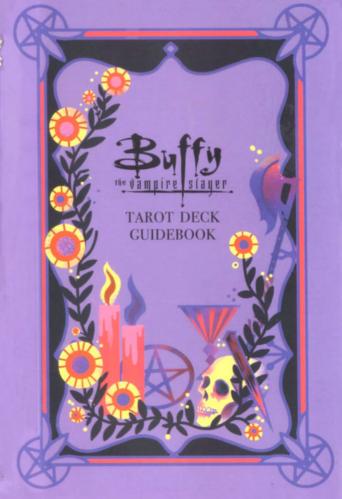


CAROT DECK GUIDEBOOK





TAROT DECK GUIDEBOOK

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ILLUSTRATED BY
KARL JAMES MOUNTFORD



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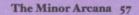
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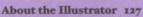
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MEETING YOUR CHOSEN ONE

Welcome to Sunnydale, where the weather is perfect, the Bronze is jammin', and the dead don't stay buried. This is a town where magic, destiny, and power converge, making it the perfect inspiration for tarot! In this deck, you will reunite with some familiar faces—the Scoobies, Spike, Angel, and more—as well as some faces you *maybe* thought had been defeated already and sent back to hell. Just as Buffy discovered her fate through her experiences in Sunnydale, this tarot deck can help you understand your life's direction by using characters, artifacts, and significant moments from her world.

Whenever you meet a new friend (or mysterious new demon hottie), it's nice to introduce yourself. Your tarot deck is no different! It's important to get to know it and tell it about yourself and how you'd like to work together. This can be accomplished by doing a few things:

- You may want to begin your relationship with your deck by cleansing it, but think less shower and more fun witchy cleansing. One easy way is to leave your cards in the light of the full moon or in a ring of salt to help shake off any bad vibes they might've picked up.
- ★ Start a tarot diary. (And don't let anyone read it! A diary is, like, a person's most private place—just ask Buffy.) As you go through your deck, examine each

MEETING YOUR CHOSEN ONE

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card and write down your first impressions. Based on the art, what do you think the card is communicating? Which cards stand out to you? You can use this diary to keep track of your readings, spreads you find helpful, and your progress as a tarot reader.

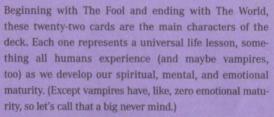
★ After your deck has been cleansed and you've spent time with each card, consider conducting the Nice to Meet You spread on the next page. A spread is a layout of cards with each card tied to a specific question.

The cards you draw provide guidance for the matter at hand. If they are facing the reader, that is considered Upright. If they are facing away from the reader, that is considered Reversed.

MAJOR ARCANA



THE 411

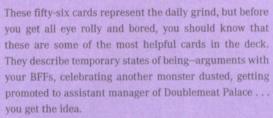


When a Major Arcana card appears in a reading, it signifies massive changes—ones that will help you grow into a knowing-stuff-type person. If a Major Arcana card is reversed, it means you're definitely visiting Denial Land and need to head on back to Pay Attentionville.







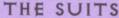


The Minor Arcana can provide a mega-useful amount of insight into your current circumstances, challenging the status quo and motivating you to work through tough times. The Minor Arcana includes four different suits:

Stakes (Wands in traditional decks)
Chalices (Cups in traditional decks)
Scythes (Swords in traditional decks)
Pentacles (samesies as traditional decks)

At the beginning of each section discussing the suits' meanings, you will find more information about what they address in a reading.

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STAKES

The Stakes are infused with the element of fire. When this suit sizzles into your reading, it's speaking to your deepest consciousness: creativity, raw passion, determination, and intuition. Its darker side warns of the destructive nature of fire: impulsivity, aimless wandering, and being a bit of an egotistical butthead. The Stakes challenge you to focus on how your thoughts turn into plans and how your intentions shape your actions.

CHALICES

Aligned with the element of Water, the Chalices are where all of your feelings flow. This suit, which corresponds to the Suit of Cups in traditional decks, guides your attention to relationships, emotional connections, and the power of your own imagination. When the waters get choppy, these cards warn against false expectations, restrained emotions, and rigidity.





SCYTHES

Like their namesake, the Scythes can both save and sever. Their dual-edged nature is helpful when slicing through difficult communication and dealing in matters of logic and intelligence. Corresponding with the Suit of Swords, these cards are associated with air, bringing messages of clarity, courage, and sometimes harsh truths.

PENTACLES

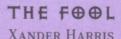
The Pentacles speak to your relationship with the tangible world, corresponding with the element of Earth. In a reading, they signify some of Anya's favorite things: wealth, power, and a system of symbiotic beauty in which hard work is exchanged for sparkly things. The shadow side of Pentacles harbors greed, prioritizing profits over people, and financial faux pas.













The Fool marks the beginning of a journey. He represents stepping into the unknown—maybe befriending the new girl you heard talking about the undead with the librarian—and taking a chance on the unexpected.

Upright: You may be goofy, naive, and a little bit insecure, but this card encourages you to face your fears boldly and unleash your freest free spirit freely. Sure, you may run into scary things (vampires, Incan mummies, the literal origin of evil), but the rewards will be worth the risk.

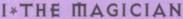
Reversed: Like Xander, you may have a penchant for courting the dangerous. There won't always be a Slayer around to save you, so be careful which path you follow—you may be taking risks you aren't prepared for.

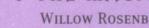


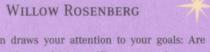
THE FOOL



THE MAGICIAN







The Magician draws your attention to your goals: Are they in line with your higher self? Are you using your resources, skills, and abilities for good? If so, you will manifest exactly what you desire-and if not, ehhhh. You'll make something happen, but you might not like how it turns out.

Upright: Settled in her powers, Willow has achieved a perfect balance of knowing when to use magic and when to do things the old-fashioned way. As the Magician, she advises that you examine your motives before taking any action. It's not enough to align yourself to your goals, you also must conduct yourself mindfully.

Reversed: Like Willow, you may be feeling like you've reached your Wiccan plateau, so to speak. Have you been questioning whether your potential is just that? Have you been wondering if your efforts are being ignored? Spend some time figuring out what's holding you back and then make a plan to banish it.

II*THE HIGH PRIESTESS

TARA MACLAY

When you're under the spell of the High Priestess, things aren't always as they seem. She calls you to peek behind the veil that separates this world from the next, drawing on mystical forces to unlock your creative talents.

Upright: Hailing from a powerful witch, Tara represents a lineage of esoterica and a deep connection to the unseen world. She invites you to explore the unknown, drawing upon your innate witchiness to access the knowledge you seek—this is not the time for logic, but for intuition.

Reversed: Tara chose to walk away from harmful lies about who she was in order to take her rightful place as a powerful witch, and right now, you are being urged to follow suit. You may have been valuing other people's opinions over your own, ignoring everything that makes you special. It's time to reconnect with who you are and trust your own voice.





THE EMPRESS



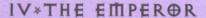


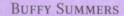
More beautiful than the stars she's named after, The Empress fills your reading with feminine energy, creative expression, and connection to the natural world.

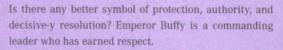
Upright: Before she was a vampire, Drusilla was a sweet young woman who embodied the generosity and purity of The Empress. When she appears, it's a call to connect with nature, to step into a nurturing role, or to surround yourself with things you love. Even after she was changed, Dru longed to grow flowers, to care for others, and, yes, to watch the world burn. But it goes to show that the energy of The Empress is lasting. Mostly.

Reversed: It may feel like everything you put in the ground just withers and dies, blocking your creative abilities and disrupting your self-expression. Like Drusilla, you may even be questioning your intuition, neglecting the unique traits that make you feel powerful. This disharmony can be resolved with self-care and patience, turning your mothering nature onto yourself.

