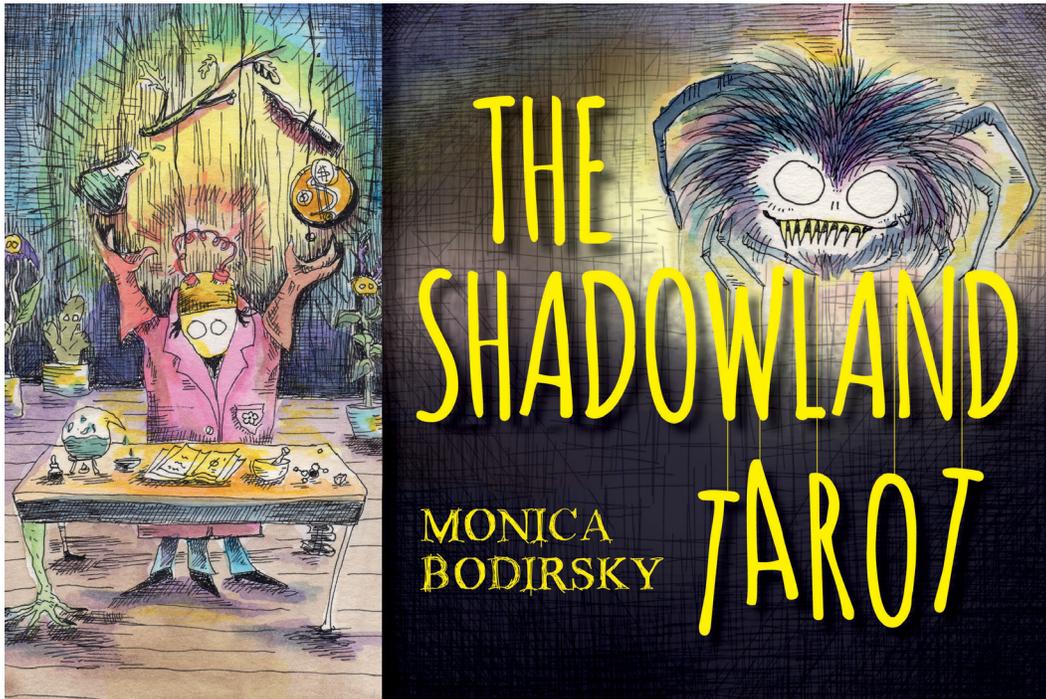




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MINOR ARCANA

PENTACLES

- 66** | Ace of Pentacles
- 68** | 2 of Pentacles
- 70** | 3 of Pentacles
- 72** | 4 of Pentacles
- 74** | 5 of Pentacles
- 76** | 6 of Pentacles
- 78** | 7 of Pentacles
- 80** | 8 of Pentacles
- 82** | 9 of Pentacles
- 84** | 10 of Pentacles
- 86** | Page of Pentacles
- 88** | Knight of Pentacles
- 90** | Queen of Pentacles
- 92** | King of Pentacles

SWORDS

- 94** | Ace of Swords
- 96** | 2 of Swords
- 98** | 3 of Swords
- 100** | 4 of Swords
- 102** | 5 of Swords
- 104** | 6 of Swords
- 106** | 7 of Swords
- 108** | 8 of Swords

- 110** | 9 of Swords
- 112** | 10 of Swords
- 114** | Page of Swords
- 116** | Knight of Swords
- 118** | Queen of Swords
- 120** | King of Swords

WANDS

- 122** | Ace of Wands
- 124** | 2 of Wands
- 126** | 3 of Wands
- 128** | 4 of Wands
- 130** | 5 of Wands
- 132** | 6 of Wands
- 134** | 7 of Wands
- 136** | 8 of Wands
- 138** | 9 of Wands
- 140** | 10 of Wands
- 142** | Page of Wands
- 144** | Knight of Wands
- 146** | Queen of Wands
- 148** | King of Wands

