



The  
dreaming  
in  
color™

User  
Guide

*Sweet purple dreams to you.*

## About Dreaming in Color™

For thousands of years, men and women have sought to come to terms with their existence on earth and our relationship to the universe and the powers behind it. Unfortunately, we have always tended to complicate this process. We humans have a tendency to mystify, shroud and impede every step of our evolution as a species and our relationship with the Universe, as well as with ourselves. Because we fear what we do not understand, we succeed in distancing ourselves from the very things that would complete us and give us peace.

Arcane symbolism, secret study and complicated concepts have been the sole arena of the mystic or academic for many an age, standing firmly between ourselves and the secrets of the universe, not to mention the human mind. Over the evolution of time, these barriers have slowly started to crumble and more and more people are coming into more direct contact with our roots, and ultimately, our true selves.

As time passes, we have become more comfortable with acknowledging our connection to a Larger Whole rather than believing we are simply individuals trying to survive from day to day. Yet, we have not made the same progress in coming to terms with the relationship we have with ourselves. Tools and techniques have been devised over time to help us enjoy self enlightenment, particularly in the realm of our human emotional structure, i.e., love, fear, anger, and our sense of self-worth. Yet, few of these tools are simple enough for anyone to immediately put to use without preparation or study.

The images that comprise The Dreaming in Color™ deck have been specifically created to further break down the barriers between our subconscious, i.e., universal roots, and our physical existence. We believe that everyone--without exception--should have immediate access to their inner selves without years of study, complicated concepts and impenetrable methodologies. Instead, here is an easier way to get in touch with one's inner wisdom without the clutter of icons and symbols, a way that can seamlessly lead the user to a true, one-to-one relationship with oneself and the greater family to which we all belong. We have created a tool that everyone, regardless of beliefs or training, can use to help themselves live happier, more fulfilling lives. Even though the more knowledge we obtain the more complicated things seem to be, the roots of life are in fact extremely simple in nature. May these cards help you find fulfillment and illustrate to you that it is the simple things that hold the answer to our most complicated, vexing problems.

## How Do I Use These Cards?

### **Meditation and Tapping the Subconscious**

When some people heard the word, "meditation," they might think of yogis and gurus with crossed legs intoning chants. This is not necessarily the case. Meditating is nothing more than clearing the mind, quieting the "chatter", and allowing the wisdom from our inner selves to come to the conscious surface. Many of us meditate without even realizing it, having sudden flashes of inspiration that solve a sticky problem in the middle of what we thought was daydreaming. These cards are especially effective in meditative exercises, and there are many ways to use The Dreaming in Color™ Deck for meditation. One way is to select a specific card you feel would be timely and helpful for meditative purposes. For example, if anger is an emotion that isn't serving you presently, pull the *Anger* card and place it in front of you. Relax and calmly gaze at the card until

everything around the card's perimeter seems to fade away. At this point, you will "enter the card", letting yourself be drawn into the scene inside it. The scene may at first be blurry, but it will soon clear. Pay close attention to all emotions you experience, as well as all impressions and thoughts that gently enter your mind. During this process, everyone will have a different sense that dominates. Some people "hear" mental voices that give them insight; others' experiences are more visual. When you end the meditation, write down your impressions, no matter how inexplicable they may be. Some people find that keeping a journal is helpful in this regard, because often the knowledge gleaned from this exercise can have deeper meaning at a later time. If you want to delve into your subconscious with a card meditation, there are no right ways and no wrong ways. Be fearless, as tapping into inner knowledge has no room for fear. Allow yourself creativity and experiment!

### **Spreads and Stories**

The best readings are achieved by those who are able to see a story in the images, and sense the relationships between the cards that appear next to one another. With the Dreaming in Color™ Deck, this especially holds true. You can assign certain meanings to each card's position in a row or spread, and that will work fine. We have given some examples on position meanings that you can use in some three-card spreads. Another way is a bit different and less rigid. We invite you to lay out two or three cards, or even more if you'd like, and let them tell you a story—a story about you. This lack of definitive structuring will allow you to free your mind, enabling you to tap into your subconscious, or the divine power within you. That is where the information you are seeking quietly resides--just waiting for you to bring it to the surface.

In fact, did you know you can make up your own spreads? You can assign whatever meaning you'd like to each card position before you start throwing out cards, thus making your readings even more meaningful, personal and resonant. Your life, your story is unique, and you can shape your spreads to reflect that uniqueness.

