

# About the Deck

The **Reclaimed Tarot** was created by eleven artists using reclaimed materials from ReClaim It!, a non-profit dedicated to removing useful materials from the waste stream and giving them a new creative life.

It was created over the course of six weeks of collaborative effort. The goal of the project was to discover new meaning and insights within the traditional tarot deck structure. While some cards have retained their resonance across the centuries since the beginning of tarot decks, others present hierarchies, gender roles, and world views that no longer evoke useful insights. The artists worked together to reevaluate the traditional tarot cards and modify the card titles which did not feel resonant in our modern world.

For each card, artists were encouraged to select a few key words or ideas from traditional interpretations and use them to create a collage image based on, but not necessarily strictly adhering to, those key ideas. After each card was completed, a new explanation was written by each artist. The meaning of each card emerged from collaboration and the making process. While the making process was personal to each artist, we hope this deck encourages all users to discover new insights and intuitive responses.

Proceeds from the sale of The Reclaimed Tarot support ReClaim It!

## The Artists

### **Lucinda Boyd**

Nature, The Mentor, Six of Wands, Ten of Wands, Six of Coins, Traveler of Coins, Seven of Cups, Five of Swords.

### **Samantha Caruthers-Knight**

The Fool, Reverse, deck and insert design.

### **Emilia Ciurtin**

Structure, The Lovers, Strength, Harmony, Three of Wands, Traveler of Wands, Seven of Coins, Student of Coins, Two of Cups, Visionary of Cups, Seven of Swords, Traveler of Swords, Builder of Swords.

### **Melissa Evans**

Introspection, Chance, Seven of Wands, Student of Wands, Nine of Coins, Student of Cups, Ace of Swords, Six of Swords.

### **Myrlin Hermes**

The Magician, Justice, The Star, Visionary of Wands, Five of Coins, Ten of Coins, Five of Cups, Traveler of Cups, Eight of Swords, Student of Swords.

### **Anna Krenk**

Surrender, The Universe, Two of Wands, Eight of Wands, Ace of Coins, Six of Cups, Eight of Cups, Ten of Swords.

### **Laura Lien**

Chaos. Ace of Wands, Three of Coins, Eight of Coins, Four of Cups, Three of Swords.

### **Katherine Nagy**

The Sun, Four of Coins, Three of Cups, Two of Swords.

### **Julie Ratcliff**

The Mystic, The Shadow, Five of Wands, Nine of Wands, Two of Coins, Builder of Coins, Ace of Cups, Ten of Cups, Visionary of Swords.

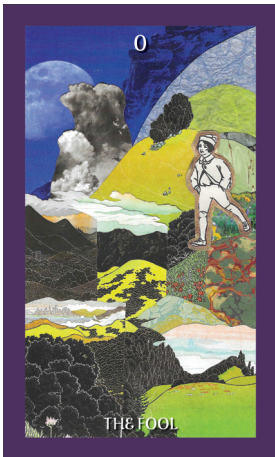
### **Austen Rogers**

Transformation, The Moon, Apotheosis, Four of Wands, Builder of Wands, Visionary of Coins, Nine of Cups, Builder of Cups, Nine of Swords.

### **Khayman Short**

The Chariot, Four of Swords.

# Major Arcana



Embarking unprepared but optimistic on an uncertain journey. Spontaneity, innocence, folly.

*Reversed: carelessness, apathy, negligence.*

## 0 - The Fool



An artist of many talents, master of the elements at hand. Practical creativity, the ability to manifest one's vision or desires.

*Reversed: manipulator, trickster, charlatan.*

## 1 - The Magician



Going within, seeking beyond the surface, secrets and the unseen, psychic wisdom.

*Reversed: passion, intellectual or physical ardor.*

## II - The Mystic



The spirit of creation, water brings life, the sacred natural world, abundance, and fertility.

*Reversed: the dark side of nature, decay which nourishes new life.*

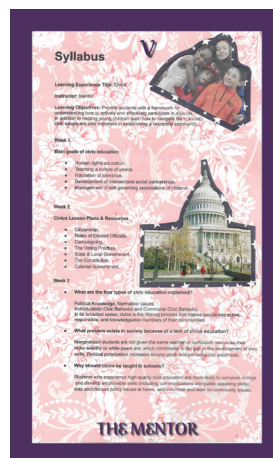
## III - Nature



Stability, protection, practicality. Growth and future success in one's goals through methodical and strategic pursuit.

