



**Tarot Collectors
Forum
2009
Collaborative
Deck**

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MAJOR ARCANA

0. The Fool by Blue Bubble: The Fool stands precariously on the edge of the amethyst mountain. He believes in himself and follows his heart, he will not slip. He gazes down at the new opportunities and challenges below him. He carries with him his worldly possessions and embraces the warmth of the sun on his back. His dog holds on tightly to his velvet coat in attempt to keep him steady on the crystal shelf, he whispers to his master "Be cautious".

01. The Magician by blistersnbutterflies: In the symbolism in this card I chose to celebrate the coming together of so many different ideas from around the world. The flags are the most recognizable symbols of a countries pride and heritage. The Magician, which has taken on the form of the serpent to symbolize knowledge, has encircled the universe and in doing so has become one with it. He has married his bride with the gold band of the ancient language so he can communicate in all forms with her and her children. In doing so, he has brought harmony not only to this world but the heavens beyond. All aspects of the feminine moon cycles are depicted, bringing the earth full cycle and back to her beginning. She is once again fertile and ready for the next phase to begin, as all things are born of one another.

02. The High Priestess by Chronata: A mysterious veiled woman, sees the Universe in her scrying bowl as the moon becomes eclipsed. She may reveal her secret to you, if you are ready. Card Meaning: Secrets and Mysteries. Feminine wiles. intuitive leaps. The Unknown.

03. The Empress by Marcia959: My Empress is a photo of the Sheela Na Gig that still guards the eastern wall of the castle at Ballinacarriga, Co. Cork, Ireland. While in later years, sheelas were used as religious instruction on the "evils of women", there is an earlier tradition that the sheela placed on the eastern wall will protect the castle from harm. The story goes that when invaders sought to destroy a community, the old wise woman confronted them by exposing herself. Whether through shame of fighting with their mother or terror of divine retribution, they retreated and the village was saved. Sheelas are found throughout Ireland and the UK usually on the eastern wall if still in situ.

04. The Emperor by Ambriel: This card was drawn using colored pencils and Powerpoint and is based on a song called The Crow and the Butterfly by Shinedown and the legendary, mythical Japanese Emperor Jimmu. Focusing on the Emperor is a time to reflect on the Emperor or Emperor's of our life. Sometime the Emperor's of our life come and go, so we may find ourselves asking why this is so. Perhaps it is because like the crow chases the butterfly, we are chasing something which really doesn't belong to us, so it's slips away in a flutter when we least expect it.

05. The Hierophant by Stefan: To be ruled by convention. Continuing the process, Ancient Grace. Manifestation of Knowledge. Priest of Mystery School. Spiritual Discipline. Organized Religion. Societies Rules. Wisdom with structure. Search for truth and understanding. Conforms and diligently searches for truth. Position that serves society. The Hierophant (or High Priest) deals with worldly problems. He strives to create harmony and peace

in the midst of a crisis. At his best, he is wise and soothing, at his worst, he is an unbending traditionalist. R/W description.

06. The Lovers by papoon: Choices are hard. No less so for all of the personal, historical, and cultural influences attempting to affect the process of choice. Card Meaning: It means pretty much whatever you think it means. But choose carefully

The card imagery was initially stamped with rubber stamps, composited in Photoshop, and then hand colored with markers and colored pencils.

07. The Chariot by mythos : All accomplishing action. Self-discipline needed. Achievement with effort. Remove obstacles. Vision to go ahead. Harness your energy. Struggle and triumph against odds. Unexpected news by word of mouth. Artistic Success. Triumph in work. Sustained effort. Change for the good. Things are going your way and will work out as you wish. What area of your life will be changing? This is a good time for making plans and setting goals. Spend the time to become clear about what you are trying to create in your life. Make plans and set incremental goals you can meet. R/W description.

08. Strength by Morwenna: In a variation on the motif of the Maiden and the Unicorn, I paired the maiden with a gryphon. Gryphons as a mix of air and fire represent the animal nature which is to be tamed by the maiden, but also incorporate the idea that this has to be applied with understanding of that very nature and that the balance of Strength comes from the mind as well as from the heart and body.

Card meaning: Courage, raw power coupled with steadfast will, control over forces, personal honor and integrity

09. The Hermit by Skad1: A period of withdrawal or solitude to better face or understand yourself. This is what the Hermit is, being by yourself, to learn about yourself. Solitude. Peace. Looking for Enlightenment. The desire to just be quiet and learn.

10. Wheel of Fortune by Demian Brennan-Gould: The Star of Isis: The microcosm of the universe, and the macrocosm of selfhood, indicated by a view of Earth in an octagon. "The Hand of Fate" as both a wheel and free will. Often called "The Wheel of Fortune" the archetypal association is with the Goddess Isis, obscured by state religions, but remembered by the Gypsies. Phoenician Letter 10 Yod (Virgo) and the planet Mercury (Letter 11 Kaph and thus Tarot card 11 Force) exalted in Virgo. Card Meaning: Free Will triumphs over Predestination (humanity prevails over state religions).

11. Justice by truelighth: This card is a photo of a statue on an old city hall, dating from 1561. This statue represents Justice as we see it in the real world, as Justice is a card that deals with real world issues. It is not perfect, as it has been weathered and worn down in time. This is also how we often experience Justice in these modern times. That it is a noble ideal offered to us from a very long time ago, but which often feels a bit distant and hard to attain in the day to day injustices that we experience and read about in the news and politics.

