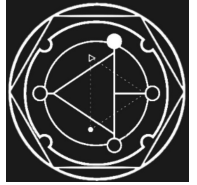


Guide to the Trunk

by Royce Roeswood
of the Ragamancers



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You find an old, battered steamer trunk.

It's full of a dizzying array of objects: drawings and paintings and posters and postcards and books and tapestries and old advertisements. There's a wooden boat, a pair of barbershop poles, a cup, a torn valentine, a suit of armor. A cloud.

An insight settles over you: these are not arbitrary objects. Each has a correspondence. You can read them.

This is a tarot deck.

You can find more information about Tarot of the Trunk and its expansions at our website:

<http://www.ragamancers.com/tarot-of-the-trunk>

You can find out more about the creator, Royce

Roeswood, and his other projects at

<http://linktr.ee/roeswood>



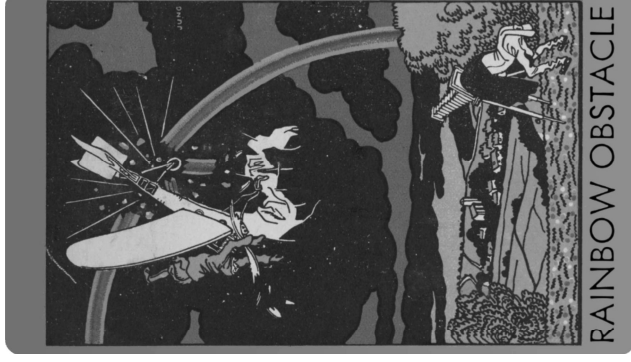
Portal (?)

Suited Deaths expansion

Possible evidence of a doorway to another realm. What do you need before you're ready to step into a new world?

Minor correspondences with ruins, darkness, and deception.

No reversals for horizontal cards, but: watch for traps.



Rainbow Obstacle

The Gooseberry Set expansion

This is when the imaginary, the impossible, the out of reach turns out to be horrendously, disastrously real. It could be a new aspect of reality. It could be a new resource, skill, or relationship is now open to you. It could mean something you've been ignoring is making itself known and you're crashing into it.

Minor correspondences with astronomy, airplanes, and forests.

Reversed: Things just are as they are. Don't panic.



The Last Tree

The Hidden Pocket expansion
 Things end. Delightful, precious, unique, necessary things end. You may feel you can't go on without them. Maybe you're right. The you that was cannot go on, and only the new, deprived, transformed you will continue. Minor correspondences with branches, wastelands, and velvet.
 Reversed: Something new.

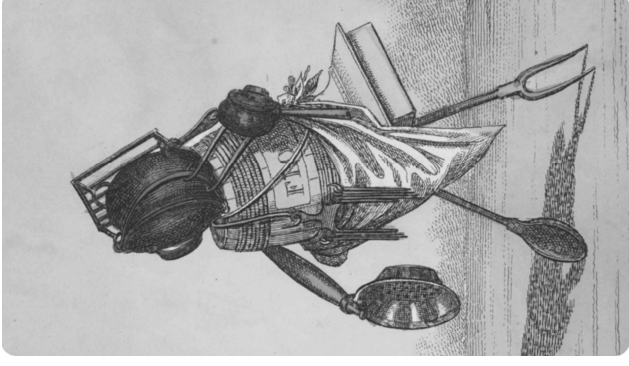
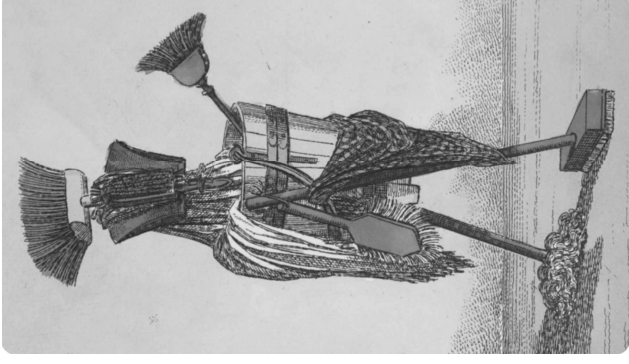


Maelstrom

Suited Deaths expansion
 Swirling, whirling chaos. So much turbulence you can't tell where you end and where the storm begins. Can you hunker down and ride it out? Or is it time to surf the wind? Minor correspondences with blending, wet, and snakes.
 Reversed: How can you tell which way is up?

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The Implements

The Gooseberry Set expansion

What happens when we take a force or presence in our lives and personify it? What if our chores were a person? Our grief? Our career? Our dreams? If you could communicate with an abstraction, what would you say? What would it say back? How does it feel? How do you feel in return? When we can personify and feel empathy for abstract forces and presences in our lives, we might be able to untangle some of our hangups and get past blocks.

This card is reversible so feel free to decide which is front and back, or switch each time it comes up.

Minor correspondences with worker's rights, housework, and cleanliness.

Reversed: You are seeing intentions where there are none.



Honest Library Kisses

Suited Deaths expansion

Making out in the library. That's the only meaning.

Minor correspondences with paper, dodging, and fines.

Reversed: Not making out in the library.

What is Tarot of the Trunk?

Tarot of the Trunk is a mismatched 78-card tarot deck designed as an entry point for those interested in magpie tarot (see below).

In addition to the main deck, there are three expansions that push beyond the traditional tarot structure: The Gooseberry Set, Suited Deaths and Other Oddities, and The Hidden Pocket. In total, there are 118 cards in the full Tarot of the Trunk, and this guidebook covers all of them. Use of the expansions is totally optional, and the deck will work just as well with or without them. But they're waiting and ready when you are.



I Cannot Sing the Old Songs

Suited Deaths expansion

Sometimes, nostalgia doesn't match up to reality. We revisit old books, movies, or music, and find that they don't have quite the same appeal. Or worse, the content is offensive to our current sensibilities. This is part of growing: leaving behind things that no longer serve us.

Minor correspondences with sheet music, fans, and parties.

Reversed: Better than you remembered.

What is magpie tarot?

Inspired by the Alleyman's Tarot by Seven Dane Asmund and its community of fans known as The Alley or The 17, magpie tarot is the practice of constructing one's own tarot deck out of cards from other existing decks. Magpie tarot enthusiasts swap cards with each other, modify cards, print their own cards, or make cards out of found objects. Magpie decks are also called patchwork decks, mixy decks, frankendecks, or other names.

Every card in Tarot of the Trunk has a unique back, and so swapped into or out of any magpie deck while still retaining the mixed-back style. Cards can also be modified to suit the deck maker's needs.

You can find the Alley Facebook group at

www.facebook.com/groups/492116961828242

How to Use this Deck and Guidebook

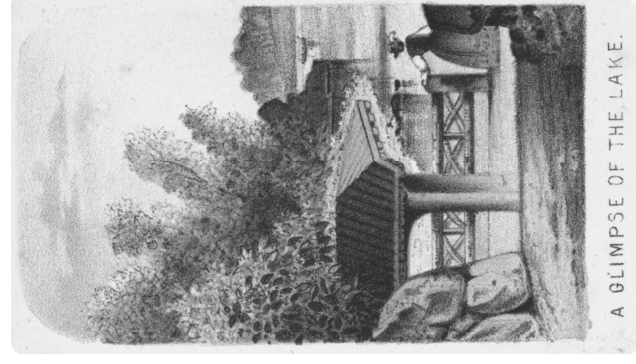
I am an intuitive reader. When I pull a card, especially from my own patchwork deck for which no guidebook exists, I use the images on the card and free-associative thinking to interpret what that card means in the context of the spread.

Even so, especially if you are new to tarot, it can be helpful to have a little scaffolding to jumpstart your intuition. Hence this guidebook.

For the 78 cards of the base deck, which correspond to the structure of traditional tarot decks, any general tarot guidebook can be used as a sort of “base layer” of meaning. I recommend the *Biddy Tarot* website (www.biddytarot.com) or *78 Degrees of Wisdom* by Rachel Pollack, but many fine guides exist, so use whatever you feel drawn to.

On top of this base layer, the entries in this guidebook add an additional layer of meaning. Take in both sources when divining meanings. Each card also has a set of “minor correspondences” which provide whimsical and tangible points of departure for the intuition if nothing else has yet sparked.

Brief interpretations of reversals are also provided if you choose to read reversals, but I also encourage exploring reversal systems where the reversals have particular relationships to the upright meaning: straightforward vs. opposite, external vs. internal, dynamic vs. receptive, etc. Some cards in this deck cannot be reversed because they are oriented horizontally, but sometimes strange things happen.



A Glimpse of the Lake
Suited Deaths expansion
 Turning a corner in a wooded path, you catch just a glimpse of what's to come. You can't see it in full, and you're not there yet, but wonders await you further down the path. Anticipation increases. Minor correspondences with parks, summer, and spy-glasses.
 Reversed: Your vision is obscured.