*Reversed: stubbornness, lack of discipline, recklessness.*

## IV - Structure



Traditional top-down instruction, structured intellect, and conformity with social mores.

*Reversed: personal weakness, pandering.*

## V - The Mentor

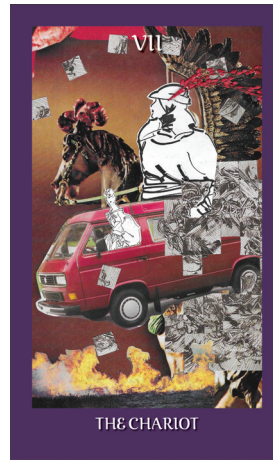




Union, relationship, choices, balance. Finding the authentic self will foster authentic and nurturing relationships.

*Reversed: conflict, detachment, indecision. Emphasis on personal beliefs above social and interpersonal norms.*

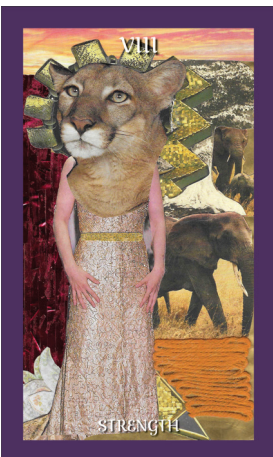
## VI - The Lovers



Journey, progress, war, recasting. Safe arrival at the end of a long and arduous journey, whether external, internal, or otherworldly.

*Reversed: Riot, quarrel, discomfit, frustration, exhaustion. Congestion in the face of perseverance.*

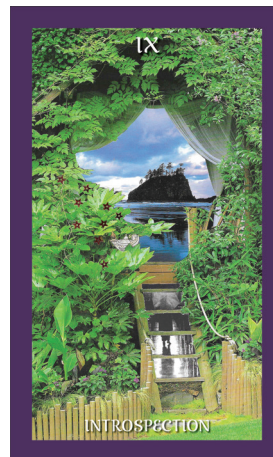
## VII - The Chariot



Courage, compassion, self-confidence, inner power. Calm and resolute even in times of immense struggle. Inner strength and fortitude during moments of danger and distress. Resilient and fearless in speaking your mind.

*Reversed: self-doubt, inadequacy, abuse of power.*

## VIII - Strength

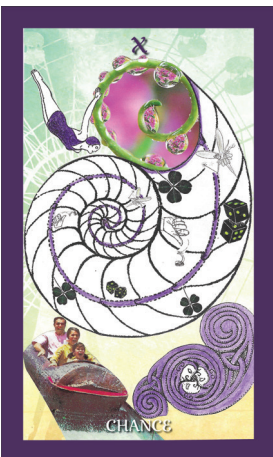


*"I said to my soul, be still and wait...so the darkness shall be the light and the stillness the dancing"  
T.S. Elliot.*

Withdrawal from the outer world to awaken inner self. Retreat, cave of wisdom, truth seeking. Leaving the distractions of outside world, A guide bearing a shining light.

*Reversed: concealment, retreating too far into the self, disconnection.*

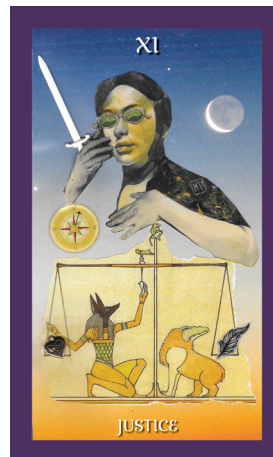
## IX - Introspection



Cycles, ups and downs, change, fortune, luck. Challenges keep coming around, with each pass we are wiser, more patient, we now know what to do.

*Reversed: abdication of agency in favor of the whims of fortune.*

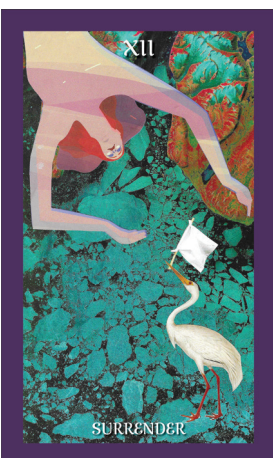
## X - Chance



Fairness, honesty, balance. Restitution for past inequities. Moral compass, your sense of right and wrong.