After you have dealt the cards and start to read, pay close attention to your instincts and impressions; don't ignore them if they don't jibe perfectly with the given meanings to the cards. The more freedom you give yourself while reading, the more accurate your information will be. For example, "marriage" may keep entering your mind whenever you pull the *Completion* card. Don't fight the impression, work with it and incorporate it into your reading; ask yourself how "marriage" relates to the *Completion* card as well as the cards around it. When your intuitive voice speaks to you, it's always beneficial to listen to it. Everyone has their own intuitive instincts just waiting to be accessed; this is not the sole property of a few individuals, it belongs to us all.

The cards shown in the following sample readings were chosen at random.

## One-Card Readings

Some of the most powerful readings are single-card readings. Concentrating on one single question and pulling up one card by itself can yield the most insightful messages of any spread. Even though other spreads are much more detailed and comprehensive, sometimes there is nothing more refreshing than the clarity of one-card answers. You'd be surprised at the depth of knowledge you can glean from one card. Some people like to draw a single card every day, usually in the morning. This gives them a focus or message to keep in mind for the rest of the day. "Yes or no" questions should be avoided; instead of "Does Larry love me?" a better question might be: "What do I need to know about Larry's feelings for me?"

Here are some sample questions you might use for one-card readings:

*What do I need to know in my life right now?*

*What is holding me back from my goals?*

*What is my life purpose?*

*What is the most powerful tool in my arsenal to realize my dreams?*

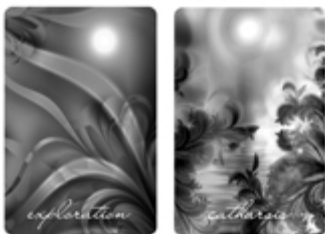
*What message should I keep in mind just for today?*

## About Two- and Three-Card Readings

While two-card readings tend to establish a point of challenge---like two eyes on a situation, event or problem---the third card pulls the three together, providing the insight needed in order to understand or make peace with the conflict or challenge.

### Two-Card Sample Readings:

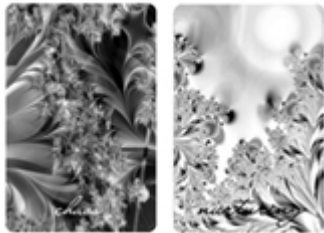
***Exploration and Catharsis:*** Alternative or holistic medicine, seeking ways to heal by non-traditional methods, illness requires a search, possibly requiring a long journey, for relief; also, a total change of life, especially a total change in one's environment, for the purpose of acquiring new--possibly spiritual--knowledge and healing. These cards are about breaking out of pre-established mindsets of what one has previously been taught to believe.



***Power and Manipulation:*** Abuse of power, criminal business practices, extreme financial success as the result of unsavory behavior or thievery. In a relationship, representative of Svengali-like behavior, deception and total domination.



**Chaos and Nurturing:** Challenging and hectic motherhood due to unruly child(ren); attempting to solve problems with love yet lacking discipline may cause serious problems; a gentle reminder that sometimes love needs to be accompanied by strong boundaries and discipline, difficult as this may often be. These cards appearing together remind us that the strongest love is strengthened by making hard decisions that are difficult to implement. In a love relationship, boundaries are necessary to demand respect from one's partner--this is essential for self-respect as well. Not all behavior is acceptable just because we love someone.



**Loss and Resentment:** Someone is unable or unwilling to let go with regard to the death of a loved one or an abandonment; unfinished business in this regard--regret, guilt, anguish. Whether someone left the scene due to a death or abandoning the relationship, these cards appearing together remind us that moving on with our lives requires acceptance and a letting go of anger, resentment and regret. Otherwise, the pain will continue long after this person has gone and we may be blind to the possibilities of future happiness: when they appear, they won't be seen.

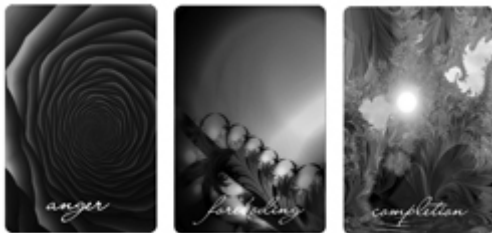


**Breakthrough and Family:** Someone has finally reached an understanding or revelation with an estranged family member or the family in general. This could either be the family finally coming to a place of acceptance after a time of rejection, or it could be the decision of someone to finally disallow a disapproving family to upset them time and time again and cease "going back for more." Whatever the case may be, this is a portent of understanding, acceptance and healing after an unpleasant familial estrangement or argument.



