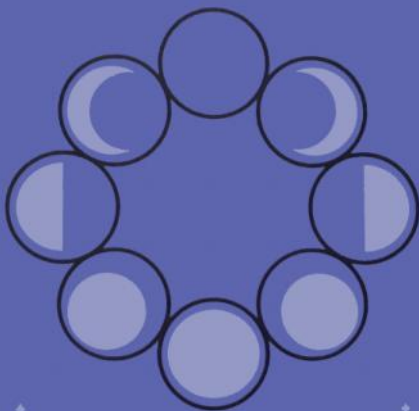


MARVEL TELEVISION

AGATHA ALL ALONG

TAROT GUIDEBOOK



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TAROT GUIDEBOOK

by Andrea Hannah

Illustrated by Brittany Horn



SAN RAFAEL • LOS ANGELES • LONDON

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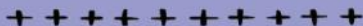
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WELCOME TO THE COVEN



SEEKEST THOU THE ROAD TO ALL THAT'S FOUL AND FAIR
GATHER SISTERS FIRE, WATER, EARTH, AND AIR
DARKEST HOUR, WAKE THY POWER, EARTHLY AND DIVINE
BURN AND BREW WITH COVEN TRUE AND GLORY SHALL BE THINE
DOWN, DOWN, DOWN THE ROAD
DOWN THE WITCHES' ROAD

—“THE BALLAD OF THE WITCHES' ROAD”



You have found yourself at a crossroads, Dear Witch. The Witches' Road has opened before you, and with it the opportunity to claim your deepest desire. If you choose to walk this path, you will never be the same. The support of a coven is a requirement to move forward.

This is an accepted truth in mystical practices throughout history. A group is always gathered to summon a spirit during a séance. Astrological transits were discussed openly in ancient Greece, from the imperial court to the marketplace. Tarot, which first began as a card game in fifteenth-century Europe, became a way to communicate universal secrets to initiates on the spiritual path. There has always been power in community.

Agatha Harkness denies this truth—at first. She gathers a coven of witches, intending to strip them of their magic, but comes to learn that she truly needs them to survive the trials of The Witches' Road. A coven creates more energy, yes, but it also provides protection, information, and camaraderie.

If you are beginning your tarot journey alone, not to worry! You are now a part of the worldwide coven that has read these same words. The witches in *Agatha All Along* sing the words to "The Ballad of The Witches' Road" to sync their energy and reveal their path; your exploration of this guidebook is your initiation.

Welcome to the coven! You will determine your role here soon enough. For now, please know your fellow *Agatha All Along*—loving witches are delighted to walk The Road with you.

TAROT BASICS



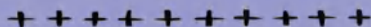
This deck contains seventy-eight cards and is modeled after the traditional Rider-Waite deck. If you're bristling at the idea of memorizing all of these cards, know that you can (and should) begin working with the cards before you know them. In fact, this is *how* you get to know them—through practice and exploration.

The first twenty-two cards are the Major Arcana. These cards depict the "greater journey." This is the big quest, the hero's journey, or the throughline that influences all of the major decisions you've made in your life. For this reason, Agatha's overarching story—including her past with Nicky and Rio Vidal—are depicted throughout the Major Arcana.

The rest of the fifty-six cards are the Minor Arcana. These cards are separated into four suits—cups, wands, swords, and pentacles. Within each suit, there are ten numbered cards and four court cards. Each suit represents a different element and aspect of daily life, which we'll explore later in this guidebook. The events of The Witches' Road trials are depicted within the suits according to their element.



UNDERSTANDING COURT CARDS



By and large, the court cards tend to be the most confusing to interpret by expert and novice tarot readers alike. There are many differing opinions on what, or who, they represent and how to read them.

Here are the basics: The court cards are the page, knight, queen, and king. Each of the four suits includes these court cards, which means there are sixteen of them in your deck. The most widely accepted interpretation of these cards is that each one represents a specific person in your life. For example, let's say you pull the Knight of Wands in response to the question "How can I succeed at my new job?" You could interpret it to mean you should reach out to that fiery go-getter in your life for more intel.

Another option is to read the court cards as aspects of yourself. For example, if you pull the Page of Cups, you could interpret it as a sign to embrace the intuitive, emotional aspect of yourself for this current situation.

I want to be clear: There is no wrong way to do this. In fact, you may even switch up your interpretation depending on the situation, or even as the cards take on more meaning over time. Whichever interpretation delivers the most helpful information for you in that moment is the right one.

READING REVERSALS . . . OR NOT



Another question that comes up is regarding reversals. A reversal is when you pull a card and the image is upside down instead of right side up. Some practitioners read reversals: They keep the card as is and interpret its meaning from a different angle. Others don't read reversals at all, or only under certain circumstances.

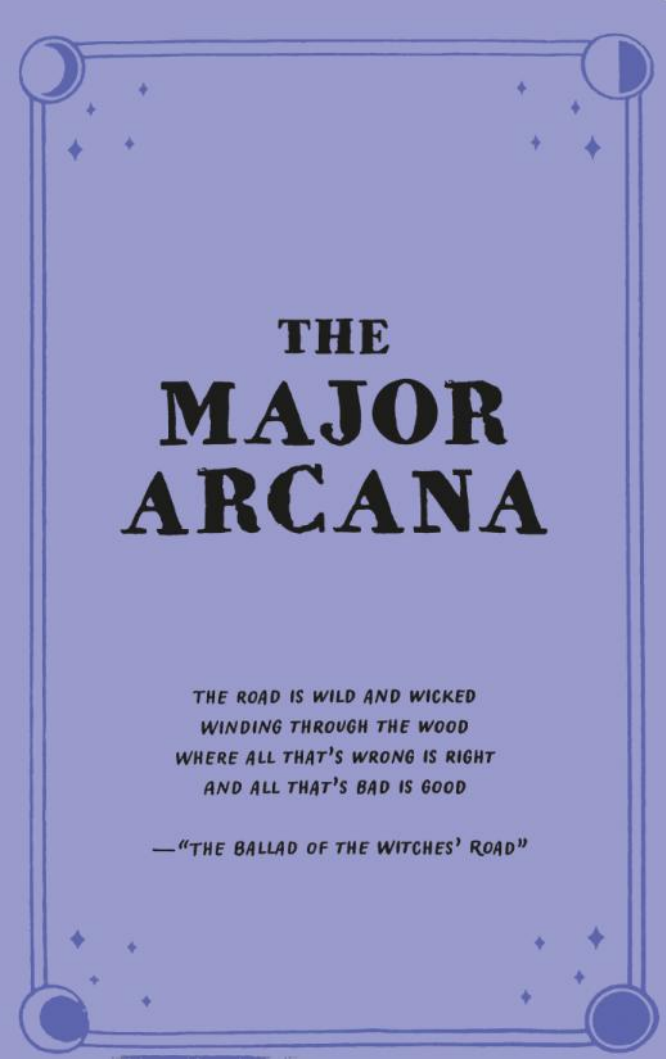
Again, there's no wrong way to do this. For the sake of ease when you're first learning tarot, I recommend reading all cards right side up. If you're an experienced practitioner or want to try something new, there are many ways you can interpret reversals. These include reading the opposite meaning of the right-side-up card; the same meaning as the right-side-up card, only delayed; internal versus external; and the past versus the present. Feel free to explore to find the interpretation that suits you.



We can't tell the story of Agatha Harkness's journey down The Witches' Road without revisiting her past. The decisions she's made, the bonds she's severed, and the little boy she did everything in her power to protect all play a role in her current tale.

The first six cards of the Major Arcana represent archetypes, or the members of the coven Agatha assembles. The last sixteen cards lead us through Agatha's past until the present moment.

Are you ready, coven? It's time to head down The Road.



THE MAJOR ARCANA

THE ROAD IS WILD AND WICKED
WINDING THROUGH THE WOOD
WHERE ALL THAT'S WRONG IS RIGHT
AND ALL THAT'S BAD IS GOOD

—“THE BALLAD OF THE WITCHES’ ROAD”



THE FOOL

THE FOOL

POSSIBILITY • INNOCENCE • HOPE

Agatha Harkness awakens from a yearslong hex, and strips off her old clothes, along with her false self, and reenters the world. While in the hex, Agatha was stripped of her powers, memories, and identity as the most infamous witch in history—the only one to ever survive the The Witches' Road. As sunlight touches her face and Agatha sees clearly for the first time in years, she stands at the threshold of a new journey. The world around her has changed. The path before her is unexpected. Which new friends will she take with her, and which old foes will she encounter?

This card points to new beginnings. Whenever we begin something new, we never know how long it will take before we arrive or how strenuous the journey will be. The Fool gives us a hint on how to proceed: Just get started. Walk The Road with a beginner's mindset and trust that you'll make it to the end.

I•THE MAGICIAN

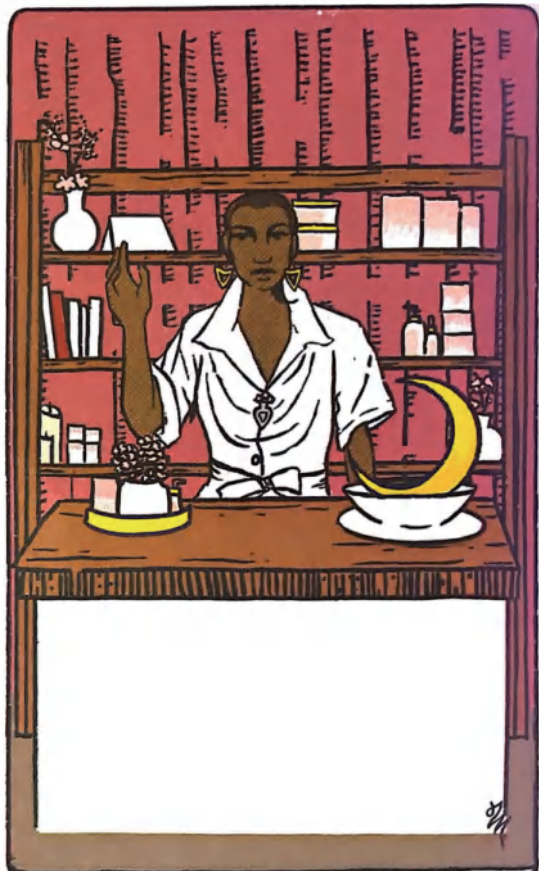
ACTION • EMPOWERMENT • MAGIC

Teen stands before a table, magicking the elements into a new form. He isn't quite sure what his final product will be. He is the untrained alchemist, using whichever bits, bobs, and opportunities come his way to create something new—even if it means joining Agatha on The Witches' Road.