*Reversed: personal bias, what are your blind spots in this issue? Consider both sides.*

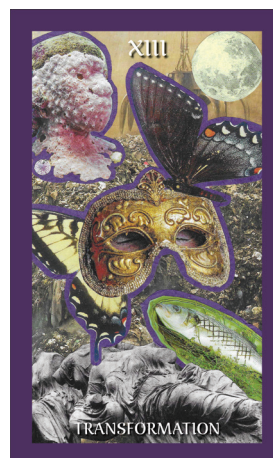
## XI - Justice



Letting go, change of perspective, release. Stepping backward to move ahead, self-sacrifice.

*Reversed: selfishness, tunnel vision.*

## XII - Surrender

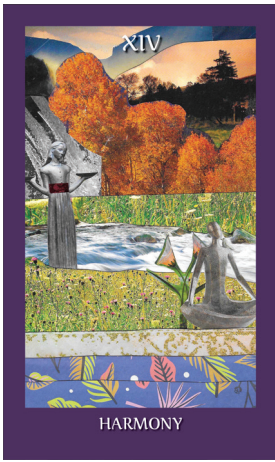


Change, closure, renewal, the inevitable. You find new meaning in what was once waste and allow yourself to shed what no longer serves you.

*Reversed: lethargy, inertia, stagnation.*

## XIII - Transformation

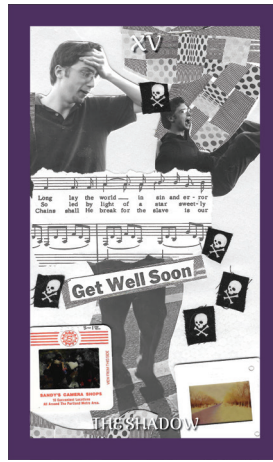




Balance, peace, moderation, calm. Find peace with what you are doing and know that everything is unfolding as it ought to. Your inner calm is the foundation that allows you to explore new things and move forward with certainty.

*Reversed: excess, extremes, discord, hastiness, imbalance.*

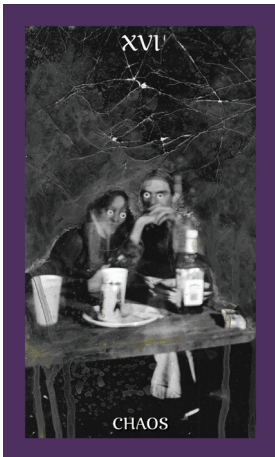
**XIV - Harmony**



The dark side of the personality, destructive patterns, abdication of personal agency, self-hate, negative excess.

*Reversed: weakness, pettiness, clouded vision.*

**XV - The Shadow**



Misery, distress, deception, catastrophe, unexpected disaster, disgrace. Sudden insight, energetic release.

*Reversed: oppression, tyranny, imprisonment.*

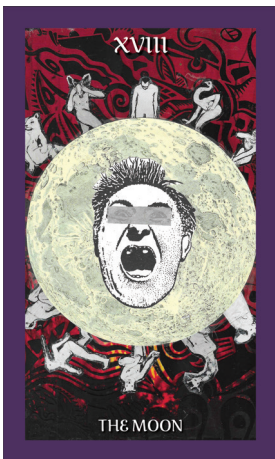
**XVI - Chaos**



Renewal, hope, subconscious inspiration, the creative muse. Listening to your inner voice, pay attention to your dreams.

*Reversed: loss of faith, distraction by mundane concerns. Lack of a personally meaningful project or quest.*

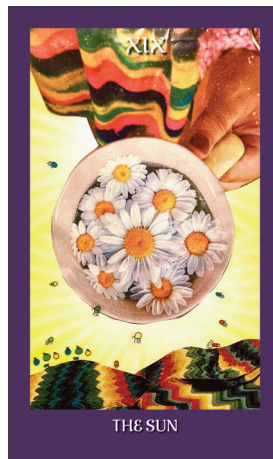
**XVII - The Star**



Mystery, subconscious, dreams, fears, the occult. All is not quite as it seems. Trust your intuition, look beneath the surface, and move with caution.