Meaning: reality, responsibility, truth, justice/injustice, making decisions, practical solutions, balance.

12. The Hanged Man by Gregory: A naked man hangs in a waterfall, tied by the ankles to a rope hanging from high above. The association of this card with water was important in its design. He dives into something – only to find time is needed for reflection. Self-sacrifice may be involved, as is some degree of suffering or self-deprivation get to where you want to be. More haste, less speed; reflection is an essential part of decision making. New perspectives can be gained from adopting new positions (upside down...) It's about suspension of things, not life or death. Stop resisting; let yourself be vulnerable, and get knowledge from this. You will find answers and solutions to problems. This may also be a time when everything just stands still before moving on. Things will continue in due time, but for now, they "hang fire", timeless.

13. Death by Palestrina: Let those doors close. Endings & new beginnings. New conditions and opportunity. Don't resist sudden change. You will have strength for a new situation. Rebirth of the soul. New awareness. Freedom from old enslavement's. Total change. Birth of new ideas. Destruction of old. External change. No death without birth. Loss of perception. Gaining new perspective. I now say yes to death, yes to my self. Integration and Manifestations Occur, Rebirth of Soul w/o Physical Death. R/W description.

14. Temperance by goldenweb: The image on the card is symmetrical to indicate balance, and the figure of Temperance is Iris, Goddess of the Rainbow, who strikes a pose reminiscent of Leonardo's Vitruvian Man. The Goddess is shown in the non-physical act of mixing the contents of two bowls, one of which represents the

conscious mind and the physical/material world, the other the subconscious mind and the spiritual realm. By this act a rainbow is created which forms not only a bridge of light and colour, but a constant flow between both vessels and perfect balance. The crystalline background hints at amethyst, the gemstone for Temperance, and the goddess' bow-shaped head-dress at Sagittarius, the astrological sign of this card. The firebirds are totems of her element, yet earth, air and water are also indicated by the flower, her wings, and not only the stream in which she stands but the fish that forms part of her gown and wings.

15. The Devil by Quarkling: A galaxy spins in the cosmic void, one of many. Spiraling out of this galaxy is a form that begins in light, but encompasses the dark of the eternal matrix. The Devil is composed of many segments that grow larger with their approach to the head. A devious grin sits on the winged, horned skull, where glowing eyes extend an invitation to the darker delights of existence. The Devil symbolizes that which shadows our existence. There are fears within which have to be confronted and conquered. Failing to do so might lead to addiction and perhaps following a path of self destruction.

16. The Tower by sumada: I like to consider this card as being the first of the 4 'Lights' that appear towards the end of the Trump sequence; hence the title Lightning, rather than Tower. The tree is an obvious nod to Vieville, but also in this case, a reference to the recent breaking of my leg (limb); a strangely fortuitous occurrence, without which I probably would not have done a card at all! And yes, that's me (with my leg now out of plaster) exiting the Tower and moving on from the disaster; a nod to #XV in the Minchiate

deck. The artwork for this card was first rendered in pen and ink, and then it was tonally reversed and touched up in Photoshop.

17. The Star by BlueToy: A rendering of the Star card in the Marseilles tradition, featuring dark-to-light digital colouring. The star symbolizes hope and one's dreams.

18. The Moon by Mr.la-luna: Using Paintshop Pro I mixed & collaged a copyright-free image of Pixie (who is celebrating the centennial of her tarot this year so time for a personal homage also), with personal Holliday pictures and a picture from the moon taken by NASA. I've overlaid the thus resulting collage with some masks and effects to come to this image.

The moon that's our subconscious mind the things we know, the things we can & the things we do without thinking about it – some might call it creativity others divine inspiration, whatever you call it this grand dame of tarot had it and has the centennial to prove it.

19. The Sun by Nicole: The Sun evolved from the desire to combine elements of the Marseille type decks and Pamela's sunflowers. Having no naked small twins, and fearing arrest photographing others, I substituted my children...who are quite relieved to find I did not use old photographs of them in the bathtub. The ivy covered wall is from Wrigley Field, and the sunflower sun rains down 19 yods, which is the number of the key

20. Judgment by Kimber: A woman stands on a cliff, eyes closed, facing out to sea. Her red cloak signifies an expansion of personal consciousness, liberation from limitations, and revitalization. The peacock represents birth, death, and resurrection; the "eyes" of the peacock feathers

indicate seeing everything in a new light. An awakening of spirit occurs, and the self becomes united and whole. The path behind her and the door before her, across the sea, indicate choices which must be made, although the consequences are unknown as she stands at the crossroads.

Meaning: Rebirth. The day of reckoning. Forgiveness, atonement, cleansing. Letting go - a coming to terms with past experiences and moving beyond, opening to a higher purpose.

21. The World by acuent: The Nataraj, Shiva Dancing the dance of the cosmos in a circle of flames, represents the eternal dance of life and death. It is apparent that the Nataraj was the inspiration for the Rider Waite trump, THE WORLD.

The Nataraj dances in the background. A bright orange sky (2nd chakra...creativity) bursts forth in the center...golden yellow(3rd chakra..the will), warmth and power. The four hands of the deity symbolize the cardinal points, or four directions. As Shiva Dances, he creates the World. One leg balances on a demon, who symbolizes ignorance.