The Magician sees the world with fresh eyes. He has not yet walked The Road and faced its harrowing trials, and like the Fool, his journey has just begun. He sees everything as a possibility and every moment as an opportunity to manifest magic. When this card appears, it's time to act. Trust that you have all you need to walk The Road, and if you find yourself lacking, trust that you'll know exactly what and who you need when you need them.



THE MAGICIAN



THE HIGH PRIESTESS

II•THE HIGH PRIESTESS

INTUITION • WISDOM • MYSTERY

Jennifer Kale sits behind the counter at her wellness empire, Kale Kare. Whether it's magic or skin cream, she emits an otherworldly glow, signifying her connection to the divine. With the crescent moon by her side, Jen understands what less practiced witches have yet to learn: Intuition is a form of magic, too.

The High Priestess is the counterpart to the Magician. Where the Magician represents the active process of making magic, the High Priestess represents the receptive part of the process. This card symbolizes the wisdom of intuition. When it appears, your subconscious is calling to you. Pay close attention to the dreams, signs, and messages that come to you now. Listen carefully to the magic calling out in the dark.

III•THE EMPRESS

CREATIVITY • NURTURANCE • GROWTH

Master gardener and nurturing neighbor Sharon Davis, embodies the essence of the Empress. Adorned with an apron and a sun hat, Sharon radiates a grounded sense of confidence that can come only with experience. It's this confidence, along with a dash of playful curiosity, that leads Mrs. Davis to show up to a room full of strangers at Agatha's invitation. And the same qualities help her pivot when the stakes rise and she finds herself on The Road.

The Empress represents the physical manifestation of life. Although the journey always begins with the inspired action of the Magician and the intuitive listening of the High Priestess, the Empress marks the physical nurturance needed to support any dream. This card calls you to tend to your dreams as you would a garden—with care, creativity, and openness.



THE EMPRESS



THE EMPEROR

IV•THE EMPEROR

AUTHORITY • STRUCTURE • PROTECTION

Alice Wu-Gulliver says what she means and means what she says. This is the trait that has gotten her in trouble in the past, but it also leads her to seek roles that provide protection. Wearing a security badge that signifies the burden of responsibility, Alice carries the weight of the legacy and familial expectations she has been tasked with carrying. She knows the only way to do this without crumbling is by fiercely protecting the structures that keep her and others safe.

As the counterpart to the Empress, the Emperor represents the structure and rules of physical manifestation. Growth cannot occur without necessary and regular pruning. When the Emperor card appears, it's time to protect all that you've created. Set your boundaries, practice self-discipline, and speak your truth.

V•THE HIEROPHANT

MENTORSHIP • KNOWLEDGE • TRADITION

Lilia Calderu is a master of divination, but she has never rested on talent alone. Growing up in Sicily, Lilia practiced her craft and expanded her skills under the careful—and sometimes unforgiving—eye of her mentor, Maestra. When Agatha invites Lilia to join the coven, she resists at first, but eventually, the legendary witch steps into the role of mentor and teacher for the less experienced witches.

Dressed in regal regalia and with her right hand raised as if imparting words of wisdom, Lilia depicts the powerful presence of the Hierophant. This card represents the greater framework of society's traditions and belief systems that influence our path forward, for better or worse. When the Hierophant card shows up, consider whether your spiritual beliefs are truly serving you on this journey. Alternatively, it may be time to reach out to a mentor.



THE HIEROPHANT



THE LOVERS

VI•THE LOVERS

UNION • PARTNERSHIP • CHOICE

The coven believes they're on this journey with Agatha alone, but there's another witch waiting in the shadows: Rio Vidal. Agatha and Rio have a tangled past of love, betrayal, and protection. Agatha's complicated relationship with Rio is the reason she walks The Road now with her newly formed coven—though the other witches aren't aware of that yet.

While Rio gazes at Agatha, Agatha looks up to the skies. This image alone perfectly depicts the multi-layered meaning of the Lovers card. When this card appears, it's a call to examine our duality. There is something else—a partner, a secret desire, a hidden message—that longs to be integrated. Now is the time to make a choice. Will you allow this new energy to transform you? Or will you cut off this energy for good?

VII•THE CHARIOT

DETERMINATION • TRIUMPH • WILLPOWER

Agatha has gathered her coven. Though it may seem that Teen, Lilia, Alice, and Mrs. Davis have complete agency, take a closer look. Only Agatha's feet are depicted, implying that her plans and desires are at the forefront of this journey. Now barefoot, the coven is more vulnerable than ever, and Agatha must work to navigate the trials of The Road while keeping the other witches in her sight.

The Chariot signifies forward movement—but not without considerable effort. This far in the journey, you have a deep understanding of the external world. You know how to apply your willpower and determination toward your goals and bend a situation to your will. Triumph is all but guaranteed.



THE CHARIOT



STRENGTH

VIII•STRENGTH

COURAGE • COMMAND • ENDURANCE

It takes a different kind of strength to confront an overwhelming situation. After several catastrophes, Teen summons all of his courage to stand up to Agatha on The Road, though it's almost certain he'll face retaliation. That's the thing about true strength: Those who wield it don't fear what's yet to come. They act simply because it's the right thing to do.

When the Strength card appears, you're called to turn your attention inward. What have you been wrestling with lately? At some point, controlling every aspect of your life stops working. This is your sign that it's time to rely on your inner strength to carry you through any trial you may face.

IX•THE HERMIT

SOLITUDE • WITHDRAWAL • CONTEMPLATION

Agatha stands alone in the woods. Holding her pregnant belly with one hand and a torch with the other, it's clear that she has traveled into the darkness without the support of a coven. This scene from Agatha's past gives us a rare view into the witch's psyche—revealing that withdrawal from others is the only way to guarantee safety.

While this interpretation of the Hermit has merit, Agatha's viewpoint doesn't tell the whole story. There is a moment in every journey when we find ourselves at a crossroads. Having tried to exert our will onto our circumstances and then drawn from our inner emotional reserves, we're totally spent. The Hermit reminds us to go deeper. To listen to our souls, we must find solitude. While this card often represents inner guidance, it can also signify the presence of a mentor. Look to those around you for guidance.



THE HERMIT



WHEEL OF FORTUNE

X·WHEEL OF FORTUNE

TURNING POINT • DESTINY • CHANGE

Billy and Agatha face each other on The Road, their roles now reversed. Agatha, completely powerless, finds herself at the mercy of Billy, who has more power than either of them realized. In a turn of fate that surprises Agatha herself, she finds that she doesn't want to siphon every last drop of magic from Billy. Agatha may actually care about the boy.

The Wheel of Fortune represents all of the things that happen for a reason beyond our knowing. Whether you call it destiny, karma, or chance, the Wheel signifies that there is change on the horizon, and it's out of our control. At this point in the journey, we've developed a deeper understanding of the greater patterns and cycles of life. Now, our best bet is to go with the flow.

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XI•JUSTICE

BALANCE • FAIRNESS • CHOICE

Draped in a hooded cloak, Rio has finally come to collect young Nicky's soul. Hand in hand, the two walk away from a sleeping Agatha and traverse the bridge to the unknown. Though Agatha doesn't yet realize it, the decision she made long ago to bargain for Nicky's life is catching up to her now. No matter how hard Agatha tries to restore balance in this moment, the weight of her past will tip the scales.

Eventually, all roads lead to the present. The Justice card signifies the arrival of this moment. When it shows up in a reading, absolute honesty is required. All that is happening to you right now is meant to happen due to your past decisions. Take this message to heart and look closely at this moment. The choices you make, or don't make, now will influence your future.



JUSTICE



THE HANGED MAN

XII•THE HANGED MAN

PERSPECTIVE • SURRENDER • ACCEPTANCE

Agatha manages to survive *The Road* only to find Rio waiting for her on the other side. Binding her wrists and ankles with vines, Rio drags Agatha from her basement and ensnares her, cutting off her ability to defend herself. Agatha Harkness is completely powerless—the only option now is to surrender to her fate.

The Hanged Man requires stillness. As much as you may want to fight against a situation—either one that you've created with your choices or one forced upon you—it will only prolong the pain. Surrender is the path forward. While you're in limbo, try to put aside your discomfort to see the situation from a different perspective.

