

FANTASTICAL CREATURES TAROT

Illustrated by Lisa Hunt
Written by D. J. Conway



Published by
U.S. GAMES SYSTEMS, INC.

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10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Booklet printed in Italy



U.S. GAMES SYSTEMS, INC.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND DEDICATIONS

LISA HUNT

I would like to thank D.J. for working on this project with me. Her endless support and encouragement of my visions throughout the years has been instrumental in bringing these fantastical creatures to life. I dedicate the paintings to my devoted husband and muse, Kort Kramer whose enthusiasm and loving support is greatly appreciated. I would also like to thank the grandmothers of my children, Annelies and Audrey, for lending a hand as the deadline drew near. Special thanks to my “soul sister” Kris Waldherr and all the inspirational exchanges we have shared. Additional thanks go to Pam Keane, Jessica Welsh, Jesse Kemmerlin; Elizabeth Kerkstra, Paula Palmer, designer, and the staff at U.S. Games Systems, Inc. for their contributions to this project.



D. J. CONWAY

My thanks to Lisa, the editors, and all the other people who encouraged us to bring our idea into reality. Without Lisa’s fantastical

artwork the deck would have little value. Very special thanks to the Lady and the Lord for sparing Lisa's house and works during hurricane Katrina.

I would like to dedicate this deck to all the loyal readers who eagerly await each deck. And to Ken, who entered my life in the midst of the project, and whose steady influence and encouragement kept me on track and doing my best.



INTRODUCTION

Mythical beings have been around as long as there have been humans inhabiting the Earth. Stories of their magical and spiritual powers have existed for thousands of years. Most of what we know today about these beings comes from ancient mythologies and folklore. Mankind placed images of these fabulous entities in temples, sacred places, and on home altars, in order to seek their protection, guidance, and spiritual counsel. It seems these creatures fit into a niche between humans and gods, a kind of middleman of the astral realms. Like most deities, these mythical creatures can be good and helpful, neutral, or evil and harmful.

Most ancient cultures believed that it was possible to make contact with these mystical creatures. The priests, magicians, and shamans understood that contact would not be on the Earth plane, but on the astral level. They followed certain traditions that allowed them to tap into this source of power, using it in their spiritual and magickal rituals.

Today, most people have lost touch with these ancient sources and most no longer believe in them. It is possible, however, to re-learn the ancient art of communication with fantastic creatures. When approached in the

proper ways, these powers can help us. By tapping into these astral sources, we can use the ancient images in divination to gain a clearer picture of what is causing life-problems and what we can do about it. By meditating upon an image, we can gain insight into ourselves and our situation. By focusing on an image during a candle spell, for example, we can use its energy to help manifest a desire.

Fantastical Creatures Tarot contains seventy-eight full-color cards, arranged in traditional numerical tarot order. This booklet provides the divinatory meaning of each card, along with the mythological background and magickal powers of each creature. It is possible to reach and use the energy of Fantastical Creatures for magick, meditation, and divination. Think of these Fantastical Creatures Tarot cards as a tool to improve yourself and your life.

MAJOR ARCANA CARDS

O • THE FOOL (Amphisbaena)

According to Greek legend, the Amphisbaena can move in the direction of either head, if the two halves hold onto each other, creating a circle, which enables it to roll. The two heads are capable of acting independently, although they often think and work together, as if of one mind.

The Amphisbaena aptly portrays the Fool, who, when faced with choices, often can't make up his mind, or decides without enough information. If this is the first card in a layout, it may indicate that the wrong question is being asked, or that the questioner is hesitant about making choices.

Divinatory Meaning: Expect the unexpected. New beginnings or journeys into unknown areas. A leap of faith is required. Decisions must be made. If this card represents a person, she/he will be very unconventional, or may be a wanderer without goals.

Magickal Uses: Use to represent an unpredictable person or an unconventional outcome.

I • THE MAGICIAN (Winged Cat)

A creature found in many cultures, the winged cat has both positive and negative meanings. Cats are considered to be very psychic creatures,

capable of enhancing a magician's power during a ritual, and able to see into the Otherworld.

The wings on this magical creature denote its talent for reaching into the spiritual center for power. Through the wand he channels his needs and desires at will. The crystal ball and the rune stones signify the magician-cat's ability to use many forms of divination to see into the past and the future. The dream catcher portrays the magician's ability to communicate with the subconscious mind.

Divinatory Meaning: A person who has the ability to draw psychic energy from the universe. A student, especially in the arts. Having the self-control and determination to reach a goal. This is an excellent time to make certain that thoughts and energies flow in harmony.

Magickal Uses: Use as a focal point to attract opportunities. Use with Pentacles for prosperity and new opportunities.

II • HIGH PRIESTESS (Egyptian Ua Zit)

Known to the ancient Egyptians as Ua Zit, this cobra goddess appeared on the crowns of pharaohs as the uraeus, the upraised cobra. Ua Zit appears in a variety of forms: a winged cobra, a crowned cobra, or a woman wearing a vulture headdress and the red crown of Northern Egypt.

In human form, she holds a papyrus scepter with a long snake twined around it. A goddess of great power and magick, Ua Zit was closely connected with the god Ra and the goddess Isis. The scrolls and the hieroglyphs represent hidden spiritual mysteries and ancient magickal practices.

Divinatory Meaning: A secret will be revealed. Use the intuition to understand and solve a problem. This card can represent an important woman in a man's life.

Magickal Uses: Use to represent the Goddess on the altar or during meditation. Use to help you seek your spiritual path or see into your future. Use in protection spells, particularly for major changes.

III • THE EMPRESS (Morrigan)

The Celtic goddess Morrigan is a triple goddess, capable of appearing as the Maiden, Mother, or the Crone. As the fertile, creative Mother, she was called the Moon Goddess, or Queen of the Faeries. The raven above her is a reminder that, although Morrigan begins all life and its cycles, she also holds the power to end them. The natural scene on this card tells us that we, too, are part of everything living. The spirals on this card represent the eternal cycles of life that each

person experiences and are reminders of the spiritual path that draws a seeker to the center, where all true knowledge can be found.

Divinatory Meaning: Fertility, creativity. Unexpected joy and prosperity. This card may represent someone who will use emotional tactics to get what she wants.

Magickal Uses: Use in spells for love and harmony. Also for pregnancy and childbirth.

IV • THE EMPEROR (Pegasus)

As messenger for the Greek deities, Pegasus held a position of high respect and power. His strong inspirational and psychic qualities are reflected in the canyon rocks. His great physical strength is balanced by his powerful spiritual wings that can take him directly to Olympus.

Pegasus was considered wise, graceful, gentle, and so pure that all of the Olympian deities loved him. The Muses, goddesses of inspiration, worked with Pegasus to bring ideas, inventions, and creativity to humans.

Divinatory Meaning: Good and powerful influences come into your life. Achievement and honor will come through the influence of a strong, supportive male. If the surrounding cards are positive, this is a good time for business affairs. If surrounded by negative cards, take

great care in what you do and say.

Magickal Uses: Use with the Empress, the World, or other cards that symbolize what you want to manifest. If you use the Emperor card, be certain all actions adhere to the letter of the law.

V • HIGH PRIEST (*The Ruhk*)

The Arabian Ruhk was made familiar through the tales of *Sinbad the Voyager* and *The Arabian Nights*. This gigantic bird was so huge, when it flew, its wings blotted out the sun and created terrifying storms. Some tales say that the Ruhks nested on remote islands, where stranded merchants found diamonds in the treacherously rocky valleys. Only the most reckless men dared to make the voyage for diamonds, and many of them never returned.

The Ruhk represents the High Priest, the teacher of the universal laws. If you abide by these spiritual laws, you are not likely to put yourself on a foolhardy path that could lead you astray from your goals. The cairn stones symbolize the true path each of us must seek. Their runic writing is the knowledge gained along the way.

Divinatory Meaning: This card may represent an advisor or teacher of spiritual ideas.

