

EIGHT. Crisis, calamity and conflict in other people's lives impose limits and restrictions on the questioner. Someone else needs looking after. *Reversed*. Frustrations and despair. Hard work is done but you get nowhere. Hang on, it will get better.

NINE. Misery, despair, quarrelling. Anxiety, injustice, prison. Unfair suffering, often an accident. Take no chances and make no assumptions. Do not travel unless you have to. *Reversed*. Doubt, suspicion and misgiving. All these are justified.

TEN. Ruin. Disaster. All plans and hopes fail. No-one should be trusted. This is the low point. This is as bad as it gets, the only way from here is up. *Reversed*. A temporary improvement. Make the most of it. Grab all opportunities as they pass. Need for self-honesty. See through illusions and fantasies.

PAGE. A perceptive, observant person. Gossip, spying and uncovering secrets. *Reversed*. Be on guard against the unexpected. A false friend.

KNIGHT. A courageous, dominant young man with your best interests at heart. *Reversed*. A fool. Impatient, conceited and never takes advice.

QUEEN. General female unhappiness. *Reversed*. Bitch from hell! Evil, malicious, deceitful, liar.

KING. The law, authority or medicine. A man from one of these areas of a cold, calm, calculating nature. *Reversed*. A mature man who is evil, selfish and not to be trusted. Do not proceed with legal action. Do not speed.

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WANDS. Fire. Challenge. Business, work, legal matters, journeys, travel, home decoration and renovation. New ventures.

ACE. Beginning of an undertaking. A rebirth or fresh start. *Reversed*. A false start, cloudy outlook. Bad timing.

TWO. Power and authority over friends and loved ones. Attainment of goals and Needs – or so it appears to others. Jealousy from others. *Reversed*. A new experience – apprehension, astonishment, fear and surprise.

THREE. Practical knowledge brings rewards in partnerships. Good ideas and productive co-operation. *Reversed*. Failure of overly ambitious plans. Assistance with an ulterior motive.

FOUR. A settled situation. Job done. Peace and quiet. *Reversed*. Happiness, prosperity and success.

FIVE. Struggle, a battle. Quarrels, arguments. Mental ability needed. *Reversed*. Contradictions and complexities. Legal proceedings.

SIX. Well earned success after hard work. Good/important news. *Reversed*. Disloyalty and bad faith. A back stabber.

SEVEN. Overcoming obstacles, but strength and determination will be needed. Rely only on yourself. *Reversed*. Hesitation. Doubts. Embarrassment. Quick reactions needed.

EIGHT. Speed, things move quickly. Rush and hurry, urgent messages, texts and calls. *Reversed*. Domestic or internal disputes, quarrels and jealousy.

NINE. Strength, secure defences and resilience. Be prepared. *Reversed*. Obstacles, delays and adversity.

TEN. Oppression, burdens to carry. Weighty responsibilities. Feelings of harsh treatment. *Reversed*. Deceit, intrigue and treachery, OR – enough is enough. Throwing off burdens and responsibilities.

PAGE. A loyal, faithful person you know. A stranger with good intentions. Also, news, a message. *Reversed*. A spy, tale-teller, betrayer of secrets. Bad news, gossip.

KNIGHT. An unpredictable, impetuous person of generous nature, OR – a sudden departure. Moving house. Separation. *Reversed*. Discord and quarrelling. Unexpected change.

QUEEN. A mature woman of practical and calm nature. *Reversed*. A mature woman who is quick to take offence. Can turn against friends for no reason. Often the cause of difficulties.

KING. A mature man who is honest, friendly, generous and strong. *Reversed*. A tolerant, sincere man who can be stern when necessary. He finds fault easily.

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FURTHER READING: The primary sources of this compiled list of meanings can be found in the following books. We recommend you buy them and read them.

Tarot Revealed and The Complete Guide to Tarot by Eden Gray. Initiation into the Tarot by Naomi Ozaniec. Tarot by Kathleen McCormack. The Tarot Workbook by Emily Peach.

www.thehermitage.org.uk

THE ONLY 'LITTLE WHITE BOOK' YOU WILL EVER NEED.

COMPILED BY ARTHUR H NORRIS

There can be no escape from the fact that learning the Tarot takes time, effort, persistence and patience. There are no shortcuts and the fastest and more comprehensive way into the cards is to memorise their basic meanings.

