



BLACK  
RITUAL  
TAROT

BY ADAM ZONCA

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# BLACK RITUAL TAROT

Heavily inspired by the popular Rider-Waite Tarot, the Black Ritual Tarot was created by Adam Zonca in the year of 2020 with the intention of paying homage to Pamela Colman Smith and Arthur Edward Waite.

While the world around us may be lush and full of color, at times it benefits us to think in terms of dark and light. Calling upon the original imagery from the Rider-Waite Tarot, each card in the Black Ritual Tarot displays a unique and highly detailed monochromatic illustration. The deck was created with the intent of providing readers with straightforward imagery that they may interpret in a similar manner to the most prevalent tarot deck in the world. The art style is meant to mimic etchings using only black ink, thus the

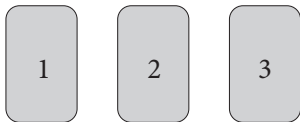
creation of the deck and the use of it are referred to as “The Black Ritual.”

The approach for the creation of this deck consisted of closely scrutinizing the art from the original Rider-Waite deck and adding personal updates and changes to represent Adam Zonca’s unique interpretation. You may notice this as changes to the proportions and anatomy of the figures and the composition of illustrations, while the content and presentation of each card remains largely unchanged.

The only exception to this is Card 1, the Magician, which is a more personal view and a representation of the artist himself as the magician who is inquiring into the tarot. This deck offers a black and white perspective on enduring archetypes and symbols that offer insight and inspiration to the reader.

# SUGGESTED SPREADS

## THREE CARD SPREAD



1. Past | 2. Present | 3. Future

or

**SAMPLE**  
Daily Practice:

Card 1. Card of the day

Card 2. Attend to this

Card 3. What to be aware of

## 6 OF WANDS

A public recognition of success and victory. Confidence, celebrity, achievement. The celebration of a positive outcome and the glory of being acknowledged for it. Having the opportunity to take center stage.

*Victory, pride, reward*

## 5 OF WANDS

Group conflict where there is no clear winner. Chaos, tension, differences, disagreement. Paying the price for choosing aggression. Battle among rivals that may be over ideas, beliefs, actions or competitive natures. Unsettled arguments.

*Competition, rivalry, disagreement*

## 4 OF WANDS

A celebration of achievement through cooperation. Great success and reward gained through harmony. The foundation for positive actions like unions, partnerships, friendships and happy occasions. A reason to rejoice.

*Celebration, union, freedom, rejoicing*

## 3 OF WANDS

A contemplation of possibilities and challenges. Planning, foresight, preparation. The future is now in sight and things are underway. Keeping an open perspective as things evolve. Expanding your horizons while seeing the positive results of your plans.

*Exploration, insight, commitment,  
realization*

## 2 OF WANDS

A message of opportunities and means from a place of stability. Having potential and decision-making ability. New opportunity. Using intentions to create reality. Asserting yourself in the world and seeing yourself making a mark. Channeling personal power.

*Courage, vision, new ideas, empowerment*

## ACE OF WANDS

This card represents the gift of a creative tool. Inspiration, growth, creative utility. The ace of this suit signals the beginning of new action to support growth and manifestation. Having a fresh start or new path to move forward on. The Ace of Wands is an igniting spark through the element of fire.

*New beginnings, originality, solutions*

# CUPS

## KING OF CUPS

The king is a calm and pensive ruler who has mastered his emotions.

Diplomacy, compassion, stability.

Associated with the water element, this is an understanding leader who is able to merge emotional clarity with wisdom. His strengths include keeping calm in a crisis and the ability to assist through kindness and experience.

*Kindness, sincerity, wisdom, leadership*

## QUEEN OF CUPS

The queen is an intuitive and graceful woman connected deeply with her subconscious. Calm, respect, introspection. The feminine qualities of understanding, emotional intelligence and empathy. She has the ability to have tolerance for others.

An intuitive mentor or leader.

*Empathy, understanding, compassion*

## KNIGHT OF CUPS

The knight is a young man carefully and methodically bearing a gift or message. Peace, discipline, idealization of a situation. Feeling an emotional overflow from yourself or another. The arrival of a new opportunity for emotional connection.

*Sensitivity, rescue, emotions*

## PAGE OF CUPS

A young man takes appreciation in the creative and the innovative. Unexpected outcomes, curiosity. A youthful approach to love and creativity. The chance for a delightful surprise. New baby or love on the horizon.

*Imagination, surprise, love*

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