It also symbolizes notes, contracts, and/or legal papers. Be certain you read and understand all the terms before signing.

Magickal Uses: The High Priest card is very useful when working out karma. However, be prepared for harsh conditions if you do not follow through with intentions.

VI • THE LOVERS (*Faun*)

Though people often confuse fauns with the aggressive satyrs, the two types of creatures are not at all alike in temperament. The gentle fauns were companions and followers of the forest god Faunus, whose consort was the goddess Fauna.

The faun was described as having the body and face of a young man, but with the legs, tail, and ears of a deer. The fauns loved to play their flutes in their nightly moonlit revels. Their gentleness enticed female humans to dance with them. When humans and fauns fell in love, such relationships were difficult. Such choices involved consequences and required strength of conviction.

On the stone in front of the faun and his woman are hearts and the spiral of rebirth. Relationships come into our lives over and over, until we satisfy karmic debts. True lovers grow

together and their bonding becomes stronger, until they join in one life spark.

Divinatory Meaning: A new love may enter your life unexpectedly. Your heart often rules your head. However, this time it may be worth the risk. Be aware that your decision may not set well with others. Take care with this choice, for it will affect you for a long time.

Magickal Uses: Use for seeking knowledge when faced with a difficult decision.

VII • THE CHARIOT (Centaur)

Centaur were pictured by ancient Greeks as having the upper body, head, and arms of a human man and the lower body and legs of a stallion. One branch of centaurs was aggressive, wild, lecherous, and loved to cause chaos. The others were skilled wizards and shape-shifters who used their ancient healing wisdoms and teachings to help humans. The two types of centaurs on this card remind us that we must maintain control and balance of both aspects of our physical and spiritual natures. Only when both sides are in harmony can they control the chariot and remain on course.

Divinatory Meaning: If you sustain your efforts during a conflict or struggle, you will win in the end. This card can also mean unexpected good news, travel, or change in your life. Practice self-

control to reach your goals.

Magickal Uses: Use to gain self-confidence.

VIII · STRENGTH (Oriental Dragon)

Oriental dragons were considered to be very wise and powerful, remote but beneficial helpers of humankind, and adept at healing, divination, and magick. Divided into four classes, each with distinct functions, all Oriental dragons are capable of shape-shifting.

A dragon's color indicates its age. The ancient golden dragon on this card indicates superiority over intense events, symbolized by the sea. Its swimming path protects the castle, which represents steadfast goals and well-being. The turtle symbolizes good health and longevity. By using dragon patience and persistence, a human who faces opposition can hold steady and win.

Divinatory Meaning: This card represents the ability to cope with stress and win in the end. The surrounding cards indicate the nature of the problem. If ill, there will be rapid recovery. If maligned by gossip, the truth will come out. This card warns you not to miss opportunities or give up.

Magickal Uses: Use to call upon inner strength and endurance.

IX • THE HERMIT (*Old Lady of the Elder*)

Described as an elderly, wrinkled woman, the Old Lady of the Elder is usually seen during a full moon as she hobbles about, balancing herself with a staff made from a gnarled elder branch. She is considered to be very wise in healing and magick. The Old Lady of the Elder is a solitary creature, using the silent, reflective time to spiritually strengthen herself. She quietly shares her knowledge with those open to her gentle teachings.

Divinatory Meaning: This card suggests that the inquirer needs a time of peace and quiet to contemplate decisions. Don't make hasty choices, but ask advice of a knowledgeable person you trust. If poor health is involved, the Hermit points to a period of much needed rest and recuperation.

Magickal Uses: The Hermit card can be used in a spell to add patience when searching for the knowledge to make a correct decision. It is also good to include in healing spells.

X • THE WHEEL OF FORTUNE (*Sphinx*)

The largest of the Egyptian sphinxes crouches not far from the Great Pyramid. This sphinx was built over sacred subterranean chambers where initiates underwent trials and initiations. The

uraeus (cobra) that once adorned its head and its beard were broken off in the distant past.

The ibis bird symbolizes the soul and messages from spirits. This bird was closely connected with the god Thoth, who was Scribe of the Gods and the Master of all knowledge and mysteries. Between the paws of the sphinx is the ankh, an ancient Egyptian symbol of eternal life. Below the ankh is the Eye of Horus, a protection against evil and the harbinger of good fortune.

Divinatory Meaning: A cycle ends in your life and an initiation period arrives, bringing good fortune. You are faced with a dilemma of choosing the right course that could take you higher on the wheel or let you fall. Obstacles that may threaten your plans will last only a short time.

Magickal Uses: Use in spells and meditations for changing your luck.

XI • JUSTICE (Lion-Dogs)

Statues of Ancient Chinese Lion-Dogs, or Fu-Dogs, were placed by temple doors as guardians. The statues are thought to come alive at night to make their protective rounds of the building they guard. The male Lion-Dogs are always portrayed with a ball under one foot,

symbolizing the balance of opposites, while the females have a rolled up puppy under one foot. Also known as Demon Catchers, these beings are said to be capable of hunting down and driving away evil spirits and troublesome energies.

The Chinese believed that all evils begin as small ones, which grow and gain in power when ignored. The Lion-Dogs are capable of catching and destroying all evils before they spread, as symbolized by the ice in the Justice card. This card represents their ability to protect, right wrongs, and maintain justice.

Divinatory Meaning: Danger is near, but you will come to no harm. An unpleasant event will take you by surprise; however, you will not suffer from it. Karma is being balanced in your life.

Magickal Uses: Use in protection spells.

XII • THE HANGED MAN (Medusa)

As a beautiful priestess in the temple of Athena, Medusa was seduced by Poseidon, thus profaning her religious position and the temple itself. As punishment, Athena changed Medusa into a terrible monster with snake-scales, hair of writhing venomous serpents, a protruding tongue, and a deadly gaze that turned humans into stone.

In this card, Medusa sits along a path bordered with large rocks, the spiral at her feet anchors any forward movement. The spirals on the rocks are half-formed, presenting no clear patterns to follow, but many possibilities. Medusa's stare has frozen all ability to see what needs to be done to break the impasse. One must wait, endure, and learn patience.

Divinatory Meaning: Everything is frozen. A barrier in your life keeps you from moving forward. Living through tremendously stressful conditions, but managing to survive by waiting for the right time.

Magickal Uses: Use in spells where you need to freeze someone's actions.

XIII • DEATH (Anansi)

In West African folklore, Anansi, the Spider God, was a trickster and creative deity, possessing powerful charms and magick. In the beginning, he spun the world into existence. He now forces people to learn new ways by tricking them into positions where there is no choice but to make major changes. We are held fast in his web of illusion until we face the reality of what we must do with our lives.

The serpent symbolizes nature's extreme abilities of destruction and healing, dying and

rebirth. Droplets of inspiration and spiritual knowledge fall all around the snake and Anansi. All we need do is lift our faces, hands, and hearts to this guidance, and it will soak into our very souls.

Divinatory Meaning: An unforeseen event forces you to make a drastic change.

Magickal Uses: Death card is useful to strip away illusions and reveal the truth.

XIV · TEMPERANCE (Lady of the Lake)

In the tales of King Arthur, The Lady of the Lake embodied aspects of the goddess associated with the earth, nature, and the emotions that keep us moving forward on our life-path. She offers spiritual initiation when we reach the state of inner harmony and balance.

The twisting patterns on this card represent how different human lives touch, intermingle, and move on through cycles. The sword in her right hand illustrates the Goddess' power to bestow lofty spiritual positions, such as priest or priestess, upon humans. Her psychic and spiritual messages, seen here as birds, prepare us for traveling our life path.

Divinatory Meaning: A time of moderation and harmony. A period of inner growth, and using your energies wisely.

Magickal Uses: Use to correct imbalances in relationships and to resolve quarrels and conflicts.