*Reversed: inconsistency, deception, error.*

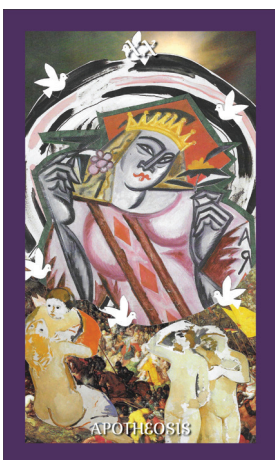
**XVIII - The Moon**



Illumination, nourishment, energy, warmth, and growth leading to bounty - spreading joy, generosity.

*Reversed: even if obscured, the same qualities remain - just temporarily less available.*

**XIX - The Sun**



Rebirth, forgiveness, awakening. The turmoil of your past fades into the background as you evaluate and release your wrongdoings, guilt, and regret to embrace your highest self. Your life's puzzle is complete, forming a vast and unified image of your story and purpose.

*Reversed: the things that inhibit the path towards the higher self.*

**XX - Apotheosis**



Wholeness, enlightenment, harmony, belonging, connectedness. Completion, fulfillment, an era of one's life complete.

*Reversed: stagnation, inertia, disconnection.*

**XXI - The Universe**



# Suit of Wands

Passion  
Inspiration  
Creativity  
Intuition  
New Ideas  
Ambition  
Goals  
Dreams



New beginnings, ascendance to creativity, art, innovation, and knowledge. The beginning of something amazing, the opportunity to grow and expand.

*Reversed: ruin, decadence.*

**I of Wands**



Discovery, making plans, assessing one's life direction, deciding on a path forward, contemplation.

*Reversed: wonder, enchantment, trouble, fear.*

**II of Wands**



Foresight, looking ahead, growth. Planning for the future with conviction. Evaluation of opportunities to widen your horizons or perspectives.

*Reversed: limitations, delays, frustration.*

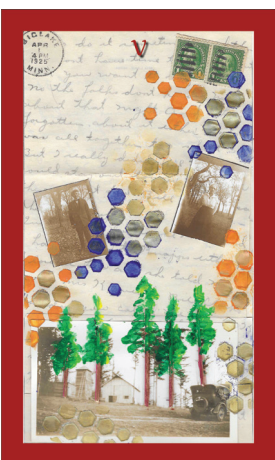
**III of Wands**



Safety, home, harvest, celebration, hard work paying off, enjoying the fruits of your labor, nourished secure, joyful.

*Reversed: prosperity, increase, beauty.*

**IV of Wands**



Loss, disagreement, struggle, the battle of life.

*Reversed: litigation, disputes, trickery, contradiction.*

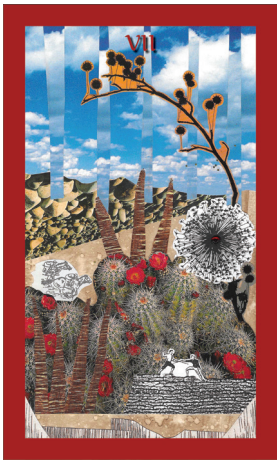
**V of Wands**



The joy of success!

*Reversed: apprehension, fear, or treachery.*

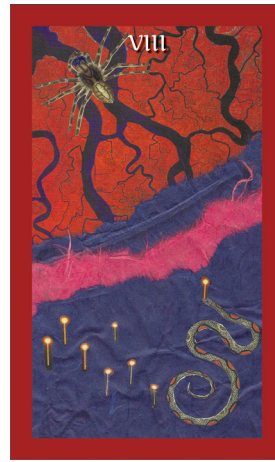
**VI of Wands**



On guard, defensive, prickly. Using inner strength to rise above depression and anxiety into the clear air.

*Reversed: perplexity, embarrassment, anxiety.*

### VII of Wands



Rapid action, sudden movement or change, and unstoppable action. Overflowing of energy and spirit.

*Reversed: internal dispute, conscience, quarrels.*

### VIII of Wands



Preparing for the worst, strength in opposition.

*Reversed: obstacles, adversity, calamity.*

### IX of Wands



Oppression, exhaustion, too many responsibilities, burdens.

*Reversed: difficulties, intrigues.*

### X of Wands



Joy of life and new work. New beginnings, messages, eagerness, movement.