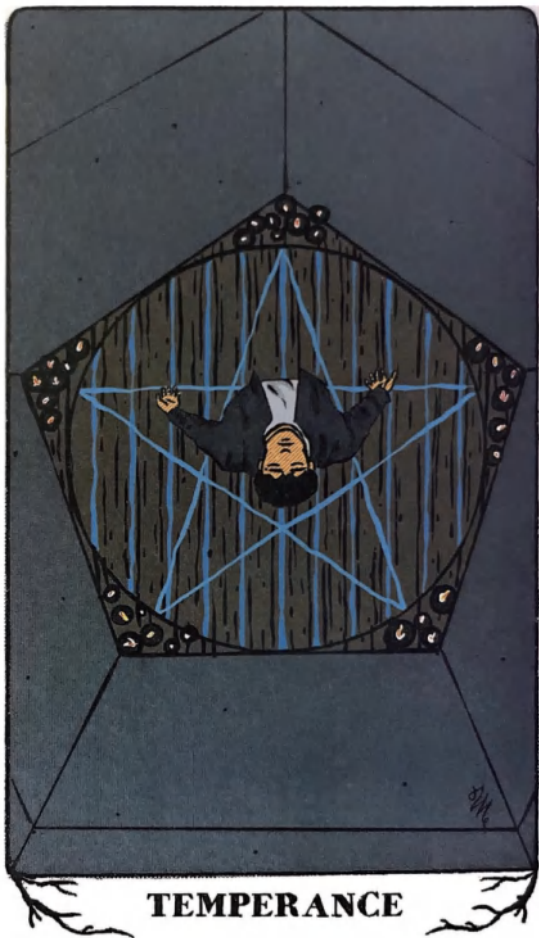
XIII•DEATH

TRANSFORMATION • REBIRTH • CLOSURE

Death comes for us all, and her name is Rio Vidal. Dressed in flowing, black robes and donning her skeletal mask, Rio is a force to be reckoned with. She carries her scythe, yet she does not use it to set Agatha free, nor does she use it to bring her to a quick and merciful end. Though the circumstances of Death are inevitable, the manner in which one lives is solely up to them.

A lot of fear surrounds the Death card. While it isn't the most pleasant card to pull, it almost never represents literal death. Consider its appearance as an ending—one that has already been initiated or is just on the horizon. Take this as a sign to slough off the parts of yourself that you no longer wish to carry. When in doubt, remember that death is the only experience that is guaranteed to each and every one of us. As Maestra tells Lilia, there's a bittersweet comfort in that notion. Like Lilia, surrender to the inevitable and focus on how you will handle the change ahead.





TEMPERANCE

XIV•TEMPERANCE

HARMONY • MODERATION • PURPOSE

After surviving the trials and uncovering his true identity, Billy goes back to the place where it all began: Agatha's basement. Only this time, he knows exactly what he's capable of. No longer intimidated by Agatha, Billy draws upon his own magic and earned knowledge, intending to banish her spirit and seal The Witches' Road.

How far Billy has come since he was the novice known as Teen in the Magician card! Now he has experienced the world and earned the wisdom to understand himself, and his powers, on a much deeper level. Such is the meaning of the Temperance card. This card signifies that there is a greater purpose to the situation at hand. Going to extremes, as you may have done in the past, is not the answer. It's time to use the tools, people, and energy around you to create a harmonious solution. The knowledge you require is within you.

XV•THE DEVIL

DEPENDENCY • NEGATIVITY • ENTRAPMENT

Rio looms menacingly above Agatha and Billy, both of whom are bound. But look a little closer. Is it that the binds are loose? Despite the terrifying witch hovering nearby, both Agatha and Billy seem oddly calm. It's almost as if neither realizes just how much trouble they're in.

With more experience comes greater challenges, as depicted by the Devil card. As you develop your skills and confidence and your magic grows more potent, the potential to misuse your power does, too. When the Devil card appears, you have been tricked by an illusion. Perhaps you've put all your energy into accumulating more material possessions, or winning at any cost. Reexamine the binds that hold you. There is always a way out.



THE DEVIL



THE TOWER

XVI•THE TOWER

LIBERATION • UPHEAVAL • SURPRISE

While Agatha has journeyed down The Road with the coven, another vengeful foe has followed: the Salem Seven. Lilia's divination skills, with the help of the coven, allow Agatha to break free of the demons who haunt her—but not without dire consequences. When the last card is pulled, the Tower inverts, and the Salem Seven tumble to their death. But Lilia is lost, too—a heart-wrenching consequence of Agatha ignoring her past.

It's not easy to see the Tower come up in a reading. It almost always signifies an upheaval or unexpected shock. That said, you have control over how you approach this warning. If you have worked to course correct and realign with your values on your journey, you will be well-prepared to face whatever comes your way. If you've ignored your intuition, your intuition will make itself known—and it may not be pretty. This is a necessary step on any journey. Freedom is on the other side.

XVII•THE STAR

RENEWAL • SERENITY • INSPIRATION

After the storm, peace finally arrives. All sense of ego is stripped away, leaving us both renewed and vulnerable. When Billy's spirit inhabited William Kaplan's body after a tragic accident, it was Mr. and Mrs. Kaplan who cared for him, even though they didn't understand this new version of their son. The two hold hands beneath a sky full of stars as they gaze into a pool of water, symbolizing the faith and optimism they embody.

The Star card appears when hope is knocking at your door. Perhaps you've been through a trial recently. This card signifies a period of renewal coming your way. If you're an artist of any kind, the Star may show up to whisper an idea in your ear. You need to take no action at this time. Simply rest during this peaceful lull until the twinkling glow of inspiration shines upon you.



THE STAR



THE MOON

XVIII•THE MOON

SECRETS • ILLUSIONS • INSTINCT

Young Nicky stands atop a table, his arms outstretched and a sweet grin on his face. He sings of The Witches' Road to a rapt audience. Disguised as a fellow patron, Agatha watches carefully. While the guests are reeled in by Nicky's charm, they are unaware of the witch waiting in the wings to manipulate them into giving up their powers.

You've been through a lot on this journey. The Moon card shows up to remind you that there's no going back to who you once were. You can no longer ignore your instincts; distortions are still at every turn. The answer is not found in logic and reason. Lean on your intuition, your values, and signs the universe is sending your way. Secrets will be revealed.

XIX•THE SUN

OPTIMISM • VITALITY • JOY

A gleeful young Nicky sings as he walks in the woods, reveling in the sunshine that warms him. He is the picture of radiant joy, and Agatha gazes at him as if he is the sun himself. For now, the skies are clear, and no danger is in sight.

When the Sun card appears, any outcome is sure to be a happy one—your optimism is well-founded. Though every journey is filled with ups and downs, for a blissful moment, the path ahead is smooth. This card can also signal that a pause to stop and smell the flowers will produce better results than working around the clock. Even Agatha realized her most precious moments were when she sang, played, and explored with her son.



THE SUN



JUDGMENT

XX•JUDGMENT

RECKONING • ABSOLUTION • TRUTH

Agatha levitates above a group of witches who have circled around her. They entrusted Agatha to lead them to The Witches' Road. Instead, she drains them of their power to fuel her own, leaving the witches for dead. For Agatha, this is a necessary act—just another day, another coven to exploit.

In some ways, Agatha's journey is not a straight path, but a circle. Again and again, she continues to trick, siphon, and steal from other witches, which only leads her back to where she started. This is the essence of the Judgment card. Eventually, you must reckon with your past—but not only how your decisions have affected you. When the Judgment card appears, you must consider how your choices have had a ripple effect. Do you deserve the consequences you're facing now? Be brutally honest. The truth is the way forward.

XXI•THE WORLD

WHOLENESS • COMPLETION • INTEGRATION

All journeys must come to an end, one way or another, and Agatha has come to the end of hers. Death has finally claimed her. This part of her story is complete: The trials are finished and the truth of The Witches' Road revealed. And yet, there is always more to learn. Perhaps another journey awaits Agatha Harkness in the spirit world.

The World card signals that the journey is over, even if you feel there is still more to do. Trust that a cosmic order is at play, and this particular path ends here. Settle into the satisfaction of knowing you did your best. There will always be another lesson, another path to follow.



THE WORLD



The coven's only hope of making it off The Road with their wishes fulfilled lies within the trials. Represented by the four elements, the story of each witch's trial is told through its corresponding suit in the Minor Arcana.

Enter the beach house in the suit of cups as Jen faces her water-element trial.

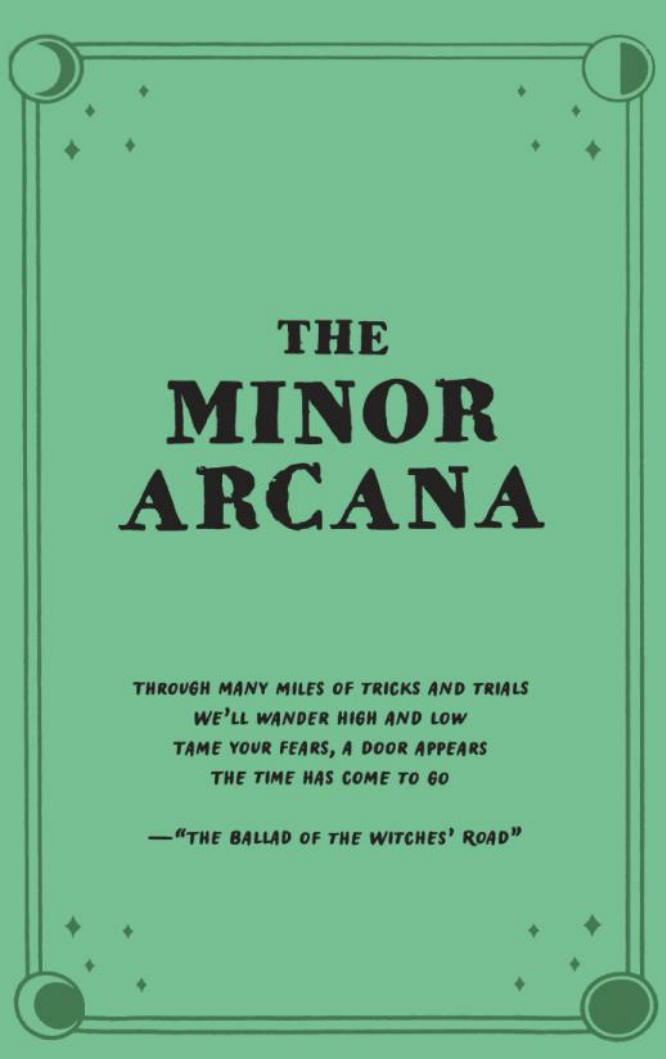
Make your way to the recording studio in the suit of wands for Alice's fire-element trial.