It is proven that memorisation – such as when a musician learns musical notation or a child learns phonics or the letters of the alphabet – is the key to foundation knowledge. The general meanings of the cards are the foundation upon which you will later add depth, meaning and personal relevance. And like the musician, you can play by ear after you've learned your notation and your instrument, not before.

Learning the basic meanings of the Tarot by memorisation is not nearly as difficult as say, learning pointless facts like the capitals of the countries of the world. Firstly, interest always reveals talent and ability. So if you like the Tarot you are already half way there. Secondly, because the Tarot is dealing with and representing fundamental, and in some cases self-evident, truths the learning is immediately meaningful and beneficial.

So follows a collection of the core meanings of all of the cards. Many years of intense study and research preceded the compilation of this set of guidelines. It is a comprehensive framework for what it leaves out as well as what it includes. It is not a random list, or a duplication of the Little White Books you get with the decks. Arthur deliberately included some meanings that others discarded, and discarded some that others valued.

The list cannot be exhaustive, but it is an exceptional place to start and should be committed to memory before any real further solid progress can be made.

Additional help comes in the form of a series of audios recorded by Pat Warrington which enable the student to combine audio and visual stimulation to increase their speed of learning. Visit the website for details www.yourwayforward.co.uk.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE: Print out page one of this document, turn the paper over and print page two. Fold carefully in half down the middle (trim the edges if you wish) and you have a handy reference that you can use every day.

The Major Arcana - Turning Points & Lessons to Learn.

0 – THE FOOL. New beginnings, fresh starts. Unexpected influence where important decisions and choices are made. Will power and restraint are needed. *Reversed*. Troubles ahead following wild, chaotic impulses. Avoid temptation to act crazily in new situations.

I – THE MAGICIAN. Taking a bold step into chancy territory. Vigorous events coming. A chance to expand your personality. *Reversed*. Weakness of will. Nervousness. Look at a new enterprise presented by others carefully. Trickery.

II – THE HIGH PRIESTESS. Hidden influences at work. Do you know all the facts? Restricted by convention. Intuition, emotions and feelings. *Reversed*. Emotional instability. Passion, illicit sex. Wishful thinking. Intuition and emotions clouding judgement.

III – THE EMPRESS. Domestic stability, motherhood, fertility and sensual pleasures. Female power, strength and wisdom. Pregnancy. *Reversed*. Domestic disturbances, disagreements and disruptions. Unwanted or problem pregnancy. Mother trouble.

IV – THE EMPEROR. The Boss. Authority, stability, protection and help. Masculine power, strength and wisdom. Fatherly responsibility. *Reversed*. Weakness. Insecurity. Too much dependence on others. Feet of clay?

V – THE HIEROPHANT. Advice from anyone of authority and stature. A teacher of some description. Assistance. Marriage. *Reversed*. Bad advice. Lies. Stand up for yourself when you know you are right.

VI – THE LOVERS. Choices to be made. Intuition, not reason should guide. Romance, passion, sex. *Reversed*. Making the wrong choice or making no choice at all. Muddling through, trying to hold on to everything.

VII – THE CHARIOT. Achievement through personal effort. Overcoming difficulties. Victory despite setbacks. Travel and transport. A new car? *Reversed*. Failure, at the last minute, to succeed. Sudden collapse of plans. Failing to meet responsibilities and face reality. Transport failure.

VIII – STRENGTH. Courage, strength, self discipline. Overcoming obstacles. Plans may soon be put into action. Success and achievement lies ahead. *Reversed*. Weakness. Lack of courage and resolution. Caught out in underhand behaviour.

IX – THE HERMIT. Stop and think things through. Seek guidance from a wise friend. Time to be quiet. A hiding place or refuge. This card shows the presence or relevance of these teachings, or the teacher that showed you them. *Reversed*. Turning away from obvious help and advice. A determined refusal to listen to self and others. Timidity and excessive caution.

X – THE WHEEL OF FORTUNE. The beginning of a new cycle. Advancement, improvement, progress. The unexpected. Good luck. *Reversed*. Bad luck, a change for the worse. Accept that some changes are inevitable, go with the flow. Take no chances.

XI – JUSTICE. Justice, fairness, reasonableness. Balance and equality. Suspense while awaiting a legal or contractual judgement. Everything as it should be. *Reversed*. Unfairness, false accusations. Intolerance. Unfavourable legal or contractual matters.