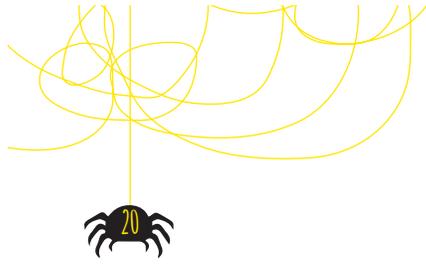
CUPS

- 150** | Ace of Cups
- 152** | 2 of Cups
- 154** | 3 of Cups
- 156** | 4 of Cups
- 158** | 5 of Cups
- 160** | 6 of Cups
- 162** | 7 of Cups
- 164** | 8 of Cups
- 166** | 9 of Cups
- 168** | 10 of Cups
- 170** | Page of Cups
- 172** | Knight of Cups
- 174** | Queen of Cups
- 176** | King of Cups



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0 SEEKER

I am just beginning a journey of discovery and not sure which way to go or what I might find. But I am going to take a chance.



THE CARD

Standing on the top of a mountain, The Fool, also referred to as Seeker, is prepared for a journey complete with suitcase, companion, and appropriate attire for the weather. There is a beautiful and breathtaking vista on this sunny day, symbolic of a good start to this adventure. There seems to be a small catch, however. The Seeker has lost his head in the excitement, possibly due to overthinking the situation, so is not sure which way to go. He asks his cat, who is a symbol of instinct, the way forward instead.

KEY WORDS

Seeking, new, journey, adventure, beginning, caution, planning, unique

SHADOWS

Reckless, gullible, haste, immobility, thoughtless, impulsive, naive, stuck

MESSAGE

This card indicates that you are at the start of an exhilarating new journey, project, or way of seeing. This may encompass a physical, emotional, psy-

chological, or spiritual matter. You may be actively seeking a new perspective or employment, a new home, or a relationship. If beginning something causes you anxiety, remember to keep an open mind and be willing to take a chance.



This is a good time to begin a business or project. Excitement and intuition can sometimes overwhelm logical decision-making, so foresight is advised before embarking on any new adventure.

Because we all possess different comfort levels, assessing risk is very subjective. To some, merely getting up each day and making it out the front door is a risk, while to others, climbing a mountain without a guide in subzero temperatures is a risk. Ensure you assess your own comfort level before embarking on a new journey. Take time to meditate and look inward to differentiate between what you want and what you actually need.

When making any major life change we can easily become overwhelmed and lose perspective. If this occurs or you find the idea of change too daunting, listen to your intuition as well as your logic. Remember to consult with those who have made similar journeys and ask for input, assistance, or guidance from those who can help, so that you may begin any new journey with confidence. Sometimes spontaneity is simply in deciding to make a change.

The Seeker possesses an unusual and creative perspective that allows for insights others may overlook. Embrace your unique way of seeing life, and use this nonconformity to your advantage moving forward.

This can indicate a fresh perspective on your health and offer insights into which way to move forward. Get regular checkups at this time to ensure you aren't risking your health.

Professions indicated by The Seeker include any job requiring innovation, creativity, adventure, and independence, such as visual artist, travel coordinator or writer, entertainer, explorer, filmmaker, or spiritual seeker.

REFLECTIONS

- What am I seeking at this stage in my life?
- Am I feeling reckless?
- Do I feel stuck on my current path, unable to start again, or do I change paths whenever things get difficult?
- Why am I resisting beginning a journey?
- What type of journey is appropriate at this time?
- What steps do I need before I start this journey?



18 THE MOON

*If I stay on this path and
don't fall for any tricks,
I can make it to Grandma's
house.*



THE CARD

Hope and confidence in one's destiny continue on this moonlight walk with The Moon card. This young witch is taking her friend out for a bit of exercise under a full moon. The crustacean has a way of sudden growth spurts under the full moon and represents our yearning for spiritual growth and knowledge. She is going to visit her grandmother in the woods when she notices the moon looks a bit like a wolf or perhaps a dog. The wolf or dog mask on the moon symbolizes the quality of the moonlight that can deceive us.

The wolf or dog symbolizes the inability to discern clearly in the dark.

Despite the potentially frightening vision she sees, she continues on the path as she does every month. Her journey represents patterns of repetition.