Join Lilia in the castle for the suit of swords and her air-element trial.

Escape from the morgue with Agatha in the suit of pentacles and her earth-element trial.

Tame your fears. A door appears.

Now it's time to go.



THE MINOR ARCANA

THROUGH MANY MILES OF TRICKS AND TRIALS
WE'LL WANDER HIGH AND LOW
TAME YOUR FEARS, A DOOR APPEARS
THE TIME HAS COME TO GO

—“THE BALLAD OF THE WITCHES’ ROAD”

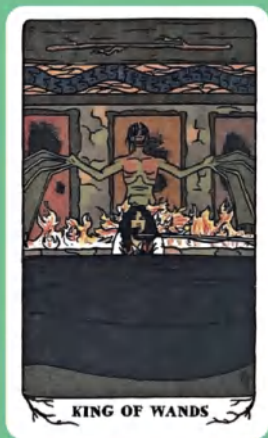
SUIT OF WANDS

KING OF WANDS

HONORABLE • CHARISMATIC • VIBRANT

Alice plays her heart out on the keyboard in the battle against the curse. Her eyes are closed as she plays, but she can feel the heat growing behind her. Still, she does not waver. Alice pours all of her courage and conviction into the music she's creating, trusting that she will finally banish this curse. Even when the curse clamps its claws onto her shoulders, searing her skin, Alice

plays on. The King of Wands is the embodiment of this sense of purpose. Whether the card represents you or someone else, know that the most honorable course of action is the right one in this situation.



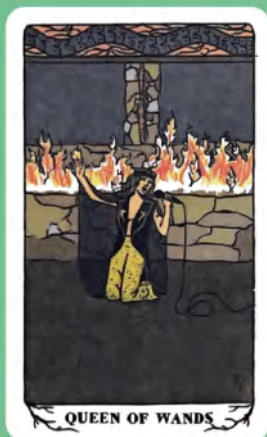


QUEEN OF WANDS

ARTSY • SENSUAL • DRAMATIC

Agatha grabs the mic as the curse screeches and swoops overhead. She gives it all she's got as she croons "The Ballad of The Witches' Road" with the rest of the coven jamming around her. Agatha may be a tricky witch, but one thing is true: When she decides to do something, she puts her whole heart into it. Plus, a little flair makes the situation all the more dramatic. Whether

this card represents you or someone you know, it's time to embody the fire energy of the Queen of Wands. Here is a place for passion and zest. You only need to know where and toward whom to direct them.



KNIGHT OF WANDS

PASSIONATE • QUICK • BRAVE

When Alice sees someone in danger, she does not hesitate to act. As a protection witch, her instinct guides her to leap into action when Agatha is attacked. To Alice, there is no question of morality or the need to consider who deserves to be saved and who is disposable; she faces every battle with the same sense of bravery.

When the Knight of Wands appears in a reading, it's time to act. This card could represent you as you leap into battle, or someone else who is charging ahead on your behalf.



PAGE OF WANDS

ENTHUSIASTIC • JOYFUL • EAGER

Lilia grabs the maracas and gets to work. Though the witch is no musician, her heart is in the right place. In this moment, she approaches the challenge of banishing the curse with earnest enthusiasm. Like Lilia, the Page of Wands isn't hesitant about the task at hand. Even if the Page faces a challenge well outside of their skill level, they are eager to try. If this card represents

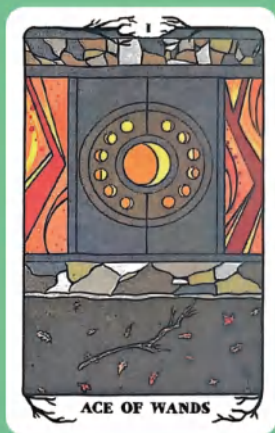
you, embrace the path ahead and go forth with gusto. If it's someone close to you, take a cue from their enthusiasm and approach the challenge with confidence. If you get stuck and don't know how to break free, trust that you have the inner resources to figure it out.



ACE OF WANDS

NEW PROJECTS • ADVENTURE • ENERGY

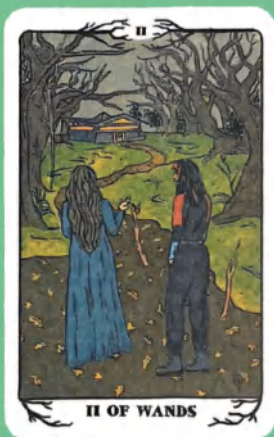
The witches approach another trial—this one on the other side of a '70s-style music studio. No one knows what lies ahead, but the image of the waxing moon carved into the front door offers a clue. The waxing moon represents the fire element, or an influx of energy. Whatever or whomever they face, the task is sure to be intense. All Aces represent a new beginning, and when the Ace of Wands appears, you can expect a new adventure. Discovery and passion are right around the corner.



II OF WANDS

PLANNING • VISION • INTENTION

Agatha and Alice stand before the mysterious studio that houses the next trial. After what they've already been through, the two witches are hesitant to walk into another dangerous situation without any preparation. Though they can guess what is waiting for them behind the door with the moon carving, The Road is fickle, and its trials are unpredictable. This card calls you to prepare in any way you can, whether that means researching, finding a support group, or mapping out your goal. You can't plan for everything, but even simply setting an intention is helpful in this situation.

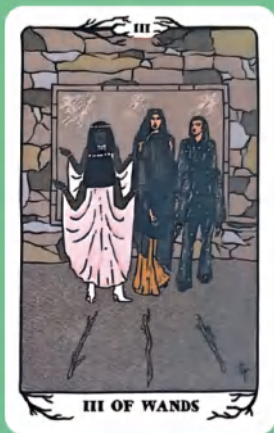


III OF WANDS

RECOGNITION • TRAILBLAZING • TRUST

Jen, Agatha, and Rio look at themselves in the mirror. They've just stepped inside of the recording studio, yet they've already transformed. Examining their flowing frocks and bell-bottom jeans, they're reminded yet again that The Road is unpredictable. This trial will be different from the last. They can trust only the true version of themselves beneath the ever-changing wardrobe.

This card calls you to trust the foundation you've built and go for it! You know who you are on the inside. Now it's time to trust yourself and expand your horizons. Adventure awaits.

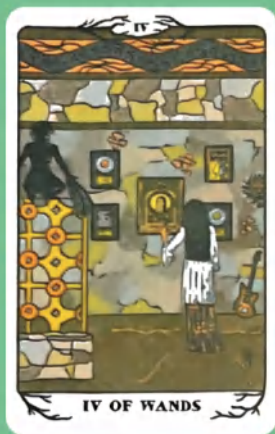


IV OF WANDS

HOMECOMING • SECURITY • FOUNDATION

As Alice wanders the recording studio, she finds herself face to face with a portrait of Lorna Wu—her late mother. She hasn't yet faced a sense of grief when it comes to her roots. Guilt overtakes Alice as she remembers Lorna's attempts to free them both from the family curse. Hiding in the background, a demon watches Alice in silence. This card indicates a homecoming

of sorts, and all of the emotions that come with it. No matter how adventurous you are, we all need to return to our foundation every once in a while to catch our breath. Consider where you come from to determine where you're going.

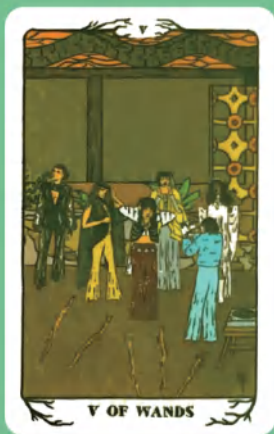


V OF WANDS

CONFLICT • TENSION • ARGUMENTS

The sign on the record player says "Play Me." That's what Alice does, only for the spinning record to emit an ear-splitting screech. The witches howl in pain, covering their ears and screaming at one another to stop the noise. When this card appears, tension is at an all-time high. Perhaps you can already feel it among your group of friends or colleagues. If

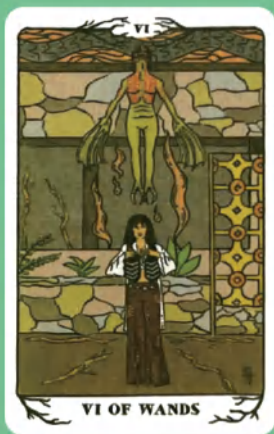
you aren't in the middle of an external conflict, look inward for the source. Have you lost focus recently? Are there too many ideas or projects pulling you in multiple directions? Pause and take a deep breath. If you have to choose your battles, make sure to choose them wisely.



VI OF WANDS

PROGRESS • SELF-CONFIDENCE • SUCCESS

Alice sighs in relief. Miraculously, she feels lighter, as if a weight has been lifted off her shoulders. What she and the other witches have yet to realize is that a literal weight has been lifted—the family curse has left her body and taken flight. For a brief moment in her life, Alice experiences the elation that comes with success. If you've pulled the Six of



Wands, perhaps you can relate. This is a moment that signifies a victory. You may still have further to go on this journey, but this moment, you've arrived, and it is a mark of success. Go ahead and pat yourself on the back! You deserve it.

VII OF WANDS

PROTECTION • DEFENSE • TAKING A STAND

The demon-curse is on the move. As it swoops through the recording studio, clawing at any witch in its path, Alice puts her skills to use as a protection witch. Thinking quickly, she draws a circle around each witch to protect them from the deadly curse that she, unknowingly, has set free. Though this form of defense isn't enough to stop the attack, it does buy the coven time.