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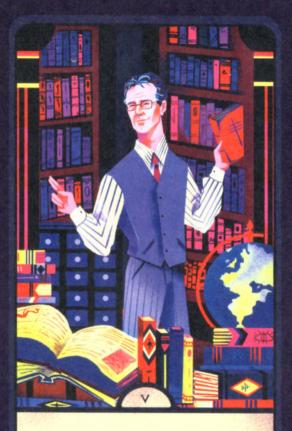




Upright: When this card takes charge of your reading, you are being asked to summon the strength of the Slayer. You may find yourself needing to play peace-keeper or having to rise above a situation to find a logical solution, but whatever is being asked of you, just know that you are chosen for a reason.

Reversed: Imagine having all the power of the Chosen One and then finding yourself undermined, micromanaged, and under the thumb of an authoritative jerk—wait, you don't *have* to imagine, because when reversed, this card finds you in that exact spot. Nothing is worth relinquishing your power, so stay true to your convictions and keep pushing back.





THE HIER OPHANT

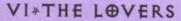
V*THE HIER OPHANT

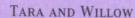
RUPERT GILES

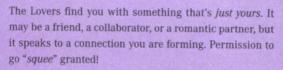
In the mind of Rupert Giles, there are clear rules, actions, and expectations for how one interacts with the world. As The Hierophant, he represents trusted and tested methodology.

Upright: When you are aligned with the energies of The Hierophant, you are learning to follow an established doctrine, mastering the essentials before you create something entirely your own. You are being asked to commit to a practice (perhaps cross-referencing?) and may want to consider finding a community of like-minded librarians to help you on your way.

Reversed: Consider this the Ripper within Rupert, surrounding your reading with wild, independent energy that just begs you to be rebellious. It's time to tell tradition to "sod off!" and forge your own path, playing by your own rules.







Upright: At its core, this is a card about choice—in order to receive the delicious benefit cookies of this relationship, you are going to have to be quite talk-y. Like, more talk-y than you've ever been. It's time for radical honesty, communication, and daily dedication if you want this to work.

Reversed: Grr, argh! Does your relationship suddenly have a case of the annoying with a side of the arguments? Even the best of friends have friction, and this card is encouraging you to seek resolutions. It's time to either open up and work through the bads or perhaps part ways.





THE CHARIOT

VII*THE CHARIOT

CORDELIA CHASE

Cheerleader, princess, and warrior, Cordelia Chase is the ultimate force of nature. As The Chariot, she represents taking action, honing your willpower, and bringing your inner bitch back.

Upright: When this card rolls into your reading, it's a sign to go after what you want. It will take hard work, discipline, and strength, but in the end? You'll be the queen and never the runner-up.

Reversed: When reversed, this card finds you being a bit of a Cry-Buffy, succumbing to the obstacles in your path. You're a winner, and it's time for you to remember the importance of what you set out to do. Embrace the pain, spank your inner moppet, and do whatever it takes to restore your motivation.

VIII*STRENGTH

DAWN SUMMERS

You don't need magical superpowers to save the day—you have an inherent ability to comfort and protect those around you with your emotional strength.

Upright: Like Dawn, you are extraordinary. When you are fully embodying the energy of Strength, you are exuding confidence, bravery, and conviction. While it may be tempting to set fire to anyone who underestimates you, this card encourages you to think before acting on any feelings of a destructive-y nature.

Reversed: The hardest thing in this world is to live in it, especially when you've been more focused on taking care of other people than yourself. When reversed, this card is warning you of impending yuck. What you need is a nice long break, a pizza with anchovies, and time to recharge your batteries.





THE HERMIT

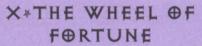
IX*THE HERMIT

Oz

The Hermit has plenty to figure out, and, until he does it, he shouldn't be around anybody—especially if it's a full moon.

Upright: In order to get in touch with his inner wolf, Oz retreated from Sunnydale in search of meditation, peace, and distraction-free brain space. You have reached a crucial time in your life where you may be yearning for introspection and time to evaluate your priorities. Give in to solitude!

Reversed: Between all the gatherings, shindigs, and hootenannies, you're spreading yourself thinner than brie. Are you trying to busy your way out of dealing with something? If so, consider this a gentle reminder to knock it off.



SINEYA, THE FIRST SLAYER

This card finds you deeply connected to the cyclical nature of life. Sineya stands as a reminder to take joy where you can, face sorrow when you must, and know that nothing is permanent.

Upright: Much like Sineya wasn't given a choice in *her* destiny, you may need to accept that your current situation is outside of your control—you cannot win a fight against change. You must simply accept it as part of your life and focus your energy on what you *can* do.

Reversed: Are you ready to go all taking-charge-of-the-future? It begins with accountability for where you are now and understanding what you could've done differently. How can you break a cycle when you don't know what part you played in it? Learn from the past so you can avoid future mistakes, and you just might find yourself changing the course of history. Go you.





JUSTICE

XI*JUSTICE





Always ready to atone for his past, Angel embodies the spirit of Justice.

Upright: This tall, dark, and brooding vamp finds you contemplating the potential consequences and repercussions of a decision. You are seeking truth but are beginning to realize there are many truths, each right in their own way. All you can do is take action you believe in. Remember, all that matters is what you do.

Reversed: Perhaps you've been a little more Angelus than Angel lately, and your conscience is starting to get the better of you. You can't hide the proverbial bodies forever, so it's time to own your sins, make amends, and vow to do better.

XII*THE HANGED MAN

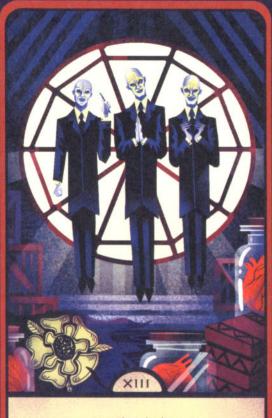
SPIKE

A bad poet, a good man, and willing to give up his bloody ways if it means saving the ones he loves, Spike as The Hanged Man is about perspective, growth, and sacrifice.

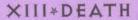
Upright: He may have lived for sodding ever, but even a vampire like Spike can see the world in a new light. What can you learn when you stop, give in to your surroundings, and relinquish the pursuit of progress? The Hanged Man asks you to do just that: take a pause. You are on the verge of self-discovery, and if you go with it? You might just find your own spark.

Reversed: For a demon, Spike never thought very much about the nature of evil. He just threw himself in like his afterlife was a party, and right now, you could benefit from his approach—not the evil part, just the jumping in part. This card finds you putting off a decision, stalling, waiting for the perfect moment—but there is no perfect moment. So, lace your boots up, put your leather jacket on, and dive into the fray.





DEATH



THE GENTLEMEN

Change is coming—but luckily no hearts will be removed in the process.

Upright: It won't do you any good to scream when faced with these agents of ick, but it will help you to learn that this card does not refer to a physical death. You can get the creeps out of your life—painful memories, outdated beliefs, toxic relationships—and make way for something better. You just need to find your voice.

Reversed: With their ability to speak gone, Buffy and her friends were finally able to express what they were truly feeling—and after you let go of outdated beliefs, you will be, too. There's a metric ton of the feelings that you aren't sharing, and it's starting to give you the nasties. Give yourself permission to grow, to share what's on your mind, and trust your pals to support you.

XIV*TEMPERANCE

JOYCE SUMMERS

Like a warm hug from a good mom, Temperance invokes comfort and the pursuit of balanced living.

