

TAROT UNVEILED

SEPTEMBER
ISSUE 2016

INTERNATIONAL
TAROT FOUNDATION

CHECK OUT THE
OFFERS!



Welcome to the September issue of Tarot Unveiled,

What can I say, this month has come by so quickly!

We are now looking forward to the lovely Autumn here in the UK and getting ready for our harvesting.

Last month saw our one year Foundation birthday and the 2016 voting forms for the CARTA Cartomancy Awards. This year we have a \$500 prize for the best Tarot Deck, as you can imagine, we can't wait to discover who the nominees are. If you have not voted yet, then be sure to do so, here is the link: [Voting Form](#) Nominations will be taken till 1st October then nominees will be decided and voting will again be made available once more.

It is so important that the public, the Tarot readers who buy the decks actually vote, so make your vote count!

The ITF memberships are steadily growing all the time and we are working conscientiously to offer value and thanks for the faith we have been and are given by our members.

Talk is underway for a 'meet' next year, we need to decide when and where as yet and all the formalities need to be processed but it will be great to finally have the opportunity to meet some of our members and friends within the Tarot community. We will keep you updated as plans progress.

This month we have a wonderful newsletter for you, with great articles and resources, be sure to be relaxed with a cup of tea (or other!) whilst you peruse, we don't want to miss anything!

Please enjoy!

Blessings from

Lara and the team!

Magical Realism Tarot Review

By Sandra Geddes



The Magical Realism Tarot is a card deck created by digital artist and photographer Cheryl Fair. The term 'Magical realism' is described by Cheryl as follows :

“A genre of art or literature that incorporates fantastic or mythical elements into an otherwise realistic setting” - Cheryl Fair

This style is shown in the deck by the use of real life models for the Majors and Court cards. The beautifully shot photographs then have a little magic added in the studio. Each model is an artist in their own right.

Rather than just posing for the photos they have attempted to really create the archetype they were representing with Cheryl.

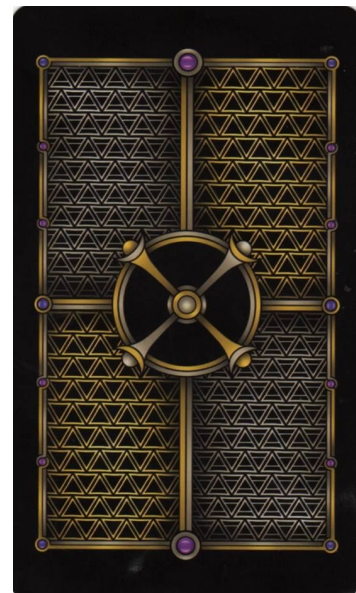
Many provided their own costuming for the role. The artists involved included, photographers, dancers, comedians and painters.

There are 78 cards with Majors from 0-22 and a full of set of Court cards. The cards follow standard naming with Page, Knight, King and Queen. Strength is numbered 8 and Justice is numbered 11.

The card backs and borders were designed by fellow artist Paula Millet.

The borders are quite unintrusive and in my opinion are more like frames you would use with a photo and create a nice background for the images without distracting from them.

The Minor cards are non scenic and feature only their element and number in a style more akin to Marseille decks than RWS.





The deck comes packaged in a gold coloured, metal tin with the deck name and logo on the front. Inside, along with the cards, is a soft black pouch to keep the cards in and a 32 page guide booklet.

The booklet gives a little intro the deck and keywords for each card.

At the end of the booklet there is a brief guide to using the cards for reading and some suggested spreads including the Celtic Cross and an Astrological spread. The card stock is strong without being too heavy and the cards have a glossy finish making them easy to shuffle.

The cards follow traditional meanings with a modern twist designed to encourage the reader to think outside the box in terms of creativity and self development.

Cheryl explains in the guide booklet:

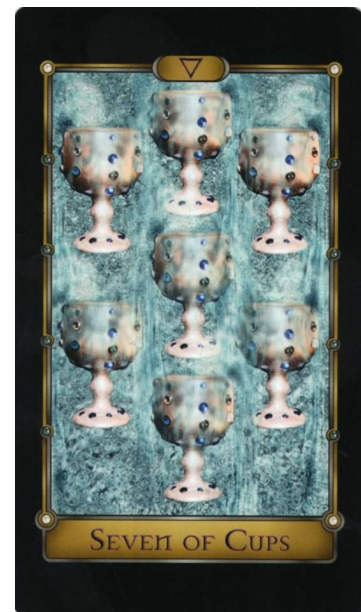
“Fantasy, myth and the unseen are part of our everyday lives and those perceptions have a bearing on our understanding of life. When using these cards we combine both the ‘real’ and the ‘magical’ to better understand our world.”