XV • CHAINS (Fenris Wolf)

According to Norse mythology, Fenris Wolf was one of the monster children of the trickster god Loki. Fenris grew to be so dangerous he had to be restrained in magical chains, yet the great wolf easily escaped. The gods took Fenris to the island of Lynvi in the middle of a lake where he was fastened to a great rock. Legend says Fenris Wolf will stay there until the end of the world.

This card evokes the harsh, bleak feeling when there seems to be no way out of a bad situation. However, Fenris holds the key (in the form of a sword) to release in his mouth. Applied at the right place, the sharp edge of the weapon can shatter the chains. If you examine all options, there is always a way to escape your captivity.

Divinatory Meaning: A backlash from negative acts could be near. Learn to control negative impulses. This card always warns against obsession and illusion.

Magickal Uses: Use in spells to eliminate negative personality traits and weaknesses. Also useful in eliminating illusions that may be clouding someone's true motives.

XVI • THE TOWER (*Kraken*)

Ancient seafarers feared the dreaded kraken, believed to be so powerful that it could crush a ship with its tentacles. In the early days of sailing, voyagers watched carefully whenever they were becalmed. Unusual boiling water around them signaled the kraken's rise to the surface.

The kraken represents the dreaded, unexpected misfortune that seems to come without warning when we become complacent. When tumultuous disaster strikes, we live in a state of chaos and shock, as our tower crumbles around us. We need to pay attention to all warning signs and be prepared for change.

Divinatory Meaning: Devastating events will soon turn your life upside down. Someone who appears one way hides a very different inner personality. Events are out of your control.

Magickal Uses: Use for bringing the truth to light, or to reveal necessary changes before they reach the critical stage.

XVII • THE STAR (*Firebird*)

Russian tales of the magical firebird describe the brilliantly hued bird with tail feathers much like that of a peacock. Its lifespan is very long, and it is extremely wise and psychic. The firebird doesn't directly aid humans, but shares

its knowledge so people may learn to do things for themselves.

A number of important symbols relating to the firebird's powers are prominent in The Star card. Apples of death and rebirth move upward with the feathers of reincarnation to create a spiral of constantly moving energy. These symbols allude not only to afterlives, but to the cycles of change that occur within each life. The skull offers a potent reminder that the soul does not die when we give up the physical body. The nearby key indicates the skull's key role with the firebird, and its connection to spirituality, magick, and the mysteries of the universe.

Divinatory Meaning: You will achieve success in spite of adversity and opposition. Because you have tapped into a new line of energy, many good experiences are coming your way.

Magickal Uses: Use to remove opposition to your goals. Also use in spells for gaining self-confidence, knowledge helpful in career building, starting a new business or increasing success in an old one.

XVIII • THE MOON (Unicorn)

The fabulous unicorn is often depicted with the head and body of a horse, the whiskers of a goat, the tail of a lion, and a white spiral horn

in the center of its forehead. Tradition says their horns provided an antidote for poisons, and could restore good health to anyone who drank from one. However, the swiftness of this solitary creature made it impossible to catch.

The Moon card reflects the waxing and waning of cycles in life, and initiations into the inner spiritual Mysteries. The owl, an emblem of wisdom, can see through the concealing shadows to the truth.

Divinatory Meaning: You must look beyond illusions and see the truth. You are entering a perceptive cycle that allows you to tune in to spiritual vibrations. This is a good time to see behind people's masks, open psychic channels, and make needed changes.

Magickal Uses: Use in spells to reveal the truth, or to access and develop psychic powers.

XIX • THE SUN (Winged Lion)

Images of the winged lion show creatures with curly manes and huge feathered wings on their backs. In some cases, the winged lion was transformed into the winged sun disk. In ancient Egypt, the winged lion was associated with the goddess Sekhmet, who hunted down and destroyed injustice, and who wore the sun disk as a crown.

The lion has always been a symbol of the sun and its light. Here, its wings represent spiritual enlightenment, a special quality attained when seeking the light. The mountain is an important symbol of the world axis, the center of all, and the hidden spiritual center within each person. Each person must ascend this inner mountain to discover a gateway to the realm of spirit.

Divinatory Meaning: Continued courage and persistence will carry you through your struggles. Encouragement comes from all sides. This is a time of new beginnings, accomplishments, and success. The Sun is a positive card, filled with energy and confidence.

Magickal Uses: Use as a center card for success, with the surrounding cards clarifying what kind of success you are seeking.

XX · JUDGMENT (Eastern and Western Dragons)

Most ancient cultures around the world have stories of dragons in one shape or another. European dragons were depicted with heavy, scaled bodies and wings. Those with two legs were referred to as wyverns. In ancient China, dragons were depicted with four legs, a long serpent-like body and tail, with a varying number of claws. They could be a few feet long or a thousand feet long, like the Great Chien-

Tang. In Chinese tradition, most classes of dragons were benevolent toward humans. A full initiate in the Higher Mysteries of many cultures was referred to as a dragon.

On this card, the Western and Eastern dragons together symbolize a balance of physical and emotional energies needed to create spiritual justice. The Eastern dragon holds a ball of brilliant, spiritual light under one foot, as it crouches near the lake. The Western dragon holds tight to the primordial powers of the earthy stones.

Divinatory Meaning: A time of change requires careful thought, patience, and persistence. You are protected from negative happenings and your problems are easily solved.

Magickal Uses: Use in guided meditations for making decisions.

XXI • THE WORLD (Rainbow Serpent)

According to legend, this enormous reptile is closely connected with rainbows, creation, initiation, and rainmaking. Initially, the Rainbow Serpent had the task of creating creeks, rivers, and lakes so that the people and animals could have water. Later, this creature also created sacred places in the land.

On this World card, the land animals and water creatures represent the opposites of existence, which lead to spiritual initiations, or ritual deaths and rebirths. Through this combination, everything is manifest in the universe, whether physical, mental, or otherworldly. Spiritual seekers can follow the Rainbow Serpent's path if they open their inner eyes to the world around them.

Divinatory Meaning: A new cycle of spiritual growth arrives after a static period. A sudden turn of events will send your life in a new direction. All good things are within your reach: attainment of goals, happiness, and recognition.

Magickal Uses: Use in meditations when faced with several choices. This card's power is also helpful when making personal changes to your life.

MINOR ARCANA CARDS

The Minor Arcana cards represent events in everyday human experience. Each suit of the Minor Arcana is associated with a direction, an element, and a particular area of human life. Wands, associated with the direction of East, and the element Air, are the mental realm of thoughts, ideas, communication, and perceptions. Swords, (South, Fire) relate to action, leadership, creativity, passion, sexuality, and the fire of the spiritual level. Cups (West, Water) represent emotions, feelings, moods, dreams, and fantasies. Pentacles, connected with the North, and the Earth, symbolize tangible things, the physical realm, money, health, and business.

WANDS

ACE OF WANDS (Simurgh)

Half-bird, half-mammal, the simurgh lived in the secret mountains where the sacred Tree of Life cured all diseases. This prophetic creature also had magickal powers, great wisdom, and healing feathers.

According to ancient Persian poetry, the powerful giant Rostam sometimes worked with the simurgh to defeat evil.

On this card, the simurgh's powerful wand denotes opportunities for change. The legendary wisdom of the simurgh can help you make the correct choices. The half-formed faces in the massive stones symbolize the latent power of intention.

Divinatory Meaning: Past efforts and thoughts directed toward change allow you to take on a new role or make radical changes in your lifestyle.

Magickal Uses: Use the Ace of Wands as a focal point in meditations when you desire great changes in your life.

TWO OF WANDS (Huginn and Muninn)

One of the greatest Norse deities, Odin had special skills in war and peace, ancient knowledge and magick. He is connected with the Viking magickal alphabet called the runes. To hold his powerful position, Odin had two large ravens, Huginn and Muninn that sat on the god's shoulders and told him all the secrets of men and spirits.

In some cultures, the raven is connected with dark prophecies; in others, good fortune. The bird is also associated with protection, guidance, and spiritual messages.