*Reversed: bad news, indecision, instability.*

### Student of Wands



Energetic, free spirit, enthusiastic. Full of life and determined to explore the world. Finding fun and joy no matter where they are.

*Reversed: impatient, reckless, lacking direction.*

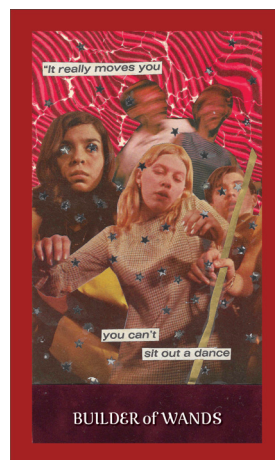
### Traveler of Wands



Passionate and courageous advocate for one's beliefs. Energy to carry forth a project. Charismatic, someone who lights up the room and inspires others.

*Reversed: hotheaded, uncontrolled rage, "Hell hath no fury like a woman scorned."*

### Visionary of Wands



Creativity, passion, dynamism, fire. Others gravitate toward you. Move your people toward a common vision.

*Reversed: severe but tolerant.*

### Builder of Wands



# Suit of Coins

Property  
Achievement  
Finances  
Career  
Money  
Possessions  
Home



Abundance, financial reward and success, prosperity, gold.  
*Reversed: the perils of wealth and financial success.*

**I of Coins**



Balance, joy, agitation, recreation.  
*Reversed: false enjoyment, empty joy.*

**II of Coins**



Teamwork, determination, aristocracy, glory, nobility, hard at work, busy, maintaining.  
*Reversed: mediocrity, pettiness, weakness.*

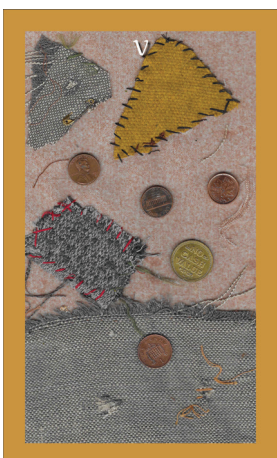
**III of Coins**



Saving for what's to come, preparatory hoarding, fear of lack as a motivator, understanding what will be needed, finding a balance. The natural response to autumn.

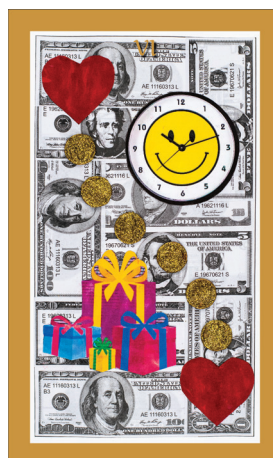
*Reversed: insufficient preparedness or selfishness. An imbalance in resources.*

**IV of Coins**



Poverty, financial stress, feeling friendless and rejected, hopelessness.  
*Reversed: resources you are not seeing or are not making the best use of.*

**V of Coins**



Generosity, charity, prosperity, gift giving. Sharing love, time, and wealth.

*Reversed: desire, envy, jealousy.*

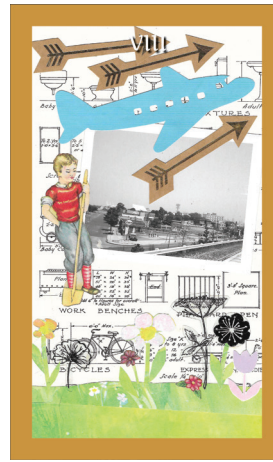
**VI of Coins**



Rewards, growth, perseverance, patience. The hidden effort that will bear the fruits of achievement. Progress may be slow, but every day your work pays off.

*Reversed: procrastination, low effort, impatience.*

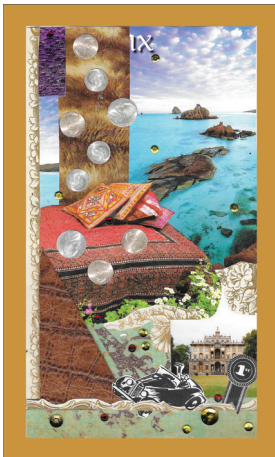
### VII of Coins



Planting seeds and setting the foundation for invention, improvement, and innovation. Translating hard work and associated efforts to inspiration, awe, and new heights.