I actually like this deck a lot more than I thought I might. I’m not usually a fan of either photographic style art or non scenic pips. This deck has a lovely energy about it though and is very well done.

The images really evoke the energy and spirit of the archetypes the models are portraying, from their stance to their clothing and the scenery around them.

I particularly love the Sun card.

The expression on the face of the little girl says it all. A very different and intriguing deck that I was pleasantly surprised by.



About the Author

Cheryl Fair is a practicing Tarotist and Astrologer with over 25 years experience. She has a degree in Visual Art and works as a photographer, film maker and costumer. She currently resides in Baltimore, Maryland.

You can find out more about Cheryl and her work at [Cheryl Fair Photography](http://CherylFairPhotography.com)

You can purchase the deck from magicalrealism.com

Images © Cheryl Fair 2014

At a glance

No. Cards: 78

No. of Majors: 0-22

No. of Minors: 0-10

Courts: Page, Knight, Queen, King.

Artist: Cheryl Fair

Strength : 8

Fool: 0

Borderless: No

Corners: Rounded

Packaging: Gold coloured tin

Size: Standard



Member's Monthly Event: Quirky Queens!

By Pearl Annie

Yay! The monthly study event finally arrived and we got to meet our quirky queens, or should I say, if you are a woman, confront our alter egos! Mind you, as Carl Jung once said, "the anima is the personification of all feminine tendencies in a man's psyche". So you guys don't actually escape some of these feminine qualities, in fact you may even have some prevailing ones?

I must say though, postponing the event last month, for the sake of the ITF First birthday was such an easy sacrifice to make... What a fun packed day that was! Lots of great prizes, some really happy winners and a delightful occasion to remember!

I was only five minutes late to the event, and already the Queens had arrived. Fairly punctual and organised I must say. Mind you, anyone who can multi-task their responsibilities like the royal ladies, deserve to have a certain amount of control...in fact their Kings would be lost without them.

The Queen of Pentacles was the first to arrive in class, and Her Majesty exhibited a practical and down to earth presence. Her rich, royal attire was green velvet, and adorned with brightly coloured jewels. Not sure she welcomed the "eat, sleep, sex, and repeat" label though Tess, you really need to be a little more subtle when addressing the Queen! As for describing her as being resourceful, nurturing, grounded and practical Dub, you definitely charmed her heart. She



works hard and spends a lot of her time generously helping out at the local community art centre.

The queens had gathered into a circle and it was impossible to see who was next in the introduction. The ladies mingled so well. But there was one who stood out



with a powerful source of energy. She shone brightly dressed in red, standing confident and proud. She was the Queen of Wands and naturally demanded respect and admiration.

Ah this is the one who gets what she wants, but only because she is motivated and driven. She indeed sets her sights and goes after what she desires. Janet soon learned if the Queen of Wands stalks you, it's time you donned the hat of confidence and acted more assertively. Just like any of us though, we have our down days, and if you are an energetic and loud person to begin with, I guess you would stand out a little if you were in a bad mood.

I suddenly noticed the Queen of Cups looking a little dreamy and discreet. What a beautiful, compassionate, and lovely lady. She makes me feel tranquil and peaceful. She is so relaxed, and at ease. Her Majesty concerns herself with matters of the heart and soul. She is both spiritual and creative. I guess her relationship to the water, tides and moon makes her romantic, poetic and artistic in her expression. Sometimes though she can be a bit clingy and as expressed by Steve, can show up when you need to confront your emotional insecurities. She is a wonderful listener, and knows the right things to say. Her healing words bring comfort.

Last but not least, dressed in a beautiful silver and white gown, I finally meet my nemesis, the Queen of Swords. She doesn't suffer fools as Dub said, and I certainly feel the part when she is around me. I actually feel intimidated by her. I was raised in a household filled with airy women. No not hairy, I mean air signs such as Gemini and Libra and therefore openly exposed to scrutiny and judgement. I wish I was like the Queen of Swords. I cannot make decisions and own them like she does. She is admirably, strong minded, sharp and intelligent.

At least she can be honest and offer constructive criticism at times, when she is not being malice and cruel!

Again, it was a wonderful class, and a great way to interact with our fellow tarot pupils. The next class will be the Masters of the suits! Would be great to see more male energy involved with this one.



Deck images from the Thelema Tarot by kind permission of Renata Lechner and Lo Scarabeo

SOMETIMES JUST ONE CARD TELLS THE WHOLE STORY

By Miranda Ellis-Jacobs



Tom (not his real name) came to me for a reading at a time when he was deeply troubled by the events of the past year. An attractive, charismatic man in his early 40s, he had studied a Zen related practice since he was a teenager. Eventually, in his late 20s, he left his teacher and started his own spiritual group. He was regarded as a deeply spiritual man and a trusted teacher, leading a group of about 25 regular students of his practice who supported him and his school for more than a decade. Then it all fell apart. Most of his followers were women and it came to light that he was having affairs with several of them. When this became known to the group, their adoration soon turned to anger and revenge was swift.