The shining wand, with runes carved on it,

symbolizes the ability and willpower to make changes happen. The cracks in the ice represent change already underway, and the nearby wand ensures its continued movement in the desired direction.

Divinatory Meaning: You are awaiting the results from something you have started. Focus your energy and will to fulfill your desires, but be certain that the end result is what you really want.

Magickal Uses: Use when you must make a choice.

THREE OF WANDS (The Djinn)

The Middle Eastern Djinn are said to have been created from a smokeless fire, before humans were formed. Although they can be mischievous, the Djinn also are connected with the inspiration for poets, writers, mystics, and psychic readers.

The Djinn's long hair and strong hands show his power and magickal strength. His strange eyes reflect his clairvoyant ability. His tattoo and golden armbands reveal his high level of magickal ability.

Like the calm but alert Djinn, you need to keep control of the project you are working on, stabilize your life and career, and accept help from other people.

Divinatory Meaning: You are building a firm foundation. More patience and planning are needed before all the pieces are in place.

Magickal Uses: The Three of Wands portrays the power of experience and the traits of self-control and common sense.

FOUR OF WANDS (Egyptian Ba)

Ancient Egyptians believed that humans possess at least seven souls. The *ba* was intimately connected with the heart and was called the heart-soul. After death, the *ba* would manifest as the astral body, recognizable as an exact duplicate of the human body.

The fruit and spirals surrounding the *ba* represent the gift of rebirth after a time of rest. Rebirth, in this case, represents a restful pause before you again move ahead.

Divinatory Meaning: A well-earned, restful pause in your life is near. A new love or business success is possible. A time for celebration of success.

Magickal Uses: This card can be used to symbolize the harmony you seek.

FIVE OF WANDS (Japanese Tengu)

The tengu were part of Shintu religion and ancient Japanese culture. These creatures had

the body, head, arms, legs, and hands of a man, but the face, feet, and wings of a bird. Though these woodland creatures liked to cause problems for humans, their primary power was teaching people how to dance and to use the weapons of war.

The tengu's nest is firmly anchored to its place in the Tree of Life. Its feathers and bright wings reveal the tengu's spiritual nature. The pair of hanging bells indicates that both positive and negative energies are vital parts of creation, represented by the twisting vine.

Divinatory Meaning: An unforeseen obstacle or opposition suddenly appears in your path. Malicious gossip could cause you harm. New competition threatens your relationship or career.

Magickal Uses: Use to remove obstacles or competition.

SIX OF WANDS (White Eagle of Zeus)

The divine white eagle of Zeus watches over the Two Gates of the World. This gigantic bird carries messages to humans from the gods and can move easily from one plane of existence to another. The giant eagle uses telepathy to communicate and can translate between the gods and mortals.

The wands near him symbolize his unlimited power to create or destroy. His association with the oracles is revealed in the sweeping feathers around him.

Divinatory Meaning: An important message will soon come to you in a dream or unexpected event. Courage and determination are necessary to win your way through opposition.

Magickal Uses: Use for dream-guidance and to reveal the truth.

SEVEN OF WANDS (Valkyries)

The Valkyries were magnificent young women who rode their flying horses over battlefields to collect the souls of warriors worthy to enter Odin's Hall of the Slain in Valhalla. The chosen warriors battled all day and feasted each night, served by the Valkyries. In Viking mythology, the Valkyries were also considered warriors who earned their place in Valhalla. The Valkyrie on this card brings success to all those who have struggled for it.

Divinatory Meaning: You are now in a strong position to carry your dreams and desires to success. You have faced adversity and won.

Magickal Uses: Meditate upon this card to help you build self-confidence and determination.

EIGHT OF WANDS (Sleipnir)

Sleipnir is the name given to Odin's great horse, which the Norse god of war rode on his eternal quest for knowledge. This powerful eight-legged horse has no wings, yet can fly over land, water, or any boundary, even the wall surrounding the Underworld.

Sometimes Sleipnir transports souls into the Otherworld, helping them make contact with deceased loved ones. You will gain wisdom and knowledge on any journey with Sleipnir. On the card, a trail of wands signifies continuing change, and the spirals portray positive moving energy.

Divinatory Meaning: There is rapid movement in your life. Be prepared to take sudden action in order to gain success. You may receive a message from a distance, or make a journey.

Magickal Uses: Call upon Sleipnir's powers to carry you on astral journeys or guide you while dreaming.

NINE OF WANDS (Griffin)

This enormous creature, depicted as half-bird, half-mammal, is larger than eight lions and stronger than a hundred eagles. The feathers of the griffin have strange, powerful healing

abilities. Its young are hatched from eggs laid in golden nests.

The griffin on the card serenely overlooks its domain from its nest high in the mountains, a gateway to the spiritual realms. An island of spiritual sanctuary lies in the distance on a calm lake of emotions.

Divinatory Meaning: Keep quiet and listen; you will find out something that will help you to better your life. A cycle of completion follows a job well done. This protective card neutralizes nearby negative cards and intensifies positive ones.

Magickal Uses: Use for meditations and spells concerning protection and awareness.

TEN OF WANDS (Minotaur)

When the Cretan minotaur was born from the unnatural union of Queen Parsiphae and a Minoan sacred bull, he had a human body, but the head of a bull. King Minos built an underground labyrinth to hide this creature.

The minotaur on the card labors his way among the wands of authority that clutter his path. His back is bent under the burden of his stigma. The spinning, halo-like tunnel symbolizes his spiritual journey toward the source that will heal him.

Divinatory Meaning: A tangle of events is straightened out, but the outcome may not be to your liking. You feel as if you are carrying a very heavy burden. Be certain you have not taken up someone else's responsibilities. A new and difficult cycle is coming, but you have the strength to handle it well.

Magickal Uses: Use in spells to straighten out an event or lift burdens.

PAGE OF WANDS (Circe)

The ancient Greeks believed that the moon goddess Circe had a great palace in the Aegean Sea. Her name is linked with the word circle, marking this deity as a fate-spinner and weaver of destinies. Circe knew the ancient mysteries of making creative or destructive magick by braiding or knotting her hair. This power is symbolized on the card by the sparkles in her hair.

The lunar hare of creation and the owl of wisdom join Circe in her magickal activities. Her spell book of secrets covered with spirals signifies her creative and destructive energies. The owl brings her a wand of change.

Divinatory Meaning: Important news and messages come to your attention. Be careful how you use this information.

Magickal Uses: This card is useful in spells when seeking the truth.

KNIGHT OF WANDS (The Shedu)

Images of massive winged bulls, called the Shedu, were placed at entrances to temples and palaces for protection. The Shedu are shown with wings, a man's crowned head, and the body of a bull. They have their own language, but are proficient in communicating telepathically with humans. They use their psychic powers to work against evil, aid those in need, teach magicians positive spell work, and guide astral travelers.

The Shedu's five legs represent the elements of earth, air, fire, water, and spirit. The crown denotes spiritual enlightenment, and the ability to pass this knowledge on to prepared humans.

Divinatory Meaning: Important, powerful forces are affecting the events in your life. Be certain you are on a positive path in order to take advantage of them. Good news is coming about a journey, a move, or a job change.

Magickal Uses: Use to learn how to balance all the elements in your life.

QUEEN OF WANDS (Titania)

As mistress of glamour and matriarch of magick, Titania rules over the kingdom of Fairy. The queen weaves a gossamer blanket with feathers of truth as a friendly welcome to enter Fairy Land. Those who seek new knowledge

will answer the call. Titania's beautiful wings feature two eyes that are able to discern truth from lies. The moon above her represents her influence over planetary energies and her power to perform Otherworld initiations. Titania generously gives valuable advice to those who seek her company.

Divinatory Meaning: This is a good time to take action on financial or business plans. An involvement in social events brightens your life.

Magickal Uses: Use to represent a generous woman who gives good advice. This card is also very useful when attempting to contact the fairy realm.