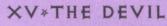
Upright: Joyce was the stabilizing force who held her family together. She insisted that Buffy be allowed to do normal teenage girl stuff on top of her cosmic, stabby duties. She is giving you a mom look that says, "Yes, you can go patrol the cemetery, but you also need a good night's sleep and a balanced breakfast." Consider how you can blend all of your priorities, devoting time to where it's needed.

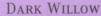
Reversed: You may have recently discovered wiggy news (perhaps you're parenting the Chosen One?) or maybe you've been dealing with mega-stress. Joyce is encouraging you to channel her energy. Bring patience, steadiness, and purpose back into your life. You need comfort to heal.





THE DEVIL



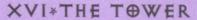


Ready to meet (and master) your darkest self?

Upright: Have you been calling down the fury, exacting fresh vengeance, and making people's worst fears come true? Because it's time to get that under control. The Devil speaks to temptations, addictions, and letting your darker self convince you that you have no say in the matter. Except, you do. Dark Willow reminds you that you can liberate yourself from negative influences and come away even stronger.

Reversed: You may find yourself being tempted with instant gratification, like siphoning magical powers instead of earning them, and this is an opportunity to make a healthier choice. The Reversed Devil indicates a need to disconnect from destructive habits, relationships, and situations.

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BATTLE OF THE TOWER

Meant to honor Glorificus and allow her to return to her hell-dimension home, The Tower represents upheaval and life-altering change.

Upright: Some things, like a tower built for The Abomination by her slaves, were just not meant to last. If this card topples into your reading, you can anticipate a big ol' lifequake. Let that crappy tower, which was a painful reminder of loss, crumble to the ground—it's going to make way for growth, success, and happiness.

Reversed: Change isn't an enemy; it doesn't need to be fought. The more you resist the inevitable, the more you restrict your capacity to thrive. If this card is reversed, it indicates that you are refusing to accept your new situation, which manifests stagnation, resentment, and anger—and no one wants that.





THE STAR

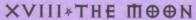
XVII*THE STAR

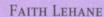


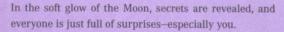
Kendra, no last name, fully embraces her power and allows it to shine through in everything she does. How can you unleash your inner Star?

Upright: When The Star rises in your reading, it means you are capable of all the things. You can teach yourself demonology, master a wide range of weapons, and even slay ancient vampires like it's NBD. Keep believing in your power, because it's not just part of you—it's all of you.

Reversed: Favorite (only) shirt torn? Feeling displaced and lonely? Now is the time to give yourself a muchneeded break. Don't worry, you will return as bright and shining as ever!

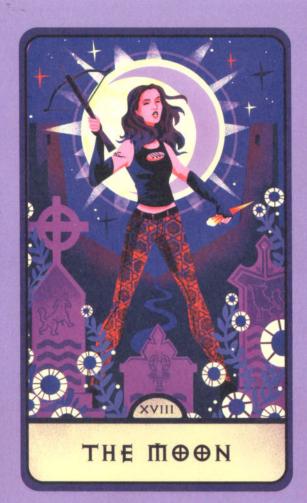






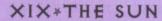
Upright: Haunted by a tragic past, Faith is filled with bravado and denial that make her think she belongs with the other monsters. It wasn't until she reformed that she embraced her calling and unleashed her inner hero, but first she had to heal. Under the influence of the Moon, you may similarly be ignoring your own trauma and are just now beginning to realize how it stunted your emotional growth. This card encourages you to dispel the illusions and shadows in your life, getting to the root cause of the problem and fixing it for good.

Reversed: Your subconscious is trying to tell you something, and when the Moon is reversed? It's prudent to listen. What is your intuition saying? Have you been ignoring a gut feeling, dismissing it as anxiety? If so, it's time to revisit those messages because there is vital information you're missing.

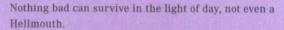




THE SUN

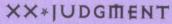


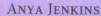


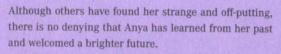


Upright: Filled with the power of purification and cleansing, The Amulet sent scourges of demons back to hell, making way for a brighter day. If The Amulet turns up in your reading, it's a sign that things are looking up. You finally can be fully present in the world without looking over your shoulder, waiting for the other fang to drop. This card ushers in a time of peace, positivity, and an apocalypse expertly halted.

Reversed: Even if the clouds block its light, The Sun is always present—you just need to work a little harder to see it. When reversed, you may be experiencing a temporary disconnect from what brings you joy, but it's as fleeting as a passing storm.







Upright: For a thousand years, she wielded the power of The Wish, brought ruin to the heads of unfaithful men, and brought forth chaos and destruction—until she found herself human. Anya embodies Judgment with her many awakenings of the spiritual nature. She learned what it means to love, to mourn, and to have a family. This card invites you to put your past behind you, no matter how many men you flayed, and to give yourself an opportunity to change.

Reversed: When reversed, Judgment finds you wondering whether you're an irksome nobody who should take their furs across the river. Enough with the self-loathing and more with the self-acceptance! Everyone has made mistakes, and you deserve a chance to rise above yours.





THE WORLD



XXI*THE WORLD

CLASS PROTECTOR AWARD



This is a moment of unexpected grace, of recognition for your accomplishments (like having the lowest mortality rate of any graduating class)! Get ready to enjoy some punch and celebrate.

Upright: Just when you thought no one was noticing, a tiny glittering umbrella appears with your name all over it. Prepare to take your moment in the spotlight and bask in the satisfaction of a job well done. The World invites you to reflect on your journey—think back to where you began, how much you've grown since then, and everything you learned along the way. You deserve it.

Reversed: Perhaps you're losing motivation, running out of go-go juice, and questioning your entire trajectory. The World reversed urges you to not give up yet—you're so close! You may have had your butt kicked by a metaphorical demon dog, but you are too powerful to quit. Put on your sparkliest prom dress and hold your head high. Your moment to shine will come.











SUIT OF STAKES KING OF STAKES

Upright: Xander was always a leader in his own mind, if not in actuality (some may call this "delusion," others a "late bloomer"), but when push came to shove, he was ready to face the challenge. The King of Stakes suggests an opportunity is present, something that can help you reach your goals. He reminds you to focus on the legacy you want to leave behind, on your long-term success, and on the commitment required to get there.

Reversed: You may be keeping your eye a little too closely on the prize, clouding your vision with the idea of winning at all costs. A real leader doesn't go all stepping-on-toes-with-reckless-abandon on their path to greatness, so be mindful of how you're treating those around you.



QUEEN OF STAKES

Upright: Kennedy is a queen who always gets her way (it may have escaped your keen notice). She is confident, outspoken, and quick to take action. When she launches into your reading, she may indicate a strong presence coming into your life, inspiring you to live your truth. If she represents you, get ready for an uptick in social activity and time in the spotlight, because this queen was born to shine.



Reversed: It's okay to take a step back and let someone else be in charge. You are more than capable of leading a group, but it's also helpful to sit back and, you know, not. Your energy isn't limitless, and if you don't slow down, you may find yourself being crowned the new Miss Burnout.

KNIGHT OF STAKES

Upright: This Knight of Stakes represents a quest, and you are pursuing your inspiration. Maybe it's building a ray gun or maybe it's narrating the drama of your friend group, but you are just raring to go! A natural storyteller, Andrew has always had a knack for seeing adventure lurking just under the surface. People may not have always been stoked about



him, but as he grew, he learned how to share his vision to benefit the team. Be patient with yourself—don't jump into the first battle you find—and give your talents time to mature.

Reversed: Feeling blocked? Don't let it get you down (or give you swimmer's ear). While you may not have found the right outlet yet, you are on your way. You may be feeling episode-one bored, but if you rush things, then you'll end up diving headfirst into the failure pond.

