

Dreaming Way Tarot

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Introduction to Dreaming Way Tarot

I first discovered tarot in the summer of 1997. At the time, even before the Web was in common use, one of my friends did a search and found that many people were looking for information about tarot. On an impulse, I joined a tarot study group and that was the start of my relationship with tarot. Five years later, I had to get a job after finishing my college education. Korea was in 'net' fever at the time, which provided a very favorable condition for me to get a job, since I had majored in computer science. But I was so attracted to tarot that I wanted my career to deal with tarot. Before graduating college, I had taught tarot to students at an amateur level, and started to read tarot cards to customers professionally.

Wishing to enhance my spiritual life beyond tarot, I entered Seoul University of Buddhism where I majored in Transpersonal Psychology. One day, I heard a moving lecture by a famous monk while I was watching TV. I suddenly realized that I already had everything I wanted, and there was nothing more I should pursue. That realization changed my life completely. I found the meaning of happiness, and could understand the clients' matters more deeply. As my understanding of people grew

deeper, the more I could understand tarot and use it to help people. I also realized that there was no evil in the world in the first place, and I should just accept people as they are. I started incorporating these insights into my tarot lectures.

After that, the lives of my students, as well as my own life started to change. They started to love themselves more and live better lives. They embraced their lives more, and stopped hating other people. They all came to understand that we are not becoming happy, but rather, we are already happy. I try to bring this message into Dreaming Way Tarot. Rather than searching for happiness, just try to embrace the moments of happiness of your life.

—Rome Choi

Major Arcana

In tarot readings, people tend to think of 'reversed' as the opposite of upright. But, that does not mean the cards have opposite meanings. Reversed meanings are usually just weaker or stronger. For example, people tend to think of cold as the opposite of hot. But in fact there are just different levels of warmth. Reversed cards show different degrees of the same condition.

0. Fool

You have grown up enough to strike out on a new path of your own making. You want to continue to grow to do many more things. You can easily understand the meaning if you think of a baby who comes out of the womb when ready to handle life outside. The reason why the baby is coming out is to grow and experience more. This card indicates the recapturing of innocence and doing the unexpected.

UPRIGHT: Growing, curious, free, premature, unstable, economically insecure, freelancer, and trickster.

REVERSED: Naïve, premature, poor attention, lack of economic sense, unstable marriage or career.

1. Magician

The Magician is one of the two persons in the tarot who have a Mobius strips. One person means wisdom and the other means strength and love. The Mobius strip also indicates infinity; therefore, the Magician means infinite wisdom. The person can do his or her job most efficiently, and has the ambition to succeed in all endeavors. Usually, the card refers to a person 20 to 40 years old.

UPRIGHT: Wise, dexterous, attractive, creative, confident, amorous, well taken care of, outgoing, an engineer, programmer, or a strategic planner.

REVERSED: The biter is bitten, over-confident, cheating unintentionally, business failure.

2. High Priestess

The High Priestess usually indicates a beautiful, young woman (20-40 years old) who takes good care of herself. Her prim and proper air makes her seem aloof and hard to approach, but she has a warm heart. When single, she is popular among men, but after marriage she becomes quite reserved and passive.

UPRIGHT: Taking care of herself well, elegant, organized, patient, well educated, generous, cultivated, teacher.

REVERSED: Self-indulgent, self-absorbed, passionate sexual life, suspicious of her partner.

3. The Empress

The Empress plays the role of assisting and taking care of others rather than leading others. As the life-giving earth mother, she reigns over the bounty of nature. She encourages abundance and luxury. The Empress card relates to pregnancy and birth.

UPRIGHT: Pregnant, expecting birth, passive in getting a job, friendly, warm, soft, housewife, nurse, caregiver, mother, in harmony with nature.

REVERSED: Unsuccessful pregnancy, frugality, irresponsible, stickler, meddlesome.

4. The Emperor

The Emperor usually relates to the role of father, whose duty it is to be responsible for the welfare of his family. He values and protects what he has rather than wanting new things. He takes charge and acts in a solitary manner. He is confident of his own authority but does not trust anyone else. The Emperor is a mature man; usually the card means someone 40 to 60 years old.

UPRIGHT: Responsible, capable, leading, conservative, abrupt, desire for power, dignified,

organized, business man, self-employed, lawyer, father.

REVERSED: Lack of responsibility, no longer capable, violent, easily angered, dysfunctional, retired.

5. The Hierophant

The Hierophant card refers to all religious leaders including shaman, not just Catholic popes and priests. In fact, it refers to all older individuals who have wisdom to share with younger people. The Hierophant guides initiates into groups, organizations, institutions and structured belief systems.

UPRIGHT: Lessons, rituals, teaching, marriage, traditional relationships, customs, matchmaking, having wisdom but no power.

REVERSED: Sacrificing too much to follow the tradition, meaningless rituals, bribery, and corruption.

6. The Lovers

This card depicts real love that does not try to possess and control the other person. It may be romantic love, or the attractive force that brings like-minded people together. The angel in the middle blesses the couple and strengthens their bond.

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