The Hindu Nataraj sits on a lotus pedestal to symbolize the creative forces in the universe. This Nataraj is looking from the back. He is watching over the people, especially the children who will become the creators. In the foreground, Silva stands, holding a young one. She is amongst the people who have lost their homes due to flooding.

Destruction is part of the cycle of creation. As a part of the creation, we are able to create by reaching out and helping others who are in need.

--WANDS--

01 Ace of Wands by Ambriel: Description: Created using a handy web based program call Picnik. I found a free color page of the wand and just played with it in software till I got this result. Meaning: Creative force and enthusiasm.

02 Two of Wands by Quarkling: Two staves stand against a verdant scene. They are sprouting new growth. This card represents a connection and yearning.

03 Three of Wands by Gregory: Three wands stand against a patch of fireweed (an allusion to the fire side of the suit.) The card is a photo collage using Photoshop and layers of varying opacity. I combined a photo of fireweed and an edited scan of a wand shape from a TdM deck in my collection. With this and the other threes, I was trying to devise sort of "illustrated unillustrated" pip cards.....
Progress; the benefits of waiting it out. Dreams may start to come true. Earned praise and power. Investment in some project or passion will start to pay off. If you want to start a new project – now is a good time to do it.

04 Four of Wands by Arnell: Since my Mom had an (unrealized) dream of being married in an enchanting setting, with the help of Photoshop I transported my parents to a lovely Cathedral in Italy. My sister and I are the chubby cherubs hovering above, waiting to be born. 4 Sunflower stalks add a bit of Wands energy to this rather 'Waite-Smith' inspired scene

05 Five of Wands by goldenweb: This card originates from a time when I was playing around with fire – although only in paint I hasten to add! The traditional tarot image of

conflict between five figures is depicted here more like a dance through flames than a fight to the death. The fiery atmosphere is to remind the reader that the struggle indicated by this card is usually creative, but sometimes social or work-related rather than physical, and will pass without long-term disruption. Painted in acrylic on canvas board

06 Six of Wands by starlightexp: The silhouette of a lion surveys his realm victoriously. For him, his sights are set on the whole of his world. Jupiter, the great benefactor surrounds his head in an ever expanding vision of where he can go next. This is one of those cards that fits me astrologically and I've just grown to love. The style is one of great contrast of bold bright colors. Many thanks to photoshop.

07. Seven of Wands by Langustl: 6 fluteplayers are playing a concert with their 6 flutes. They make the experience, the thing sounded a bit chaotic before, then they found leader on the right. He took all the good ideas and talents of the players, lead it to a common conception and so tries to fight the former chaos.

With the experience and the rising consciousness, that energy without a direction does lead to nothing, we begin to fight for a clearer way.

08. Eight of Wands by BlueToy: A warrior in the clouds striking a goal. Digital painting. The image is all about movement, and directing energies towards a particular goal.

09. Nine of Wands by Skad1: Death and Destruction? I based the card on the Maya Prophecy of 2012 which says that the 5th world era will end when the

sun is lined up with the center of the galaxy, on Dec 21st, 2012. The destruction will involve fire, possibly from the sky. The question really is, will there be a 6th era? The background is the Milky Way galaxy, also known as home-sweet-home. The glyph in the lower right is the date glyphs for Dec 21, 2012, the little glyph bottom left is a pronunciation of my name, rather than Sherry, it's a 'woman called CHE-YI'. The upper left has 2 Maya Gods, the top one is Paslam, the God of Meteors, the Second god is only known as Death God A, He seems to be enjoying the potential destruction. The question mark is because we don't know if the 6th Era will begin on Dec22, 2012.

10 Ten of Wands by Arnell: A woman struggles to carry 10 wands on her back. The wind is fierce and tugs at her while threatening to blow out her vulnerable candle. With determination and grace she keeps to her path and to the goal.

A burden soon lifted. A feeling of tremendous pressure to complete the task. The sense of relief and gratification when this job is done will be substantial.

11. Page of Wands by goldenweb: The image was created using a collage technique with torn hand-marbled and other decorative papers, after first masking out the face and right hand. Along the way it was spattered and dry-brushed with paint and finally drawn with pen and ink and finished with coloured crayons. Card Meaning: Keywords: message, idea, flicker, spark, inspiration, potential. With the sun at their back to indicate the fiery element of Wands, a young messenger arrives. He or she holds a small flame from which to light the long white candle that replaces the

traditional wand. The little flame represents the first flicker of inspiration; the candle the potential to realize that idea.

12. Knight of Wands by Marcia959: A true relic of the old west from the 1800's, this portrait of a man and his horse is part of the precious heritage of the Pueblo peoples of the American Southwest near Mesa Verde, Colorado. Card meaning: Action and energy, perhaps too rash, exemplifies the Old West and while the "fire stick" firearm here is implied, the vitality, glory and grit of the armed man on horseback lights the fire of our imaginations even today. The Wild West at first seems romantic, but look closer and find a common theme of "ready-fire-aim" so much a part of the settlement of any frontier

13. Queen of Wands by Morwenna: A beautiful passionate woman between two pillars, echoing the High Priestess, because control and temperance is needed to prevent the flame from her torch turning into a firebrand. The image is a digital variation of a vintage photo of an actress, as Queens of Wands are often stage personalities. Card meaning: Passion, creative power house, magnetic but hot-tempered personality, confidence, charisma.