KEY WORDS

Reflection, cycles, growth, perception, bravery, intuition, spirituality

SHADOWS

Delusion, erratic, deception, visionless, discouraged, mania, disruption

MESSAGE

The Star asked us to look at our destiny and reflect on our dreams, yet The Moon continues this journey and asks us to question or test our



perceptions while on our quest. Sometimes there is a shadowy side to the moon we don't readily see, and while the moon is a beautiful sight, its light can play tricks on us when we are uncertain of our destination.

The lore of lunacy and the full moon bringing emotions to the surface can make The Moon card challenging at times. If you have drawn this card, you are being asked to determine what is illusion and what is real; however, this may be a time when there is not enough information to make this determination.

Are you receiving information that is telling you that the quest or path you are currently on is not the right path, or are you simply afraid of the unknown? Nighttime fears can surface during this time, and our mind can project illusions. Try to suspend your judgment about a situation until the light of day or more information is present so you can see clearly.

If you keep moving forward certain of your destination, any illusions or fears will be momentary and not take you off your path.

The full moon can be an excessively emotional time for many of us, but this is cyclic and will pass. Pay attention to feelings and moods and understand their cycles. This is not the best time to make important decisions, but continue to plan and ensure you are receiving as much accurate information as possible.

If you are on a spiritual quest at the moment, remember to make peace with the unseen and great mysteries and take time to reflect quietly. A full moon offers us a fortuitous time for expressing gratitude and seeking visions, and a time to celebrate cycles.

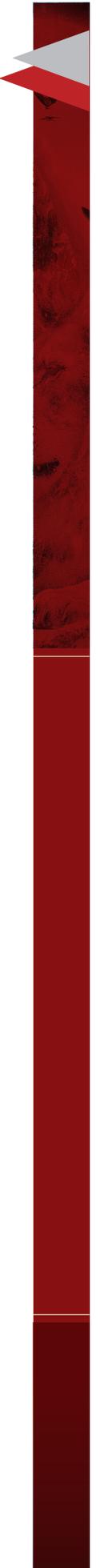
This is also an excellent time to convey your intentions to the universe.

In matters of health you are being asked to examine any cyclic health issues or mental health stress, including depressive episodes.

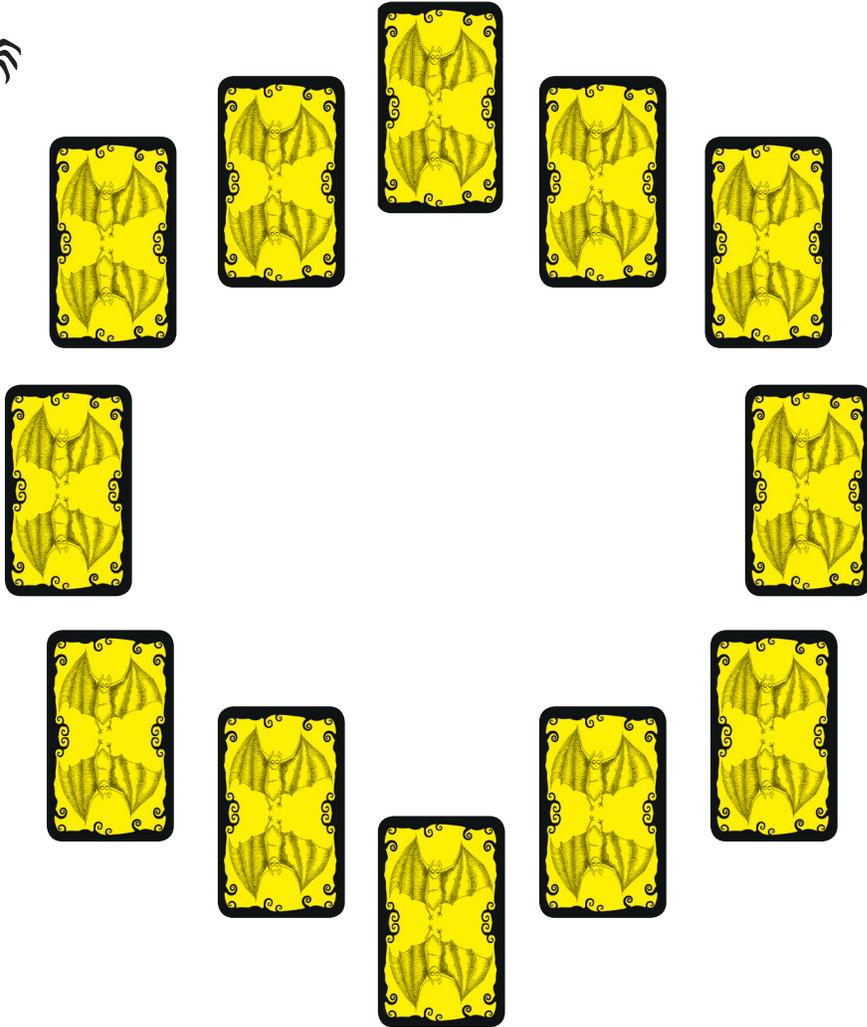
Professions indicated by The Moon card include any career or activity involving evening, illusions, makeup, special effects, magic, detection, intuitive counseling, retreat organizations, mental health professions, sleep specialization, or oceanography.