PAGE OF STAKES

Upright: You are powerful and beautiful, and you don't need anyone to complete you! But, real talk, you do need to figure out a strategy. Like Harmony, you are adventurous, curious, and still seeking your place in the world. You may find it helpful to organize your thoughts and plans into attainable goals, so you can focus your time on what's most important, but don't kill yourself if you don't get it right on the first try.



Reversed: So, you were a bad cheerleader, who cares? So, you sucked at leading the Homecoming committee, big deal! Harmony didn't let obstacles stand in her way, and neither should you. Give yourself permission to be a beginner and stop letting the idea of *perfection* interfere with actual *progress*.

ACE OF STAKES

Upright: Have you been feeling extra open-minded? Determined to follow a dream, no matter how impossible it seems? This is the Ace of Stakes at work! Harness your inspiration and honor the creative urges as they come to you—it's like your very own Slayer-sense, drawing you to the right time and place.

Reversed: Not everyone is lucky enough to have their life's purpose predestined, so don't be too bummed if you're struggling to find your place in the world. The reversed Ace of Stakes reassures you that you will find your passion. In the meantime, indulge in maximum contemplation: what do you want? What gets you going?

Connect to your core motivations, and the rest will fall in line.



II OF STAKES

Upright: Sharpen your stakes, refill your holy water, polish your crosses, and memorize the cemetery map—you are turning your inspiration into a reality! Every good Slayer knows that you have to pack your weapons bag before you fight the baddies, and this card is asking you to slow down and think through your plan. While you may think



you're ready to start dusting vamps, listen to your intuition. Is now truly the right time? Only you know for sure if you're ready to jump into action.

Reversed: It's tough to be the new Slayer in town, and even the most badass heroes have moments of insecurity. The reversed II of Stakes indicates that you may find yourself in an unfamiliar environment, far out of your comfort zone, and are struggling with displacement. Remind yourself why your mission is important—you are capable of great things! Now shake off the self-doubt and get to staking!

III OF STAKES

Upright: The III of Stakes presents an opportunity to reflect on how things are going as you pursue your objectives. And, well, let's just say you haven't gotten further than Ladies' Nightclub before your van broke down. But before you despair, like all Minor Arcana cards, this is just a temporary delay. You'll be back on the road before you know it!



Reversed: Before a road trip, it's essential to make sure that your van is in good working order. Consider this a reminder to pause your plans, double-check your supplies, and save up a little extra cash for repairs along the way. Future you will thank past you when the road gets rough and you find yourself still cruising along.

IV OF STAKES

Upright: Ah, home, sweet home! The IV of Stakes represents the feeling of returning to a familiar place, to reuniting with your community, and being supported by a strong foundation. It can foretell a respite before a stressful period—like taking a break to grab more stakes before a brutal patrol—and encourages you to soak up all of the cozy.

Reversed: Even reversed, this card still celebrates happy fun times, just a bit more quietly. Perhaps you have reached a significant milestone (no magical mishaps for a whole month!) and are taking time to reward yourself

privately. For whatever reason, you aren't quite ready to share your progress, and that's okay! By the time you've completed your journey, you'll be shouting it from the rooftops.



V OF STAKES

Upright: The V of Stakes finds you feeling like you've stumbled into a pack of teenagers-turned-hyenas. Snarling, growling, infighting—it's even worse than dodgeball! Your job is to avoid getting pulled into the fray. How can you stop and listen to what everyone is saying? How can you learn from differing opinions? This card encourages you to seek value in conflict, to uplift underrepresented voices, and rise above the pack.

Reversed: Inner conflict, party of one! When reversed, the metaphor is the same except the wild hyenas are in your heart. You are likely struggling with conflicting

information and rapidly changing feelings that have you questioning what you believe. Trust that this will help you refine what you stand for, even if it's a little loud inside your brain for the time being.



VI OF STAKES

Upright: This is the part where you've kicked a vampire in the head and run out, virtue fluttering-and for good reason! You are absolutely killing it. The best part? People are taking notice. If you're sensing extra attention, it's because vou've earned it. Your hard work is paying off; you're hitting your targets: and although you still have some work to do. it's important to give vourself a pat on the back. Maybe several pats. A pat buffet!



Reversed: No one has to walk your path, which means that no one gets to tell you what success looks like. Sure, your destiny may have you meeting strange (and occasionally cursed) milestones, but isn't variety the spice of life? The most important thing is that you stand by your desires. If you are proud of your accomplishments, it doesn't matter what anyone else thinks.

VII OF STAKES

Upright: Power. You have it; others don't. This bothers them. The VII of Stakes is a helpful reminder to continue living at full power but to be aware that other people may view your success as a threat. You may find yourself having to defend your feelings, your expertise, or your talent, so be prepared to advocate for yourself.

Reversed: Don't take coaching personally. If you're lucky enough to have someone (a stuffy yet lovable British librarian, perhaps?) helping you master your talents, listen to what they have to say. Corrections aren't a criticism, and you'll be better equipped to save the world if you embrace feedback and

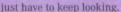
use it to improve.



VIII OF STAKES

Upright: Queue up the training montage! The VIII of Stakes brings action, momentum, and progress, Don't try to stand in its way; just let the energy carry you along for the ride. Your potential has been unlocked, and this is a window of time in which you can access all sorts of the awesome.

Reversed: So, you showed up, ready to slay, only to be met with delays? UGH! It can be so frustrating to get benched before you've even had a chance to prove your worth, but the reversed VIII of Stakes finds you standing on the sidelines. There is a way around the setbacks, you





IX OF STAKES

Upright: Being brave and heroic sounds great, but what about when you're getting your butt kicked left, right, and center? The IX of Stakes finds you recoiling from a punch to the face, bruised and weary, but still fighting. When this card appears, it means your courage is being tested. But guess what? You have a secret weapon: the people on your side, surrounding you with love and support. So, keep swinging because you are one hit away from defeating your enemy.

Reversed: What if the monster you think you're fighting isn't really there? It may feel like you're being hunted,

but no one is lurking in the shadows, waiting to pounce. There is no big bad, no master plan to defeat you—but there is some paranoia that you should deal with. Your fear is getting in the way of your victory, so it's time to get it in check.



X OF STAKES

Upright: Buffy may have been chosen to stand alone against the vampires, demons, and forces of darkness, but the prophecy never said she had to like it. The X of Stakes finds you feeling like vou're doing the most and asks you to pause, reflect on how much you've taken on, and remind yourself that it's temporary. Everything you're doing is aligned with your greater goals, and you are so close to reaching them!

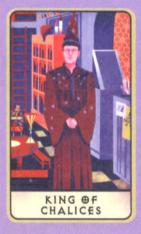


Reversed: When reversed, the X of Stakes urges you to remember that you were not imbued with a solitary birthright—you can, and should, ask for help. There is no need to suffer silently, growing further and further disconnected from your loved ones.

SUIT OF CHALICES KING OF CHALICES

Upright: To forgive is an act of compassion, and no one knows that better than Rupert Giles. He is the King for a reason, and it's not his charming accent and tweed coats. He is composed, understanding the value of balancing his intellect and emotions, and is able to help others express their feelings. Harness his energy by listening, seeking to understand group dynamics, and taking on the role of a father figure. Just avoid having any funny-looking chocolate bars.

Reversed: You are approaching major blow-up territory. This is what happens when you're stuffy and repressed and overreact—you can try to blame it on forces of evil, but the reversed King of Chalices knows it was simply your feelings getting the better of you. This card suggests finding a healthier outlet for your frustrations and actually talking through your troubles.