*Reversed: misguided ambition, vanity, cunning, intrigue.*

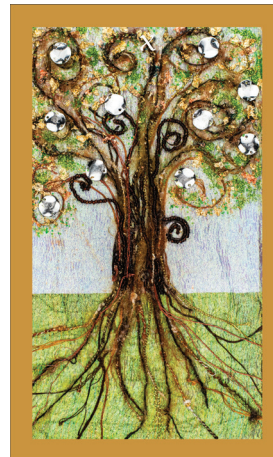
### VIII of Coins



Rest, material luxury and richness, success, a happy, healthy home.

*Reversed: deception, bad faith.*

### IX of Coins



Legacy beyond personal wealth, heritage. Using one's resources to the benefit of the greater community or future generations. "A society grows great when old men plant trees in whose shade they will never sit."

*Reversed: bad investments, miserliness, hoarding wealth. Money cannot buy happiness.*

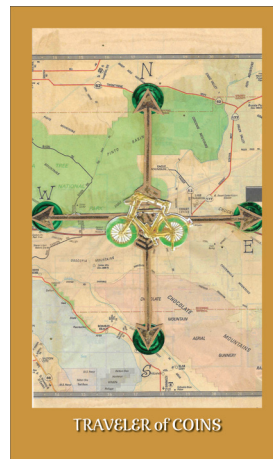
### X of Coins



Goal oriented, consistent, grounded, dependable. Ambitious and focused, deeply tied to the earth, nature, and all its gifts. The bearer of news connected to all earthly and material matters.

*Reversed: immature, procrastinator, missed chances.*

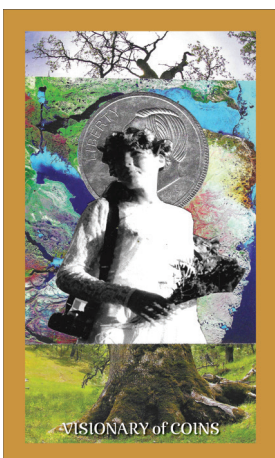
### Student of Coins



Taking it slow. Cautiously progressing at an easy pace, quietly responsible.

*Reversed: idleness, discouragement, carelessness.*

### Traveler of Coins



Grounded, loving, magnificent. A nurturer who provides loved ones with warmth and security.

*Reversed: suspicion, fear, mistrust.*

### Visionary of Coins



Living the good life, no money worries.

*Reversed: vice, weakness, corruption.*

### Builder of Coins



# Suit of Cups

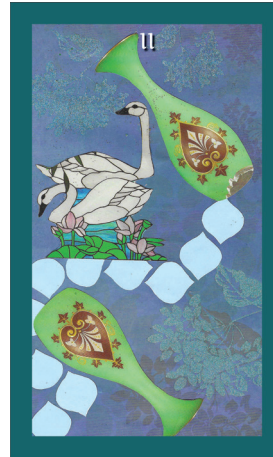
Emotions  
Relationships  
The Heart  
Love



Emotional fulfillment, joy, loves beginnings.

*Reversed: the false heart, instability, revolution.*

**I of Cups**



Partnership, attraction, joining forces, mutual respect. Partnerships built on the union of forces, a strong connection, a balanced and equal partnership.

*Reversed: imbalance, tension, bad communication.*

**II of Cups**



Friendship, overflowing connectivity and joy, reveling in togetherness.

*Reversed: so much sweetness one feels sick, overindulgence, sensual excess.*

**III of Cups**



Corporate consumerism, greed, discontent, disappointment. Always striving and never doing enough.

*Reversed: novelty, new instruction, new relationships.*

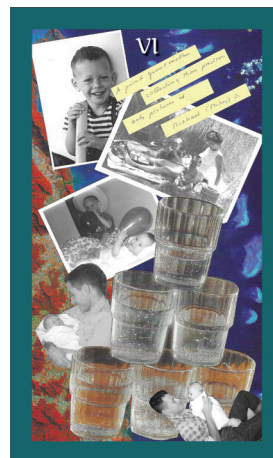
**IV of Cups**



Focusing on what has been lost rather than what remains. Wallowing in misery, dwelling on the past. Practice gratitude and look to the future. Put your energy into what gives you energy back.