REFLECTIONS

- How do I feel during a full moon?
- What do I need to reflect upon in my life?
- What hidden fears do I need to face?
- What is it I wish to grow in my life?
- Are there cycles in my life that follow the waxing and waning of the moon?



THE THIRTEEN-MOON SPREAD



Advice from Your Ancestors for the Upcoming Year

For an annual forecast, you can use this spread to view the major situation or challenge of each month for the upcoming year. I have configured this to represent the moon cycles, so it is necessary to calculate the timing between full moons and not use the standard calendar.

If you do wish to use the twelve-month calendar, you may modify the spread and go from the first of each month to the next month.

An important aspect of my Earth-based spirituality is ancestor veneration, and I ensure before asking them for assistance that I offer food and drink as well as light a candle in their honor.

The cards are configured in a circle, and each card represents a month or moon cycle clockwise, and what challenges or advice you could use for each cycle.

CREATING YOUR OWN SPREADS

Inventing your own spreads can be very creative and tailored to your own needs. To make one of your own custom spreads, try the following steps.

1. Think about the information you think you need to access. Is it a time issue? What will I be doing six months from now professionally? Perhaps a new location or career direction? Try to be as specific as possible.
2. Take a few moments and think of a question or situation requiring answers.
3. Decide what number of cards you would like to use.
4. Do you want to try a significator or a card that represents you?
5. Think of the shape you would like to place the cards in, such as triangle, vertical, horizontal, circular, or square. Each shape has its own symbolism. Circles generally represent cycles, linear left to right as time progressions and steps, vertical as ascension or growth, and squares offer stability.
6. Choose an appropriate and symbolic number of cards. You can refer back to the general meaning of numbers in the introduction.
7. After you have written this down or sketched out your configuration, shuffle your cards, and when you've done that, shuffle the cards while thinking of this issue/question, lay them down, turn over your cards, and interpret.

TAROT FAQ



1. CAN YOU CHANGE YOUR DESTINY IF YOU RECEIVE A BAD READING?

My personal belief is of both free will and destiny. We may each receive whatever luck has been passed on to us through ancestry, or given a destiny, but we also have free will to choose our paths in life.

2. HOW OFTEN CAN YOU OR SHOULD YOU USE THE CARDS?

You can use your Tarot daily, with “message of the day” cards drawn from the deck, or receive weekly or monthly readings. You have to let your conscience be your guide. With my own practice, I use the cards on a daily basis for reflection but do not use them for every decision, nor have I become reliant on them for answers.

3. ARE THE CARDS NONDENOMINATIONAL?

Yes and no, depending on the deck you use. Tarot artist and scholar Robert M. Place has created a deck of Buddhist-themed Tarot, artist and Tarot expert Gina Thies has created a *Tarot of the Moors*, and author and Tarot expert Liz Dean’s *Game of Thrones* deck follows the HBO show of the same name. There are so many unique published and self-published decks that include cats, fairies, vampires, and science fiction; there are decks to suit everyone’s needs and tastes as well as beliefs. Along with Tarot, oracle cards such as the Lenormand deck also come in a wide variety of styles and interpretations.