QUEEN OF CHALICES

Upright: Even as a demon, Halfreck was deeply attuned to the suffering, vulnerability, and sorrow in humanity. Under the influences of the Queen of Chalices, you may find yourself helping others, acting as a trusted advisor as they work through turmoil. Although this sensitivity comes naturally, don't underestimate your own strength. Follow your intuition and value your emotional responses—they will guide you when logic fails.

Reversed: Although it may be tempting to curse everyone around you with perpetual papercuts, you'd be wise to trust the advice of the reversed Queen and tone down the temper. Your heart is persuading your brain to be one with the rage, and if you don't get things in check, you'll have a lot of apologizing to do.



KNIGHT OF CHALICES

Upright: Spike may be love's bitch, but at least he's man enough to admit it. This Knight's quest is one of the heart, and if he has popped his pretty face into your reading, it's because there is a romantic, deeply expressive, and passionate influence in your life. This could be a forbidden tryst with a hunky demon or a whirlwind of creative inspiration, but either way you should see where it leads!



Reversed: Have you been seeking the unattainable? Getting caught up in the *idea* of a thing more than the thing itself? Just as the Knight can sweep you off your feet, when reversed, he can be sulky, moody, and downright jealous when the fantasy wears off. Consider this a reminder to ease off the drama and ground yourself in reality.

PAGE OF CHALICES

Upright: Sweet, gentle Clem is the ideal Page of Chalices. His arrival means good news (and probably hot wings) so prepare for an unexpected, highly welcome, opportunity. This Page symbolizes getting in touch with your softest self, conjuring the sort of curiosity you had as a kid, and exploring possibilities you might not have considered.

Reversed: Clem's skin condition didn't hold him back from pursuing meaningful relationships or helping Buffy save the world, so why should you let insecurities stand in your way? When reversed, this card indicates you are doubting your abilities, convinced that you don't

deserve to do what you love. Take it from Clem: You rock, and it's time to let everyone else know!



ACE OF CHALICES

Upright: The Ace of Chalices finds you, like Anya on her wedding day, finally getting what love is. You have realized that alone isn't better and are ready to open yourself up to a deep, lasting relationship. This can mean healing an estranged family, finding a best friend, falling in love, or even becoming a parent, as love takes all forms. But, however this manifests for you, take this as a sign to say, "Yes!"

Reversed: With vulnerability always comes the chance of getting hurt—it goes with being human. The reversed Ace of Chalicessuggests that you may be closing your-

self off from your feelings because of the potential for heartbreak. Move at your own pace, but don't let fear dictate your next move you may regret it.



II OF CHALICES

Upright: A beautiful silver cross marked the beginning of Buffy's partnership with Angel, a relationship that would launch them both into self-discovery, co-slaving, and true love. If this card has found its way into your reading, it means you are on the precipice of a similarly exciting union, romantic or not. You have found someone who gets you, who wants to have your back, and who is aligned with your goals. Lucky you!



Reversed: When reversed, the II of Chalices is boldly suggesting that you woo *yourself*. It may not be quite as exciting as a tall, dark, and devoted vampire asking to team up, but it's crucial. Get to know yourself better, figure out what makes you tick, and meditate on what you want in your relationships—it'll only serve to strengthen them!

III OF CHALICES

Upright: The friends who slay together, stay together, and this is an opportunity to celebrate the people in your life. When you are influenced by the III of Chalices, you might feel inspired to plan a slumber party, host the next coven meeting, or gather your crew at The Bronze for some festive frolicking. Get with the fun having!

Reversed: Think of the reversed III of Chalices as Halloween in Sunnydale. The monsters and demons take the night off, kick back in their cozy crypts, and leave the carnage for another day. Take some inspiration from them and give in to that persuasive feeling, begging you to stay home and watch *Passions*.



IV OF CHALICES

Upright: Does it seem like every single night is the same arrangement, where you go out and fight the fight? Have you been going through the motions, walking through the part? If nothing seems to penetrate your heart, the IV of Chalices encourages you to do a hard reset and reconnect with your life's purpose. What do you find meaningful? How can you get back to it?

Reversed: In the process of getting your fire back, it's okay to say no. You can't expect motivation to return immediately, and the reversed IV of Chalices is here to remind you that you can take breaks, pause the action, and let yourself ease back into living your life full throttle.



THE MINOR ARCANA

V OF CHALICES

Upright: The V of Chalices comes filled with condolences and caution, in equal measure. Your heart is aching over a very real loss, but you are blaming vourself in the extreme. and it's preventing you from recovering. Guilt can reshape who you are-just ask Willow, who morphed into Warren when she couldn't come to terms with losing Tara. Treat vourself with care and make room for healing.



Reversed: When reversed, this card suggests you are starting to open yourself up after a painful experience. It can be awkward, but it's important to remember that just because things didn't go the way you planned in the past doesn't mean history is going to repeat itself. Don't be afraid to access your magic—it probably won't taste evil and chalky this time.

VI OF CHALICES

Upright: The VI of Chalices invites you to drop by for some quality time with Mr. Gordo. This is a call to connect with your past, to get all snuggled up with happy memories, and to experience the freedom of childhood. Give yourself a break from being a grown-up, you might be surprised at how fun it is.

Reversed: Reminiscing about the past can be addictive, particularly when your present is full of hardcore responsibilities, but what's done is done. You can't change history, or else you run the risk of ending up in Bizarro Land. Then you'll have to deal with cages, blood factories, and curfews—no thanks!



VII OF CHALICES

Upright: Like Buffy, you may be starting to think that this working hard thing is hard work, and you'd be correct! As important as it is to have dreams, they just aren't going to do the thing for you. If this resonates, it's time for you to get out of your head and into action mode.

Reversed: Ooh, shiny! The VII of Chalices implies you could be distracted by all sorts of different options, skewing your focus so drastically that you become a major doing-nothing-type person. You might benefit from prioritizing your wants and then tackling them one at a time.



VIII OF CHALICES

Upright: If your heart could beat, it would break your chest, wouldn't it? The VIII of Chalices acknowledges that you have given a situation everything you had to offer: love, support, understanding, and yet it hasn't been reciprocated. You aren't being emotionally satisfied, and as devastating as it is, sometimes you have to demand to be left to rest in peace.



Reversed: Have you been

caught up wondering if the grass is greener on another grave? A reversed VIII of Chalices indicates that your dissatisfaction isn't material, but a matter of not actually understanding what you want. Instead of slithering from one mausoleum to another, consider devoting energy to exploring what would truly make you happy.

IX OF CHALICES

Upright: The IX of Chalices symbolizes a rare moment: a wish coming true. Not the kind of wish that means you were never born, but the kind that gives you a happy. Your job is simply to enjoy it! No hexed, ancient strings attached—just pure gratitude for the universe doing you a solid.

Reversed: If a demon shows up and suddenly everyone starts singing their deepest secrets out loud? That means your wish has gone sideways, and it's time to admit that you might have had unrealistic expectations. How can you reconnect with your true goals? How can you make sure

they are aligned to your emotional needs? Because as soon as you suss out what you want, there will probably be a parade.



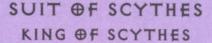
X OF CHALICES

Upright: This card symbolizes family: Chosen, nuclear, blended, or supernatural, they are your people, and you are being invited to relax into their familiar embraces. You may be feeling fulfilled by time with your Scoobies, secret rendezvous in a crypt, or bonding with your coven—whatever the case, keep prioritizing time for them.

