

FANTASTICAL CREATURES TAROT

Illustrated by Lisa Hunt
Written by D. J. Conway



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LISA HUNT

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D. J. CONWAY

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

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



INTRODUCTION

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

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

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

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

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

MAJOR ARCANA CARDS

O • THE FOOL (Amphisbaena)

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

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

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

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

I • THE MAGICIAN (Winged Cat)

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

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

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

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

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

II • HIGH PRIESTESS (Egyptian Ua Zit)

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

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

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

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

III • THE EMPRESS (Morrigan)

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

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