4. DOES SHUFFLING THE DECK IN A PARTICULAR WAY OR EVEN IN GENERAL MATTER?

I shuffle cards so that I can focus while considering the situation or a particular question. There is no correct way to shuffle, and not all of us are card players. Any method of mixing the cards, including placing

them on a table and moving them around and then gathering them, is fine. I believe that touching the cards is the most important aspect of shuffling, not technique.

5. WHAT IF A CARD FALLS OUT OF THE DECK WHILE SHUFFLING—SHOULD I USE IT?

That is personal, but I usually use the card or cards that seem to leap out of the deck to set the tone of the reading. It's fine though if you put them back in the deck and reshuffle.

6. DOES IT MATTER IF I USE A SIGNIFICATOR CARD?

A significator is a card that signifies or represents you in the reading. I don't need to take a card out of the deck for this and don't find it useful. This is a very personal choice, and for those who wish to use a significator, a court card that you feel represents you or the person you are reading for can be set aside or placed within the spread, depending on the layout used. Many people also use The Fool card or The Seeker card and consider it the beginning and not necessary within the actual reading. There are many different styles, all of them personal choices, and, in my opinion, none is more correct than any other. You will note that I do not have significators in the spreads in this book.

7. ARE TAROT CARDS A PORTAL FOR SPIRITS LIKE A OUIJA BOARD?

Reading Tarot may place you in a receptive or meditative state to be more intuitive, and all divination can be a portal. Practice spiritual hygiene as suggested in the book. In my practice, thanking ancestors and guides is closing the door.

8. HOW ELSE CAN I USE CARDS?

You can use them as collectors' items, as creative prompts for writing, or in spellcasting.

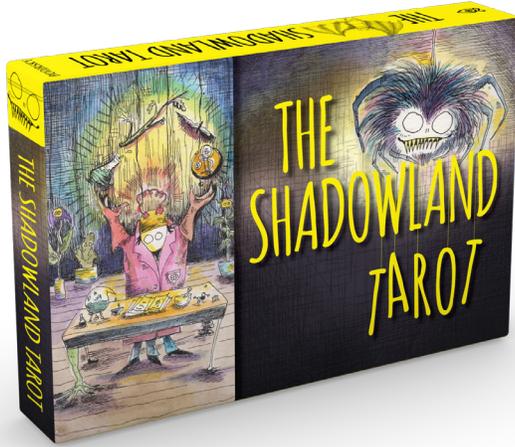
9. CAN I LET OTHERS TOUCH MY TAROT DECK?

If you feel the deck is somehow compromised by another person's touch, you don't need to give permission. Some people won't even allow you to look at their cards, because they fear the "evil eye" of jealousy. I allow everyone to handle my Tarot decks, and have never felt uncomfortable with that because I keep them cleansed.



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From the author:

The shadows are parts of us that need to be integrated, so we see ourselves with compassion and wholeness.

Shadowland Tarot

Monica Bodirsky

This Tarot deck and accompanying book provide you with the vital creative tools you need to access your shadows and reveal hidden truths. Alongside traditional Tarot symbolism and meanings, shadow aspects of our archetypal personalities are portrayed as 78 playful and quirky ink-and-watercolor creatures that offer insight and guidance into our deepest selves. The book consists of a detailed introduction to shadows and shadow work, card meanings, reflection questions, and easy-to-follow spreads to help you discover, contemplate, and integrate previously unacknowledged aspects of your life and personality. For beginners as well as seasoned professional readers and shadow workers, this deck provides imaginative solutions to everyday challenges as well as complex or concealed condition.

Monica Bodirsky, BDes, is a Canadian artist, author, educator, and professional Tarot reader with over forty years of experience.

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- ▶ Say hello to the 78 pieces of your personality you have kept locked in the shadows



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—Jayni Bloch, M.A.C. Psych. Assos. Registered Clinical Psychologist

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