Reversed: Uh-oh, there is a disturbance in the force and curses are flying, crossbows are being aimed, and blows are landing. Your harmonious gang is suddenly at each other's throats, and it seems like someone has set phasers to "suck"—but don't worry. Friends fight and con-

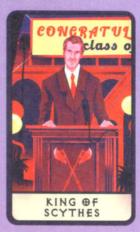
flict can help bring people together. You just have to remind everyone you're on the same team.





Upright: Mayor Wilkins may be a servant of evil, but as the King of Scythes he does bring strength, power, and authority into your reading. This may be something you are embodying or another force in your life, but when Mayor Wilkins shows up, it means it's time to pay attention to sound advice. You might find yourself called into mentorship (or find yourself seeking a mentor), as you have expertise to share. While you shouldn't try to plan an ascension, this is an ideal time to put your talents to good use.

Reversed: Unlike the Mayor, this King reversed is a humble sort of power. He suggests that you are highly influential but don't flaunt your abilities—this will continue to serve you well, especially since ego can often be the undoing of people in positions of authority. Don't allow yourself to be distracted from your objectives—keep your head down, do the work, and in the end, you will reign supreme.



QUEEN OF SCYTHES

Upright: An expert in lost languages? Impressive technopagan? Occult maven? There is nothing Jenny Calendar's mind can't accomplish. She embodies the Queen of Scythes with her wit and presence of mind. In your reading, she advocates for logic over emotions, relying on what you see instead of how you feel. She reminds you to set clear and unshakable boundaries, enforcing how you want others to treat you (and how you treat yourself).



Reversed: Has a sexy fuddy duddy got your motherboard overheating? Or maybe friendships with your students are distracting you from your ancestral legacy? Whatever the case, when this Queen is reversed, you are allowing your emotions to outweigh your responsibilities.

KNIGHT OF SCYTHES

Upright: Let's be honest: This world just isn't fabulous enough for Glory. Her appearance is a sign that you are relentless in the pursuit of your dreams, not allowing anything to get in your way. Quick on her feet (and quicker with her quips), Glory used her intelligence to solve most of her problems. Channel her approach by being direct and speaking your mind, but *maybe* don't try to destroy the world.

Reversed: Frustrated, easily bored, and restless, the reversed Knight of Scythes represents being disconnected from your agenda. You are brimming with

energy that you feel unable to release, leaving you bouncing from task to task without any sense of accomplishment. Get your minions to deal with the details while you think up a new grand scheme.



PAGE OF SCYTHES

Upright: Amy Madison has gone from girl to rat to girl again, expanding her horizons and challenging her old ways of thinking. As a Page, she symbolizes the beginning of a mental journey. You are opening your mind to new possibilities, filled with curiosity and a desire for knowledge. Give yourself permission to explore whatever intrigues you but maybe stay away from the dangerous stuff.

Reversed: You are neither looking nor leaping—instead you are launching yourself into whatever idea seems intriguing. The reversed Page implores you to be less impulsive, to think through your actions before commit-

ting, and to check your ego before you speak. You might find yourself in waaay over your furry little rodent head.



ACE OF SCYTHES

Upright: The Ace of Scythes notes the beginning of a journey. On this path, you are called to use your power with intent. Scythes can mow and reap and crush as well as create, depending on how they're wielded. Will you use this blade to break bonds, sever toxic connections, and activate the potential in others? Or, will you use it to secure personal gain? Here's the part where you make a choice.

Reversed: You probably have a sense of uncertainty and unanswered questions, and you may be feeling reluctant to say yes. Honor this feeling by pursuing more informa-

tion—what else do you need to know? The reversed Ace welcomes you to secure clarity before making any big decisions (like pulling an ancient weapon out of a stone.)



II OF SCYTHES

Upright: Important choices seem to be impossible choices, but when you are met with undeniable information-like, for example. your mentor trying to kill your ex-girlfriend because she poses a threat to a secret organization-vou have to take a stand. If the II of Scythes is present in your reading, it symbolizes indecision that must come to an end. There are no perfect answers, so follow your conscience.



Reversed: Like Riley, no matter how hard you try, you just can't make peace between opposing sides. At some point, you have to ask yourself whether this is even really your fight. If not, it's time to extract and funnel your energy to more productive things (tracking a Suvolte demon sounds nice).

III OF SCYTHES

Upright: There's no way around it; this is a tough card. Getting through grief is not a linear process and no one can ever truly explain stupid, mortal things like loss. All you can do is express your sorrow, fully and wholly, in whatever way feels right to you. This pain is temporary; you will recover; and you will know more about yourself than you did before. The III of Scythes gently reminds you to avoid hiding your feelings, as it will delay your acceptance and recovery from what's happened.

Reversed: When reversed, you may be experiencing guilt for getting on with your life. Maybe you're ready

to start dating again after a break-up, perhaps your mourning period has come to an end, or maybe you're simply feeling better about things. There's no shame in healing, so welcome whatever is next for you (even if it makes you wiggy at first).



IV OF SCYTHES

Upright: The IV of Scythes finds you happily vacationing in the land of not coping, taking a break from dealing. You have recently gone through an icky ordeal and may be longing for solitude and time to rest. Give your brain a break! Go be alone and quiet in a room with a chair and a fireplace and a tea cozy (doesn't matter if you don't know what one is).

Reversed: On the flip side, you may find yourself channeling Faith, desperate for something to do, unable to sleep, keeping yourself so busy that you don't have any time to think. Extremes are bad, okay? Being productive is great

and all, but you're at risk for major brain melt if you don't chill out a little bit.



V OF SCYTHES

Upright: The V of Scythes is a true double-edged sword. Sure, you may have recently been the victor in a battle, but you don't feel good about how you won. Think harsh words, low blows, and shifty ethics that are making others now question their trust in you. You can't take back what happened, but you *can* apologize and make amends.

Reversed: When reversed, this card means you are ready to truly put the past in your rearview and high tail it to the future—but first you have to be willing to let go of any resentments, kiss grudges goodbye, and repair whatever has been damaged.



VI OF SCYTHES

Upright: No one asks for their life to change, but change it does. You are not helpless, or a puppet—take it from the Slayer herself. Like Buffy, the VI of Scythes emboldens you to forge ahead, confident that you can handle whatever comes your way. Don't resign yourself to being a victim, but take ownership over what's next and shift your perspective to view it as an opportunity.

Reversed: There's a reason why Oz locks himself away every full moon. Some changes are too private to share with others, especially if what you're going through could hurt them. This card's appearance suggests you

are dealing with your own transition, working to let go of negative, harmful, or unpleasant attachments and need to do it alone. You will overcome your troubles—remember, the Minor Arcana are always temporary states!



VII OF SCYTHES

Upright: Well, well, well, if it isn't the embodiment of the faithful, degenerate son of Chaos, Like Ethan Ravne, the VII of Scythes sweeps into your reading as an omen of betrayal, fraud, and deception. If you are considering engaging in unethical behavior. just know vou are likely to be discovered. If you find yourself wondering whether you're on the receiving end of shenanigans, this card confirms it.



Reversed: No magician can create an illusion quite as powerful as a human brain tricking itself. You've been ignoring facts and dismissing evidence, and the weight of this self-delusion is pulling you down. Get this energy out of your life by confronting what you've been avoiding—face it and forget it.

VIII OF SCYTHES

Upright: If people refer to you as "The Evil Bitch-Monster of Death" it might be a good time to rethink your world view. An appearance from the VIII of Scythes means you have been holding on to outmoded beliefs and overly restrictive rules and have put yourself into a prison made of your own thoughts. Consider purging the opinions and limitations holding you back and free yourself!