*Reversed: time to move on, emerging from grief or illness.*

**V of Cups**



Sentimentality, nostalgia, happy memories, kindness, and joy.

*Reversed: future renewal.*

**VI of Cups**



Indecision, the devil on one shoulder, an angel on the other, both whispering in your ear at the same time. Illusion and deception.

*Reversed: desire, will determination.*

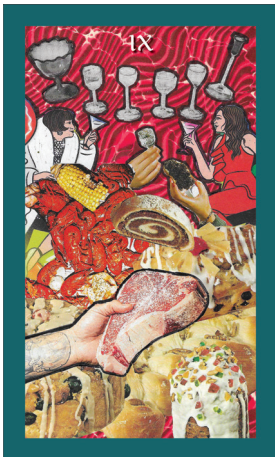
**VII of Cups**



Abandoning something in search of something better, walking away, disillusionment, dissatisfaction, abandonment, ghosting. Letting go of what no longer serves.

*Reversed: joy, happiness, feasting.*

**VIII of Cups**



Indulgence, bliss, satisfaction, celebration. Life's pleasures are abundant, and your heart is full.

*Reversed, truth, loyalty, liberty.*

**IX of Cups**



Emotional bliss, perfect love, or friendship.

*Reversed, indignation, violence.*

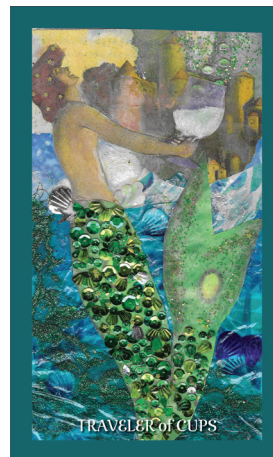
**X of Cups**



Youthful enthusiasm, learning new skills, especially artistic. Allowing inspiration and intuition to flow. Blossoming of fresh, new love.

*Reversed: artifice, seduction, deception*

**Student of Cups**



The romantic hero. A quest for love or adventure. Pursue your dreams. Trust your heart to guide you.

*Reversed: Romantic obsession, self-destructive emotion. Your narrative is not serving you. "No means no."*

**Traveler of Cups**



Intuition, healing, counsel, support. Emotional connection which fosters honesty and fairness in relationships. Take the time to focus on your emotional health before trying to help others. Self-love creates compassion.

*Reversed: overextending, dependence, martyrdom.*

**Visionary of Cups**



Deep emotion, creative intelligence, vast spiritual knowledge. Your composure and diplomacy are a reflection of a rich understanding of your own feelings and subconscious.

*Reversed: double-dealing, scandal, deception.*

**Builder of Cups**



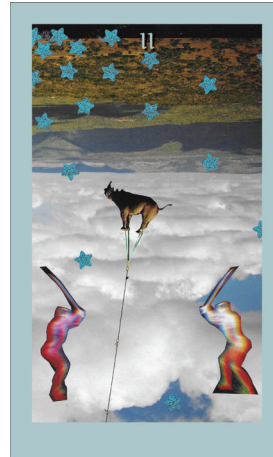
# Suit of Swords

Wisdom  
Communication  
Action  
Intellect  
Movement



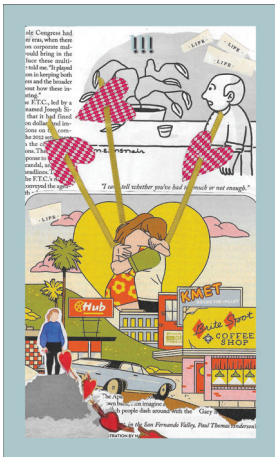
Fresh start, sudden idea or inspiration, mental clarity, cutting through fog or pulling back the curtain of illusion to allow creativity, new ideas and illumination to burst forth.  
*Reversed: clouded vision, false starts.*

## I of Swords



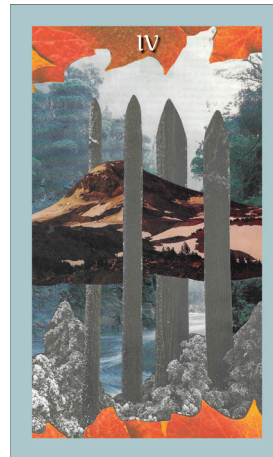
Precarious decision, blocked vision, complexity (what is down is up, what is up is down). The blindfold forces an inward turn, an intimate process.  
*Reversed: external influences, duplicity, false information leading to decision paralysis.*