KING OF WANDS (Oberon)

As Prince of Fairies, Oberon's responsibilities include leading fairy hunts, moon dances, and woodland revelries. He is trained in the use of both Earth and Fairy magick.

Surrounded by flowers of rebirth, Oberon is confident in his powers and position. The pentagram on his mushroom throne reflects his strong protective powers. His white wings are a blend of spirituality and creative imagination, keys to any spell.

Divinatory Meaning: Advice from a powerful businessman can help you make a decision. Unexpected good news helps you

move forward with your plans.

Magickal Uses: Use to represent an influential man who gives good advice.

SWORDS

ACE OF SWORDS (Thor's Goats)

Although the Norse god Thor was a ferocious warrior, he also was known as a friend to humans. Thor's huge sword could withstand the destructive powers of both fire and ice. His mighty hammer is said to throw lightning across the sky.

Thor's chariot was pulled by two magickal, giant goats, named Toothgnasher and Toothgrinder, who helped to protect Thor.

Divinatory Meaning: A powerful new beginning brings a major breakthrough that can help you triumph over difficulties. Any decisions made at this time will influence your life for some time.

Magickal Uses: Use this card to help you break through a stagnant cycle and get things moving.

TWO OF SWORDS (Gilgamesh)

Around 3,000 B.C.E., Gilgamesh reigned as the Sumerian king. Strong and vigorous, he was the son of a god. The tales of his life were

written onto clay tablets and later translated by scholars. Because Gilgamesh was so active, the gods created a man, Enkidu, to be his closest companion. After Enkidu's death, the hero-king became obsessed with delaying the end of his own life. Using his strength, symbolized by his sword, the hero tried to circumvent the eternal cycle of destiny, as reflected in the pool.

Divinatory Meaning: There is a stalemate, where neither party nor side has the power to win. The underlying tension will not allow anything to change for some time.

Magickal Uses: This card can be used to stall a project so that all will have time to look at the truth of the situation.

THREE OF SWORDS (Jenny Greenteeth)

A fearsome creature, Jenny Greenteeth drags unsuspecting people into her dark, swampy home, and they are never seen again. Jenny has sharp teeth, green like the slime covering the pool. Vague images of her victims can be seen in the dark organic foliage.

The sword on the bank represents the consciousness. The upright sword in the water denotes the subconscious mind. The third sword, dangling from the tree limb, symbolizes the higher consciousness, or universal state of mind. None of the swords attract Jenny

Greenteeth, as she has no conscience.

Divinatory Meaning: An omen of heartache, sadness, losses, and possible rejection. This card reveals the pain of separation in a love relationship.

Magickal Uses: Use to help you let go of emotional losses and pain.

FOUR OF SWORDS (Vegetable Lamb)

The vegetable lamb is a gentle, quiet creature, born from rare flowers that grow on twisting vines. The lambs' presence creates harmony and restful times that are necessary for healing on all levels.

On this card, the presence of swords shows that alert protection need not mean violence. The peacefulness needed for the rebirth of souls is symbolized by the butterfly.

Divinatory Meaning: A time of sorrow and misfortune is followed by a period of peaceful rest and recovery.

Magickal Uses: Use to create a peaceful resolution to a problem, or a period of recovery.

FIVE OF SWORDS (Japanese Kappa)

The kappa of Japan is a tricky, dangerous creature that lives in seas, rivers, and ponds. This grotesque little man wears a tortoise shell

on his back and has fish scales on the exposed parts of his body. His most distinguishing feature is the circular depression on the crown of his head.

The kappa waits in his watery home to drown his victims. The only way to defeat the kappa is to trick him into spilling the water from his head, as without it, he is powerless. The kappa can also be tricked into telling his secrets about healing and bone setting.

Divinatory Meaning: This could be a time of betrayal, misfortune, and loss. Stand up for yourself in a dispute.

Magickal Uses: Use this card to reveal an untrustworthy person.

SIX OF SWORDS (Japanese Ho-Ho)

This magickal bird lives in the Upperworld, or heaven, and makes an earthly appearance only on special occasions. According to legend, a young girl embroidered a pair of Ho-Ho birds into a silk tapestry. When the evening sun touched the silk birds, they came to life and carried the young girl to the land of the immortals.

The golds and reds on the card illuminate the Ho-Ho's connection with the sun. Its connection to the Upperworld is shown by the

multitude of spirals. The Ho-Ho's swords offer protection and its magickal presence creates a positive space of balance and rest.

Divinatory Meaning: You will travel across water, or move from one place to another. There could be visits from distant friends or family. Any move you make will be positive.

Magickal Uses: Use this card when making major choices that will change your life.

SEVEN OF SWORDS (Fox Lady)

The Fox Ladies of Asia are tricky, ambiguous creatures, and masters of illusion. They can live for centuries through reincarnation. If fox fairies cause too much trouble and misfortune, an exorcist is called in to expel the spirit. The Fox Lady can also be appeased with food and incense.

The Fox Lady on this card is a magickal, older soul. She knows the secret of shape-shifting, and is wise to the inconsistent ways of humans.

Divinatory Meaning: Someone who doesn't reveal her/his true personality or plans. A meeting or confrontation will require you to use subtle intuition to sort truth from lies.

Magickal Uses: Use to deflect control placed upon you by others.

EIGHT OF SWORDS (Egyptian Apep)

The greatest god of the ancient Egyptian pantheon was Ra, or Amun-Ra, the sun deity. However, at night when Ra rode his sun boat through the Underworld, he was in danger from Apep, a serpent demon and eternal enemy of light. The serpent holds the glowing sun in his mouth, causing eclipses.

On this card, Apep is seen entwined about the swords of karma. The serpent Apep symbolizes pure divine energy, and with its central sword, it represents the power of healing.

Divinatory Meaning: You have control of a tricky situation now, but could quickly lose control. Discretion and diplomacy are needed. You may feel unable to leave an unpleasant situation.

Magickal Uses: Use discretely in spells where you need to influence a person, but don't want them to know you are doing so.

NINE OF SWORDS (Harpies)

In Greek mythology, harpies, whose name means "snatchers," were huge, predatory birds with bodies like vultures and claws like eagles. Although the harpies are hideous creatures, their human faces are said to have an ethereal beauty.

They are used by the gods to punish people

who break spiritual taboos and laws. Their heavy wings make a terrible clanging noise as they fly down to harass people. Their filth and foul stench can cause famine and disease.

On this card the harpies both attract and repel as they warn of hidden perils, represented by the hanging swords. Their human faces beguile humans to forget the danger and move closer, to ignore the unpleasant lessons in life and the consequences.

Divinatory Meaning: If you have broken secular or karmic laws, expect to pay the price. Look closely at your plans; something is not to your benefit.

Magickal Uses: Use in meditation to understand past lives and to settle karmic debts.

TEN OF SWORDS (Kali Ma)

Kali Ma is both feared and respected in India, as she governs every form of life and death, and protects women from violence. She is portrayed as a woman with a hideous face smeared with blood, a protruding tongue, multiple arms, and a necklace of human skulls. Her skirt is made of human arms and hands.

With a dual personality of love and death, this goddess accepts and integrates the two opposing forces. Her weapons, shown on the card, are ready

to create or destroy, whichever is necessary.

Divinatory Meaning: This card symbolizes a major disaster that will occur unless changes are made. Make a clean break with the past. Don't leave any loose ends behind.

Magickal Uses: Use this card to remind you that you must be finished with the old cycle before you can begin a new one.

PAGE OF SWORDS (Werewolf)

Counter to European legends, werewolves did not undergo actual physical change, but rather a mental and aura change that created the illusion of a wolf, in behavior and appearance. During the process of transformation into a wolf, the shape-shifter's anguish as he releases conscious control produces the twisting, grunts, and howls.