XII – THE HANGED MAN. Present sacrifice for future reward, or of one thing to obtain another. Painful lessons are learnt requiring a change of attitude and principles. A new perspective. Accepting where you have been wrong. *Reversed*. Selfishness. Reluctance to make any real efforts. Unwilling to give of yourself.

XIII – DEATH. Change & transformation. A loss clears the way for a better life. An apparent misfortune is a blessing in disguise. *Reversed*. Refusing to face, or fear of, change. Stagnation & boredom. Something is taken away against ones will.

XIV – TEMPERANCE. The careful handling of people and situations leads to progress. Patience, diplomacy and tact. Harmony and moderation. *Reversed*. Good opportunities wasted by clumsiness. Difficulties are created by lack of care. Confrontations, disputes, a clash of interests. Throwing a wobbler.

XV – THE DEVIL. Doing or saying something you know to be wrong but doing it anyway. Looking for shortcuts. Sexual problems. The Dark Side. *Reversed*. Throwing off shackles, restrictions lifted. Steps toward enlightenment. New confidence.

XVI – THE TOWER. A warning of taking something or someone for granted and then losing it/them. Unforeseen disaster causing unfair, personal suffering. Disruption that will bring eventual happiness. A change of life pattern. Take nothing for granted. Look around you for clues. *Reversed*. Disaster brought about by your own hand. Unnecessary suffering. Asking for trouble and getting it. Pushing your luck.

XVII – THE STAR. Optimism, confidence, bright prospects. A new hope. Luck and good fortune. Unexpected help. A promise kept. *Reversed*. Negative thinking. Doubt and lack of trust. Refusal to change. False hopes and promises. Pessimism. Time to get realistic.

XVIII – THE MOON. A crisis. Intuition solves problems. Hidden enemies. Deception from others. Illicit love. Reality – see the way it is. *Reversed*. A danger of sticking to where you are rather than stepping out boldly. Fear of the unknown. You get what you want but has it been worth it?

XIX – THE SUN. Success in spite of everything. Strong imagination and creative ideas. Success, prosperity, happiness, joy. A fortunate marriage. Pushing your luck and getting away with it. *Reversed*. Unhappiness, loneliness, troubled marriage and partnerships. A clouded future. Arrogance and materialism. Plans will be subject to change.

XX – JUDGEMENT. A decision, a matter settled. Changes, a fresh start, a new lease of life. Return to health. A new beginning. *Reversed*. Failure to face facts. Refusal to make decisions that must be made, thus causing delays and postponement. Unable to accept the rough with the smooth. Postponement.

XXI – THE WORLD. The end of a cycle. A successful climax to affairs. Praise and rewards. A reason to feel proud. Travel. *Reversed*. Quitting in the middle, failing to finish what one starts. Running around in circles, getting nowhere. Stagnation. Efforts ill-rewarded.

The Minor Arcana – Everyday Events and People.

PENTACLES. Earth. Possessions. Money, status, material wealth or the lack of it. Financial matters. Practicality and sensibility. Physical health.

ACE. A secure position, a stable situation and contentment. Practical application is required. *Reversed*. Overly materialistic. Greed.

TWO. Ups and downs, profit and loss, success and failure. All this results in discontent and dissatisfaction. *Reversed*. Faking it. Pretended enjoyment and simulated happiness.

THREE. Constructive work is done – the building up of something. A favourable card for any new undertaking. *Reversed*. Mediocrity. Weary, bored. Obscurity.

FOUR. Consolidated material success. A safe and secure position, no desire to take any risks. *Reversed*. Opposition, uncertainty and delay.

FIVE. Strain and anxiety over money – the loss of money or the loss of a job OR – lost soul, spiritual poverty. Financial difficulties, savings will be required. *Reversed*. A chaotic situation. Severe financial loss often brought about by extravagance. Loneliness.

SIX. A benefactor – gifts and presents. Help, generosity. *Reversed*. A karmic challenge. Prove your worth and act with generosity.

SEVEN. Hard work for little reward. Disappointment when expected successes are not achieved. Do not get impatient. The danger of spending more than you can afford. *Reversed*. Worry and anxiety over money – often because it has been lent unwisely.

EIGHT. Skill a work brings rewards. Often heralds promotion or new job. *Reversed*. Dishonesty, unreliability, hypocrisy. Lending money would be a mistake.

NINE. Substantial rewards and profits. Unexpected windfalls and legacies. *Reversed*. Bad faith, deception and deviousness.