This card asks you to call on your inner strength. It's time to face your fear head-on. Even if taking a stand will solve only part of the problem, this is a necessary step forward. Start with the immediate issue at hand and go from there.



VIII OF WANDS

MOVEMENT • SWIFTNESS • INCOMING NEWS

The curse circles above the coven in the studio. Its presence looms over them as they rush to finish the trial—a menacing reminder that time is running out. Though the witches are quick on their feet, the curse is quicker. It does not hesitate to deliver a devastating blow whenever it sees an opportunity. This is one of the only cards in the deck that doesn't depict a human.

Meaning is conveyed through the characteristics of the curse: swift, bold, decisive. Incoming news or an idea is coming your way, and quickly. Are you ready to receive it?



IX OF WANDS

DETERMINATION • STAMINA • BURNOUT

If there is ever a time to fight back, it's now. The witches rush to the center of the studio, each picking up an instrument or microphone as their chosen weapon. Together, they rally to perform "The Ballad of The Witches' Road", even as the curse looms overhead. No one knows for certain if this plan will work—or even if this is what the trial is asking of them—but they

summon all of the courage they have to give the curse a worthy battle. When the Nine of Wands appears in a reading, know that you're very close to the end of your journey. So close, in fact, that you're more vulnerable to pitfalls than ever. This card indicates that you may be on the verge of burnout after fighting for your space, time, and projects. Do whatever you need to do to finish the journey, whether that's a pause to rest or a final push.



X OF WANDS

BURDEN • STRENGTH • RESPONSIBILITY

Alice stands before the coven, her shoulders bare and burned. She had allowed them to see her scars when they first entered the trial; now they witness the terrible pain of the curse maiming her in front of them. This is the burden Alice has carried in secret her entire life. It's no longer possible to do so alone; the curse now affects them all. This card marks the end of

a journey filled with both adventure and conflict. If you've allowed your attention and energy to move in a million different directions, you may feel much more restricted than you did when you first began this journey. However, if you've stuck to the path, you may feel stifled creatively. The message lies in the middle. Which wands are worth carrying onward, and which are you ready to lay down?



SUIT OF SWORDS

KING OF SWORDS

INTELLECTUAL • WISE • OBSERVANT

Lilia shuffles the tarot cards in deep concentration. Threats and chaos are all around her, but she is not derailed. Divination is Lilia's craft, her life's work. Observing the patterns in the cards has allowed her to interpret the signs and synchronicities along her path with the kind of wisdom that has been rightfully earned. This is Lilia's trial, and she has known all along that it was

never going to be easy. Whether the King of Swords represents you or someone else, mastery of the mind is pertinent. The situation at hand calls for both intellect and intuition. Trust that your experiences thus far have gifted you the wisdom you now need.



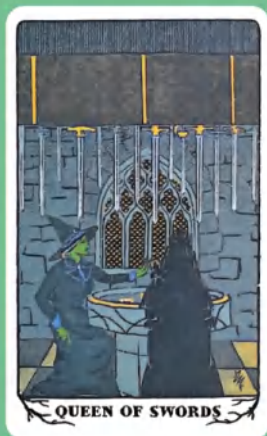


QUEEN OF SWORDS

STRATEGIC • LOGICAL • EXPERIENCED

Agatha snatches a tarot card from Lilia's hand and slaps it onto the table. The action is bold and decisive, considering Agatha is not exactly an expert in divination. But the ceiling is quickly descending, and dozens of dangling swords threaten to impale them all if someone doesn't make a move. Like Agatha, the Queen of Swords can come off as harsh. This isn't because she doesn't

care—it's because her intuition speaks through logic and strategic decision-making. If this is you, embrace your intellect to guide you through your current situation. If this is someone else, try not to take any abrasiveness to heart.

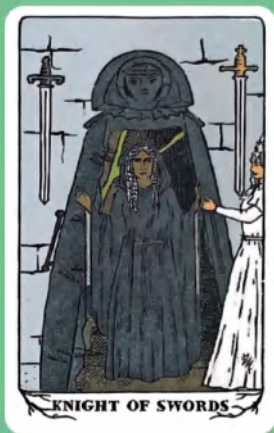


KNIGHT OF SWORDS

SKILLFUL • HEADSTRONG • BOLD

Jen stands inside of the iron maiden, refusing to leave the castle without Lilia by her side. Though Lilia calmly explains that she has chosen this fate and that Jen is the way forward, Jen will not budge. Headstrong and willful, Jen insists that there is another way and that fate can be fought. When the Knight of Swords arrives on the scene, you or someone

close to you is ready to fight for what you know to be true. Just be certain to back up your claims and deliver the message with skill and precision. It's facts and tact.

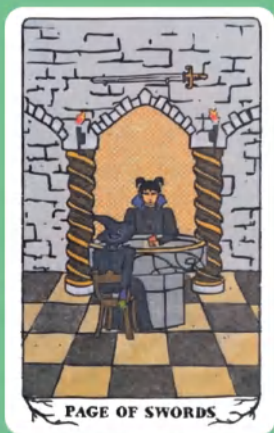


PAGE OF SWORDS

CURIOUS • DETACHED • IDEALISTIC

Billy is no tarot expert, but he's willing to take a crack at it. With only he and Agatha up against a divination trial, he attempts to channel the little knowledge he has into a win. Like Billy, the Page of Swords possesses an idealistic outlook. Whether this card represents you or someone else, this person tends to have a curious mind and a good idea of how something

"should" work. However, they can get frustrated when they don't have the experience to back up their book smarts. Keep learning and try again.

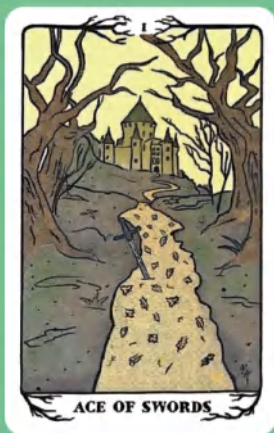


ACE OF SWORDS

NEW IDEAS • INTELLECT • CLARITY

Agatha and Billy arrive at the next trial on The Witches' Road. A medieval castle looms in the distance, its windows aglow with flickering candlelight. The mystical, ethereal quality of the castle indicates that this is an air trial. Intellect, perception, and the ability to pierce through to the heart of the truth will be the skills tested. This ace is a new beginning. Within the suit

of swords, this card signifies a breakthrough moment. Perhaps you come to a revelation about a problem that's been plaguing you. Or maybe you decide to lean on logic to uncover the truth. Either way, it's time to use your intellect on this journey.

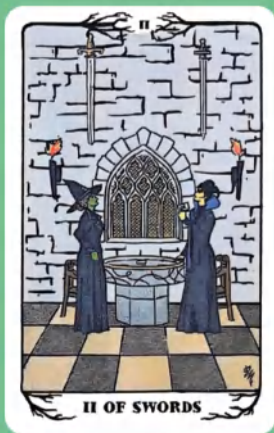


II OF SWORDS

BLOCKAGES • OCCLUSION • LACKING INFORMATION

When they enter the castle, Agatha and Billy are transformed. Wearing the robes of two other iconic witches, they are faced with figuring out the next trial alone. Soon it becomes clear that they'll need to read tarot. There's only one problem: Neither of them knows how to do so. When this card appears, something is preventing you from seeing the situation clearly.

A piece of information is needed before you can fully commit to a task. Ask yourself, "What information do I need at this moment?"



III OF SWORDS

SORROW • GRIEF • ACCEPTANCE

Agatha examines her open and empty arms. She stands among barren trees, a blanket of dead leaves at her feet. Behind her, three swords pierce through the image of a heart, signifying heart-break. It's this grief that has colored all of the decisions Agatha has made throughout her life, and the reason why she finds herself once again covenless on The Witches' Road.

The message behind this card is difficult, yet simple: Allow space for your sorrow. You can't trust yourself to make sound decisions until you've processed your pain. Let it in so you can let it go.



IV OF SWORDS

RECOVERY • RETREAT • WITHDRAWAL

In a twist of fate even a divination witch couldn't see coming, Billy puts his powers to use and throws Jen and Lilia off The Witches' Road. They sink through the mud and into an underground tunnel, where they lie, stunned and dirt-streaked.

These two witches need a moment to catch their breath—and maybe you do, too. The trial you're currently facing is incredibly intense; some part of you already knows there's more to come. When this card appears, it's critical that you pull back for a moment. Rest up and gain your bearings.



V OF SWORDS

CONFLICT • HUMILIATION • DEFEAT

Billy discovers what it's like to get on Lilia's bad side during the divination trial. After hopping timelines, Lilia rushes Billy and grabs him by the collar—all while wearing a sparkly pink gown. "I thought we were cool," she snaps, signifying her feelings of deep betrayal. Though Billy didn't mean to betray Lilia, hurt and humiliation are still present. This card signifies a conflict—usually a

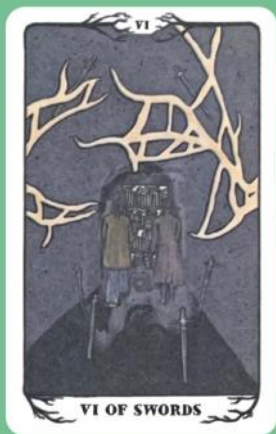


verbal one—that has left you feeling burned. It doesn't matter if you "won" the argument or not. The question is, what will you do about any lingering regrets?

VI OF SWORDS

TRANSITION • CHANGE • JOURNEYING

Jen and Lilia arrive at a crossroads in the underground tunnel. To the right, an opportunity to exit The Witches' Road. To the left, a bookshelf passageway that leads to the next trial. Though Jen is initially tempted to escape, both witches decide to journey further down The Road. This card often signifies a transition on a longer journey. It isn't necessarily a dramatic change—at least not to onlookers—but it does indicate a quiet hope that the helplessness you've felt may finally be relieved by this shift. Enter the passageway and trust that change is coming.