The man on the card howls in triumph as he successfully transforms his essential self into a wolf. The necklace of feathers and other charms points to his shamanic training. He is prepared to use this highly spiritual power, and his greatly heightened senses of awareness, to seek out information he could not otherwise find.

Divinatory Meaning: Keep aware for a message and opportunity about money or material gain. This can also be an advance notice

of a troubling period in your life, especially if you do not see through the illusions.

Magickal Uses: Use to reveal a person's true intent or personality.

KNIGHT OF SWORDS (Peacock of Karttikeya)

One of the Hindu gods of war, Karttikeya is usually portrayed with six heads and six pairs of arms and legs. His only interests are fighting, war, revenge, and dark magick.

Karttikeya rides about the world on an enormous peacock named Paravani.

The symbolic bird is also associated with the god Krishna, who wears peacock feathers in his hair, and Sarasvati, the goddess of knowledge and the arts.

The peacock is connected with sun deities and its feathers are thought to bring good luck. The pool of water on the card represents the complete gamut of human emotions from love to hatred. When making a decision, one should cautiously pause, as does the peacock Paravani, in order to carefully evaluate the emotional situation.

Divinatory Meaning: You may need to think quickly and clearly in order to make timely decisions, but avoid making mistakes by misinterpreting information. Your forceful

ideas may annoy others.

Magickal Uses: Use when faced with strong opposition. This card can help bring the disagreement out into the open.

QUEEN OF SWORDS (Naga)

The legendary nagas of India are the children of the goddess Kadru. Semi-divine in nature, these creatures have the upper body, head, and arms of a human, but the lower body of a cobra. Some nagas are quite benevolent, while others are antagonistic. All nagas possess great supernatural powers and have access to valuable ancient books of great knowledge and magick.

According to lore, the nagas' principle home is an underground kingdom known as Bhagavati. The female naga and the lush jungle setting on the card represent the beauty that can appear in strange forms and exotic places. The precious gems adorning her are symbols of the ancient knowledge she shares.

Divinatory Meaning: If you can bring forth your willpower to cope with an emotionally trying event, you will undergo positive growth.

Magickal Uses: Use when you need a card to represent a formidable, strong-willed woman who has learned to cope with deep emotional loss.

KING OF SWORDS (Vampire)

Vampires are considered to be the undead, people who drink blood from other humans and never die. Unless, that is, a wooden stake is driven through their heart.

Vampires are believed to be extraordinarily strong, self-healing, and able to turn themselves into bats or slip under doors as thin wisps of vapor. It is believed that being marked by 'teeth of the spirit' grants the gift of prophetic abilities.

On the card, the image of the full moon is repeated several times to symbolize its strengthening effect on the vampire. His eternal life is revealed in the spirals on the stones.

Divinatory Meaning: If this card denotes a person, he will be a professional, with a cold heart but a clear mind. If this card represents a situation, you will need swift, accurate thinking and eloquent words. You may be standing on the edge of a long-awaited spiritual breakthrough.

Magickal Uses: Use when you need a card to represent a stern man of authority. If trying to break through opposition from others, surround this card with positive cards that describe your goal.

CUPS

ACE OF CUPS (Water Fairies)

Fairies are known around the world in one form or another. Most are friendly, but others are wild and unpredictable toward humans. The tiny water fairies are sensitive to human emotions and try to spread their happy, loving thoughts. They delight in providing beautiful nature sounds when lovers sit beside water and dream of the future.

Divinatory Meaning: A greater awareness of dream-messages is possible at this time. Seek out earth energies in nature to bring healing and balance into your life. You will soon enter a new cycle of emotions. Possibly a love affair will present itself. This can be a fertile time for creative growth.

Magickal Uses: Use in spells for contacting nature spirits. Also useful in spells to attract love into your life.

TWO OF CUPS (Mer-Folk)

Mermaids and mermen appear in the seas, rivers, bays, and occasionally in lakes. Above the waist, mer-folk have human forms. Below their hips, they sport fishtails with large flukes, covered with tiny translucent scales. Although they are very beautiful, it is a cold beauty, as

they do not possess human emotions. They possess supernatural powers, one of which is the ability to foretell the future. Legends say that the mer-folk also can call up fierce storms and howling winds by dancing through the waves.

This card depicts the mermaid and merman harmoniously intertwined, both reaching for the cup of spiritual love. Pearls of ancient wisdom cling to their bodies, along with the rising bubbles of conscious spirituality. The ruins of ancient palaces symbolize past lives that have left important marks on our present lives.

Divinatory Meaning: An emotional time in your life when you should think through every action twice before doing it. If you are self-disciplined and responsible, you will benefit greatly in the end. A successful partnership or love affair will soon appear. If you recently quarreled with a lover or friend, this is an excellent time to make up.

Magickal Uses: Use for gaining control of your emotions. This card may also help a friend, lover, or partner declare their true feelings. Meditating upon the card will help release you from an unhealthy attraction.

THREE OF CUPS (Hippocampus)

The full-sized seahorses mentioned in Greek legends were the prized steeds of the mer-folk, who used them to travel swiftly through the oceans. The ocean chariots of Neptune and Poseidon were drawn by hippocampi. These fantastical ocean creatures are portrayed with the head, body, and forelegs of a horse, but with webbed fins instead of hooves.

This card has many important symbols on it. The ocean itself denotes the creative cauldron that brings all life into being. Bubbles of spiritual energy rise from the chalices, another womb symbol. The many-colored fish represent the powers of the subconscious mind, sexuality, and fertility.

Divinatory Meaning: You will have the opportunity to move away from an unproductive emotional situation. Success, celebration, and abundance will soon arrive. You are moving out of a mental fog into a cycle of seeing things clearly.

Magickal Uses: Use to uncover the real truth behind a display of emotions. The hippocampus is also useful to find the true source of an emotional problem.

FOUR OF CUPS (Tiamat)

As goddess of the primal abyss, Tiamat lived in the endless chaotic seas and held powers of both creation and destruction. Together with her consort Apsu, she created the pantheon of deities in the arching heavens. According to ancient lore, when Tiamat was killed, her body was used to form the universe and humans.

The goblets represent the great creating power of the Dragon Goddess Tiamat. The fish and spiral shells emphasize her fertility as mother of all. The flock of seagulls symbolizes souls ready to be born.

Divinatory Meaning: Something important is missing from your life, but you are unable to determine what it is. You have withdrawn emotionally, waiting in a sea of uncertainty.

Magickal Uses: Use in spells to create a quiet space for making decisions.

FIVE OF CUPS (Lorelei)

Some mermaids have the power to entice men to their deaths with their bewitching voices. The Lorelei look like ordinary women, though they have a cold, unnatural beauty. They possess supernatural powers to foretell the future and to work weather magick. Faces of the Lorelei's victims can be seen in the river

water. Indifferent to the drowning cries below, the Lorelei maiden lives in an emotional void.

Divinatory Meaning: An emotional time in your life when you should think through every action twice before doing it. Your own attitudes make you unhappy.

Magickal Uses: Use in meditations for getting control of your emotions and your negativity.

SIX OF CUPS (Yemaya)

As goddess of the ocean, and the daughter of Oddudua, the earth goddess, Yemaya holds a high position of respect. She is the mother of fourteen other gods and goddesses of the sacred Santeria pantheon. She is associated with the ocean, and also birth. Women petition her when they want to conceive children. Yemaya is extremely powerful and beautiful.

Divinatory Meaning: An old flame may re-enter your life. Gatherings could put you in contact with people from your past. Pleasant memories pave the path for a better future.

Magickal Uses: This card is helpful in contacting old friends, or attracting new ones.

SEVEN OF CUPS (The Selkie)

Usually appearing as a seal in the water, the selkie has the magickal ability to assume a human form on land. The selkie on this card contemplates the contents of the seven chalices, each holding a different treasure or promise. Yet, she is disappointed because she doesn't see what she wants. Material and spiritual aspects are casually tossed aside, or overlooked.