### Three-Card Sample Readings

**Anger/Foreboding/Completion:** This spread represents the end of a negative or dysfunctional relationship, one that was never truly what it seemed. The removal of this individual from one's life is a healthy and necessary process. Someone misrepresented him or herself and anger at this deception is justified; in fact, the anger serves an important purpose here, enabling one to discontinue the association before even more damage is done: this turns out to be a wise decision. After a period of inaction or even denial about the true nature of the relationship, there is finally an acknowledgement or recognition of this subtle or blatant abuse and a stop is put to it. All in all, a very positive spread denoting newly found freedom in this regard.



**Nostalgia/Secrets/Competition:** Someone is overly self-critical and haunted by his/her past; there is a sense of never having felt good enough or capable enough, fighting only to lose or "fail" once again. But one cannot fight what one cannot see, because this sense of self-failure is the result of "boxing with the invisible"; i.e., an unrealistic, idealized view of self or of another; whatever the case, this is a memory of one who can no longer be competed with. The message here is clear: such self-flagellation is unfair to oneself because it's not a fight anyone can win. Releasing the need to compare oneself to either a younger self or unrealistic memory of another is what is called for when these cards appear. Embracing current relationships and opportunities is a powerful step in that direction.



**Depression/Pettiness/Reaping:** Here, little problems throw mountainous shadows. Someone is standing in their own sunlight; i.e., causing their own unnecessary pain through self-pity, negative thought patterns and the attachment of unfortunate meanings to even the most innocent statements and events. Wondering what people think of us can drive us to distraction, and negative expectations become self-fulfilling prophecies. Consider these cards a gentle reminder that we all sometimes see the world through the dull, filmy glass we've distorted ourselves by our own expectations and preconceived notions, and they aren't necessarily accurate. Relief often comes from a simple mental adjustment.



**Gift/Guilt/Opportunity:** One cannot buy freedom from guilt or make amends without true contrition. In an attempt to clear one's conscience, someone is giving either material goods or easy, convenient favors in the hope that this assuages guilt: it won't. Gestures must be pure, not monetary and requiring of some sacrifice for this to be achieved. An opportunity for genuine growth and wisdom comes from recognition of this fact.



**Aggression/Forgiveness/Indulgence:** Someone who is considered a tower of strength and dependability has softened to the point of self-destruction due to the mistaken belief that strength runs counter to love. There can still be strength through charity, softness, forgiveness and love while continuing to maintain one's spine and strength of character--they are not mutually exclusive.



### Traditional Three Card Spreads.

Unlike the spreads that tell a story, each card position in the traditional spreads (card one, card two or card three) has a meaning in itself that you use when you interpret the

cards. So, for example, if the card meaning is "Obstacle to the Problem," and you drew the **Pettiness** card in that position, the reading might be: petty and inconsequential concerns are responsible for preventing the seeker from achieving the goal intended.

Some three-card draws you can use:

**1) Situation 2) Obstacle 3) Outcome**



**1) Past 2) Present 3) Future**



**1) Life Purpose 2) Life Challenge 3) Best Tool for success**



**1) Earthly Goal 2) Emotional Goal 3) Spiritual Goal**



**1) Childhood 2) Middle Age 3) Old Age**





### 1) Hopes 2) Fears 3) Outcome



### Create and Innovate

The Dreaming in Color™ acts as a portal to the deeper, inner self, which is the part of us directly tied in to a greater force. There is no “right way” to use these cards; whichever method you choose to read with them will always yield accurate and powerful results--- they are merely a vibrantly colored conduit to what is already inside of you. For example, some people use the cards in tandem with other tarot and oracle decks. Mixing cards from different decks together can yield very interesting and thought-provoking results. Others use Dreaming in Color™ with runes, drawing a card with a rune stone to receive a multi-layered meaning to their question. Still others use Dreaming in Color™ with I Ching hexagrams, pulling the results together so a deeper message comes through.

### Therapeutic Dreaming in Color™

to the nature of the card imagery, the Dreaming in Color™ Deck is extremely well suited for work with communication-challenged people—both children and adults, as well as people dealing with difficult emotional issues. Autistic children in particular have been known to respond positively to these images; the vibrant colors and peaceful imagery seem to grab their attention and enable them to focus long enough to communicate the emotions and ideas that the cards evoke. As the deck works with established psychological principles, therapists and psychologists will also find this deck to be a powerful tool in a diversified array of therapeutic applications with both children and adult patients.