14. King of Wands by skad1: The Earth as viewed from the Moon seemed a good basis for the King of Wands. Getting to the Moon, and staying there, is going to be a challenge, but worth doing for the future of mankind.

--CUPS--

01. Ace of Cups by Nicole: To create a card representing the essence of elemental water, a rushing waterfall seemed an apt image. A heavenly hand offering a

chalice to represent the suit was then added. The dove is a tip of the hat to Pamela Coleman Smith.

02. Two of Cups by Mr.la-luna: A collage of elements taken from personal photos of myself and a loved one, the glasses from the drinks cabinet at home and from museums I visited & copyright-free images from old manuscripts. The collage has had then some special effects overlaid upon it using Paintshop Pro.

Love between 2 people, physical, emotional and spiritual is something very strong not even death can undo it. So this card is a witness of what we (I and the other one portrayed here) felt for each other when he was alive and that has not changed by his passing on. Linked to what once was in this life, is also the celestial, the eternal portrayed by the astrological element of the card (Venus in Cancer).

03. Three of Cups by Gregory: Three goblets sort of hover over some yellow roses. The card is a photo collage using Photoshop and layers of varying opacity. I combined a photo of wild yellow roses and a photo of a goblet I found in a Viking museum on the Lofoten Islands in Norway. With this and the other threes, I was trying to devise sort of "illustrated unillustrated" pip cards...

Happiness, togetherness. Weddings, anniversaries, birthdays. Family get togethers and celebrations. Healing of feuds; ends to problems.

04. Four of Cups by wvzookeeper: The card shows a shadowy, torpid figure lodged motionless in a decomposing piece of driftwood. There are four golden cups, one of which is being offered by an entity. The figure makes no attempt to retrieve or accept the gift of the cups being offered, but instead remains aloof and lifeless. Card meaning: The Four

of Cups generally means a time of self-absorption, which can range anywhere from healthy introspection to apathy, depression, and narcissism. This state of mind can often keep us from accepting the gifts and blessings offered to us. Love, answers, and opportunities go unnoticed or are ignored because we are too self-consumed to see them.

05. Five of Cups by Chronata: Comedy and Tragedy masks are set among chalices of spilled wine. Card Meaning: Feelings of loss with lots of Drama. A change in perspective is all that is needed to see that the cups are not spilling, but filling

06. Six of Cups by Marcia959: Children's toys at the Borland Home which is also home of the Martinez Historical Society in Martinez, California while on a ghost hunt. In a departure from the rest of my relatively "straight" photos, I wanted to show that memory, especially of childhood, is always enhanced. Some things are not part of the picture, some things are perhaps not exactly as they happened. Or, are they? Is a step back into the past just like a step into an alternate dimension?

07. Seven of Cups by Mr.la-luna: Collage of copyright free images of, Mata Hari, Oscar Wilde & a painting of the night sky by Van Gogh and some personal pictures I took from my absinthe glasses & fountain and a cast iron table. Manipulation of the collage happened in Paintshop Pro. This card is inspired by an evening with friends and lots of absinthe. The 7 of cups is also the card that says things are not always as they seem, as people say or as you think. Appearance is one thing, reputation another and reality can be even something completely different from those (or not). Astrological correspondence is Mars in Scorpio.

08. Eight of Cups by Ambriel: My 8 of Cups is done with magic markers and colored pencils....obviously, I have no respect for the "color wheel" whatsoever...I just use colors I like and see where it leads me.

When the world is all at odds
And the mind is all at sea
Then cease the useless tedium
And brew a cup of tea.
There is magic in its' fragrance,
There is solace in its' taste;
And the laden moments vanish
Somehow into space.
And the world becomes a lovely thing!
There's beauty as you'll see;
All because you briefly stopped
To brew a cup of tea.

"If you are cold, tea will warm you;
if you are depressed it will cheer you;
if you are excited it will calm you."

~William Gladstone

09. Nine of Cups by sacredashes: Inspired by a photo of a spider web right after a storm; droplets of water clinging on to the silken threads bearing down on some parts of the web, destroying a once symmetrical design. Branches of trees in the background are barely seen through the misty lake. This card is a mix between the tarot scenic pips and traditional poker cards where hearts represent the cup symbol in the suit

10. Ten of Cups by Mr.la-luna: Collage in Paintshop Pro of 10 special festive & historical cups, manuscript

images for the astrological elements and for the background I used the plans for my apartment they are building.

Home is where the heart is was the idea I started from for this card and what is more home then one's own home, the concretisation of one's dreams and wishes for a good and happy life surrounded by one's friends & family. So the my own dreams and plans made stone concrete & ...is my personal view of it. Astrological correspondence here is the Mars in Pisces.

11. Page of Cups by Marcia959: A foam model of Shakespeare's head floats in the Mall River in Co. Mayo, Ireland. In the bright September sunshine, he gazes into the water while his reflection, a bit darker but no less clear, gazes back. The Page of Cups dips into the subconscious for a message. Shakespeare looked into the soul and reflected it, good and bad, funny and sad, great and small, for our understanding of what it is to be human.