Gooseberry
The Gooseberry Set expansion
 A child of indeterminate gender watches you with glazed-over eyes through a gooseberry bush. You watch the child. You watch the gooseberry. The child is named Gooseberry. The bush watches you. You are also named Gooseberry. You feel the eyes of all things on you, and you are also the eyes. Gooseberry is everywhere. Gooseberry is watching. You are Gooseberry.



The Audience

The Gooseberry Set expansion

There are good reasons to not interrupt a stage play (you'll make actors mad, which is never good), but consider: when do we see ourselves as passive observers rather than active participants? What do we accept as dramas presented for our entertainment rather than opportunities to get involved?

Minor correspondences with theaters, sweets, and group outings.

Reversed: Step back. Watch the situation unfold.



Exactitude

The Gooseberry Set expansion

Precise work can accomplish quite a lot: building steam engines, for example. This card speaks to exacting detail and fine precision, situations where a hair's difference is everything. If that isn't your strong suit, what support do you need in order to achieve that level of success?

Minor correspondences with trains, steam, and travel.

Reversed: Sloppiness, lack of care, imprecision, and shoddy craftsmanship.

Most of the entries assume you are reading tarot for yourself, and so are addressed directly to you. If you have a querent or are reading about a larger situation, you may have to shift the perspective to fit.

Remember that no card has meaning on its own. Every card must be interpreted in the context of the spread and its relationship to other cards.

Also, never give your agency over to a tarot deck. You are always firmly in control of your life and your decisions. Think of reading cards as going to a friend for advice: input to consider, but ultimately the decision is yours.

Finally, as this is a magpie deck, I give you full permission (and encourage you!) to swap cards out or modify cards as you see fit. It's your deck: make it unique.

What will you put in the trunk?

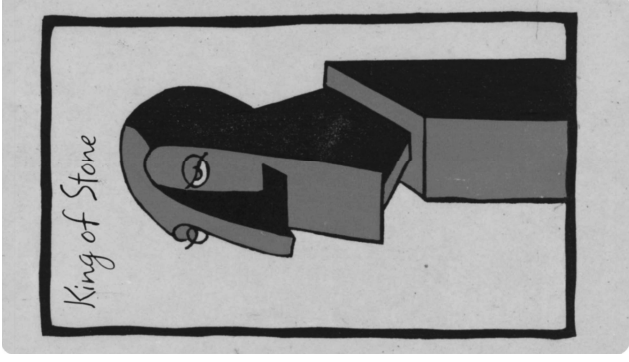


0. Fool (In the Arena)

Starting out on the Fool's Journey necessitates stepping away from traditional paths in life, which can put one under scrutiny of the critical rabble. Pay them no mind. You're the one in the arena, daring greatly. Minor correspondences with performance, bells, and sand. Reversed: You're playing the fool. Clarify your motivations.

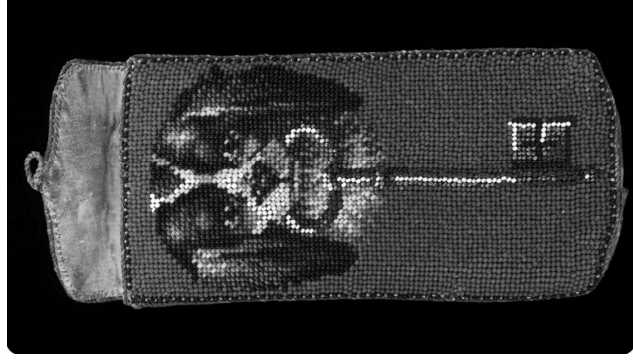
King of Stone

Suited Deaths expansion
Are you bored of life? Have you considered slowly transforming into stone? You'll still be bored, but you'll have no limbs, won't be able to move, and you will also lose the ability to speak. Let me know if you're interested. Minor correspondences with chiseling, corners, and eyelids. Reversed: Move around.



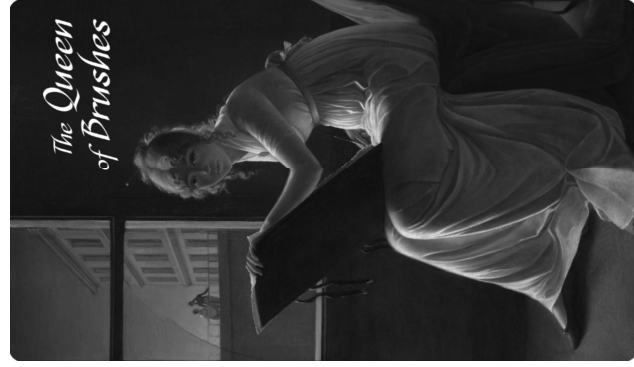
0. Fool (Two Dogs)

The Gooseberry Set expansion
Whatever you take the dog from the standard tarot Fool to mean, now there are two of them: are they chasing him or merely playing? Is the tree another version of the cliff, or has the fool run screaming from the cliff and up a tree? Is he sleeping or taunting the dogs with his boots? Minor correspondences with jokes, veterinary medicine, and shoes. Reversed: You're barking up the wrong tree.



Dog of Keys

Suited Deaths expansion
A loyal friend or trusted companion offers you the solution to a block or obstacle. Nothing is required in return, other than the continuance of the relationship. And maybe treats or a belly rub. Minor correspondences with mouths, beads, and rescues. Reversed: A friendly prank.



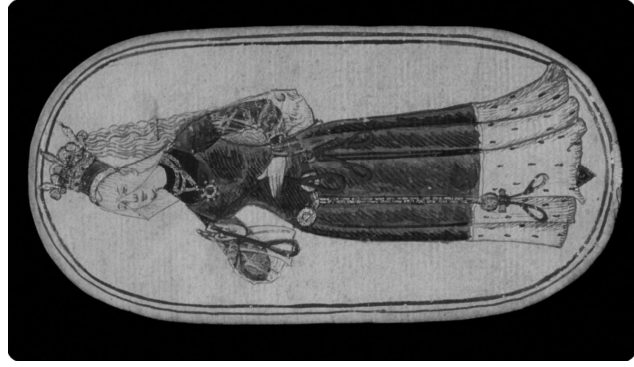
Queen of Brushes

Suited Deaths expansion

You create an image of the other, but at the same time, they are creating their own image of you, in a feedback loop of constructed realities. You find the intensity of your gaze returned with equal intensity.

Minor correspondences with paint, ribbons, and broken windows.

Reversed: The cycle is broken.



Queen of Nooses

Suited Deaths expansion

Oh, this? Just a craft to occupy my hands, my liege. Knots and string, that sort of thing. You needn't concern yourself with womanly activities, your grace. You wouldn't want to get tangled up in them.

Minor correspondences with hunting, veils, and bespoke tailoring.

Reversed: Check your neck.



I. Magician

When we come into our power and begin conjuring, we may not know exactly what we are summoning into being, although, if you follow the eye line of the magician and there is another card in the spread there, that might be a hint. Stay comfortable in the unknown.

Minor correspondences with small animals, mist, and baking.

Reversed: What's done cannot be undone. Make your move.



II. The High Priestess

A fragment of a statue of a woman. Who was she, and what can we intuit about her from the curve of her lip? This card asks about what remains, and if it's still sufficient. What gifts from the ancestors, intuitive or otherwise, still live in you? What half-said words linger on your lips?

Minor correspondences with sculpture, kissing, and puzzles.

Reversed: Ouch. It's going to take time to reassemble.



III. The Empress

This woman, this empress, is fully in her power, bedecked and ready to command any room with her presence. Her throne is ready, but she does not need it. This is not the time to sit, it is time to stand up. Are you like her, or ready to follow someone like her? Minor correspondences with wreaths, jewelry, and curtains. Reversed: Sit down.



IV. The Emperor

This little guy thinks he knows what power is. He's trying his best to adopt the pose and posture of strength. It's true that rigidity and inflexibility can bring a certain kind of strength, but then what? What happens when it's time to make a move, or respond quickly to a fluid situation? Minor correspondences with cars, robots, and hats. Reversed: Loosen up.



Page of Eyes

Suited Deaths expansion

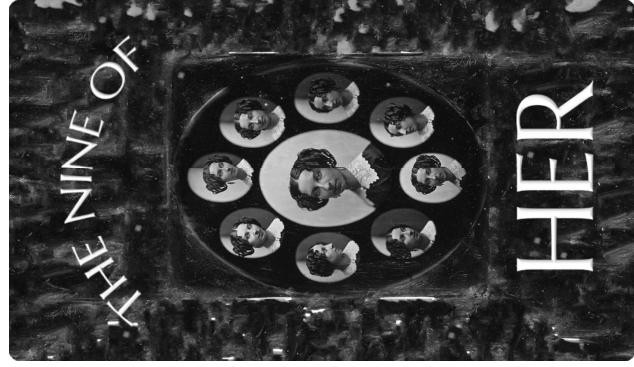
You gaze into the eyes of your companion to find they have merged with the wall behind them. Is your companion fading, or were they a phantom of your imagination the entire time? Minor correspondences with scarves, wallpaper, and hallucinations. Reversed: Back to reality.