Divinatory Meaning: Goals are abandoned too soon. Drifting between different places, people, or jobs only brings disappointments.

Magickal Uses: This card is useful in removing negative or unclear thinking.

EIGHT OF CUPS (The Nine Daughters of Ran)

The Norse goddess Ran, wife of the sea-god Aegir, is a typical Northern sea goddess, with cold emotions and no pity. She uses her nets to catch the souls of those burned on funeral boats or drowned while sailing.

Ran's nine daughters follow their mother's ways, calling up storms and causing sea disasters. The beautiful daughters dance wildly over the waves until the ships sink and the sailors drown. Then they trap the souls of the dead men, dragging them down to their underwater

prison. Here, the nine daughters hold their chalices of rebirth.

Divinatory Meaning: Protect yourself from a lover or friend who may be controlling you. Cut your losses and get out of a negative situation.

Magickal Uses: Use in spells to break away from a controlling relationship.

NINE OF CUPS (Ataensic)

The Native American Mother Goddess, Ataensic is shown here riding the giant tortoise, symbolizing the Earth itself. The goblets of rebirth float in a primordial sea of eternity. The four flying geese represent the four elements and the four directions. To the Native Americans who used the medicine wheel, the Canada goose marked the Great Cycle of the Year, and reminded the tribes of change.

Divinatory Meaning: This wish card fulfills all your deepest wishes and desires. There is success, triumph, and everything you hope for.

Magickal Uses: Use with other cards that symbolize your desires.

TEN OF CUPS (The Muses)

Companions of the Greek god Apollo, the nine Muses were goddesses of springs, memory, and

the arts. Their music came from the musical vibrations of the seven planets.

The nine Muses originally inspired history, flute playing, comedy, tragedy, dancing and lyric poetry, love poetry, mime, astronomy, and epic poetry. The Muses have expanded their spheres of influence to all fields of art.

Divinatory Meaning: There will be a happy, secure family life. Joy and love are abundant. Use your talents to bring happiness to others.

Magickal Uses: Use this card to enlist the knowledge and aid of the Muses.

PAGE OF CUPS (The Nereids)

The beautiful sea nymphs known as nereids were the fifty granddaughters of the old sea god Pontus and Gaea, the Earth mother. Though related to mermaids, the nereids had no scales or fish-tails. Unlike the mer-folk, the nereids of the Mediterranean seas had emotions and feelings similar to those of humans. They enjoyed their ocean romps with Poseidon and the mer-folk, and also rode their dolphins alongside Greek ships.

Divinatory Meaning: You should carefully consider emotional involvements. This could mean a message of love, an engagement, or wedding. You have decided to take an emotional

risk, but have no guarantee how your actions will turn out.

Magickal Uses: Use for getting control of your emotions, or for deciding if a choice is worth the risk.

KNIGHT OF CUPS (Manannan Mac Lir)

Manannan Mac Lir is the main sea god of the ancient Celtic pantheon. Son of the oldest sea god Lir, Manannan was a shape-shifter whose magical protective armor made him invisible. When Manannan rode through the ocean waves, his vessel was powered only by the energy of the sea itself. In this card, Manannan rides his magickal sea chariot over the foaming waves. The silvery salmon swimming around him, symbolize his ancient wisdom and knowledge.

Divinatory Meaning: If this card relates to a person, she/he is a kind but unreliable friend. If the card represents situations, a message of love or a proposal may be coming your way. You may be so deeply involved with someone that you don't see clearly.

Magickal Uses: Use this card in spells to reveal the truth about the love you have for someone.

QUEEN OF CUPS (Mermaid)

This beautiful mermaid navigates the great sea of emotions with confidence and power. Her spiritual light shines over her like a giant halo. Encircling her are many little fish, ancient symbols of divinatory messages. The coral and seaweed represent emotional openness, the playful inner child, and the ability to attract true love.

Bubbles resembling stars in the night sky circle around the mermaid like moons around a planet. Stars signify other lifetimes, spiritual progress of souls, and the ultimate connection we all have with the goddess and the god.

Divinatory Meaning: If this card relates to a person, she is a very feminine and loving woman. If the inquirer is a man, she may be his mother, wife, or lover. If the card symbolizes a situation, it represents a positive creative endeavor.

Magickal Uses: Use in meditations or spell work for channeling your emotions into more creative, useful endeavors. Use this card to represent a receptive, loving woman; a wife, friend, mother, or lover.

KING OF CUPS (Neptune)

This sea god known as Neptune often used his trident to stir up storms at sea and release turbulent waters. He was also called Earthshaker

because of his violent disagreements with Jupiter that rocked the land.

Neptune was closely associated with dolphins, who served as his messengers and the sea-mounts for his fifty daughters, the nereids. He also liked to shape-shift into a dolphin form to spy on fishermen and sailors. As the King of Cups, the ocean king contemplates what he has seen in his chalice. The little fish swimming with him symbolize universal wisdom.

Divinatory Meaning: If a person, this denotes a kind man, possibly your father or a father figure. If you are facing a situation, it is a favorable enterprise. You may experience a cycle of unstable emotions.

Magickal Uses: Use this when you need a card to represent a mature man.

PENTACLES

ACE OF PENTACLES (Brownies)

The European brownies were shy little creatures, with black eyes, slightly pointed ears, and long, agile fingers skilled at crafts. Brownies prefer to attach themselves to a particular household, staying with a family for generations. Unless offended by rudeness, the brownies are good-natured and helpful. Their

happy dispositions attract small children, who can more easily see them than adults do.

The pentacle held by the brownie on this card denotes the five elements that make up the universe: Earth, Air, Fire, Water, and Spirit. The twisting tree roots resemble the labyrinthine spiritual journeys.

Divinatory Meaning: A new home, job, or relationship is near. You will receive unexpected help with a problem. A very positive card, it predicts success in a new enterprise.

Magickal Uses: Use to find opportunities to improve your life. This card can also improve your cash flow.

TWO OF PENTACLES (The Fey of Fairies)

The Fey are the human-sized, wingless members of the Fairy Kingdom. As the most knowledgeable and adept of the species, it is their duty to protect and enlighten the smaller, winged members of their family. They are resourceful and energetic in their duties of caretaking and healing.

The Fey on this card have created a ball of pure universal energy between them. The pentacles represent the five elements they summon for their healing powers.

Divinatory Meaning: You will have to

juggle money or two jobs for a time. You need to make some firm financial choices and stick with them.

Magickal Uses: Use this card to attract extra money.

THREE OF PENTACLES (Hobgoblin)

The mischievous hobgoblins like nothing better than to spoil luck, create nightmares, hide things, and frighten people. Hobgoblins have human-like forms, but are usually very small, with wide nasty grins, and glittering eyes. They can be extremely strong and troublesome. The hobgoblin on this card is learning magick to aid him in his tricks.

Divinatory Meaning: Opportunities will soon come for you to learn new skills.

Magickal Uses: Use for exorcising bothersome entities.

FOUR OF PENTACLES (Firedrake)

Firedrakes are the smallest members of the dragon family. Although firedrakes prefer to spend as much as possible in physical flames, even volcanoes, they will take up residence in a home. Firedrakes' negative reactions to violence or anger can cause fires. The small dragons

can also cause candle flames to flicker during magician's spell work.

This fire Drake's cache of gems and gold represent the value of spiritual wealth. The small dragon itself denotes the ability to rise above and conquer obstacles. His pentacles offer much protection.

Divinatory Meaning: Financial security is on the way to make your life easier for some time. If you are hanging onto something that is no longer needed, you must release it before new opportunities and events can enter your life.

Magickal Uses: Use this card to symbolize your need to release something in your life.

FIVE OF PENTACLES (The Gnomes)

Gnomes are shy, little beings at home with animals and the woodlands.

Wise and knowledgeable healers, gnomes often act as doctors to forest plants and animals. They prefer their weaving, woodworking, and medicine over interaction with people. The gnome here trudges through the wintery weather to help a sick creature. The pentacles of protection keep him safe on his path. The ice that covers everything symbolizes a transition between the conscious and subconscious minds.

