

STELLAR VAULT
TAROT
BY AMREI HOFSTÄTTER

Copyright © 2025 U.S. Games Systems, Inc.

All rights reserved. The illustrations, cover design, and contents are protected by copyright. No part of this book may be reproduced in any graphic, electronic or mechanical form including photocopying, recording, taping or by any information storage retrieval system without permission in writing from the publisher, except by a reviewer who wishes to quote brief passages in connection with a review for inclusion in a print publication or online platform.

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Made in China

For Pablo, Barbara and Adrian,
with all my love and gratitude
-Amrei



Published by
U.S. GAMES SYSTEMS, INC.
179 Ludlow Street
Stamford, CT 06902 USA
www.usgamesinc.com

INTRODUCTION



SAMPLE

I first came across the tarot when I was a curious and naive twenty-year-old. At that time, I understood tarot to be a kind of harbinger of doom that predicts inevitable, inescapable future events. The idea of a deterministic universe where one is powerless in the face of a prewritten destiny provoked a deep fear in me. As a consequence, my experimentation with the tarot was both short-lived and superficial. I did, however, keep the Crowley Thoth Tarot cards hidden in a box in my mother's basement.

I was reunited with the cards many years later, at a time when my mind and heart were in disarray, and I was desperately looking for a means to find clarity, structure and insight. I took my reconnection with the tarot seriously, and I devoted a substantial amount of time and effort to searching for a deck that would call out to me. Eventually, I found the Aquarian Tarot Deck by David Palladini, which was a revelation that completely redirected my life energy.

Following on from this discovery, I devoted myself to learning; reading extensively about each card and cultivating a deeper understanding of myself through the relationship that evolved with tarot. I began to understand the methodical, mathematical and, at the same time, deeply emotional and intuitive method of reading the tarot, which can help us discover our humanity at its deepest core. Through

mythology, observing patterns, and reflecting on archetypal characteristics, the cards allow us to understand our life journeys.

Previously, my art and illustration practices had served as therapeutic means to deal with my confusion and troubles. Though in retrospect it feels like a natural progression, it took a long time before I was ready to merge my interest in tarot with my art.

When I finally started the Stellar Vault Tarot, I knew that through its essence, I wanted to evoke the same bittersweet world that I have always explored in my art, with an eruption of pastel colors that works to melt the looming ice spread from within. It is a world inhabited by fluid beings equally fierce and gentle. Beings that have internalized their pain and contradictions and wear them as armour. Beings that never stop changing and developing, all while maintaining an endless childlike

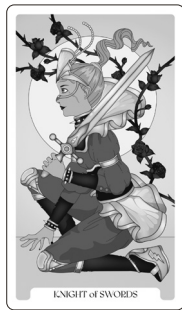
innocence. Aesthetically, the artwork is inspired by the anime films of my childhood, and by visions of a future mixed with the elegance and sensuality of art deco and art nouveau. I imagined each card as if it were a scene in a sci-fi space opera.

In architecture, a stellar vault describes the star shape created by triangular lines on the ceiling of a cathedral. The idea of something magical and transcendental manifested through strict mathematical construction fascinates me. It is the way I often experience the world.

The tarot cannot predict the future. It cannot explain to you the actions or thoughts of any human being other than yourself. It does not present you with an inevitable path. You are never a victim of the cards, and there is no reason to ever fear them. The tarot is meant to empower practitioners through the development of knowledge

and self-awareness. Each card is a door into another world where you can find clarity for yourself. I hope the Stellar Vault Tarot has called out to you and can accompany you on your own journey of self-discovery.

these projects in the world. This card tells you to not hold back. Communicate your visions with those who might help and support you in bringing them to life.

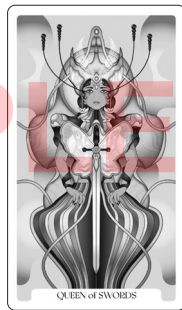


KNIGHT OF SWORDS

The Knight of Swords kneels down right before an attack, contemplating the correct strategy. The lightning bolts on her shoes are a symbol

of her energy and drive. The scar on her face is proof that she has lost a few fights but has always recovered and tried again, always eager to learn. The black roses show that this is a knight who will not easily be bamboozled; she uses her intellectual abilities to figure out the true nature of every situation before she strikes.

In a reading: Once this knight has set her mind on a mission, no one will stop her. Follow her lead and strive to be ambitious and assertive. However, take the time to contemplate the right steps ahead of time instead of rushing forward mindlessly. This will save you from quite a few scars.



QUEEN OF SWORDS

The Queen of Swords' coat of arms is the butterfly. She stands for transformation through learning and improving.