Knight of Red

The Hidden Pocket expansion

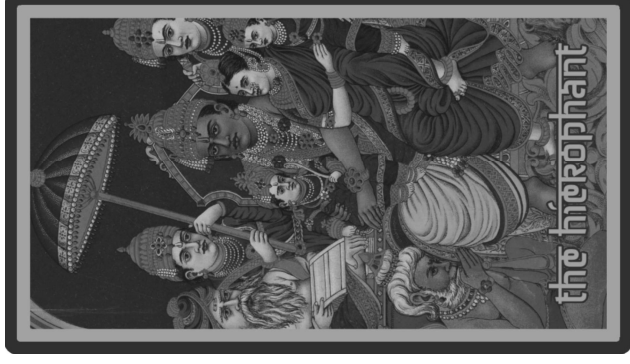
Devotion takes many forms. This form is the kind that persists after the object of devotion is long gone, after everything else has changed, when the devotion becomes its own artifact in an unrecognizable world. Minor correspondences with fading, tiles, and fences. Reversed: Uncaring, disconnected.



Nine of Her
The Hidden Pocket expansion
 “She is gone, I am bereft /
 Only pictures of her left /
 But more now than ever were /
 Because I see all nine of her.”
 Minor correspondences with
 sitting, portraits, and angles.
 Reversed: Integration.

V. The Hierophant

Wisdom traditions that come from cultures that are different from our own seem to ring with exotic truths. Why is that? What are we missing, if anything, and is there wisdom at home we are overlooking? Is it the same truth painted in a different color?
 Minor correspondences with umbrellas, foreheads, and cuddling.
 Reversed: Spread out and widen your search.



Ten of Dolls
Suited Deaths expansion
 When grief is poorly processed, it does a disservice to the remembered. It can transform them into something uncanny or monstrous, to say nothing of the bereaved themselves. We owe it to ourselves and others to work through our difficult emotions and experiences as a protection against hideousness.
 Minor correspondences with playthings, kilns, and choking.
 Reversed: Monsters unleashed.

VI. The Lovers

Every pair of lovers throughout time has felt as though they were the center of all things. Could that possibly be true, to have so many different centers in so many different places and times? If so, what kind of shape does that suggest? If not, what is the true center of time and space?
 Minor correspondences with deer, beds, and perfume.
 Reversed: Go inside.



VII.



THE CHARIOT.

VII. The Chariot

The aspect of transport that we're going to focus on is who and what we can bring along with us. How much can we take, and what do we really need? You might draw a card for each side of the vehicle, if there are no cards there already. What are we moving towards, and what are we moving away from? Minor correspondences with thumbs, mail, and directions. No reversals for horizontal cards, so: like the upside-down bumper sticker says, if you can read this, there's a problem.



VIII. Strength

Strength doesn't always look like calm control. Derpy confidence is also strength, if it is rooted in self-love. What could we do if our confidence didn't have to look like confidence, if our strength didn't have to look like strength? There's a deep sense of self-satisfied glee in that. Minor correspondences with carpets, cheeks, and shaving. Reversed: It's okay to fail.



Seven of Dragons

Suited Deaths expansion

This could be the seven of dragon heads, the seven of crowns, the seven of stars, or the ace of child-angel-saints. What would you like it to be? How do we articulate our dreams and visions, and how accurate do our representations need to be for others to understand?

Minor correspondences with prophecy, nighttime, and sharpening.
Reversed: Nightmare.



Eight of Children Sitting by a Boat

The Hidden Pocket expansion

Large groups of children take on their own energy and dynamics completely different from groups of adults. And if there's a boat involved, it's going to be trouble. Fun, unforgettable trouble.

Minor correspondences with toenails, sunscreen, and horizons.

Reversed: Lord of the Flies.

Five of Butterflies

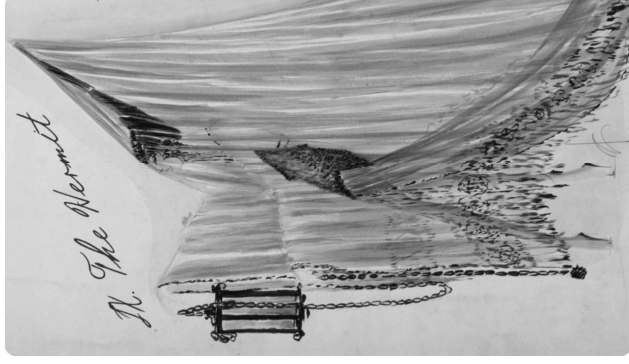
Suited Deaths expansion

The butterfly is a common and captivating symbol of transformation, for good reason. These five are all different. They all came out of their transition as unique creatures, but they all still fly together. (Except for that one by itself. There are always those who have to go their own way.)
 Minor correspondences with shedding, spring, and gentle breezes.
 Reversed: Scatter.



IX. The Hermit

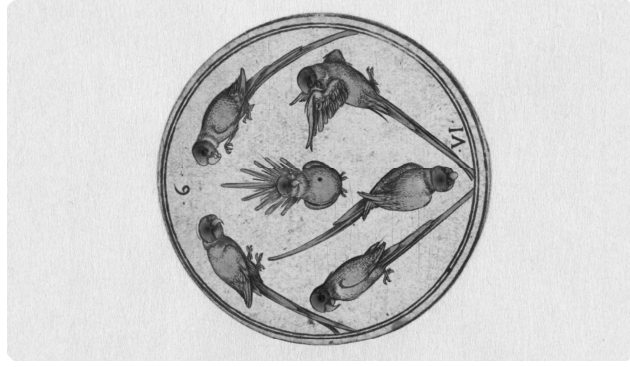
Have you ever gotten dressed up for a night alone at home by yourself? Why not? There's no reason why our solitude couldn't be a total over-the-top production. The absence of the expectations of others could mean freedom to dress down, or freedom to dress up in a completely personal way, just for ourselves.
 Minor correspondences with toes, light, and wizards.
 Reversed: Let go in all things.



Six of Tropical Birds

The Hidden Pocket expansion

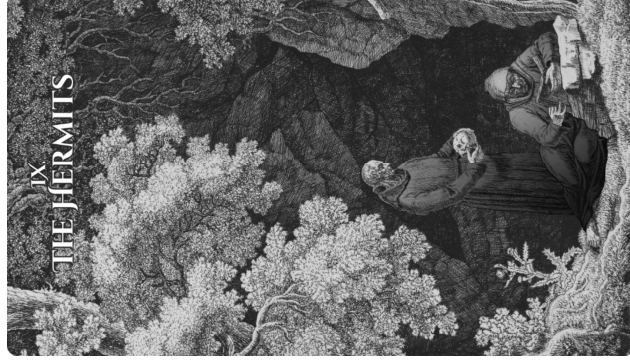
Some things are gorgeous and triumphant without even trying. This is the card of natural beauty and effortless success. Nature is instinctual, of course, but so are you, after all. Tap into it and see what happens.
 Minor correspondences with vacations, seeds, and color.
 Reversed: Trying hard.



IX. The Hermits

Suited Deaths expansion

There are some people in our lives who we can be in solitude with. How do you resolve this paradox? Are they so close to us that they feel like a part of shared solitude that function just like the real thing?
 Minor correspondences with study, hiding, and twins.
 Reversed: Seek solace in a group.





X. The Wheel of Fortune

Get a paperclip and a pen and use this card as a spinner. The face that the paperclip lands on is the emotion for this reading. A reminder that our emotions are sometimes arbitrary. To get out of an unpleasant rut, you might just need to take another spin! Minor correspondences with game shows, faces, and chance.

Just as a wheel has no true start or end, this card has no reversal.

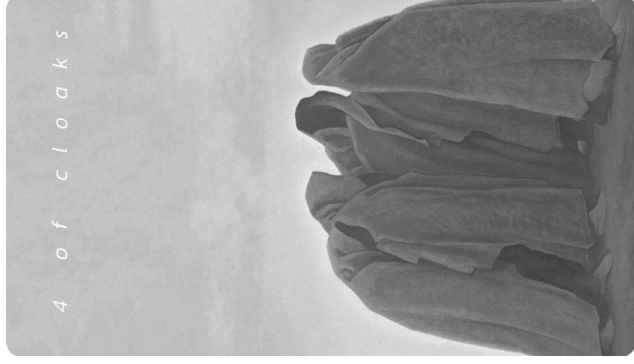


Three of Rowers *The Gooseberry Set expansion*

In order for multiple people to row the same boat, everyone needs to be coordinated. They don't all have to row in the same direction at the same time, but they need to have a sense of the bigger picture and the goal. Who is working with you? What are you working towards? Are you sufficiently coordinated? Minor correspondences with fishing, cold weather, and fingers. No reversals for horizontal cards, but: abandon ship.

XI. Justice!

Fierceness is required in the rebalancing of unjust scales. Do you have what it takes? Can you bear your panther jaws in the face of oppression and injustice? What is worth fighting for? And, most importantly: can we correct these wrongs without becoming perpetrators ourselves and continuing the cycle of harm? Minor correspondences with fangs, jungles, and posters. Reversed: You're not being fair.