12. Knight of Cups by goldenweb: The suit of Cups describes feelings and emotions, flowing and ever-changing like water, the element in which the Knight of Cups is depicted. The Knight of Cups is a romantic figure, shown riding a seahorse, perhaps to a prospective lover, sea foam covering his head – although perhaps it is his flowing white hair. He is depicted literally (as well as metaphorically) as a 'knight in shining armour', his silver suit complete with scales and fishes hinting at Pisces, the astrological sign of this card. He holds a red-gold cup aloft in his left hand, the side of creativity. His half-hidden face and the concealed fishes all around are a reminder of the dream-like quality of romance with its hopes and imaginings

13. Queen of Cups by Morwenna: While researching Renaissance drinking vessels, I came across a Wikipedia entry on the chambered nautilus, which was used during that period to create elaborate chalices. Alongside this bit of trivia stood a quote from a poem of Oliver Wendell Holmes, with the comment: "He finds in the mysterious life and death of the nautilus strong inspiration for his own life and spiritual growth."

Card meaning: Exploring the complex depths of the soul, emotional stability, empathy and love, mature intuitive powers, emotional nurturing.

14. King of Cups by Quarkling: The King of Cups depicts a blue tinted King and a cup against an ocean of water and clouds. The King of Cups represents the spirit of the subconscious. He operates on the level of instinct, comfortable with the masculine and feminine aspects within him.

--SWORDS--

01. Ace of Swords by Quarkling: The Ace of Swords sits in a well defined pyramid on a bed of light. Outside this enclosure is a field of clouds overlaying the sun. The Ace of Swords is the first card in this suit which symbolizes air. It stands for clarity of thought and inspiration in solving problems. You may begin to see things with a new perspective.

02. Two of Swords by Ambriel: The yellow carnation is the flower of rejection and refusal. Many times when we feel guarded we will reject and refuse to acknowledge a truth. This is not something someone does intentionally, but the perception of someone in this state is sometimes

misunderstood by others. The color black in the background represents the fear and uncertainty which develops from shielding ourselves from the truth. The triple moon symbol is meant to remind the seeker it may be time to banish the blindness and send those feelings away. Created using Microsoft Powerpoint.

03. Three of Swords by Gregory: Three swords hover over a bleeding heart flower. The card is a photo collage using Photoshop and layers of varying opacity. I combined a photo of a bleeding heart flower and a photo of a glass facsimile of a sword in a Viking museum on the Lofoten Islands, Norway.

Pain and heartbreak. Hurtful words are going to be exchanged. The cutting words of truth. No more waiting, obsessing, wondering, worrying. Get on with your life. Now that you know how things stand you can act on it, instead of on false beliefs, gossip and misconceptions. Destroy what is dead; clear out the stuff you don't need, and move on.

04. Four of Swords by truelighth : I drew this card with markers, then scanned it in and coloured it with Photoshop. The idea behind the card: The cat has been out all night, hunting, and roaming around. The sun has just come up and it is now time for rest and to restore it's energy. The 4 'Z' of the sleeping cat mirror the 4 swords.

Meaning: rest, retreat, withdraw from the world, healing, restore energy.

05. Five of Swords by starlightexp: Venus in Aquarius. A battle is over and a victor is declared but who was it, where are they now, who won or lost? The darkened sky can be seen as oncoming or lifting. I wanted this card to have a feeling of clouded mystery about it, because for

me it's about things that come out of nowhere be it losses or victories. Did the battle happen in the Sea of Emotion, or did one lose their footing on the rocks?

06. Six of Swords by Nicole: Impression Soleil Levant by Claude Monet contained so much of one of the ideas I had for the 6 of Swords, I felt compelled to give it a go. I replaced Monet's sun with a photograph of Mercury and added the Aquarius glyph to the waves. After applying these Golden Dawn correspondences, all that was left was to add the six swords. The Art Institute of Chicago has one of the finest collections of impressionist paintings in the world and I can easily lose days wandering through the galleries. Although Impression Soleil Levant is not part of the Chicago collection, it is my hours spent admiring the fine art here that started my love affair with Claude Monet

07. Seven of Swords by rylla: This card being about 'hope in the middle of danger' as well as theft, trickery, stealing, enemies, plotting, and strategies, the rocks under his feet relate to obstacles he had already passed, the poison ivy refers to tricky or hurtful words, the wolf shows hidden danger, the cross-like-sword-head points to possible enemies plotting against him and the castle is his hope, his way out of danger. Combination of clips from newsletters and personal pictures from Louvre and Cambodia. Made with Photoshop.

All sevens refer to yet unresolved situations, therefore choices and decisions are involved. Will he use his own sword (own path) and face the dangers and obstacles (3 swords in his way) and get to the castle or will he take the 3 other shiny swords (stealing other people's idea, conception, job) instead? But this road may end up in ruin and

destruction (left upper corner). In a difficult situation, surrounded by danger, can you maintain hope to get to your own castle or are you going to choose the easy way out that may leave you empty in the end?

08. Eight of Swords by truelighth: This image was drawn with pencil, then scanned into the computer and converted using a chalk & charcoal filter from photoshop. It portraits a Living Marionette. The girl is blindfolded, hung up, not being able to move of her own free will with someone else pulling the strings. She is trapped, a prisoner and a victim, without knowing the way out, feeling helpless and worthless.

Meaning: feeling stuck, trapped, unable to move, not having free will, feeling like a victim, feeling helpless, worthless.