TEN. Material success and financial skill. House buying/selling. Profits and not much interest in anything else. *Reversed*. Robbery, taxation, gambling losses. Money loss of all kinds.

PAGE. A young person who is careful and sensible with their money. The questioner having to be economical with money. *Reversed*. A total waster. Extravagant and useless with money. Bad financial news. The young cause expense.

KNIGHT. A practical, responsible man helping you out. A tradesman. *Reversed*. Laziness, carelessness, idleness. Petty interference.

QUEEN. A mature woman, sensible, practical and a tower of strength. *Reversed*. A silly, unreliable woman. Mistrust. Illness.

KING. A mature man, solid, down to earth, unemotional and insensitive. Often a business man or financial advisor. *Reversed*. A brute. Vicious, corrupt and unprincipled. Danger and fear.

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CUPS. Water. Emotions. Romance, marriage, fulfilment, procreation, home, friendship, human relationships. Feelings. Artistic and creative ability.

ACE. Happiness and fulfilment. The beginning OR climax of a love affair. *Reversed*. Change and alteration. Unfaithfulness. Something unexpected.

TWO. Friendship, sympathy and loving union. *Reversed*. Foolish behaviour, waste, extravagance. Strained relationship.

THREE. A love affair, a birth or marriage – something bearing fruit, something to celebrate. *Reversed*. A swift end. Abrupt cessation. Excessive sensual indulgence.

FOUR. A person who everyone thinks has it made, but they themselves are bored and disgruntled and quick to find fault. *Reversed*. Something new on the horizon – acquaintance/relationship.

FIVE. Disappointment, sadness, regret and frustration. Deceit and betrayal. *Reversed*. The unexpected. Surprise news. An unexpected arrival or departure.

SIX. Fond memories of the past, a wistful longing for things to be as they were. A wish is beginning to come true, very slowly. *Reversed*. Pregnancy. Time to say goodbye. The relationship has run its course.

SEVEN. An illicit love affair. A guilty conscience. Illusions, fantasies and lies. *Reversed*. After much thought, a decision or plan is made. He/she knows where they are going.

EIGHT. Finding something you previously valued has not much worth. A need for change OR avoiding involvement. *Reversed*. Emotional involvement, happiness and delight.

NINE. Good fortune, success, obstacles overcome. Wishes fulfilled. *Reversed*. Mistakes and errors and a lack of success because of it. Putting your foot in it.

TEN. Peace of mind. A successful end to struggle. Mission accomplished and very happy as a result. *Reversed*. Disruption, disorder, dispute – all in the family.

PAGE – A young boy or girl, dreamy, studious, romantic. *Reversed*. A selfish young person. Deception and lack of loyalty.

KNIGHT. A young man who will be an eventual lover OR – messages, proposals, invitations and inducements. *Reversed*. A flatterer and deceiver. Not to be trusted, does not keep promises.

QUEEN. A mature woman, good natured and easy going. Just don't put her to too much trouble. *Reversed*. A mature woman, unreliable, interfering and not to be trusted.

KING. A mature man of a compassionate and understanding nature. *Reversed*. A mature, dishonest and untrustworthy man, surrounded by doubt and suspicion.

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SWORDS. Air. Mental matters. Trouble, stress, strife, courage, sadness and betrayal. Loneliness and hurt. Professionalism and logic.

ACE. Stresses and strains. Strong forces at work for good and bad. Extremes. *Reversed*. Same, but the effects are all bad. Anger, violence and injustice. Do not over react.

TWO. Balance is restored, but there is an element of tension *Reversed* Betrayal and treachery. Unnecessary aggravation. Someone stirring it up.

THREE. Tears and woe, quarrels and conflict. Realise your influence in the relationship. If situation left uncontrolled then parting, separation and divorce. It cannot happen unless you allow it. *Reversed*. Same.

FOUR. A bad situation has been gone through and now there is change for the better. Compromise and appeasement. A need for solitude and peace. *Reversed*. Take precaution and be cautious and economical in all things.

FIVE. You will fight a battle and lose it. Swallow your pride, remember that no one wins them all and look for a new direction. *Reversed*. Despair felt from losing a battle. Feelings of failure. Trouble, loss, mourning, a friend in need.

SIX. Difficulties are overcome. Moving away from trouble. *Reversed*. Someone is rocking the boat. Interference and trouble.

SEVEN. Get sneaky. Straightforwardness and direct tactics are worthless. Use your brain. *Reversed*. Get some good advice. Act prudently and carefully.