Four of Cloaks

Suited Deaths expansion

Four mysterious cloaked figures make their way across a barren landscape. We can't see their faces. Do they have faces? This is a card of travel, communal grief, and the ways we protect ourselves from harm. Minor correspondences with deserts, blankets, and masks. Reversed: Build a bonfire.



Ace of Pineapples

Suited Deaths expansion

The pineapple is the symbol of hospitality and warm welcomes. However, it's an unusual choice for such a thing, because while the fruit inside is sweet the exterior is rough and prickly. Does that remind you of anyone?

Minor correspondences with potlucks, needles, and juice.

Reversed: Go ask your mother.

XII. The Hanged One

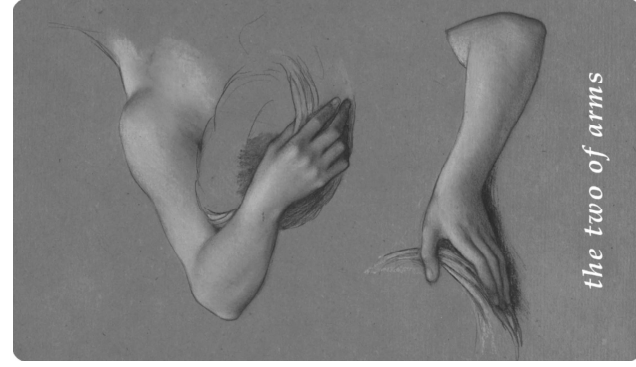
Having one's world turned upside-down can be stressful, or it can be fun! Like a swing, or a roller-coaster ride! It just takes a shift of perspective, which you should already have, since you're in the air!

Minor correspondences with feathers, sneaking, and brick-work.

Reversed: Come on down to the ground.



XII. THE HANGED ONE



Two of Arms

The Gooseberry Set expansion

Two is a good number of arms for hugging, shaking hands, and lifting heavy objects. But these two arms are disconnected and not meeting to get things done. You have everything you need, just put it together. Or, you and another person are not seeing eye to eye (or hand to hand, as it were).

Minor correspondences with skin, baskets, and chalk.

Reversed: Your deck is giving you a hug.



XIII. Death

Go down enough roads, you're eventually going to meet death on a horse. It's only a matter of time (as Death will go out of their way to remind you). Do you stare straight ahead, ignoring him? Or do you engage him with the customary hospitality of fellow travelers on the road? What would your dog do?

Minor correspondences with branching paths, horseshoes, and palaces.

Reversed: Time to move on.



XIV. Temperance

I dunno, I just think the Buddha was on to something. Calm, balance, equanimity. Does that deserve a giant statue? I dunno. It would be a good reminder, if a bit imposing. But some of us need that. Excessive correction to correct excess. Minor correspondences with topiary, lashings, and earrings. Reversed: Things are way out of balance.



Wizard of Wands
(Hidden Magician)

The Hidden Pocket expansion
This is a Magician who has taken a break from the intensity of the major arcana and is hiding out here in the minors where things are a little more relaxed. He still has power, but is directing it towards projects of smaller scope and lower stakes. Minor correspondences with mushrooms, sparkles, and cottages. Reversed: You found me! Try and stop me!



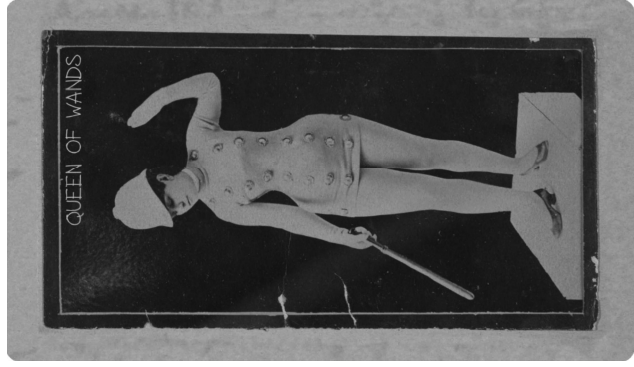
XV. The Devil

Don't be bound by your addictions! Flip those chains around and put that devil to work! Get him to sweep the kitchen, mop the floor, dust the windowsills. Remember, you're the boss. The things we put energy into can sometimes spiral out of our control, but it's still our energy. Redirect it. Minor correspondences with dust, wings, and floors. Reversed: Are you doing chores to avoid something else more important?



Death of Wands

Suited Deaths expansion
Sometimes, we just need to go off and do our own weird thing. In this skeleton's case, banging on their portable xylophone. This is changing up our creative routine in pursuit of what calls to us, even if that means turning our back on other things (or other people). Minor correspondences with mallets, dancing, and ribs. Reversed: Cool your jets.



Queen of Wands

As it turns out, “sexy” versions of costumes go way back in time. I don’t think that this is a real police uniform, but I do think that baton is the real thing. What’s just for show and what is hard, brutal reality?
 Minor correspondences with buttons, tricks, and home runs.
 Reversed: Double agent.



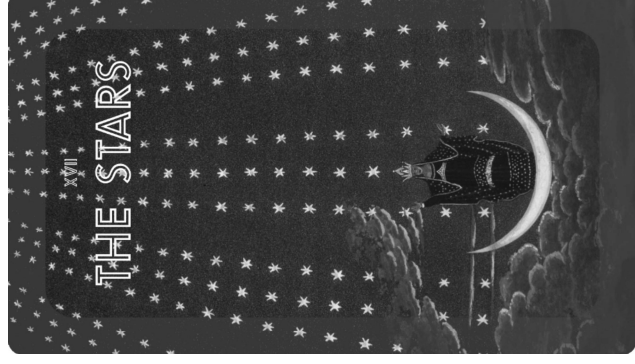
XVI. The Tower

Sometimes, after the lightning strike, the tower still stands. But with a huge crack down the middle, are the remains still useful? It might have been easier if the tower were completely destroyed. So: do you repair what’s left (if that’s even possible), or do you finish the demolition yourself?
 Minor correspondences with climbing, masonry, and broken bones.
 Reversed: Put the pieces together.



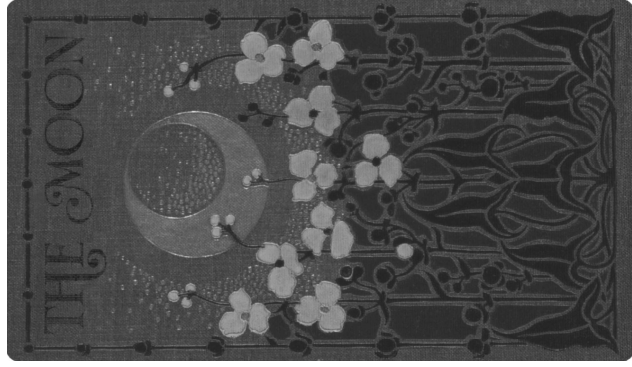
King of Wands

Orchestra conductor? Powerful sorcerer? Somewhere in between? Shaping a chamber of music versus shaping the very fabric of reality. Or maybe both at the same time?
 Minor correspondences with waving, glasses, and large groups.
 Reversed: Watch where you point that thing.



XVII. The Stars

Here you are, in your glory, surrounded by the majesty of the heavens. We often feel humbled by the infinite night sky, and here is another humbling thought: you, too, are a star. Take your place among the firmament, shining in your unique brilliance.
 Minor correspondences with clouds, domes, and stage scenery.
 Reversed: The sky is falling.



XVIII. The Moon

All people throughout time have had visions in the night. Some of them got written down. Lucky us. Minor correspondences with libraries, due dates, and fireflies. Reversed: Make sure you know what you're doing.



Page of Wands

Yum! Bananas! Yummy snack! Minor correspondences with bananas, yummy snacks, and peels. Reversed: Whoops! Slipped on a peel!



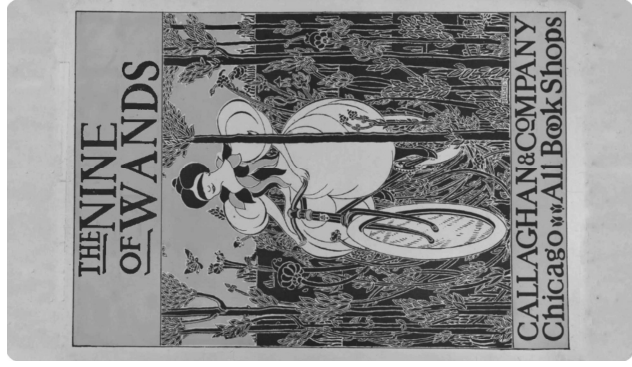
XIX. SUN

In your sun-drenched moments of blessed joy and peace, what postcards will you send to those in colder climes? "Wish you were here" or "I'm bottling some of this sunshine to bring back to you"? If you were cold, what message would you want to hear? Minor correspondences with beaches, souvenirs, and stamps. Reversed: Sailors take warning.



