetated plateaus, and a sapphire coloured sea with glistening white sand.

The land was adorned with native fauna, and a varied population of bird life and even my new job was such a turnaround from the stressful job I endured interstate.

On a weekday morning, after pouring my coffee, I would pull three cards and journal my interpretation. On my hour's drive to work, I would visualise the cards in my head and freely speak out loud hoping that I would see and understand the cards more clearly.

It was truly amazing how the messages I would receive about the spread, interacted with the cards so well. All I could think about was how I couldn't possibly have considered these meanings, and how clearly I envisioned life. It was obvious I was channelling this divine energy from somewhere.

What I didn't know at the time, was the hidden anguish that lay dormant in my unconscious mind: The very trauma that a stressful job and a busy lifestyle had distracted from my conscious.

I came to trust my Thoth Deck even more every day.

It was opening doors for me and sending me down different pathways. I was now meditating and expanding on my own eclectic beliefs. I was opening up to a unique world of metaphysics and pseudo-science, of magic and spiritual freedom.

I was learning to be more receptive and compassionate, humble and truthful, yet brave and courageous. It was a time that brought me so much love and healing, and truly helped me to start living and enjoying the gift of life.

I have since moved a little further south but still within the same healthy, rich environment.

I continue to read with my Thoth deck as it knows me intimately, but I primarily focus on discovering other tarot decks and the prospect of gaining additional knowledge, experience and further growth.

The 10 of Pentacles

By Lara Houston



The 10 of Pentacles presents us with a seemingly, wholesome family portrait. We have 3 generations of family within the scene and in fact the elderly guy looks like he could be the aged King of Pentacles- minus his crown. If we look closely and study this image, we see an insight that begins to gradually broaden.

The older gentleman, looks to be clothed abundantly and sits on a wonderfully elaborate chair but something isn't quite as it seems. His family are close by but not really paying him attention, the male figure has his back completely turned away from him, whilst the female faces him but looks to the face of the man by her side.

The small child peeks from behind his mom and strokes the dog whilst looking upon the old man with curiosity. In fact, the one's paying real attention to the older guy are the dog's and on account of such loyalty, we can presume that they are his.

It certainly looks like the family shares the abundance with him although they seem to pay little attention to him. In fact, he doesn't really look to be part of the home life shared by the family as he seems to be more so on the outside. The walls are colder looking and dull, the abundance he wears, does not spread to his life so greatly.

This card speaks to us of wealth, tradition, longevity and succession but resources do not necessarily bring happiness. All the money in the world cannot bring the joy in life that can be derived from the simplest of pleasures.

What we are seeing, is a lifelong of hard work and focus but quite possibly over focus on accumulating wealth and resources for one's family. Yes, we can see that the family are enjoying the fruits of the old gentleman's labour but what did he gain from such efforts?

Does he look back to a life well lived, did he enjoy the life he had when his wife was there and his children were young?

Maybe he was simply too busy to even notice that the years had rolled by?

He may well be content, he may find comfort in the knowledge that those he loves are provided for. Looking closely, we see little signs within the card that shows us how the pretty picture has some flaws to it's scene.

As a card in itself, it is a positive in respect of resources: finances, health, longevity, which is what we expect for a number 10 card and of the earth element.

But let's not forget the wider insight of the card: One, we can't take what we accumulate with us and secondly, the lack of focus from family may be partly due to distance that developed from an over focus on attainment during one's life. Happiness is not found in a money jar but in the appreciation of those in our life and the quality of experiences we share with them.

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PUZZLE CORNER

From Pearl Annie

P	O	L	A	R	I	S	T	T	D	I	V	I	N	E	S
E	L	I	P	H	A	S	H	E	B	R	E	W	M	A	Y
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H	P	O	I	S	O	N	T	R	E	B	B	L	E	D	N

How many Tarot related and Esoteric words can you find?