## II of Swords



Heartbreak, betrayal, turmoil, division, an air of loss, dynamic feelings, and actions.  
*Reversed: alienation, loss, distraction, error.*

## III of Swords



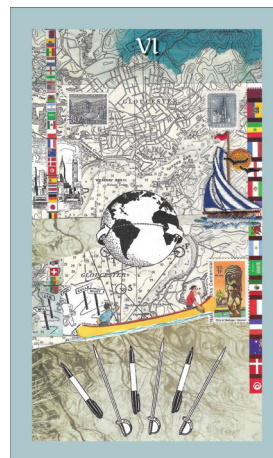
Retreat, solitude, repose, peaceful reflection. A clear and sharply honed mind is a far greater weapon than any warriors sword.  
*Reversed: Jurisdiction, wariness, avarice, attachment to the material. Grasping for command of the spaces around you when the true frustration is a lack of self-mastery.*

## IV of Swords



Hostility, destruction leading to new growth. The fire burns to germinate new seeds and a new forest is born.  
*Reversed: burial, inundation.*

## V of Swords



Travel of body or spirit, going places, finding a route or a way. A journey by water.  
*Reversed: publicity, confession, declaration.*

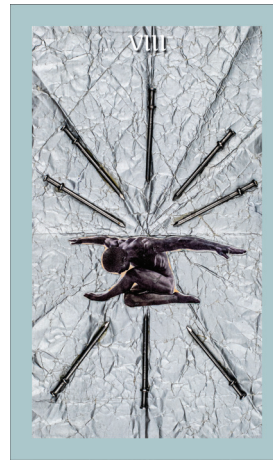
## VI of Swords



Strategy, resourcefulness, sneakiness. You or someone else in your life is having difficulty getting away with something. When we are found out, we must face the consequences.

*Reversed: confession, conscience, regret, truth revealed.*

### VII of Swords



Feeling burdened or imprisoned. Hamstrung by one's obligations or responsibilities.

*Reversed: depressive rumination, being trapped by your own negative outlook.*

### VIII of Swords



Anxiety, anguish, deception, despair. Your inner turmoil is your greatest obstacle.

*Reversed: suspicion, doubt, shame.*

### IX of Swords



Feeling defeated, self-sabotage, desolation, sadness, rock bottom, feeling trapped, things feeling beyond your control.

*Reversed: temporary advantage success or favor.*

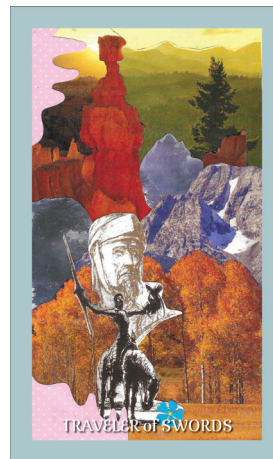
### X of Swords



Full of ideas but without the skill to express them. Curiosity, intellectual discovery. The thrill of learning a new subject.

*Reversed: sophistry, all talk and no action, privilege-blind debate and "Devil's advocate" arguments.*

### Student of Swords



Daring, focused, ambitious. Strength and determination to succeed. However, this determination can also obscure potential consequences of the single-minded focus on one's quest.

*Reversed: arrogant, tactless, incapable, imprudent.*

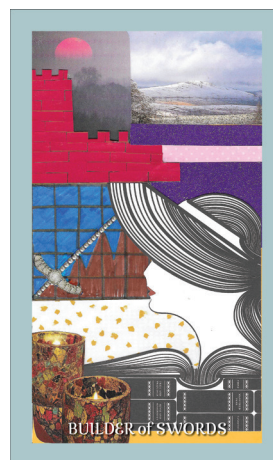
### Traveler of Swords



Communicative, cold, cuts through BS to the heart of the matter.

*Reversed: artifice, bigotry, deceit.*

### Visionary of Swords



Reason, discipline, integrity, high standards. Intellectual power, clear thinking, truth, and authority. Power holds great responsibility. Remain objective in your current situation; establish truth by sticking to the facts.

*Reversed: irrational, controlling, cold, dishonest.*

### Builder of Swords