### The Art

I have been an artist my whole life, and a digital artist for about six years. What I found myself doing more and more as I progressed with my digital art was to create images that looked as if they came out of a dreamscape, those memories you have of dreams that you try so hard to remember upon awakening, but somehow cannot. Through the years, many people told me that they would look at the images and experience a sense of peace and serenity from them. More interestingly, people who suffered a great loss or who were chemically depressed told us that looking at my art was uplifting to them, that their hearts felt lightened by it. If one or two people told us this, we probably wouldn't have paid much attention. When comments of this kind became the norm instead of the

exception, we wondered whether the imagery could possibly have inherent healing properties. If we all go to the "same place", i.e., the ethereal plane, when we think we are dreaming, it might make sense that we are attracted to imagery that reminds us of our true "home". After a series of recurring, vivid dreams and personal spiritual experiences, The Dreaming in Color™ Deck was created.

We are always thinking of ways to improve Dreaming in Color™ and are committed to making it as user-friendly and accessible to everyone as possible. We seek to simplify our understanding about ourselves and our place in the world in order to ease the times when we are faced with challenges and pain. That is why we invite you to contact us with your impressions, experiences, ideas and suggestions. Please feel free to drop us a line and tell us how you are using your deck, and what, if anything, you'd like to see included in the future. Email: [dreamincolor.tarot@walla.com](mailto:dreamincolor.tarot@walla.com). To keep-up to-date about Dreaming in Color™ products and events, and/or if you would like a downloadable version of this booklet in 8 ½" x 11" .pdf format, please visit our website at [www.dreamincolor.tarot.com](http://www.dreamincolor.tarot.com). Use these cards in good health and spirit. *Sweet purple dreams to you, Mindy Sommers*

**The Dreaming in Color™ Luman Deck**  
**by Mindy Sommers**  
**Card Meanings**

**Aggression**

Male; Yang; aggressive energies; spirit warrior. Attempting to impact one's will through force instead of failed diplomacy; the time for mediation has passed. Victory in battle; make sure the moral high ground is yours before entering the fray. Courage under pressure; moral authority.

**Anger**

Hostility, resentment, violence. Anger is a natural part of the human condition and can be productive only if controlled, dissected and ultimately understood. A situation is at an impasse because the anger has grown into an immovable object which may have started as deep hurt; it is time to fully experience the emotion and release it for the sake of yourself as well as those around you who care for you.

**Ascension**

Intensely spiritual card representing the seeking of knowledge and the quiet knowing that comes with the recognition that you are part of something Bigger Than Yourself. Dramatic opening of consciousness propels you to the next level. Karmic connections; debts paid; divine inspiration. Intuition operating at its highest level. Card of creation and invention.

**Avarice**

Grasping, materialism, greed; a worship of money leads to destruction and thwarts spiritual advancement. Inability to control temper, overly self-indulgent: too much food or alcohol. Seduction merely for the joy of the chase, or for someone's money; when the prey is captured, interest is lost. Shameful secret.

### **Awakening**

One of the most powerful cards in the Dreaming in Color Deck®, this card augurs intense and rapid spiritual growth through the opening of chakras, a willingness to suspend old beliefs that no longer serve and jump into the abyss. All your senses, including colors, are awakening as if after a long sleep. Pay close attention to dreams, whims, instincts, synchronicity at this time—there are no coincidences. The Universe has opened up to you and is offering you all Her secrets.

### **Blindness**

Blissfully unaware of danger; walking blindly into a freight train. Sweet soul at mercy of manipulative others. Taking joy in simplistic pleasures; foolishness; an unwillingness to accept what is painfully evident to others. A warning to protect oneself from those who don't have your best interests at heart. Don't rationalize the bad behavior of others. Mental laziness; intellectually uncomplicated; overly trusting. A small child.

### **Breakthrough**

The gift of blind faith leads to sudden opening. All the toil and perseverance has finally pushed you to a new level: for the first time, results and achievements that you can actually see and feel occur. Even when situation seems hopeless, your faith in what is right and a brighter future will carry you like the wind. All the doubt around you bounces right off you like rain, enabling you to see your vision take shape.