Reversed: You are deserving of the same humanity you offer to others. The words you tell yourself matter, and the reversed VIII of Scythes indicates there's a whole bunch of self-bullying going on. Tell those mean thoughts to beat it—they aren't going to get you anywhere except Sadsville.

IX OF SCYTHES

Upright: Because you fear it, the world is crumbling. and you may find that your nightmares are made flesh. Anxiety is weighing heavily on your cerebral cortex, but the IX of Scythes offers a reminder: You are not alone. During times of duress, a buff intellect can be a bully. convincing you that everything is wrong, but it's just not true. Spend some time with your BFFs and have them dismantle your fears in the comforting light of day.



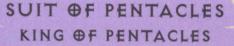
Reversed: If there was an award for Most Likely to Kick Fear's Butt, it would be yours. This card has appeared because you have overcome something difficult and pushed through the mental maze of worst-case-scenarios. Even if you aren't *quite* there yet, this is a sign you soon will be.

X OF SCYTHES

Upright: Heartbreaking? Check. Inevitable? Check. Seems like you've arrived at the X of Scythes. As Buffy once said, the hardest thing in this world is to live in it. There is loss, pain, and betrayal that cuts even deeper than enchanted weapons. But there is a silver lining with this card—the worst is over. You've done the hard thing, and now you can reclaim your energy and put it toward bringing something wonderful into your life. So be brave and get ready to live for yourself.

Reversed: Even with super healing, a Slayer can't fully mend all wounds. But it doesn't mean you shouldn't try. In the reversed position, this card indicates you are still mired in the aches from the past, leaving part of your heart unavailable in the present. If you can't resolve the trauma, you won't be able to move on, allowing yourself to be impaled permanently.





Upright: Don't let this King fool you—he may be a cool, sexy, vampire-fighting guy, but he's also a trusted advisor. Robin's energy draws abundance, manifesting success and experience. When he rules over your reading, it's a sign that your dedication has paid off—big time! Your struggles are behind you, and the future is golden, so enjoy!

Reversed: The mission isn't the *only* thing that matters. The reversed King finds you spending far too much time slaying and not enough time playing, putting your ambition before everything else. This is a sign to reassess your priorities before the people in your life hit the road.



QUEEN OF PENTACLES

Upright: Maternal, selfreliant, and practical, Nikki Wood is the ultimate Queen of Pentacles. She embodies the woman who can do it all. and when this card turns up in your reading, it's with some motherly advice: Take care of vourself. Make sure you have the means to live independently, stand on your own two feet, and invest in yourself. It doesn't mean you can't ask for help, but it does mean you have to put yourself first.



Reversed: It can be challenging to fend off demons while trying to protect your son, but all of this self-doubt isn't going to do you any favors. It's not a question of capabilities but of resources, and when this Queen is reversed, it means you have too many priorities competing for your attention. It may be time to ask your work to let up, to delegate some projects, or to get more help in your homewhatever you need to maintain your sanity!

KNIGHT OF PENTACLES

Upright: Reliable, responsible Riley is the Knight of Pentacles. Like the other Knights, his card represents a quest: sticking to your routine. If he comes into your reading, this card is suggesting that your approach needs to be methodical, conservative, and thorough. Just as Rilev followed through on his orders, so must you. This is not the time to take risks or go rogue, but to rely on a trusted method to complete the work at hand.



Reversed: Have you been feeling in awe of other people who make the plan, execute the plan, and don't take orders? Although practical, the reversed Knight suggests that your day-to-day grind has become just that—a grind. Give yourself permission to go a little wild! Say yes to some rule breakage!

PAGE OF PENTACLES

Upright: The Page of Pentacles represents novices and inexperienced beginnings, and what better way to represent his card than with Amanda. One minute she's singing her heart out in the Swing Choir, and the next she's infused with the powers of the Slayer. When you are aligned with the energies of this Page, you are learning new skills (puncturing!) and may feel ready to intensify your training. This is a good time for self-improvement, for focusing on your health, and welcoming some new hobbies you never considered (more puncturing).

Reversed: When you're good at everything, from kicking butt at RPGs to obliterating competition in mock United Nations, it can be deeply frustrating when you are forced into the role of a beginner. The reversed Page urges you to be kind to yourself—nothing has to be perfect on the first try. Learn from your mistakes and hold space for your progress.



ACE OF PENTACLES

Upright: This Ace speaks to the magical possibilities that await you, maybe even in the glory of small business ownership! You don't have to sign a lease on the Magic Box to harness the power of this card, but you can treat this as a prophecy for your own ventures. You are at the start of a brand-new job, windfall, or partnership, and all signs point to YES. It's still up to you to manifest your desires, but with the Ace of Pentacles on your side, all systems are go.

Reversed: You may have been offered a tempting piece of the witchy pie but aren't convinced the timing is right.

Listen to your instincts.

This will not be the last opportunity that comes your way, and if you aren't fully convinced, it's better to let it pass you by.



II OF PENTACLES

Upright: Pulling overtime at the Doublemeat Palace, trying to keep your little sister from shoplifting, and penciling in time to take down another Big Bad? You've got your plate full! When the II of Pentacles appears, it's an encouragement to slow down. Yes, you have tons of responsibilities, but you won't get anything done if you don't create time to get organized.



Reversed: Trying to fast-track your way into Doublemeat management? Sounds like a (gross) plan, but before you start flipping extra patties, why not spend some time understanding how this shift in focus might impact the rest of your life? This card warns of over-committing in one area, while other important parts of your life are neglected. So, pursue your beefy dreams, but be sure you aren't doing it at the expense of your loved ones.

III OF PENTACLES

Upright: Where would Buffy be without the Scoobies? The III of Pentacles brings the energy of a team, your very own Slayerettes. This is a card of collaboration! Head to the library, hit the books, and start planning out your attack. The more you rely on the talents of your teammates, the stronger your trajectory will be. There's still plenty of work to do, but you're making great progress!

Reversed: Even with a crack team on your side, some slaying is best done solo. In reverse, this card supports your need to work individually. Maybe you're tired of waiting for other people to pull their weight, or perhaps

you're not clicking as a group, but take this as an enthusiastic thumbs-up to forge ahead.



IV OF PENTACLES

Upright: The IV of Pentacles finds you being a bit of an Anya. There are more important things in life than money, especially if it's causing you to live in a state of perceived scarcity. If you are always seeking to gain more, you may find it challenging to appreciate what you already have. The more balance you have between saving and spending, the more freedom you'll feel to enjoy being newly human and strangely literal!

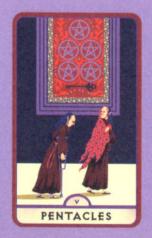
Reversed: Counting the coins in the cash register may be calming, but the reversed IV of Pentacles suggests you may be comforting yourself with the wrong things.

Are you diving into work to avoid conflicts? Narrowing your locus of control to routine tasks, distracting yourself from larger issues? If so, this is a friendly nudge to take your head out of the till and confront the real problem.



V OF PENTACLES

Upright: The lesson of the V of Pentacles can be learned in two words: Cordelia Chase. You may be feeling like you've lost everything-your money, your status, your popularity. It may seem as though life has kicked your butt and left you in an alley to suffer. But what about what you stand to gain? Cordelia lost friends when she embraced a loving relationship; she developed a stronger work ethic and resilience and used her setbacks to build strength-so can you.



Reversed: This symbolizes a light at the end of the tunnel. The financial insecurity, sacrifices, and anxiety are coming to an end. As your situation improves, it's important to remember to reflect on what you've learned—how did your mindset impact your circumstances? What good habits can you learn (besides advising Daddy to get his taxes right)?