09. Nine of Swords by Kimber: Two blood red roses appear against a barren background. At lower right, a woman contemplates what she has sown; she is immobilized with powerlessness. Medusa appears to the left, representing the woman's inner turmoil and the "snakes" that torment her mind. It is said of Medusa that "her potency only begins when her head is severed, and that potency resides in the head; she is in a word a mask with a body later appended..." The magic 8 ball signifies the unknown and the capriciousness of life, where "Manure Occureth". The hooded figure holds a bluebird in his hand, indicating a gradual shift in attitudes or beliefs.

Meaning: Despair, anxiety, worry, unrealistic expectations. Delayed healing. Grief and regret. Self doubt, shame, disappointment. A refusal to forgive. A negative focus; it is our ideas which imprison us. A need to reclaim our personal power.

10. Ten of Swords by Arnell: I was contemplating how people get a twisted thrill in reading gossip rags and talking trash, and how it feels to the person in the 'news'. In this collage, a victim of slander wears a 'gossip rag' & dunce cap. She is hit by all manner of colorful slurs and wild accusations. With her heart exposed, she sluggishly moves towards the left (safety of the past). A snake bites her tail (a sign of death/rebirth loss/redemption). For 'they are only paper words.'

11. Page of Swords by Marcia959: A face melted into the stone ruins of a gothic window at the church at Aghagower, Co. Mayo, Ireland behind Croagh Patrick is revealed.

12. Knight of Swords by goldenweb: The suit of Swords connects to the element of air, and deals with the logical aspect of the mind applied to life's events and how we deal with them. The Knight of Swords is depicted as a red-haired young man charging from the centre of a tornado in his quest for knowledge and information. His sword is short to indicate his attention span – he loses interest rapidly and soon rushes off towards the next and more interesting target. Being ruled by Gemini – the constellation twinkling behind him on the card – he loves to talk and communicate with others he encounters on his quest, but has a tendency to rush into the lives of others and cause chaos before moving on

13. Queen of Swords by BlueToy: The Queen of Swords in her element, with clouds and an owl symbolizing her air aspect. Following Golden Dawn tradition, the symbols for air and water are incorporated into the image. Digital painting.

14. King of Swords by Mr.la-luna: Collage of covers of Darwin's most famous books, the one's that made him famous until now, a painting from him by John Collier and an evolutionary-schema all copyright free. The collage & manipulation started in Paintshop Pro but due to a computercrash I was forced to end it with a minimal tool namely XnView

To bring together what was known, analyse it, boil it down or even turn it inside out upside down and be influential enough to bring it over to others, that is the essence of this card. All this can be said about the one that is called the "father of evolution theory" and with this year being the bicentenary of his birth and the 150th anniversary of the publication of his seminal work 'On the origin of Species', who was more fitting as king of Swords than Darwin. he wasn't the first to think about it but he was the first to put it in a logical working theory, reach the many and influence scientific thinking from then off.

--PENTACLES--

01. Ace of Pentacles by Gregory: A stone pentacle is being uncovered in the earth, with grasses and other plants around. Photoshop and layers strike again; the pentacle is photographed from the wall of a church in Oxfordshire; the "ground" is a slightly neglected bit of our garden....

Money or some other "wealth" will be found (dug up like treasure.) It will involve work (digging !) and such work will be grounded – not airy fairy and philosophical. This card represents the achievement or gaining of something solid. But it won't be achieved without your taking positive action.

02. Two of Pentacles by Skad1: Endless cycles of change. The Maya Calendars are perfect, the top one is the Long Count calendar, used to keep track from 0 (our 3114 B.C.) to infinity. The bottom one is known as the Calendar Round, which is actually 2 calendars, the Tzolkin (260 days) and the Haab (365 days). Or Lunar calendar and Sun calendar. The Maya believed that time is circular, rather than our linear view. Chokola, the God of chocolate, makes his appearance, because He likes Infinity.

03. Three of Pentacles by Gregory: Three pentacles sort of hover over some yellow buttercups. The card is a photo collage using Photoshop and layers of varying opacity. I combined a photo of wild yellow (a nod to gold coins!) buttercups and a pentacle I manipulated with Photoshop.

The card of the craftsman, creating something that brings in money or employment. Money, admiration, and more work is coming, enough to get you out of the juggling you've had to be doing. Business success is on the way. Health-wise, this card can also indicate positive results from a new exercise program or therapy.

04. Four of Pentacles by Marcia959: 4 Celtic-style triskeles on a stone column, Balintubber Abbey, Co. Mayo, Ireland. While these triskeles aren't pentacles, this set of four struck me as the ultimate "can't take it with you" gracing the abbey ruins. The more you hang onto the material world, the more likely you are to notice that it slips away.

05. Five of Pentacles by Skad1: This card represents all we are fearful of. But sometimes we make our own problems, we need to step back and re-evaluate.

06. Six of Pentacles by Quarkling: The Six of Pentacles has two people kneeling with arms extended towards six pentacles which are suspended above them. This card means that generosity will be rewarded. Perhaps a gift or inheritance is headed their way.

07. Seven of Pentacles by Ambriel: Description: Drawn and Colored with magic markers. Meaning: I thought this poem fit it well because it is a card of reflection and taking pause....

Ah Sunflower by William Blake

Ah Sunflower, weary of time,
Who countest the steps of the sun;
Seeking after that sweet golden clime
Where the traveller's journey is done;

Where the Youth pined away with desire,
And the pale virgin shrouded in snow,
Arise from their graves, and aspire
Where my Sunflower wishes to go!