### **Catharsis**

This is a healing card, a portent of steady and continued health improvements; health and financial situations evolving for the better—whether it is a health situation or a ridding oneself of negative emotion. A modest increase in money possible. Illness possibly brought on by excess stress or sleep disorder. Not out of the woods yet; stay the course, because you're going in the right direction. Portends endurance, stability.

### **Chaos**

All has broken down and chaos ensues. Lack of structure; imbalance; confusion. Information distorted and misreported; misunderstandings; arguing for the sake of arguing. Going back and forth in anger will only add fuel to the fire; a "time out" to assess the situation is in order; approaching it with logic rather than emotion will have much greater impact.

### **Competition**

Everyone is vying for the same prize; the race is on and the stakes are high; remain focused on the desired outcome. May also portend petty arguments and unimportant disagreements. Do your homework and plan properly, and success is assured.

### **Completion**

A chapter in your life is closing; a situation or relationship has finally ended, and it's time to find closure and move ahead without looking back. Holding on will only make your journey more difficult than it needs to be. It is all for the best and necessary for future happiness—although this may be difficult to perceive at this time.

### **Depression**

A need to shake off the feelings of deep sadness, yet can't seem to get out of one's own way. The destructive "tapes" continue to replay in your mind and you cannot manage to turn them off. Inability to see anything good in life; all seems hopeless. Remember that this "black hole" is emanating from within, not without. We are not at the mercy of externals when this card appears. Don't be quick to dismiss counseling or even possibly medication to clear vision. Thoughts of suicide should never be ignored. The sun still shines, although it may take extraordinary effort to see it.

### **Duality**

Double lives; secret activities; indecision; juggling two situations at once—the balls can't be kept in the air indefinitely. Saying one thing but meaning something else entirely. Two distinctly disparate situations are the meaning behind this card. Someone isn't being fully honest, deleting crucial information and speaking in half-truths. Just like the moon half hidden in shadow, half the situation remains unseen.

### **Emotion**

Emotion runs amok; passion without caution; secret longing, intense feelings rule and override intellect and prevent wise choices. Romantic trysts may have unforeseen and disastrous results. Adultery, lust without concern for ramifications or the feelings of others. You can't build happiness on another's pain.

### **Envy**

Jealousy; coveting the lives and possessions of others while forgetting the blessings one has been given. A sense of running in circles without a plan, resentful of those who can put their ideas into action. A beautiful woman looks in the mirror and sees herself as plain; though there is awareness that the "half empty" attitude causes pain, there remains an inability to stop thinking negatively. No matter what another has, try to remember others are taking nothing away from you.

### **Exploration**

This is a card of adventure; undertaking new challenges and risks; traveling to far and mysterious places; learning about cultures alien to one's own. Intrigue, mystery. Could also denote unhealthy escapism, daydreaming, avoidance.

## **Family**

Ancestry; parents; inheritance; familial matters; home and hearth; neighborhood. This is a card of relations and matters pertaining to the family. Denotes nesting; settling down; using one's personal space to reflect their personality; one's home and family acts as refuge from the world.

## **Fear**

Panic; unable to move in any direction, fear has resulted in paralysis. What you are afraid of most will most likely never occur; you create our own suffering when imagination runs away with you. Are you sure you're not suffering over your suffering? Calm down and relax, things aren't nearly as bad as you think. In fact, things aren't really that bad at all. Ask for help and you will receive it. Put a rubber band around your wrist and snap it when you find your unfounded fears reeling out of control.

## **Foreboding**

Dark forces; bad intent; people working against you; energy vampires leave you vulnerable. Someone manipulating you and planning to steal what is yours. Could portend illness or criminal activity. Unhappy events can be lessened by preparing emotionally for the possibility of their arrival, and then using friends and family as your support system. This, too, shall pass. Ask for Angelic Intervention and you will receive it.

## **Forgiveness**

Conciliation; letting go; release of anger and sense of being wronged. Also making amends with those one has wronged, cleaning the slate and allowing oneself to start again. A powerful card that augurs spiritual growth and emotional healing. Portends inner serenity and peace once pride is swallowed. Invaluable lessons learned on many levels. The most precious and powerful form of forgiveness is when we give ourselves mercy for our own mistakes.

## **Gaiety**

Celebration; party; anniversary or special occasion in the offing. Excitement. Recreational activities, vacation, leisure. Good times, merrymaking, friends gather together for revelry and enjoyment. A special event, promotion; could also mean wedding or engagement announcement.