Divinatory Meaning: There is a danger

of possible financial loss because you look for security in the wrong places. Money may be tight for a while. Learn how to heal yourself.

Magickal Uses: Use in spell work to cultivate prudence with money and patience to work through a rough cycle.

SIX OF PENTACLES (Domovoy)

The domovoy and his wife are known through Russian legends. Strange looking, shy creatures, they take an active interest in the home they inhabit. The domovoy likes to live under the doorstep or stove, while his shyer wife prefers to dwell in the basement.

These little beings are rarely seen or heard by humans. If the family lives in peace and harmony, the domovoy and his wife do their best to help them. If the family is contentious, however, the couple adds to the misery.

The domovoy on the card is creating magickal pentagrams to protect his human family and manifest good things for them.

Divinatory Meaning: Abundance and prosperity will enable you to help someone else in need. You will be able to repay debts.

Magickal Uses: This card may aid you and others with monetary choices.

SEVEN OF PENTACLES (Gargoyles)

The esoteric meaning of the word gargoyle has to do with taking in air, which the mystics believe is filled with spiritual energy. Those who know the mystery of tapping this power source can use it in magick.

One of the most extraordinary powers of the gargoyles is their ability to absorb negative energies from humans and atmospheres, revert it to positive energy, and release it back into the air. The pentacles on this card denote the gargoyles' protective influences.

Divinatory Meaning: You will gain financially from your hard work.

Magickal Uses: Use to convert negative energy into positive energy, which will attract good fortune.

EIGHT OF PENTACLES (Quetzalcoatl)

The Toltec god Quetzalcoatl sometimes appeared as a young man, wearing a cloak of quetzal feathers. Other times he revealed himself in the form of a plumed serpent.

As a benevolent ruler, and the creator of all life forms, Quetzalcoatl taught his worshippers the arts of civilization and gave them the secret of fire. His people enjoyed great wealth and happiness, and built magnificent temples in his honor.

Quetzalcoat's crown denotes spiritual enlightenment. His gold ornaments proclaim him as a high god, knowledgeable about spiritual truths. His necklace symbolizes unity.

Divinatory Meaning: This card can indicate professional progress. Hard work will bring you rewards and satisfaction.

Magickal Uses: This card helps when seeking a new trade or job. It also aids in strengthening self-confidence to tackle a new skill.

NINE OF PENTACLES (Lilith)

Although Lilith was turned into a succubus that preyed on sleeping men, she began as a benevolent deity, aiding childbirth.

Lilith's true character is revealed by the image on this card. An aspect of the Great Mother Goddess, Lilith is connected with the moon (cycles of life) and the owl (wisdom and initiations). The spiral shells over her heart represent the life force that connects generations. Pentacles of protection swirl around her.

Divinatory Meaning: Your financial situation is changing for the better. Stress is evaporating. Material well-being and safety build a strong security base.

Magickal Uses: Meditate on this card to

build up your resources, and to make right financial choices.

TEN OF PENTACLES (Dwarves)

Dwarves are rather small creatures with large heads and gnarled faces. Dwarves live in underground caverns where they practice their superb metalworking skills and mining techniques. They are master craftsmen in their work with stones, gems, and metal. Although suspicious and tricky on occasion, dwarves are said to be friendly if treated with respect and kindness.

Divinatory Meaning: Success and prosperity are at hand. Quality time with your family will assure them of a secure future. Whatever you begin or straighten out now, will last for years.

Magickal Uses: Use in spells for prosperity, family happiness, and perhaps for having children.

PAGE OF PENTACLES (Flower Fairy)

Flower Fairies vary in size, and most are very cautious in showing themselves to humans. They can shape-shift into other creatures, usually birds, if they need to escape.

This tiny fairy appreciates the glory of nature

all around her, reminding us that there is always enough prosperity to go around. When you claim your own prosperity, you are not shorting someone else.

Divinatory Meaning: Good news concerning money is on the way. Pay attention to messages, particularly from dreams. Allow nature to bring healing and balance into your life.

Magickal Uses: Use in spells for making money magnet charms.

KNIGHT OF PENTACLES (Elves)

Although they resemble humans in most features, elves have slightly pointed ears and strikingly beautiful eyes. Most are benevolent and love music, singing, and dancing.

Elves are renowned for their vast accumulation of ancient knowledge, but are very cautious about sharing this information with humans. Their elf-books contain instructions about foretelling the future.

Divinatory Meaning: This card may represent a new job, location, or experience. A new psychic talent, magickal art, or creative ability is awakening.

Magickal Uses: Use for balancing all areas of your life.

QUEEN OF PENTACLES (Danu)

The goddess Danu was considered by the Celts as the greatest deity in Ireland, for she symbolizes Mother Earth. The labyrinths of life are seen in the design on Danu's flowing robes, as well as in the twisting tree roots along the sacred, spiritual path.

At some time in life, we must each leave our safe place, and walk down the spiritual path to face the Great Mother, Danu. If we are open to her messages, symbolized by the seagulls here, we will find calming waters in the knowledge she brings.

Divinatory Meaning: Spend wisely. You will gain personal and financial security only after a hard struggle. This card may symbolize a woman who manages money well and is a good advisor.

Magickal Uses: Use when you need a card to represent a practical, business-minded woman.

KING OF PENTACLES (Lord of the Greenwood)

The oldest form of the Green Man comes from Celtic legends. God of the woodlands, animals, and fertility, the Lord of the Greenwood is portrayed in old English church carvings as a half-seen face peering out of leaves. Antlers

crown his head, and his eyes are brilliant and piercing.

On this card, Lord of the Greenwood merges with the Goddess, Earth Mother. The web of life is strung behind him between two trees. Shown are some of the animals within his protective domain. He deeply loves, and cares for, each 'child' that is born of his union with the Goddess.

Divinatory Meaning: If a person, this card represents a wealthy, secure man who is experienced in handling money. The appearance of such a man will help you in a business. You find new meaning and spiritual comfort in nature.

Magickal Uses: Use to discover and understand future cycles in your life. Use this card to represent a reputable, stable man with good business sense.

USING THE TAROT DECK

There are several simple yet effective ways of using the Fantastical Creatures Tarot deck. You can select a card that symbolizes the energy you need to manifest a desire and place it on your sacred working space when you do magick, such as a candle spell. You can choose a card that seems appropriate to your life and meditate upon its personal meaning. By drawing one card each morning as a meditative symbol for the day, you place yourself in immediate contact with your personal spirit guides. Your senses, physical and spiritual, become fine-tuned to the universal energies. By paying attention to your thoughts and actions, and the signals coming from the universe, you start living your life in a more conscious manner.

The most common use of tarot cards is for straightforward divination; asking questions and then laying out the cards for an answer. Most tarot decks are divided into two sections; 22 Major Arcana cards and 56 Minor Arcana cards. The Major Arcana depicts the spiritual path with powerful symbols that resonate within the human subconscious. The Minor Arcana cards reflect earthly experiences, daily life, and every type of human activity and

relationship. These cards point to the possible future for mundane, everyday life questions. A greater number of Major Arcana cards in a reading tells you that the fate of the question is out of your control. A greater number of Minor Arcana cards points to radical changes in your earthly, daily life, and the results are controlled by your actions and reactions.

When you do a reading, relax and let the pictures convey a subconscious, intuitive message into your conscious mind. The court cards of Page, Knight, Queen, and King can represent aspects of you, other people, or the atmosphere surrounding the question. Although you may begin by using the divinatory meanings from this booklet, don't cheat yourself out of the magical experience of using and strengthening your intuition. Also be aware that the divinatory meaning you use for a card in one reading may well not be the same in another reading. Combine your emotion about the card, the symbols on the card, and the question asked. Intuition isn't emotion, but it is inspired by it.



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