VII OF SWORDS

BETRAYAL • THEFT • SCHEMES

With Lilia and Jen back in the mix, the pressure is off Agatha. No longer does she have to mess with divination, growing increasingly annoyed, to solve this trial. As usual, Agatha allows the rest of the coven to figure out a solution while she tiptoes away from the reading table—and the imminent danger the dangling swords present. This card arrives with a message of betrayal. But before you cast your suspicions at your inner circle, turn your gaze inward. Most often, you're your own worst enemy! How have you stolen time or resources from yourself? Where have you betrayed yourself by not supporting your greatest ambitions?

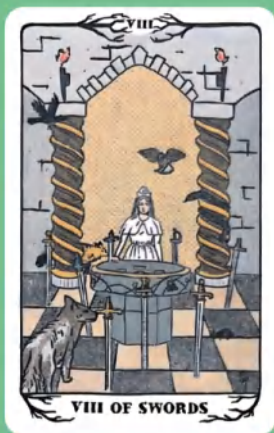


VIII OF SWORDS

ISOLATION • LIMITATION • OPPRESSION

Lilia closes the door to the iron maiden, locking herself inside of the castle alone. She stands before the table, her tarot cards askew, as the Salem Seven close in. But notice her expression. Lilia isn't afraid; she has accepted her fate. Or, more accurately—she has chosen it. This is the secret message hidden in the Eight of Swords. While isolation and resignation

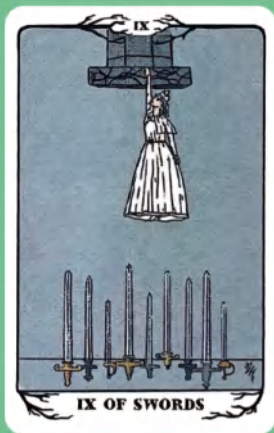
are inherent in its meaning, the person depicted is not bound. No matter how frustrated you feel right now, know that some aspect of this oppression is of your own making. The wonderful thing about this is that your freedom can be of your own making, too.



IX OF SWORDS

ANGUISH • DISSOLUTION • NIGHTMARES

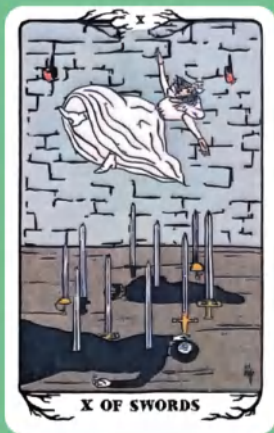
Facing her final moments, Lilia's quick thinking sends the Salem Seven tumbling. The swords now stick straight up from the floor, but Lilia is not quite ready to let go. She hangs from the reading table by one arm. Of course, she knows how this journey will end, but the agony Lilia feels is not because her story is almost finished—it's because of what she is leaving behind. "I loved being a witch," Lilia last said to the coven. While this card denotes a painful situation, the anguish lies in what is lost. You have no control over this situation. It's time to let go.



X OF SWORDS

MOURNING • SUFFERING • INEVITABLE ENDING

Lilia lets go. Falling through the air, she knows that she will meet the same fate as the Salem Seven, who have already met a quick and brutal end. And yet, she doesn't protest, or scream, or plead. This is the path she has chosen, and she will meet it willingly. The Ten of Swords is rarely a welcome sight in a reading. You can count on an ending of sorts—one that causes deep pain. However, it's important to remember that it takes only one sword to draw blood; there is no need for more blades when one is enough. Be sure that you aren't punishing yourself by unnecessarily extending your own suffering.



SUIT OF PENTACLES

KING OF PENTACLES

LOYAL • ACCOMPLISHED • SUCCESSFUL

Agatha completes her journey where it began—at her home in Westview. She stands in her yard, a lock of Nicky's hair in one hand and her necklace in the other, as dandelion seeds waft around her. Say what you want about Agatha, but when she truly commits to a cause, nothing can break her loyalty. Her enduring love for her son is the criteria by which she measures every other aspect of her life. This is the energy of the King of Pentacles, too. By all means, this King is successful, yet he can remain stubbornly committed to a goal that doesn't serve him if he's not careful. If this is you, try not to be so hard on yourself. If this is another person, be sure to show them appreciation for their altruistic qualities instead of their achievements.





QUEEN OF PENTACLES

RESOURCEFUL • NURTURING • SELF-MADE

Billy awakens in the morgue and finds his tattered black notebook by his side. Without full knowledge on how to use his powers and time running out, he flips through the pages in search of something that can help him, Agatha, and Jen out of this mess. But luck isn't on Billy's side this time; the pages have been blacked out. Although Billy certainly has his faults,

he regularly expresses his concern for the rest of his coven and helps out whenever he can. Similarly, the Queen of Pentacles shows her love through practical work. Whether this card represents you or someone else, know that the answer to your question lies in the mundane details of your life. Pay more attention to the small things and watch them grow.

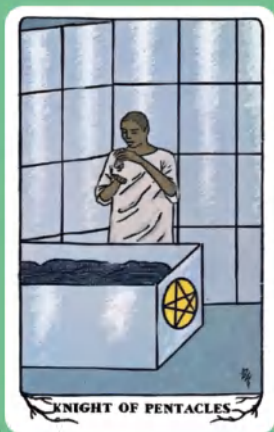


KNIGHT OF PENTACLES

PRACTICAL • DEDICATED • UNASSUMING

When Jen wakes up in the morgue, the only item she has with her is a small tincture. Without any powers, or even her own clothes, she must survive this trial with only this tincture and her wits. This is the energy of the Knight of Pentacles. It may not be the flashiest court card in the deck, but its arrival signals that consistent, practical action is the most promising path forward. Whenever you

feel tempted to try a new trick to get ahead, check to be sure that you have all of your basics covered first. If not, look to a trusted ally to help you find sure footing.



PAGE OF PENTACLES

STUDIOUS • HARDWORKING • INVOLVED

An image of young Nicky appears, smiling cheerfully at the coin he holds in his hands. He looks at the glittering gold disc with a sense of reverence, as if he innately understands that the item in his hands is both rare and precious. He will have to study his mother's tricks and apply them faithfully to prove his worth. If you find yourself trapped in the dark, acknowledge that the way out is through practical work experience, such as an internship or apprenticeship. If this card represents someone else, examine their daily routines and work ethic for clues as to how to approach your current situation.



ACE OF PENTACLES

NEW GOALS • PROSPERITY • LUCKY BREAK

What's left of the coven arrives at the final trial. Luckily for Agatha, this test will take place in her own home back in Westview. She knows this place intimately, putting her at an advantage—or so she thinks. When the witches awake, they discover that Agatha's basement has transformed into a morgue since they last left it. Like all aces in the deck, the Ace of Pentacles rep-

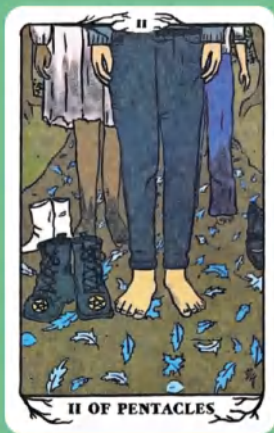
resents a new beginning, this time as it pertains to the material world. Whatever you're manifesting at the moment will affect your resources—including your home, career, and bank account.



II OF PENTACLES

PRIORITIES • DELIBERATION • OPTIONS

Jen, Billy, and Agatha finally make it to the end of The Witches' Road, only to find that they're back where they started! Their shoes lie abandoned on the path, right where they left them. The coven has a choice to make: Do they continue walking The Road and risk the chance that they'll get caught in an endless loop? Or do they slip on their shoes and search for an exit that may not exist? Both choices have their consequences and their rewards. Such is the nature of the Two of Pentacles. When this card appears, multiple options are available to you now, and each is worthy of your time and attention. Consider what you can give to each. Then decide whether you can juggle them all, or if you need to set one down.



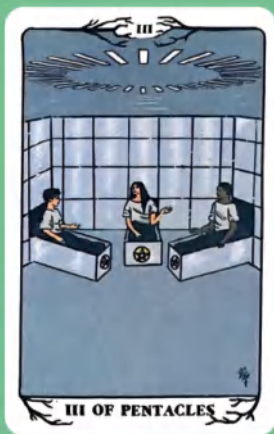
III OF PENTACLES

TEAMWORK • DEDICATION • COMMON GOAL

After slipping on their shoes, Agatha, Billy, and Jen awaken inside of a morgue. But once they unzip their body bags and survey their surroundings, the witches realize they're in an alternate version of Agatha's basement—and trapped within another trial. Whether they like it or not, these three are stuck together yet again.

It will require their unique skills and talents, working

in tandem, to escape. This card delivers a potent message: Teamwork makes the dream work. You may be a master in your field, but you can't possibly be a master in all fields. Call on others to round out your skills. With dedication to a common goal, whatever you create together will be greater than what you build alone.



IV OF PENTACLES

PRESERVATION • SAFETY • SELFISHNESS

Agatha's locket sits in the palm of her open hand. Though the locket is closed, you can assume that something precious is stowed inside by her fierce protection of it. In fact, this small piece of jewelry is one of the very few things that Agatha has proven to be attached to—even, some may argue, more so than to her fellow coven members.

This card implies that your recent decisions have been made from a place of fear. There's an air of stinginess—or perhaps an overreliance on material possessions—to your current situation. Remember: Self-preservation is powerful. Selfishness is a waste of your resources.