## **Gifting**

Charity and unselfishness brings great inner satisfaction and rewards. Giving without strings attached brings true joy, and a sense of peace and accomplishment. A warning not to "keep score" by counting favors. Gifts freely given now return tenfold. Also portends the receipt of unexpected favors and assistance from sometimes surprising sources.

## **Guilt**

Shame, heavy conscience, burden; embarrassing secret, disgrace, dishonor makes the heart heavy and life joyless. Someone is sorry and needs to make amends for a terrible injustice. Secret or criminal activity; self-condemnation is too much to bear. The only way out of the abyss is to tell the truth and let the situation heal in the light of day. It is not too late.

## **Hate**

Hatred eats at the fabric of the soul and destroys everything in its path; the target rarely pays the price of this deadly emotion. Hatred creates nothing, builds nothing, transcends nothing; instead, it is like a mirror that reflects back at its source with renewed and magnified negative energy. Peeling back the layers of the hatred, one will find fear quivering in its center. Let it all go, it is time.

## **Hope**

Wishes come true; hopes realized; doing things for the right reason; dreams manifested into the realm of physical reality. Thoughts are energy, and your thoughts and wishes have gone out into the Universe and returned to you with your fondest hopes materialized. *You* made it all happen—nobody did it for you. Your heart was pure and your intent was good, so now your fondest dreams will materialize.

## **Individuality**

A card of intense creativity; doing and seeing things a brand new way; fresh thinking can create new invention. The card of an iconoclast or non-conformist. Going against the grain, questioning the status quo and eschewing traditional thinking/taking risks brings great benefits. Ability to see opportunity where others see foolhardiness. A warning against conformity or sacrificing self to "fit in." Live your life the way you see fit, don't concern yourself with the approval of others.

## **Indulgence**

Overspending or living beyond one's means can create problems and put stress on a relationship. Overindulgence in money, food or any other area is an attempt to numb painful emotions one would rather not face; this creates even more problems and a vicious cycle ensues. This card reminds us that when the cure is worse than the ailment, we need to stop and realize how much we're hurting ourselves and find another way to ease discomfort.

## **Innocence**

Trust; purity; openness; childlike wonder. Freedom from guilt. Unscathed by life events, this card represents the joy that comes with a trusting spirit and open heart. Not being attached to outcomes enables one to gain the most knowledge and joy from any given situation. The triumph of unfettered thinking over too much analysis.

### **Inspiration**

The birth of an idea; a muse; the result of divine guidance manifests in art, writing or the start of a business venture. Exciting times are ahead; the creative urge is at its peak and cannot be ignored. If you need help, it will be made available to you. Another person may play a key role in getting concept off the ground. Could denote a birth of many different kinds.

### **Intuition**

Intuitive and empathic capabilities are at a peak; use this precious knowledge to move ahead with your idea or goal. Your insight may seem like lucky guesses, but they're not. You're finely tuned with others around you; this may be the start of a spiritual awakening that continues to grow and ripen. Pay close attention to dreams, whims and ideas now, as they are pregnant with meaning.

### **Journey**

Although this can augur a physical journey, it often means a spiritual one. With this card, one throws away everything ever known and starts fresh. A somewhat unsettling time in life, this calls for a total discarding of old beliefs that no longer serve, and a search for new truths. This is a sole (soul) journey; although one may want to seek support from loved ones, this is a journey one must take alone, keeping your own counsel and trusting your own instincts. Passage on water.

### **Joy**

After the rain, the sun will shine. The end of pain and suffering, a new beginning. Could portend a birth of some kind; a new idea or the start of a new project. The clouds have passed; the sun is shining on you. The storm may still be close by, so be prepared and watchful not to throw yourself mindlessly into your happiness—darkness can return quickly if we're not careful. Remember what you just went through and learn the lessons that were the reason for the hardships.

### **Learning**

This card is a portent of accelerated learning and new educational opportunities. It could be traditional book learning or training in a craft, a special art form or a specific field of study. Mentoring, schooling, study brings long-term gains; although patience is needed, success is assured. Also the card for writers and authorship; publishing; putting words to paper.

### **Lethargy**

Inaction; inertia; languor; indolence. Delays; excuses; sense of being stuck and feeling immovable. Comfortable in one's own misery; unwilling or unable to make the effort to change. Take small steps at this time, tiny little movements—large ones are too daunting—to break out of the binding. Even the smallest effort will have impact at this time.