08. Eight of Pentacles by Marcia959: A display of native American baskets from the Arizona desert. Baskets were essential technology and this display shows the diversity of size and decoration, plus a brief glimpse into the mind of the master craftsman.

09. Nine of Pentacles by starlightexp: Here we have Venus in Capricorn. A joyful fountain of bliss, one of the Fountain of Prosperity of one will. I've always looked at the card as being able to finally take in the wonders the world has to offer. The picture is one of Buckingham Fountain here in Chicago that I took several years ago, layered with a pentagram and of course Venus shining down.

10. Ten of Pentacles by jbtthehp: I had the idea of the card as a tree (the Tree of Life), with the planets as the Sephiroth, similar to the Waite/ Smith depiction of the 10 of Pentacles in that deck. To give every planet a place on the tree, I added Da'ath, the 11th Sephiroth for Neptune, as the bridge between the intellect and emotion. In that way, all the known planets and the luminaries (the Sun and Moon) were represented in the card. I cut and pasted images to make this card.

As a number 10, this card shows completeness and fulfillment, especially in a material way, for Pentacles express the element of Earth. This card evokes a whole range of experiences, as seen by all the planets in our solar system on the tree. It is the final pip card of the final suit of the deck.

11. Page of Pentacles by Langustl: A girl (my daughter), sitting at a table, is counting the coins of her piggy bank. Meaning: Discovering what we can find, open your eyes, a surprise, being open for material and beautiful things, possibilities, collecting something, learning to deal with values.

12. Knight of Pentacles by Nicole: To find an example of a Knight of Pentacles we need only to look at the stewards of our land. A farmer, working on his piece of the earth, with a tractor in the place of the horse seemed a fitting image. All I needed to add was a snazzy helmet with a plume and his pentacle.

13. Queen of Pentacles by acuent: In the background, The Earth Queen reigns on Earth by Divine Right...it is by the Powers of the Heavenly Forces that this Queen rules on the Earth Plane. In the foreground, the Queen's Shadow is

cast by the Sun. Her Shadow covers the Solar heated Earth, that is rich red rock. Silvery foliage and patches of icy snow play amongst the russet tones of warm Earth. The Queen is powerful and grounded, yet feminine. She gives force and power to decisions concerning the material world. She is confident, as her role was destined by Divine Right...and she therefore, adds structure and rootedness to the situation.

14. King of Pentacles by tantricknite: King of Pentacles. The king enjoys the abundance of his kingdom.

Joe: I started out drawing the concept out on several different papers till the right one popped out. Then I took that concept and detailed it further using some of the elements from Rider-White Tarot. I then used Aviary to detail the sky background and the tremulous earth. Card meaning: "Lord of the wild and fertile land"

The king of pentacles is less of a warrior and is more like a feudal king over seeing his fertile lands. His success comes more from instinct than intellect and his choices are practical.

--BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION--

acuent is Susi Hassert: artist/designer, healer, tarot collector, yogini

Ambriel: Gayla lives in Atlanta, Georgia with her two beautiful children and evil Pomeranian, "Joshie". Tarot is my passion, friend and constant companion.

Arnell is Arnell Ando: I've created 4 decks and collaborated on over a dozen group decks such as this and think they are great fun & inspiration. I'm a passionate collector of Tarot art/decks. I enjoy carrying on about art,

history, symbology & the creative process.

<http://www.arnellart.com>

blistersnbutterflies: My name is Debra Klopp-Kersey and I began doing tarot cards a couple of years ago at the request of a art collector. I have been reading and handling cards for decades. I find them to be some of the most fascinating and creative symbolism pages in the world. I hope to continue my research and my work. I have to date self-published 4 decks and these can be found at my website at <http://www.nannynortonprims.com>

Blue Bubble: My name is Mary Griffin and I am an artist, illustrator and storyteller. I live in Cornwall in the UK with my wonderful family and our dogs and cats. I have always painted since a child. Art to me, in all its forms, is wonderful, enlightening and very spiritual. I was fortunate enough to come from an artistic family and was always encouraged to expand my imagination. My other passion aside from art is Tarot. I am a psychic clairvoyant and for many years have been working with Tarot decks. I have found this experience amazing you never stop learning there is always something new and exciting to uncover in the cards. I have just completed my first Tarot deck, which was a amazing journey. <http://www.hezicostarot.com>

BlueToy: Ly enjoys watching particles collide in aether. He thinks (rather wrongly) this is how ideas are formed.

Chronata: Robyn Tisch Hollister is probably busy with some new project. And it probably involves tarot. She likes to make tarot images. She doesn't always like making the actual decks. And it's pretty likely there's one that needs to be finished right now.

Demian Brennan-Gould: He harks the Tarot back to Atlantis, but makes his home in Tennessee.

goldenweb: Artist and writer with a passion for tarot, the esoteric and those places where myth and legend cross and mingle. Creator of The Mystic Rubaiyat and The Pen Tarot, currently working on a new set of tarot cards.

Gregory is a granny who lives transatlantically, being dual national UK/Canadian. I keep getting involved with collaborative decks through the sheer fear of not being able to own a copy, as I'm rather well known as an avid collector. This is the first collaborative deck where I have managed to avoid committing to my favourite card – DEATH.

jbthehp: I have been active in the tarot, pagan and astrology communities all of my adult life (and probably past lives, too!) and am past president of the International Tarot Society and author of Tarot Kit For Beginners. I maintain a large private tarot practice in the Chicagoland area, where I reside with my two significant others (both of whom say "meow")-- Janet Berres

Kimber: Tarot has been part of my life since 1970. I've created two decks and am currently working on a third. By day I'm an international contracts administrator for a major defense company. My husband Lance and I live in Florida with two cats and two cocker spaniels.