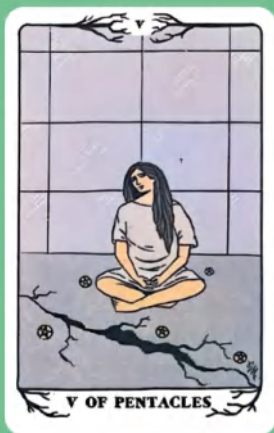
V OF PENTACLES

HARDSHIP • STRAIN • NEGATIVE MINDSET

Agatha sits alone on her basement floor. A crack splits open before her, the cement floor deteriorating as rapidly as the situation at hand. Above her head, another grow light flickers and then dies, throwing the morgue into darkness.

When this card shows up, it often reflects a feeling of hopelessness back to you. Your current situation contains a sense of hardship—one that has

strained your resources and relationships. The key to this card is to lift your gaze. Many times, the resources you need are right there, but you've been too forlorn to look for the light.

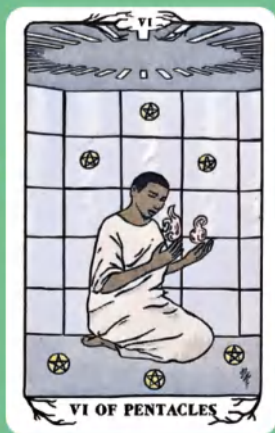


VI OF PENTACLES

GENEROSITY • RECEIVING • FLOW

Jennifer Kale finally receives what she has longed for: the return of her powers. After a confrontation in the morgue, Jen forces Agatha to reverse her binding spell, ultimately restoring Jen's long-suppressed magic. She gazes at her glittering hands in awe as tears stream down her face. The meaning of this card is more complex than it seems. It represents the

flow of energy, or the cycle of giving and receiving between two parties. Nothing is more natural than this ebb and flow of energy, but it is often complicated by our beliefs around investment and worth. The Six of Pentacles calls us to give only what the other is able to receive at this time. This is the meaning of true generosity.



VII OF PENTACLES

EFFORT • DEVELOPMENT • SATISFACTION

Now it's time for Billy to reach for what brought him to The Witches' Road in the first place: his brother. Tuned into Tommy's spirit, Billy holds onto it as he searches the ether until he finds a teen boy drowning. With horror, Billy realizes that his deep longing to bring his brother back, combined with his newfound powers and magic skills, may have caused another boy to

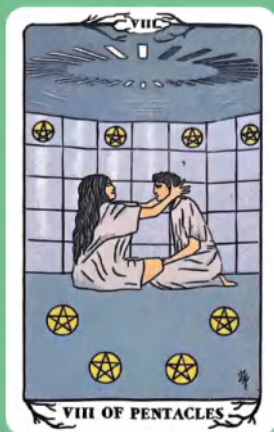
lose his life. When this card appears, know that your efforts are about to pay off, for better or worse. Take a moment to reflect on the work you've done. Anything worth having has a price. Are you willing to pay it?



VIII OF PENTACLES

TRAINING • DISCIPLINE • MASTERY

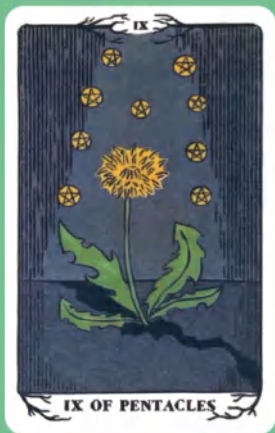
Agatha and Billy sit face-to-face on the morgue floor as the lights flicker ominously overhead. Perhaps Agatha is feeling remorseful for the damage she's inflicted, or maybe she has an ulterior motive, but she decides to help Billy get what he desires. Telling him to close his eyes, Agatha taps into her centuries of experience to mentor Billy as he searches the spirit world for his brother. This card signals the need for discipline. If you're struggling to progress in your current situation, search for opportunities for more training. Committing to your craft through regular practice is the key to achievement.



IX OF PENTACLES

SELF-RELIANCE • AWARENESS • ABUNDANCE

Nothing is left here for Agatha. She sits alone in the shadowy morgue, bent over the cement floor. The single dandelion seed that had been tucked into her locket is buried; her tears have watered the soil; and only one grow light remains. Then, a miracle happens—a dandelion grows from within the crack. This is a card of abundance that has been earned. When it appears, you can trust that all of the sacrifices you've made and the skills you've developed thus far will be worth the struggle. You've trusted yourself when things got hard. Now it's time to enjoy the payoff that awaits!



X OF PENTACLES

COMFORT • WEALTH • GRATITUDE

With the final trial over, Agatha rushes up the steps and throws open the storm cellar doors. Her skin and hair are streaked with dirt, but she has survived yet again. Now Agatha finds herself in her own yard, back in Westview. Though there will be another foe to face, this moment marks the end of her journey down The Witches' Road. Like all tens in the tarot, this card



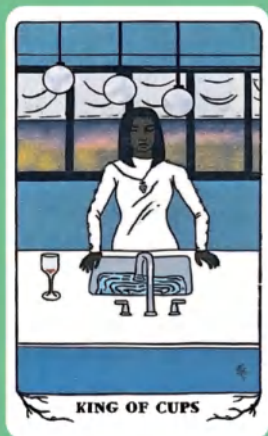
marks the endpoint on your path. But don't fret! This is a happy ending, or at least one that you can look back on with appreciation and gratitude.

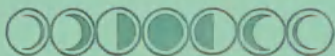
SUIT OF CUPS

KING OF CUPS

ARTISAN • POETIC • EMOTIONALLY INTELLIGENT

Jen is the potions witch and the subject of the beach house trial. Though the rest of the witches help at her discretion, it's Jen who is being tested, and her skills will decide the fate of the coven. This is the burden of the King card. As an archetype, the King represents the mastery of his suit. Like Jen, the King of Cups understands that he must tap into his creativity to serve those around him. Whether this card represents you or someone else, it signals a level of artistic, intuitive, or emotional mastery that you can lean on now.





QUEEN OF CUPS

INTUITIVE • LOVING • NONJUDGMENTAL

Lilia arrives at the kitchen sink in the beach house. She's armed with several products from Jen's beauty line, of all things, and she's ready to toss them into the potion. Though Jen may have been embarrassed to admit to the secret petroleum jelly in her products, Lilia isn't one to judge. Much like the energy of the Queen of Cups, Lilia is focused on

solving this problem in the gentlest way possible. If this card represents you, know that your openness and loving intelligence are your greatest assets. If this card represents someone else, consider reaching out to this gentle soul for support.



KNIGHT OF CUPS

CHARMING • ROMANTIC • SELF-INDULGENT

Teen sweeps in to stir the unfinished potion during the beach house trial. The pressure is on, and Jen's potion making isn't going according to plan. Luckily, Teen rushes into action. As he stirs the kitchen sink concoction, the potion transforms from green to cerulean blue. The coven has passed the first trial. When this card appears, be on the lookout for a dreamy, romantic soul who can offer you a new perspective. If this card represents you, turn your attention inward. Indulge your artistic sensibilities and biggest dreams to find the answer.



PAGE OF CUPS

SENSITIVE • COMPASSIONATE • CREATIVE

Alice stands in the living room at the beach house. She holds an empty wine glass in one hand and a bottle of frankincense in the other. The frankincense represents her contribution to the potion trial. Though it's a small offering, Alice is still willing to show up and do what she can for the coven. Similarly, the Page of Cups arrives to help where they can. This card carries the energy of new beginnings. Whether it represents you or someone else, lean into the compassion and the sensitive nature of this archetype.



ACE OF CUPS

NEW RELATIONSHIPS • CONNECTION • EMOTIONS

The Road takes a turn—toward a cozy, beachside cottage. With the windows alight and sandy shores underfoot, the coven realizes the only way out is through the front door of the first trial. The spilled cup in the image hints at the watery challenge ahead. To survive, they'll need more than Jen's mastery of potions; the witches will need to let down their guards. This card represents a readiness to open your heart and dive into a new relationship.



II OF CUPS

NEW PARTNERSHIP • COLLABORATION • LOVE

Who says a preppy sweater and feathered bangs can't unite two witches? Both Alice and Teen are pleasantly surprised to find an ally in each other. A bond is formed as the two chat on the overstuffed sofa while the rest of the coven explores the beach house. There's always that one person in every group that just gets you, no matter how different you both seem on the surface. This card signals the emotional connection between like-hearted souls. If you haven't yet met this person, keep your eyes open. They're on their way.



III OF CUPS

FRIENDSHIP • CELEBRATION • JOY

Mrs. Davis isn't one to turn down a bottle of wine, even if she is trapped in a '90s-themed beach house. She stands before the coven in her cardigan sweater with the open bottle in one hand and her topped-off wineglass in the other. The other witches gather around with their own glasses. An air of relaxation is depicted here, almost as if Mrs.

Davis was hosting brunch

in her own home instead of walking The Witches' Road. This card often indicates a celebration, or a heartfelt moment experienced with friends. Now is the time to enjoy the moment while you're in it.



IV OF CUPS

DISCONTENT • BOREDOM • APATHY

The trial has begun, and the witches are tasked with finishing the mysterious bottle of wine at the beach house. While the rest of the coven polishes off their glasses, Agatha secretly pours hers out into the houseplant. As in most circumstances, Agatha Harkness makes her own rules. She has no intention of drinking this mystery liquid, yet she isn't worked up about it,

either. Leaning on the wall in the corner, watching the others, Agatha appears almost bored by the spectacle. When this card appears, it calls you out for this sense of apathy. It would do Agatha more good to view the coven as precious instead of disposable. Perhaps it would do you good to appreciate your resources, too.



V OF CUPS

DISAPPOINTMENT • LOSS • REGRET

The scene is set: The witches finish a lovely bottle of wine and have a bonding moment. Then their faces start to swell. One by one, each witch's face contorts into an almost unrecognizable version of themselves. It isn't long after that the hallucinations begin, leading the coven to the only possible conclusion: They've been poisoned.