## **Loss**

Loneliness; departure; abandonment. There is the sense of having lost everything, nothing is left. Could portend a death, divorce, job loss, or the end of a precious friendship. This is a time for retreat and healing, you are not in a position to impact change right now. We are never given more than we can handle, so take comfort in the fact that this dark period will pass and you will get through it. Embrace the Now, no matter how difficult it is, and have faith that this loss was necessary to bring forth positive change into your life.

## **Love**

Perfect romantic love; happiness; soul mate; life partner. Giving of oneself selflessly, only for ensuring another's happiness. Card equivalent of marriage and white picket fence. Your lover (or spouse) is also your best friend; together, you build a heaven on earth. Spiritual ties, karmic destiny.

## **Lucidity**

Clarity, sudden knowledge, revelation. Though things may seem quiet, there is much happening underneath the surface, beyond your vision. A time of rest and rejuvenation; the answer to a sticky problem is suddenly clear, the solution is evident. Healing card, a sense of pulling oneself back together before facing the world again. Also a card of someone entering therapy or a drug program, dealing head-on with problems after having run away from them. New and powerful knowledge.

## **Manipulation**

Lies, misguidance, domination, bad control. Someone is pulling strings behind the scenes to get what they want. Things aren't what they seem; someone you trust is false; they are acting out of their own best interests instead of yours. Be guarded and careful not to give in or do something that your instincts warn you not to do. A warning against indulging in martyrdom—giving too much of yourself when it is not appreciated—just for gaining approval.

## **Messages**

News, especially from afar; speed; new events; change; optimism creates new opportunities and challenges. Happy news to and/or from loved ones far away or abroad. New information gives ammunition and tools to start new and exciting projects. Gossip can cause problems if not cautious and taken with a grain of salt. Communication; announcements through email, letters, phone calls. Heightened expression.

## **Nostalgia**

Living in the past; looking at what you used to have and longing for it in vain prevents you from fully enjoying and living in the present. Rewriting history; were things *really* as wonderful as your memories? Can augur the arrival of an old friend or family member from long ago. A gentle reminder that by looking back too often, you miss what is being made available for you in the Now. Learning lessons from the past ensure a happier future.



### **Nurturing**

Feminine; passive. Whether referring to birthing, conception, ministering to the sick, caring for children or the infirm, this card is the embodiment of feminine energies—encompassing procreation, strong emotion and life-giving and enhancing. Meditate on the soft tangerine sky to make contact with and develop deeper understanding of the Yin energies we all possess. Softness and gentle urging yields more results than direct confrontation.

### **Opportunity**

New opportunities abound; doors that have previously been closed are now swung open. New job, relocation possibilities, promotions. Legal matters, contracts may be involved.

### **Passion**

Passion and fire between two people. Volatile relationship, much at stake. Fiery arguing ends in lovemaking. Also the foundation of family, genealogy, ancestral issues. Conviction, assuredness, unwavering belief that one is right and others are wrong. Powerful beliefs and unwavering willingness to carry them out.

### **Patience**

A cautioning against the need for instant gratification; an exhortation to allow things to ripen and grow at their own pace. Pushing a relationship before it's ready will scare someone away. A wise person once said, "*the reward of patience is patience*"; patience is its own reward, so relax and take comfort in the knowledge that you are precisely where you are supposed to be.

### **Pettiness**

Small-minded thinking; immature, inconsequential pleasures; nothing lasting. Paying attention to the small things while letting the bigger things go unchecked. Pedantic; overly concerned with appearances and unimportant details. Could also represent a spoiled child.

### **Power**

Help from someone in higher authority; powerful messages, insight and assistance from one with connections and clout. A turning point, a decision to take full control of a situation. The power of mind over matter; high intellect; mastery over one's environment; fully in charge of the situation.

### **Pride**

Ego, overinflated sense of self-importance, condescension, disdain. We are all parts of the same Whole and it is not necessary to have contempt for the world in order to feel a sense of self-worth—that comes from within, not from without. Entitlement and superiority are the hallmarks of this card. Zealously guarding ideas and possessions; not giving of oneself; stingy with affection and time. Craves attention and worship; feels it is one's due; withdraws in disgust and self-pity when it is not given. Ruled by intellect instead of emotion; detachment.