Knight of Wands

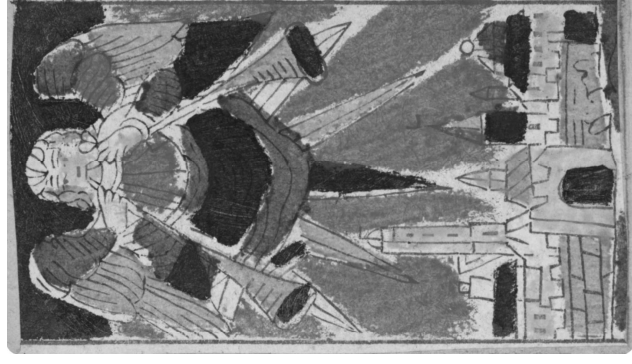
Sometimes your wand is a hammer, and sometimes the nail is the devil. Sometimes you and the devil are both puppets controlled by the same puppeteer, and sometimes you are the puppeteer. Minor correspondences with puppets, punches, and propaganda. Reversed: A peek behind the curtain.



Nine of Wands

I don't know about you, but I wouldn't ride a bicycle through thick vegetation blindfolded. But she did, and she wrote a book about it, so maybe she knows something I don't. When do we trust our instincts, and when do we turn to experts? Minor correspondences with desire paths, spokes, and nettles.

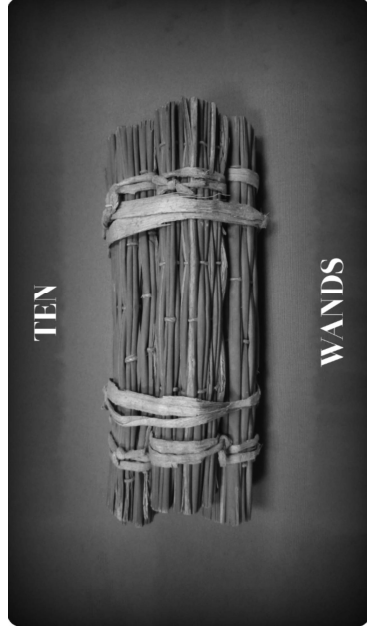
Reversed: The disaster everyone saw coming.



XX. Judgment

This is old-school judgment, where an angel comes down playing two trumpets with one mouth. A final reckoning. The chickens coming home to roost, as they say. Perhaps the seeds you've sown are finally coming to fruition. What did you plant?

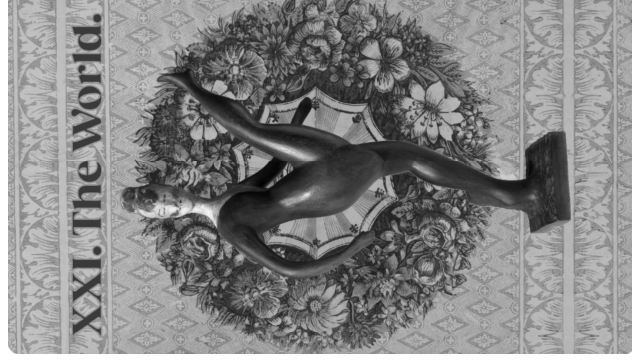
Minor correspondences with gates, trumpets, and walruses. Reversed: False alarm.



Ten of Wands

Bundles are convenient, physically and ideologically. It's easier to carry one bundle than a hundred individual sticks. It's easier to think about one concept than a hundred individual ideas. How can we simplify the ten thousand things, and what do we lose?

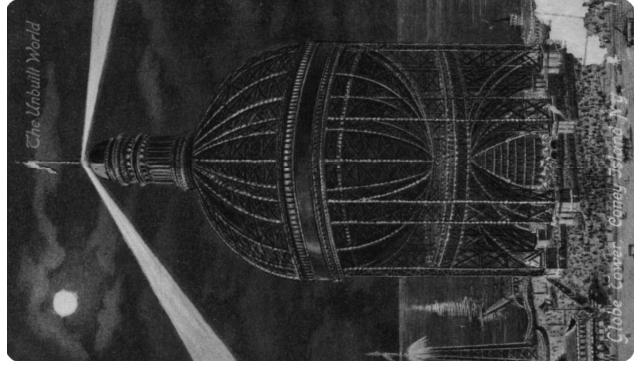
Minor correspondences with ladders, sashes, and bamboo. No reversals for horizontal cards, but: unbundled, unburdened.



XXI. The World

Your dance of completion will feel beautiful on the inside. Others, who only see the outside, might disagree. Keep dancing anyway. Don't acquiesce to the demands of the rabble. Hold to your truth, and express it the way that makes you feel the best.

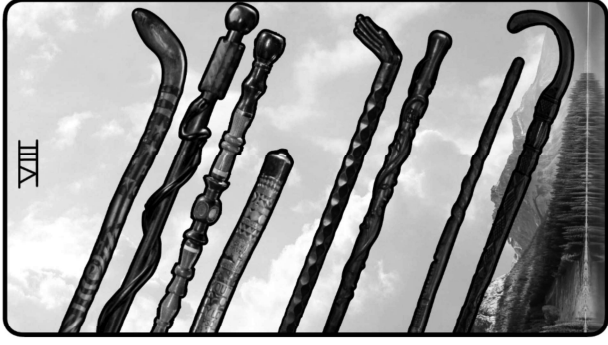
Minor correspondences with bowling, red hair, and birth. Reversed: Not quite yet.



XXI. The Unbuilt World
The Hidden Pocket expansion
 This is a postcard of a building that was never built. What happens when our dreams and ambitions do not come full circle? When all that's left is the unrealized plan? Perhaps it's better that some dreams stay dreams. There is wisdom in knowing when to move on to something else.
 Minor correspondences with vaudeville, steel, and hot dogs.
 Reversed: Build foundations.



Seven of Wands
 You're armored up, protecting yourself, and ready for battle. Is it really necessary? Where are the gaps in your protection? What happens if someone comes at you from behind?
 Minor correspondences with knights, mannequins, and necks.
 Reversed: You've let your guard down.



Eight of Wands
 "And lo, carved sticks fell from the sky, and their number was eight. They fell upon the people, who cried out in pain, shouting, 'Curse these sticks, which are not for falling!' And the people collapsed upon the rocks and died from the bludgeoning."
 Minor correspondences with hiking, lakes, and cloud-gazing.
 Reversed: Pick up sticks.



Five of Wands

Hey! Stop! What are you doing?! Is it better to intervene in this situation to prevent harm or let the conflict play out to its natural conclusion? That depends on what's at stake. Sometimes people just need to hash things out.
 Minor correspondences with plazas, roof tiles, and chores.
 Reversed: Your hands are tied.



Six of Wands

Processional victory parades cast long shadows. Do they fall more darkly on the observers or the participants? Where there is light to be found, it is held by the youth.
 Minor correspondences with crowns, candles, and garlands.
 No reversals for horizontal cards, but: marching backwards.

Ace of Cups (Modest Chalice)

Do you remember in *Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade*, that the true grail was the modest one? Is there something in this situation that looks inconsequential but is actually of mythic import?
 Minor correspondences with thirst, carving, and grain.
 Reversed: Spilt milk.



Ace of Cups (Giant Chalice)

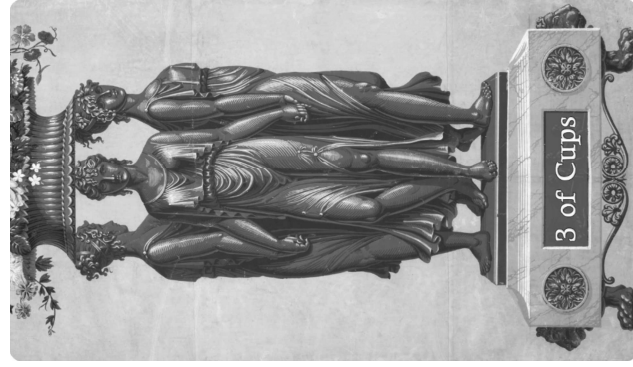
The Gooseberry Set expansion
 Your emotions are bursting, huge! Unable to be contained by a miniscule human body, they have grown and formed their own environment large enough to support a small community. This is feeling connected to the earth: that expansive, limitless feeling that sometimes happens when all boundaries fall away.
 Minor correspondences with sailing, sunsets, and giants.
 Reversed: Very small, tiny emotions. Pay attention.





Two of Cups

Is there anything better than sharing your favorite beverage with a friend and just feeling so *fancy*? Which one is you, and who is the other, and what are you taking in? Are you drawing from the same well, so to speak? Bring in ceremony and *fanciness*.
 Minor correspondences with screens, ballet, and bears.
 Reversed: Sloppy mess.



Three of Cups

This is a card about solidarity, having each other's backs, and supporting and looking out for each other. There is very little that cannot be accomplished with three mutually supportive friends. Re-member: the triangle is the strongest shape.
 Minor correspondences with salons, vases, and pedestals.
 Reversed: Backbiting.