While this card doesn't indicate literal poisoning, it does signal pain—most likely emotional pain. Maybe you've taken a wrong turn recently, or you're feeling deep regret over a lost relationship. This card acknowledges that your feelings are valid. The antidote lies in fully feeling them so you can move on.

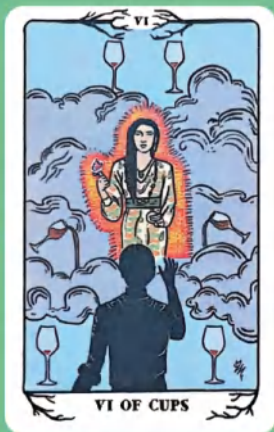


VI OF CUPS

MEMORY • CHILDHOOD • NOSTALGIA

Alice wanders the halls of the beach house. She's been poisoned, and with her face swollen and hallucinations trailing her around every corner, the task of finding potion ingredients is extra challenging. Then she runs into her mother—or a hallucination of her mother, Lorna Wu. It's been a long time since Alice has encountered Lorna, in real life or her dreams, and seeing her

standing in the beach house's hallway nearly knocks the breath from her. This card signifies the arrival of this bittersweet feeling. Often, the people and memories from our past carry with them both warmth and sorrow, but just because there's pain doesn't mean you can ignore them. Look to your roots for the answer you seek.



VII OF CUPS

TEMPTATION • CONFUSION • ILLUSION

Several overfilled cups appear before the coven. But which cups hold the truth, and which are only illusions? In this state of hallucination, it's impossible to tell. Reach for one cup, and you may find the antidote. But reach for another, and you may find yourself trapped in a nightmare. This card appears when your fantasies aren't grounded in reality. It's hard to make a choice that's in your

best interest when every option laid out before you seems equally likely. To be clear: The problem isn't in the visions themselves—it's in their lack of meaning. When this card appears, examine each option and choose the one that is most meaningful to you right now, in this moment.



VIII OF CUPS

STAGNATION • WITHDRAWAL • LETTING GO

Mrs. Davis lies still and silent on the kitchen counter. Behind her, cracks slither across the glass as water gushes into the beach house. The coven is torn; some witches cling to Mrs. Davis, while others scramble to find an escape. A cluster of wineglasses remain upright in the corner, unlike in the Five of Cups scene, when they were tipped and shattered. This



card signifies that your intuition is right—something is irreparable here. Although your cups may still be upright, a force deep within you knows that it's time to move on. Go ahead and feel the sorrow that comes with an ending, but don't let it hold you back. You still have more to face on this journey.

IX OF CUPS

WISH FULFILLMENT • ABUNDANCE • GRATITUDE

Just when all seems lost, an escape hatch appears. Jen successfully completes the potion trial in the nick of time: The beach house windows shatter, and the oven door pops open. Though each witch walks The Road to fulfill a deeper desire, it's safe to say that there is nothing any of them want more than to make it out of this trial alive. When this card appears, you can be sure that your wish will be granted. But there's a caveat: The form it takes may not look as you expected. Trust that it's exactly what you need at this moment.



X OF CUPS

HAPPINESS • CONTENTMENT • DELIGHT

The coven circles around the kitchen sink, each pouring in their separate ingredients and whispering their intentions. Behind them, water has begun to leak through the cracked windows, but the witches are focused. Each has taken on a role in assisting Jen to make this potion, and they move together in harmony for the greater good. This is the essence of the Ten of Cups. As the final card in the suit, it represents the culmination of an emotional journey. Just like the coven, you have reached the end of a grueling trial. Get ready to bask in the joy that's on its way.







TAROT READINGS

OPENING AND CLOSING A READING



It's a good idea to implement a short opening and closing ritual into your tarot-reading sessions. There are many different beliefs on this practice, ranging from the spiritual to the practical, which you can explore outside of this guidebook. My personal thought on reading rituals is this: Plenty of research demonstrates that the familiar, repetitive actions of a ritual act as a neurological trigger to get you into the same mindset that you were in the last time you performed a task. Knowing that I can take a shortcut to calm my body and open my intuition is well worth spending a few extra minutes before and after a reading.

A simple formula for a reading ritual involves four steps, each related to a specific element found in the tarot. Here's an example:



Water (Cups): Drink a sip of water and visualize it clearing out any negative energy in your body. Dump out the rest of the water at the end of the reading.

Fire (Wands): Light a candle that you only use for readings. Blow it out at the end of a reading.

Air (Swords): Burn incense and speak an intention out loud. Say, "Thank you" and hold your cards over the incense smoke to clear them. Blow out the incense and dispose of any ash at the end of the reading.

Earth (Pentacles): Place crystals in the four corners of your reading space. Put them away in a safe space when you're finished reading.

While these are my go-to practices, they don't have to be yours. You can do these in any order you see fit, or create your own ritual. Also, you can choose any symbol, color, sound, or action that's meaningful to you to represent each element. Trust your intuition.

WHAT TO ASK

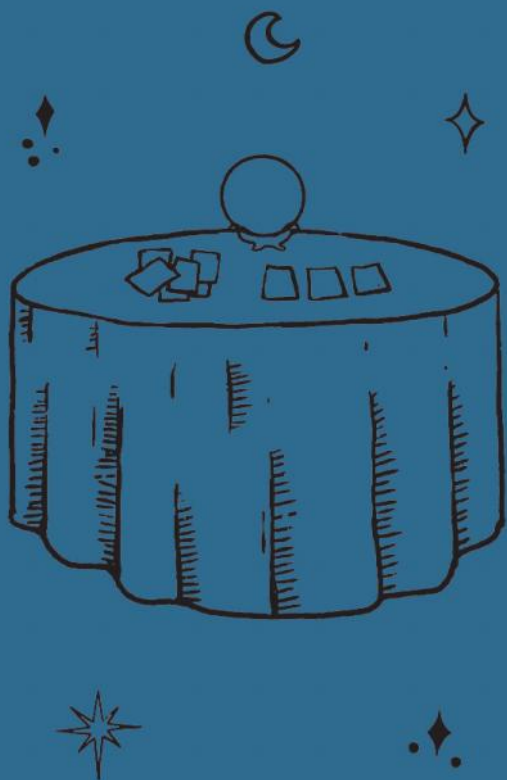


You've done your opening ritual, shuffled your deck, and—now what? You wouldn't be the first witch to draw a blank when it comes to formulating a question for the tarot. In general, the best practice is to ask open-ended questions, as the tarot isn't set up to give definitive yes or no answers. One of my favorite question openers is "What do I need to know about. . . ." You can follow that opener with just about anything—a friend, a work situation, an opportunity, and so on.

Another helpful opener is "How can I. . . ." Again, the second half of that statement can be anything—be a better partner, find strength, become more intuitive, etc.

Feel free to play around with different question formats to see what works best for you. My only recommendation is to avoid "when" questions. Tarot isn't the best oracle for pinpointing time—just ask Lilia. These types of questions tend to cause more frustration than they're worth. Besides, the flow of time is just an illusion, right?





GETTING STARTED WITH TAROT SPREADS



With tarot, the placement of the cards matters just as much as the questions you ask. By assigning meaning to each placement, you're allowing for a more nuanced, and hopefully more relevant, reading.

The order and position of the cards is called a spread. It's important to note, though, that even a single card can be a spread. A general rule is to work with and create spreads that answer your inquiries in as few cards as possible to prevent convoluting the message. Here are two examples of typical starter spreads:

One-card pull: Many tarot practitioners still draw a single card in response to a simple question. This is also a popular method to get a sense of a situation, such as the general vibes of your day or an event you're attending.

Three-card pull: These spreads are extremely popular for good reason: They're simple, customizable, and you can glean a lot of information from them. Instead of drawing one card, you draw three and place them in a row. Some ways practitioners use this spread are as past/present/future, goal/obstacle/outcome, you/your partner/your relationship.

WHICH-WITCH TAROT SPREAD



Now that you've joined the coven, it's time to discover your unique magic. Are you an ethereal divination witch like Lilia? A fiery protection witch like Alice? An intuitive potions witch like Jen? Or perhaps you're the practical earth witch the coven has been waiting for.

First, go through your deck and sort the Major Arcana in one pile and the Minor Arcana in another. Shuffle each pile. Be sure to keep the cards face down. Using the *Minor Arcana pile only*, draw a single card and place it in position one. Flip it face up.



Your elemental magic



Your greatest strength



Your hidden weakness



Lesson to learn
on The Road

If you pulled a cup card, you are a *water witch*. Your magic tends to come in a flowing form, such as in potions, rain, or the ocean. You are highly intuitive, relational, and sensitive.

If you pulled a wand card, you are a *fire witch*. Your magic tends to come in intense, blazing bursts represented by wildfire, heat, and the sun. You are courageous, protective, and action oriented.

If you pulled a sword card, you are an *air witch*. Your magic tends to be mercurial and unseen, like the wind, birds, flying insects, and sound. You are logical, flexible, and open-minded.

If you pulled a pentacle card, you are an *earth witch*. Your magic tends to take a solid, stable form, such as in soil, seeds, and animals. You are nurturing, practical, and determined.

Now, set your pile of Minor Arcana cards off to the side and grab the Major Arcana pile. Draw three cards from this stack and place them in positions two, three, and four. Flip them over. These cards represent the intricate workings of your unique gifts and talents, as well as how you will develop your power throughout your journey.

LILIA'S SAFE-PASSAGE TAROT SPREAD



It's almost time to step onto The Witches' Road. Before you go, consider trying out Lilia's Safe-Passage tarot spread from her divination trial. For this spread, you can use the entire deck and pull from one pile.