Receptive to new ideas and philosophies, she is eager to gain new knowledge and sharpen her senses. The airy, flowing background behind her is a sign that her thinking is dynamic and ever in motion.

In a reading: You are quick to weed out the nonsense and extract the relevant and essential facts. This card tells you to make sure you have considered all the information available to you before you draw the final conclusion about a subject. Sometimes this could mean having your mind changed and accepting convincing arguments that might have been in opposition to yours. Flexibility is the key.



KING OF SWORDS

The proud and defiant King of Swords looks straight ahead, not afraid to hold his gaze against any adversary. His scars are proof that he is

a seasoned warrior who is not afraid to defend his beliefs. He wears the colors

blue and red—symbols for his pursuit of spiritual and intellectual knowledge. His garments are still, and the windy and dynamic atmosphere from the last cards have settled—this king is standing firm in his beliefs.

In a reading: You have considered all the options and finally arrived at a conclusion. Just like the king, you are now ready to spread your knowledge and educate others on what you know to be true. If there is still uncertainty in your life, perhaps it is time for you to consult someone who is more experienced in a matter than you are—it may be a scholar or professional—and take their opinion into account.

THE SUIT OF PENTACLES



The suit of pentacles is associated with the element of earth and deals with everything connected to the tangible realm of the human experience. Specifically, how we manifest our internal world on the outside, through our dealings with finances, our home or our work. The pentacles remind us that self-image needs to be fostered in a positive and healthy manner so that we can move authentically through the world.



ACE OF PENTACLES

A hand is floating in the clouds, holding a plucked flower with a shiny coin emerging from its bud. The clouds have parted and

give way to the light. In the center of the hand, we see an open eye looking straight at us.

In a reading: This card presents an opportunity for building prosperity and wealth. How you deal with this opportunity depends on you. Success requires confidence, effort, and a good strategy.



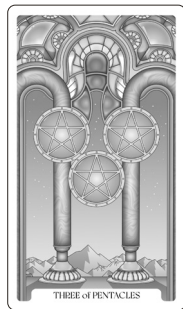
TWO OF PENTACLES

A young man balances on a ball while juggling with two coins. An hourglass floats above his head, reminding him of the cyclical passage

of time. His chest is engraved with a symbol of eternity, attached to it is a pendulum swinging back and forth. It is easy to imagine him tumbling down

in a matter of seconds, bringing all this movement to a halt.

In a reading: Sometimes life feels like running on hamster wheel without end. You try to juggle your chores and responsibilities, and sometimes it can become too much. This card is a reminder to seek balance in your life. Perhaps you can bring more structure into your daily schedule, shift your priorities, or even ask for help to free up more space for yourself.

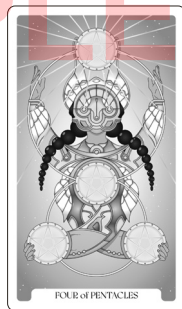


THREE OF PENTACLES

We look across the terrace of a beautifully crafted cathedral. In the center, we see a stained glass window in the shape of three pentacles. The intricate details and engravings suggest

this was built by true experts of their respective crafts.

In a reading: It takes one person to have a vision, but it takes many to bring this vision to life. We have to believe in the expertise of others and foster collaborative thinking; only then can we achieve optimal results. Take this card as a reminder to acknowledge the value that those around you bring to the table, and put your ego aside.



FOUR OF PENTACLES

A corrupted angel has become entranced by money. All its many eyes are closed while its circular thoughts focus on holding on to the coins it has acquired, and its desire to amass more. Its spiritual awareness has

been replaced by the obsession with worldly possessions.

In a reading: We see the angel being completely stuck. No movement is possible, and it has forgotten its true purpose and nature. The Four of Pentacles is a reminder that money and wealth are not the only goal in life. While wealth assures security, greed becomes a prison. Reconsider your relationship with money and the role it plays in your world and your self-perception.



FIVE OF PENTACLES

We see the beautiful stained glass window of a cathedral.

The warm light emanating from it suggests that this is a cozy, safe place. We imagine

the people inside coming together in

festivity and mutual support. But there is no door in sight. Outside, everything is dark and cold. This haven of warmth and security feels inaccessible to us.

In a reading: Your current hardships might have made you adopt a scarcity mindset. You feel like your achievements are insufficient and you can't keep up with those around you, which makes you feel left out and abandoned. This card reminds you that material wealth does not determine your worth as a person. If others hold their achievements over your head, understand that this is their own weakness and not yours. Someone who has learned to be happy by appreciating the good in their life does not need to boast to others.

For our complete line of tarot decks,
books, meditation and yoga cards, oracle
sets, and other inspirational products,
please visit our website:

www.usgamesinc.com

Stay connected with us:



SAMPLE



U.S. GAMES SYSTEMS, INC.