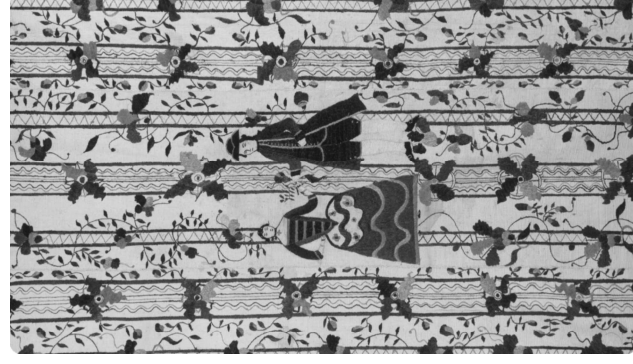
Three of Wands

Gather your team and head out. By what means are you making sure that everyone is headed in the same direction? Is it working? You've got your wagon tongues out, but are they attached to anything?
 Minor correspondences with donkeys, business trips, and bandits.
 Reversed: Cross-purposes.



Four of Wands

People pledging themselves to each other is a beautiful thing. Sometimes you need a crowd of well-wishers, and sometimes a field of embroidered flowers will suffice. What do we do to commemorate these special days in our lives? What can we make?
 Minor correspondences with quilts, vines, and bonds.
 Reversed: Coming apart at the seams.



Ace of Wands

In the cold months, the tiniest of gifts can bring warmth, like branches or cards. And when the gift is brought by a tiny child, with the fullness of awe and their deep sincerity, it makes the gift all the more special.

Minor correspondences with capes, sticks, and holiday gifts.

Reversed: Cynicism.

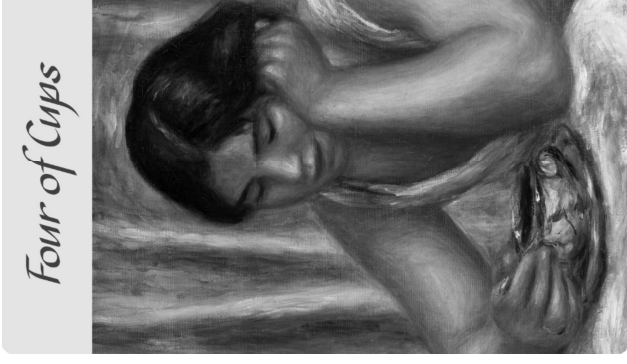


Four of Cups

Sometimes, our comforts fail to satisfy. Is it time to move on to something new, or remember what drew us to this comfort in the first place? You may be too tired to even drink your coffee. Take some time to rest, but you can't stay here too long.

Minor correspondences with mornings, palms, and tablecloths.

Reversed: Something familiar seems new again.

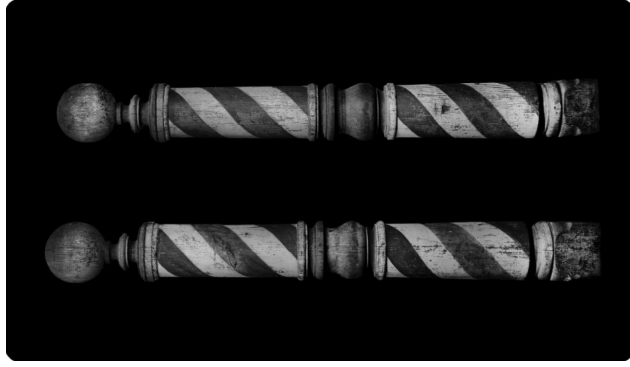


Two of Wands

Barbers set out unique signposts to let others know their services are available, and these, though battered, have stood the test of time. What do you have to offer? How do others know?

Minor correspondences with haircuts, blood, and self-employment.

Reversed: Selling the farm.

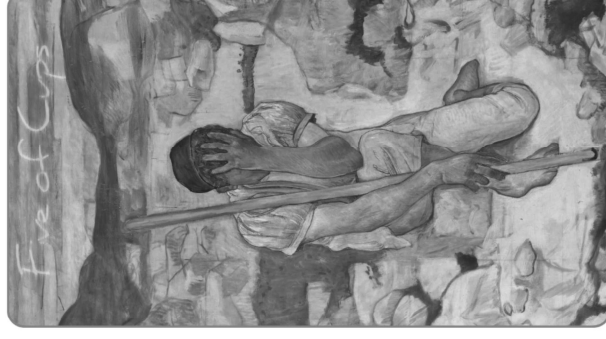


Five of Cups

I am so, so sorry that happened to you. That really sucks. It's not your fault. Reach out to someone and tell them what's going on and how you're feeling. I promise you it gets better.

Minor correspondences with shepherds, outcroppings, and dreams.

Reversed: It's another beautiful day.



Six of Cups (Elf Party)

It's a party! What are these, elves or something? Who cares, they're having a blast! Wheeeee! Let's join in, grab a drink, put on a jaunty hat and grow a beard! It's an elf party! Minor correspondences with picnics, froth, and mischief. Reversed: Mob mentality.



Sword King

Be a fabulous deity! Grip your weapon with dedication! Protect children! Now that you have all the information you need, you can take action confidently and in style. It's time to be totally extra. Minor correspondences with costumes, doors, and festivals. Reversed: Tone it down.



Six of Cups (Beer Maid)

The Gooseberry Set expansion
A woman in traditional dress brings you beer. Great! What generosity! But how do they feel about this? Do they want to be here, dressed this way? Are they having a genuinely good time at the party? Or are they a part of a larger system that constrains them into particular kinds of behavior? Minor correspondences with alcoholic drinks, crowds, and sewing work. Reversed: Who's going to clean up this spilt mess?



Death of Swords

Suited Deaths expansion
We understand that skeletons mean death and we understand that getting stabbed with a lance means death. The deeper meaning here is changing or transforming our way of thinking, mindset, or worldview. This might be sudden or violent, or it might be a gentle transition over a long period of time. Minor correspondences with battlefields, spurs, and timers. Reversed: Clinging to outdated ideas.



Speaker of Swords

The Hidden Pocket expansion
 Spoken words are precise but also have the potential to cut. Stars in the hand are warm but have the potential to burn. Care and nuance are required. Minor correspondences with pages, constellations, and beards.
 Reversed: Double damage.



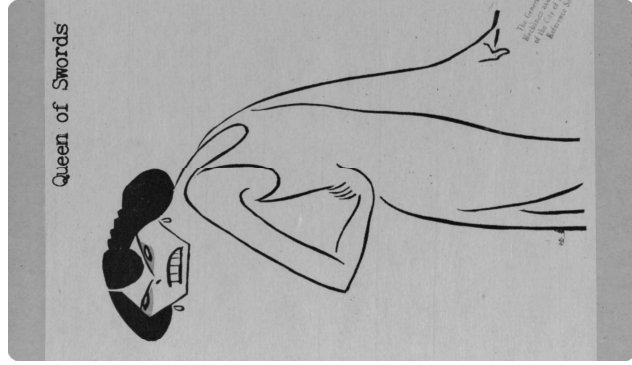
Seven of Cups

Choices, choices. Which celestial cup floating down from the heavens will you choose? Sometimes choices are false choices: why take just one when you can take as many as you can carry? Conversely, they're all cups. Any one of them will do.
 Minor correspondences with tea, trophies, and totality.
 Reversed: Scatterbrained.



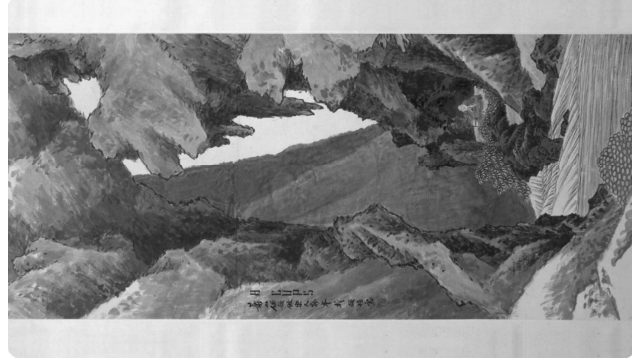
Queen of Swords

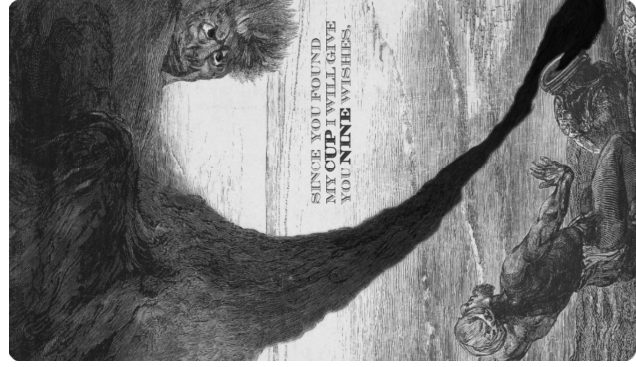
Harshness hides hurt. Bitterness covers loss. People who are harsh with others are often harshest with themselves. Minor correspondences with eye shadow, teeth, and cafes.
 Reversed: Soften.



Eight of Cups

Time to get away. Even in solitude, the natural world is our companion. So what is solitude but communion of a different sort? Meeting nature, exploring the rich outer world. Meeting ourselves, exploring the rich inner world. But, really: same worlds.
 Minor correspondences with cliffs, calm, and bowing.
 Reversed: Isolation.