Langustl : I was born 1964, am an educated woodcarver and cabinetmaker, now working as a therapist. For more than 20 years I've been busy with Tarot. Because I painted my whole life long I started to paint a Tarot Deck a few years ago, what is called Langustl Tarot and in June 2008.

Marcia959 is Marcia McCord: I fell in love with County Cork when on vacation there in 2007 with my husband. Besides being my husband's ancestral home, West Cork was a wonderland for me. I'm told it's mostly due to that being the only week of good weather that year! I took thousands of pictures, thanks to the miracle of digital photography. I have been a tarot reader since I was a kid in 1970 (so I'm older than dirt, too!) and an avid tarot collector for a much shorter, but certainly intense time. I live in the San Francisco area with my husband, my 5 cats and my very patient cocker spaniel. I love to travel and take pictures with my digital SLR camera.

Morwenna: Author and artist, still crunching numbers for a living, as neither of the first two can sustain the Tarot collecting habit yet. Morwenna is dancing with the faeries in the deep forests of Germany.

Mr.la-luna: Stefan Spelkens, a 34 year old – slightly 'original in a good way' (or at least if I believe my friends) man from Belgium. I have been a lover of tarot for a big part of my life part, having been exposed to them from a very young age. Not only reading with them but also since 2001 collecting them. Professionally I work in the Belgian patent office where it is all about creativity and logic.

mythos : Prior to retirement on the grounds of disability, my professional background was in psychology, social work and later, alternative therapies. I have always painted, though this took a backseat to my studies both formal and informal, parenting and work until the last decade. My paintings contain a range of media and themes. I am self-taught. I am currently working, on large canvases, on the 'mythos' tarot deck.

Nicole is Nicole Diamond: Tarot fiend, mother of two, witch. My power animal must be the sloth, as, if given a choice, I would do nothing all day but lie in the sun and read. I am delighted to take part in the 2009 TCF Collaborative Deck and am grateful I can hang out with all the cool kids

Palestrina: I started, after lengthy procrastination, a tarot based upon the works by Gerard de Nerval. I've found there a manner of thinking in which I can immerse myself. The Myths have to be shuffled, like cards...

papoon: is Marco Alpert. In "real" life, I have spent the last 30 years conceptualizing and marketing technology for the creation and recording of music (most recently as part of the team that loosed Auto-Tune on an unsuspecting world). I have had a lifelong love of art-making, having dabbled in a variety of media, but most often returning to photography. I got my first tarot deck in the mid 70s, but only became interested in collecting tarot as art in 2003. I live in California with my wife, the novelist Cathryn Alpert, and a bunch of kids and animals.

Quarkling: The artist has a modest collection of tarot decks, and is seeking to expand this collection. All his cards were created in Corel Photo-Paint 7.

rylla: Walking on the streets of Toronto, I saw a sale including a strange pack of cards and book, called: "The Servants of the Light Tarot". I decided to give it a try. That was 10 years ago, and I am still fascinated by tarot! I like to think that 'it was meant to be' (and it fits so well with my Siamese cat in front of a wooden-tulips-in-a-vase from Nederland). Chemist by profession, I love art, travel, cats, and tarot.

sacredashes is Ash: My name is Ash. What's there to say? Under the skin, I'm just like you.

skad1 is Sherry from Dallas, Texas USA: I am a Mechanical Designer currently working in the digital display field. I got my first tarot deck in the late 70s, it took a little while for tarot to take hold, but it's become a consuming interest/addiction.

starlightexp: Edmund is a happy, crafty little gay pagan that lives with his husband and two cats and tends his herb garden. He's been reading tarot since high school but only recently got more decks other than his Robin Wood to stop his friend Nicky from laughing at him

Stefan: Stefan Beckhusen, born August 31, 1960, is the creator and publisher of Medieval Traumzeit Tarot. A 3-d artist and tattoo artist by profession, he lives and works in Braunschweig, Germany

sumada: I am a 55 year old Grand-dad, picture framer, gallery docent, occasional artist, and nutty accumulator of antique tobacco and gramophone needle tins, clockwork tin toys, children's games and yes, cards... especially, but not limited to, Tarot, with my first deck being obtained in the early 1970s. One day I might even start learning how to read with them!

tantricknite: Joseph Barker is the artist who created the card. Joe is a licensed massage therapist and has a business called "Massage Me L.A."

Mike Barker is Joe's father and buys and sells tarot.

truelighth : is Saskia Jansen. I've been addicted to tarot since 1996. I mostly collect decks, but I also do readings (only with the Rider Waite). I was born and raised and still live in the Netherlands

wvzookeeper: I live in a small town in West Virginia in the middle of the Bible belt, where many people still believe Reflexology and Yoga are satanic practices. I have been collecting tarot for many years, but without my fellow tarot collectors on the web I would feel completely isolated. I don't read the cards, per se, but I do perform tarot spells for friends and family using the cards, usually with surprisingly effective results. However, it is my love for the tarot artwork that keeps me an avid collector.

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