VI OF PENTACLES

Upright: Hypothetically, let's say someone who wasn't very nice to you had a dress on layaway for a very special dance. Let's say that, despite working their formerly spoiled butt off for it, they still couldn't afford to take it home, and you happened to be in the position to help. Sound familiar? The VI of Pentacles is tugging at your heartstrings and your wallet. If you've been wondering if it's in your best interest to make a loan, share your surplus, or extend yourself for someone else, the answer is yes. Giving (and receiving) graciously are essential parts of true friendship.

Reversed: Have you been worried that someone is taking advantage of you or has been dishonest about their circumstances? A reversed VI of Pentacles is an indication that your feelings are correct. It's also a gentle warning to guard your assets and make smart choices about what debt you take on, be it emotional or financial.



VII OF PENTACLES

Upright: Between managing her family, saving the world, and paying the bills, it can be hard for Buffy to find time to make sure her goals are aligned with her actions. The VII of Pentacles interrupts your regularly scheduled programming to suggest *you* make time for a little guidance counseling. Are your efforts bringing you closer to your long-term objectives? Are you putting your energy into the right things? If not, kick the attention-suckers to the curb and reclaim your time!

Reversed: Oof, this reversal is a gut-punch from an energy vampire. There may be a presence in your life that's taking

way more from you than you're willing to give. Even if you think you should allow this force in your life, the VII of Pentacles challenges you to question why. If you aren't getting a return on an investment, there's no reason to stick around. Don't allow pride or embarrassment to compel you to stay in a draining situation.



VIII OF PENTACLES

Upright: Even when she's at the top of her slay game, Buffy still trains. Her calling is one of mastery, of precision, and always seeing what more she can perfect. The VIII of Pentacles invites you to assess your own skills. Where would vou like to spend more time? What could you level up? Take this card as an assurance that whatever energy, time, and focus you devote to vourself will be a wise investment



Reversed: There's something to be said for being a good Slayer who trains every single day, but sometimes you've just gotta have Faith. You know what you're good at, and continuing to strive for perfection is getting in the way of *doing the thing*. Harness your confidence, trust your talent, and ease up. You've got this.

IX OF PENTACLES

Upright: You are closing out the cash register and doing a little dance of capitalist superiority! Now it's time to treat yourself to something you've been longing for. The IX of Pentacles bodes well for travel, investments, and little luxuries to remind you why you work so hard. Don't neglect planning for your future—this card is one of independence, encouraging you to take care of yourself in the long and short term.

Reversed: Have you been providing a valuable service to the whole community? It might be time to cash in. When reversed, the IX of Pentacles directs your attention

inward-are you properly valuing your labor? Your expertise? If not, consider this a nudge to demand what you deserve. You are worth it.



X OF PENTACLES

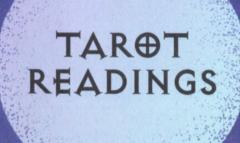
Upright: The X of Pentacles finds you winning the game of life—and no, you can't trade the children for more cash. You are heavy on the abundance, low on the strife, and wanting for nothing. Isn't it great? Now that you've made it, it's a perfect time to examine how you can give back. How can you care for your Scoobies? What can you do to make sure everyone around you has enough? Sharing is caring, after all.

Reversed: This coin definitely has two sides, and when reversed, your success may feel like a trap. Stability is crucial, and it's important to feel like you can support

yourself, but it's time to examine whether money is keeping you in a headlock. Consider examining your relationship with the working and the earning do you need to be doing more of the enjoying?

















PREPARING TO READ YOUR TAROT

In addition to being ancient, tarot is clearly mystical. As such, you should develop a nice, little, *equally* mystical ritual before your readings. Make a cup of tea, find a cozy spot in your crypt, and don't forget to add some candles for mood lighting—whatever helps you relax and be your most receptive self.

Think about what you'd like to get out of the reading. It's best to ask open-ended questions using how/what/why. For example, "What do I need to know before starting at Sunnydale High?" or, "How will my career at The Magic Box unfold?" or, "Why am I nervous about my first date with Willow?"

With your question in mind, pick a spread that addresses what you'd like to know, shuffle your cards, and begin! You may want to stick to simple spreads or single card pulls as you're learning, as they can be easier to intuit. You can also design your own personal spread if you can't find one that you connect with. Whatever you do, make sure it feels right for you.

THE SPREADS

This is a great spread to start with if you're a tarot newbie.

Card 1 = What are this deck's strengths?

Card 2 = What types of readings will be most effective with this deck?

Card 3 = What types of questions might this deck have difficulties with?

Card 4 = How can I get the most out of my relationship with tarot in general and this deck in particular?



PROPHECY GIRL

You don't have to be imbued with the Slayer's visions to get a glimpse at your future—this spread will work just fine for a peek into the next six months.

Card 1: Think of this card as your Watcher for the next six months. It sets the tone for your focus, inspiration, and mindset.

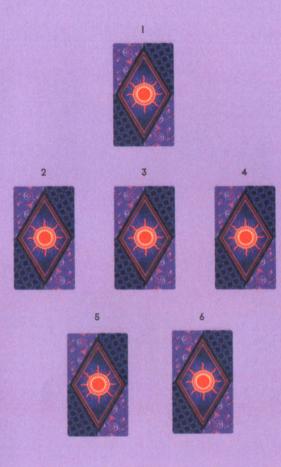
Card 2: Reveals the overall theme for the next six months.

Card 3: Represents the Big Bad you'll be facing.

Card 4: Shows what you will draw on to slay the monster.

Card 5: Symbolizes a positive force that will come into your life.

Card 6: Describes your key learning at the end of six months.



TAROT READINGS



TAROT READINGS

A WORLD WITHOUT SHRIMP

If you have been feeling as though something is missing from your life, this spread can help you identify what you're craving.

Card 1: Represents an area of your life in which you feel unfulfilled.

Card 2: Shows an area of your life in which you've been overextending yourself.

Card 3: Describes the energy to invite into your life to help you come out of your shell.

Card 4: Suggests actions you can take to feel more complete.

FIVE BY FIVE

Need a general idea of how things are going? Use Faith's favorite spread for a check-in.

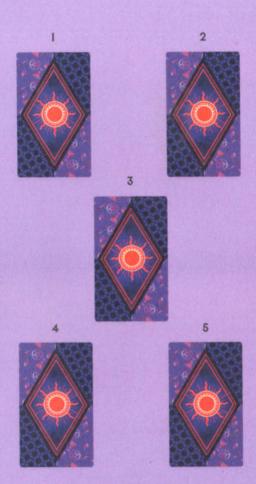
Card 1: Your current sitch.

Card 2: The obstacle getting you strung out.

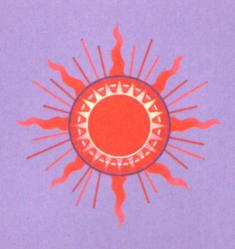
Card 3: Insight into how you can overcome said obstacle.

Card 4: Represents a thing you're working toward.

Card 5: What you can look to for motivation.



TAROT READINGS



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Casey Gilly is the mother of a young goblin, a horror fan, and a comic book writer. The first two prepared her for the third. Her work includes *Buffy the Last Vampire Slayer, My Little Pony: Generations, Star Wars Adventures*, as well as many tarot decks with Insight Editions. She resides in Portland, Oregon, where she divides her time between writing creepy books, hanging out with her cats, and growing tropical plants.

ABOUT THE

Karl James Mountford is an illustrator who works in both traditional and digital media. Karl specializes in book cover design and chapter illustrations but also works on picture books, board games, and licensing items. His sketchbooks rarely get a day off. Karl now resides and works in the oldest town in Wales with his dog, three chickens, and any other wildlife that turns up.



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