Nine of Cups

What's your wish from the genie in the bottle? You've got nine, take your time. With so many wishes, you could really cover a lot of ground. What do you wish for yourself? What do you wish for others? What do you wish for the genie?

Minor correspondences with lamps, tornadoes, and coastlines.

Reversed: The monkey's paw, be careful what you wish for.

Page of Swords

This poor little one is totally overburdened. And needlessly, too. What is a child going to do with a sword, especially one that big? Were you also, perhaps, given too many responsibilities at too young of an age?

Minor correspondences with eyes, belts, and cuts.
Reversed: Prodigy.



Ten of Cups

This is a funeral marker of an entire family.

Minor correspondences with grief, weight, and noses.

Reversed: Reviving what was lost.



Knight of Swords

Speed is the keyword here. No need for a fully fleshed out image when a quick sketch will do. No need for a detailed battle plan when a quick slash from atop your horse will do. Let's keep things moving and keep up the momentum.

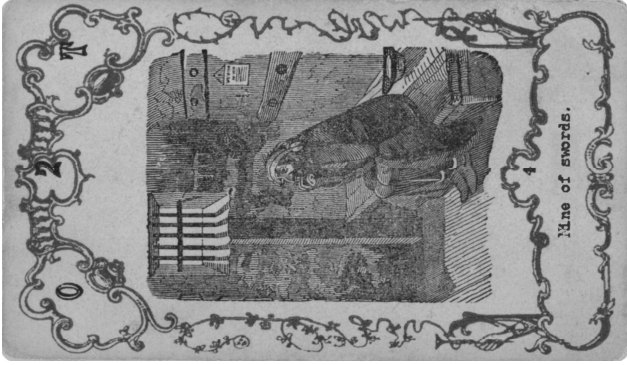
Minor correspondences with horses, mustaches, and ropes.
Reversed: Focus on the details.

Nine of Swords

Why do we lose sleep in the dark times of our lives? What will staying up bring us? Wouldn't it be better to face the challenges of the new day well-rested? When you worry, you suffer twice.

Minor correspondences with urchins, notices, and bandages.

Reversed: At peace.



Cards in Cups

The Hidden Pocket expansion

Stay with me here: this is a card about other cards. If this comes up, draw three other cards. The meaning is a mixture of all three, as if they had been liquified and stirred together in a cup.

Minor correspondences with gambling, carbonation, and shards.

Reversed: The same, but the combined meaning spills everywhere.



Ten of Swords

You only need one sword to murder someone, and she got ten. And, in the oft-retold urban story, a whole building of bystanders watched and did not intervene. Are you the victim or the bystander? Plus: all the keywords on the card.

Minor correspondences with movies, pools, and apartments.

Reversed: Healing.

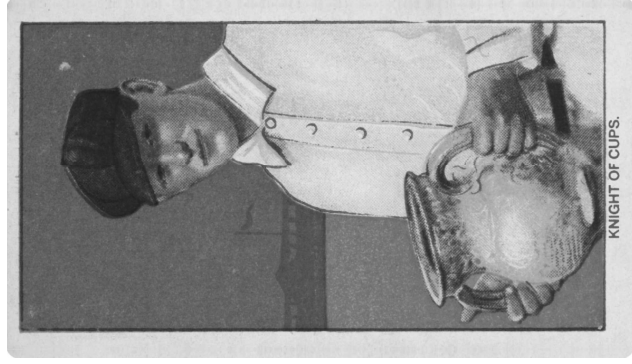


Page of Cups

This girl has a huge cup of strawberries. Is that a blessing or a burden? On the one hand, strawberries! On the other, that is quite a lot of strawberries. Enough that, if you had to eat them all in one sitting, pwew! You might not like strawberries very much after that.

Minor correspondences with whistles, fullness, and towels. Reversed: Fruit shower.





Knight of Cups

This guy is getting out there, competing, and winning cups! Why does he look so nonplussed? He might be playing it close to the chest, or maybe the reality of his win hasn't quite sunk in yet. Or maybe, after all his striving, winning just doesn't feel like he thought it would. Also: don't smoke. It's bad for your health.

Minor correspondences with baseball, cigarettes, and Polish.

Reversed: A big loss.



Seven of Swords

Sometimes you just have to hightail it away from an angry mob of elephants. The herd might have been provoked or perhaps they are just defending their own territory. Maybe you identify with the elephants, chasing away an intruder who doesn't belong?

Minor correspondences with safaris, wigs, and races. Reversed: Stay put.

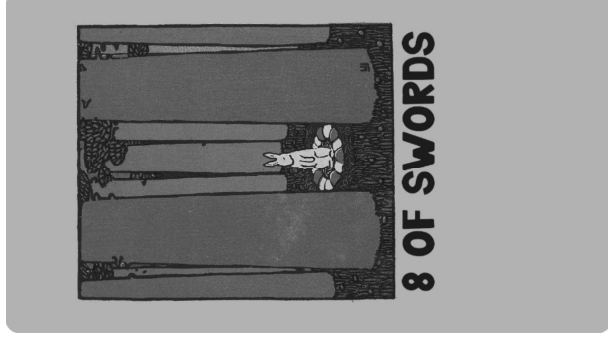


Queen of Cups

Take a moment. Breathe. Look into her eyes, really take the time to connect with her. She's about to speak, words are about to tumble from that curl in her lip. What does she say to you? How do you feel about what she's said?

Minor correspondences with mosaics, laurels, and listening.

Reversed: Hush now.



Eight of Swords

You're a cute little bunny surrounded by trees. Is this a safe haven or a prison? At what point do our comforts become shackles, and conversely, at what point do our barriers become safety nets? Minor correspondences with bunnies, berries, and boundaries.

Reversed: No limits.

Five of Swords

You have a choice of weapons ahead of you. What's the best tool for the job? Remember, you learn more from a loss than from a win. Maybe it's time to put something to the test just to see how it performs and what you learn.

Minor correspondences with rust, flashiness, and piercing insight.

Reversed: Rearranging the deck chairs.



Cup King

This guy has seen some things. You can tell by the way he's smiling that there's a pile of memories under that hat. What does he have in the cup? Does he share it with you? Do you want it, and why or why not?

Minor correspondences with rice, barrels, and bare feet. Reversed: Closed off.



Six of Swords

This is a common image in mythology: a journey or passage into the land of the dead, in this case depicted as a boat. There are some transitions from which there is no return. Are you currently experiencing one of those or will you be able to make the return trip?

Minor correspondences with crocodiles, canvas, and mummification.

No reversals for horizontal cards, but: resurrection.

Death of Cups

Suited Deaths expansion

Sure, you could read this as "Your diet is killing you," but this is tarot. We think expansively and imaginatively. Death represents a change or transition, and the cups represent our emotions. Maybe the way you feel about something is changing. Maybe it's time to let go of a particular feeling to make way for something new.

Minor correspondences with kitchens, bottles, and reach. Reversed: Refusing to let go.

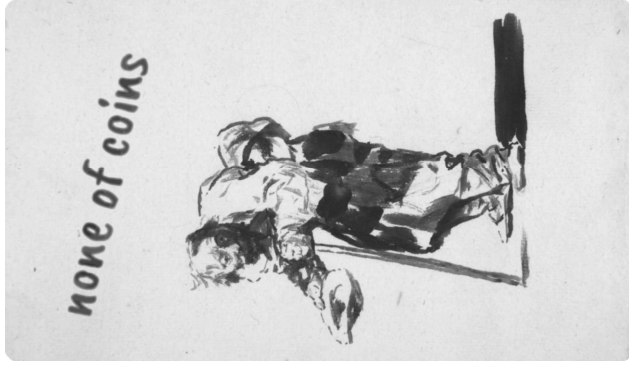


None of Coins

The Hidden Pocket expansion

This is pretty straightforward. Poverty, being broke, running out of money. But also exhaustion, burnout, sapped strength. How are we going to get out of this? What's the plan, and what's the first step?

Minor correspondences with pockets, dirt, and knees.
Reversed: Fullness.



Ace of Pentacles

In a garden of delights, an ephemeral hand offers you a celestial coin. You know, per usual. Do you take it? Is it freely given, or does it come with strings attached? Why did you make the assumption you just made?

Minor correspondences with goats, gardens, and generosity.

Reversed: Flip a coin.



Three of Swords

This is a valentine, torn in half, which should tell you everything you need to know. Heartbreak, broken trust, promises unmade. Although, it looks like there was an attempt to tape it back together, so maybe there was an attempt at reconciliation.

Minor correspondences with holidays, leaves, and crafts.
Reversed: Mend the bond.