### **Protection**

There is a bubble of protection around you; you are being guarded by angelic beings who will not allow harm come to you, so have no fear. You are answering a higher calling; nothing will prevent you from achieving it, because you have powerful divine machinations behind your efforts. There is something important you are supposed to do, perhaps in the realm of helping others, perhaps a creative pursuit--and you have been accorded very special protection to do it.

### **Reaping**

Harvest; a job well done; the well-earned fruits of your labor. A little idea grows into a big business or enterprise, and you are the force behind it. Also augurs the knowledge that other, smaller offshoots of your idea also have the capacity to grow beyond your fondest expectations, so get back to work. Though you should enjoy success, this is not a time to rest on your laurels, more work needs to be done.

### **Resentment**

Cynicism, bitterness, rancor and estrangement are the hallmarks of this card; somebody feels they have been wronged or treated unjustly and are holding onto their resentment with a sense of pious righteousness. A cancerous growth. Similar to anger but more deadly, this is a card of animosity lingering long after it serves any purpose. Unlike anger, this slow and quiet process of resentment can wreak more destruction in the long run than an anger that is quickly faced and dispatched. Growth is at a standstill and requires a committed releasing process before any beneficial outcomes can arise. Is it better to be right than to be happy?

### **Respite**

Joyous solitude brings perspective to a tricky situation; benefits come from resting and taking a step back to allow time to assess and evaluate. Now is the time to take a break from the situation and watch it unfold with new wisdom that comes from perspective. New developments are germinating; they will take additional time to bloom.

### **Sacrifice**

This beautiful message comes straight to you from the Universe. A culmination of the Highest Plane of Love: giving with no need for acknowledgement or reward. This could not be possible without empathy and the ability to feel oneself in the situation of another who is in pain. The ability to perceive another's emotions as distinctly as we do our own until the blend is imperceptible. Giving freely without manipulation or recompense is as close to Divinity as one can get on earth.

### **Secrets**

Signifies events going on beyond your vision and grasp; information being kept from you; not working with all the facts. Misled, lied to or betrayed. A secret affair or tryst. Unsavory movement behind the scenes; thievery. There are reasons for the secrecy that may ultimately benefit you in ways you couldn't begin to predict.

### **Seduction**

Fleeting romance; allegorical or actual one night stand; powerful yet very brief affair. Someone seducing you and then running away; vacation or superficial fling. Someone is jealous of you and plots against you, nasty assaults on one's reputation. Duality in a negative sense, i.e., someone double talking you, telling you one thing, doing another. False declarations of love.

### **Serenity**

A clear conscience; balance; a sense that the right decision was made; a peaceful time in life is augured by this card. Calmness; even temper; easy flow. When one is being true to oneself, everything becomes clear and the obstacles in the path disappear. Virtue.

### **Simplicity**

We often make things more complicated than they need to be. This is a time to clean out the clutter and organize your world, whether it's your home or your thoughts. When events or material possessions pile up, we feel as if we have lost control; meditating on this card will help you as you make your life more manageable by simplifying all aspects of it. A warning not to overanalyze or read meanings into others' words that aren't there.

### **Struggle**

Nothing is going as planned, Murphy's Law abounds—whatever can go wrong, does. Everything is a mess, you're ready to throw up your hands and throw in the towel. A different direction or mindset is needed here. Also, trouble with finances and lost investments. The need to start over through necessity, not desire. Pushing in vain, obstacles are there for a reason.

### **Temptation**

A gentle warning not to violate your own rules by yielding to temptation and indulging in behavior proven to cause you pain. This can be anything from a person who has a bad effect on you to overindulging in food or alcohol. Instant gratification; impatience; covetousness; learning through enticement by developing strength and confidence. Keep your promises to yourself and your goals simple and easy to follow and achieve. There is a window of protection that will assist you in this.

### **Upheaval**

You have lived in the past for far too long; because you were unwilling to let go of things that were not serving you, the Universe stepped in and accomplished what you could not. Spiritual fear at its highest level. Total transition; submission to forces bigger than ourselves. Life change in the offing; after the storm clears, new opportunities will abound. Huge potential for beneficial change after a waiting period. Growth among the ruins.

### **Withdrawal**

Retreating from life; folding up into self; card associated with mild to moderate depression or sadness. Crying about unhappy events, failure to see one's own role in them, blaming others. Self absorption. Lesson not necessarily learned. Time out with little benefit. Anger turned inward, false sense of victimhood. Superficiality.

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