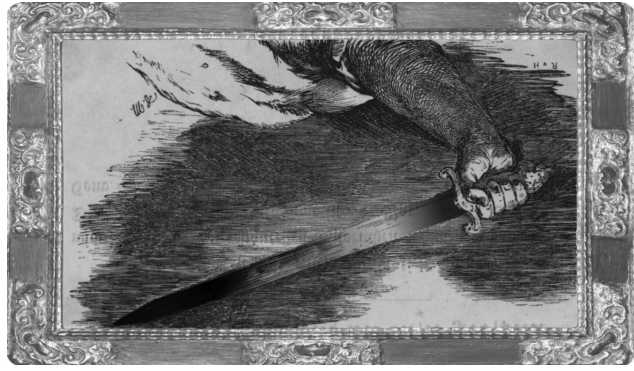
Four of Swords

Looks like someone couldn't remember the name of this card, so they marked it up with a sharpie. I don't know if "Tomb" would be my first choice of keyword for this card, but here we are. What needs to be put to rest or permanent sleep? Maybe you just need a nap.

Minor correspondences with caves, corpses, and customization.

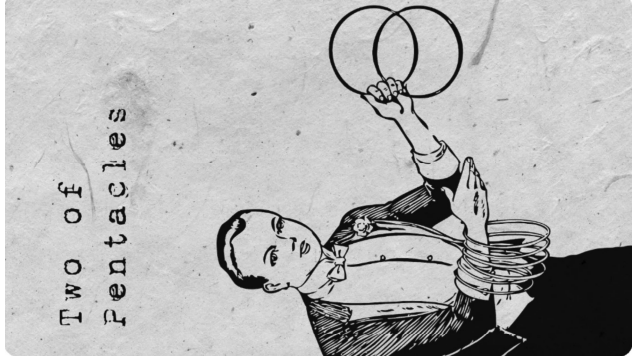
Reversed: Wake up!





Ace of Swords

This is the magical sword, the sword of legend, +1 to hit, the power of Greyskull, the kind of weapon wielded by fierce sword lesbians.
 Minor correspondences with furs, wrists, and shadows.
 Reversed: Plant your sword.



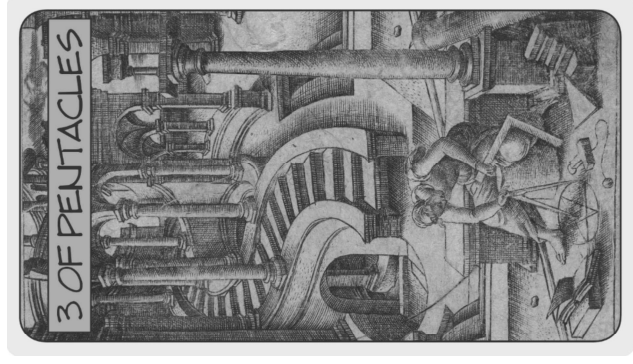
Two of Pentacles

This is not the Magician of the Major Arcana, this is sleight of hand for the stage. Not that there's anything wrong with that, as long as we know we're being hoodwinked it's all fun. Or maybe you are the one who's keeping something secret from yourself.
 Minor correspondences with bowties, venn diagrams, and showing off.
 Reversed: The illusion is broken.



Two of Swords

This is the card of feeling blocked or stuck, like a ship in icy waters. Is it time to abandon ship now or are you willing to wait for warmer seasons? If the ship is burning, is that yet another crisis or can you take solace in its warmth?
 Minor correspondences with icebergs, explorers, and eagles.
 There are no reversals for horizontal cards, but: Unstuck. The ice thaws and flows.



Three of Pentacles

Keep working on that labyrinth. Where others see mad complexity, you see the divine manifesting itself. The palace of your mind is full of delights. Let's detail them and bring them to reality.
 Minor correspondences with stairs, mazes, and mathematics.
 Reversed: Lost in thoughts.



Four of Pentacles

We hold on to so many things: souvenirs, receipts, old mail. Some we hold onto for a short time, just in case, and others we keep as long as we can. Which is which? What is necessary and what can we let go of?

Minor correspondences with playbills, tacks, and conspiracy theories.

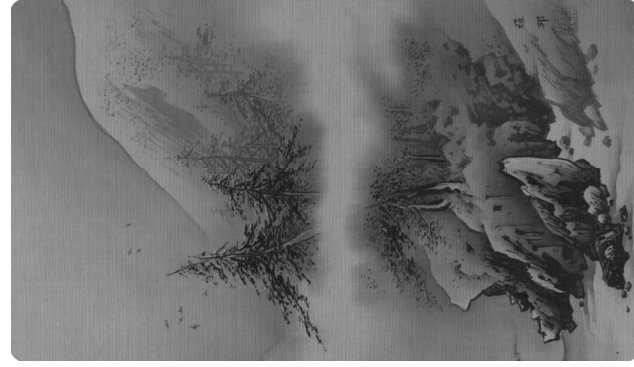
Reversed: Hoarding.

King of Coins

This is a bank. Coins go into his hand and then get flipped inside or something. It's a fat banker man who eats money. I assume that's enough for you to go on.

Minor correspondences with chairs, change, and corruption.

Reversed: Break the bank.



Five of Pentacles

You might have trouble identifying this card at first, and that's by design. When something is lacking or missing (like a label), it can shift our whole paradigm. How do we read without words? Are we actually deprived or simply adjusting to a new perspective?

Minor correspondences with snow, ink, and flocks.

Reversed: Winter is cold only for the underdressed.



Death of Coins

Suited Deaths expansion

It would be really easy to read this card as a moralistic fable about miserliness, and sure, that's there. But what if you are the skeleton, brazenly stealing fat sacks of gold right in front of the enraged elite with your skeleton cat?

Minor correspondences with oil, dungeons, and holes.

Reversed: Hemorrhaging money.



Knight of Pentacles

Look, if we get lost in the weeds about what is a “good idea” or a “bad idea” we’re never going to get anywhere. What we need to do is put on our bowler hats and get on top of our ostriches and ride!
 Minor correspondences with saddles, zoos, and lighters.
 Reversed: Wipeout!



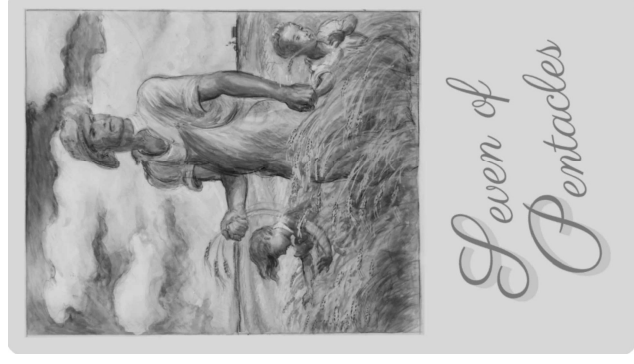
Six of Pentacles

Are you the rich man, able to offer support to others, or are you the beggar family, needing to ask for support? Are you the baby, helpless but curious? Are the basket, ready to be filled? Are you one of several lumpy hats, or perhaps all of them simultaneously, ready to lump all over the place?
 Minor correspondences with cobblestones, windowpanes, and lending.
 Reversed: Clutch your purse.



Coins Queen

Every living thing /
 Even demons, gods, and queens /
 All raise their voice and sing /
 Of the power of the bling
 Minor correspondences with gongs, horns, and legwarmers.
 Reversed: A millstone around your neck.



Seven of Pentacles

This reminds me of the Grapes of Wrath. Taking a moment to assess your work, check your progress, and remind yourself why you do it. In this man’s case, the children.
 Minor correspondences with wheat, wind, and whys.
 Reversed: Tornado!



Eight of Pentacles

There's hard, fast work to be done and hard, fast friends to be made. Working is so much more fun when you're with your friends. Sure, you might get less done, but what's really important here? Minor correspondences with glass, fire, and melting. Reversed: Broken glass.

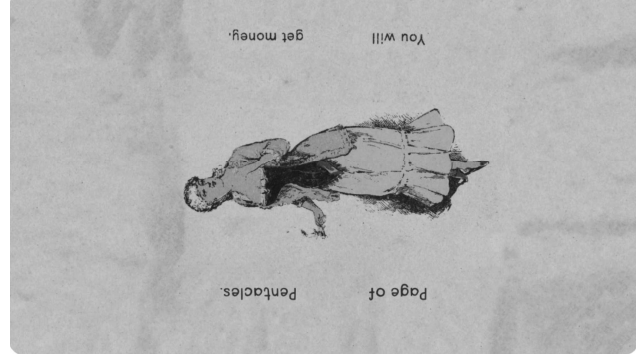
Ten of Pentacles

I have questions. Assuming the caption is the man speaking, why does he bring up why he "loves the gold"? Maybe it was a gift, but a chest of pirate gold seems like a strange gift to get your spouse. Either way, it's hard to read her expression. This is a card about family finances. Minor correspondences with chests, lounging, and estates. Reversed: Check the books.



Nine of Pentacles

Wealth breeds eccentricity, but it's not the only way to achieve that status. If I had a bird like that, I would show it off, take it to parties, and introduce him as my cousin. Polly want a cracker? Minor correspondences with gold, birds, and ferns. Reversed: The weird abounds.



Page of Pentacles

This is a fortune-telling card, and its meaning is pretty clear. You will _____ get money. But what word goes into that blank space? Soon? Not? Almost? Minor correspondences with pauses, ankles, and invitations. Reversed: Money will _____ get you.