Deck image the 6 of Pentacles from the Waite Smith 1971 Tarot Deck, courtesy of US Games

Almost overnight they withdrew their funding and denounced him online and on Twitter as a fraud and a man who would take advantage of his students. His life and reputation in shreds, he vowed to pay back all the money that had been pledged and to lead a celibate, spiritual life whilst travelling to ashrams across the world to get back in touch with his spiritual practice. When he came to me a year later, he had lost his faith entirely.

He was depressed and bewildered by the backlash of his followers and students. He no longer believed in anything. He wanted an in-depth reading to try to make sense of all that had happened and to seek a way forward.

Having talked to me about his present situation, we laid a Celtic cross spread with the Rider Waite Smith deck that I always use.

It was as he looked at the first card in the spread that everything changed for Tom. This is always the card that lies at the heart of the question. It was the Six of Pentacles.

Suddenly Tom saw clearly that the source of his downfall, his unhappiness, the loss of everything including his faith in a spiritual practice that he had lived by for all of his adult life, came down to this one image: of a man, richly attired, giving alms to a poor beggar whilst ignoring the pleas of another. He holds the balances in one hand, well out of the reach of either supplicant. He has the choice of who to reward and who to deny. Tom's riches were his spiritual practice, his charisma and the power he held over his students. By betraying his students and denying the truth, he had taken away their faith in him. He had rejected their love and now they scorned him.

Tom was also the supplicant who received nothing. His once-adoring students had taken away their love and their funds. He was the one left bereft. They held the balance of forgiveness which he would have to earn. Sixes speak of the end of a cycle and a time to move on.

The insights gained from this card would carry him through the next stage – acknowledging that he had let his students down and starting to make amends. The earthly, practical side of the pentacles showed him that he had to face each of his former followers and apologise for the harm he had done.

We went no further with the spread. The Six of Pentacles said everything that there was to say. He thanked me and went away to meditate on the meaning of the card for him.

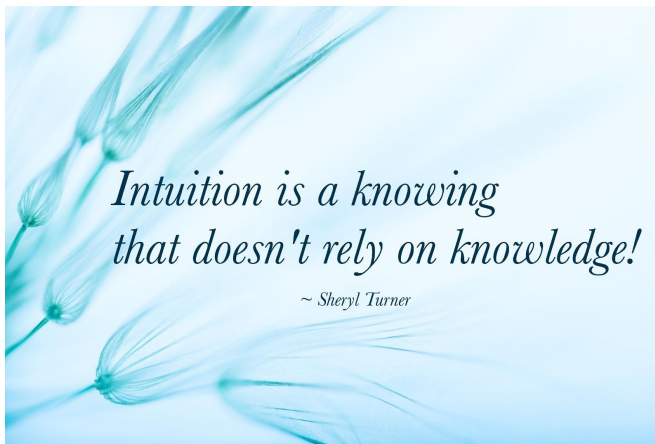
Sometimes one card tells the whole story.

ENHANCING YOUR INTUITION

By Sheryl, Spirit Medium

Intuition isn't a secret or a hidden mystic gift, it's not only available for a select few. It is an ability, a very real ability, a precious gift, that is given to everyone.

All abilities can be strengthened once we learn what they are about and how to use them. Put in the effort and truly reap the rewards!



What is Intuition?

Intuition is known as many things - a gut feeling, a hunch, our sixth sense, inner wisdom, instinct, inner voice or even our higher self. It's that quiet, clear neutral 'voice' or physical sensation we get when we know in our heart what the answer is. It feels like truth, we just know.

The ability to sense or know something without reasoning, without the mind getting in our way. It is a natural sense, so the more we use it and let it evolve the more natural it will come and flow. Intuition is a knowing that doesn't rely on knowledge!

Key Words

There are three key words when you are developing and understanding your intuition...

TRUST, LISTEN & ACT

- **Trust** yourself and believe in what you are receiving and feeling.
- **Learn** to listen and pay attention to what is going on in your internal universe, listen to your body.
- Taking **action** on your intuition is accepting its truth, your intuition increases when you acknowledge it, it likes being heard.

Fear or judgement can often get in the way of taking action on an intuitive feeling. Taking action can be speaking your truth or actually doing something positive with it.

Ways To Strengthen Your Intuition

- Make a conscious intention to start to listen to your intuition
- Nature. Getting out in nature helps you to connect with your inner world
- Meditation. If you do nothing else do this! Find some great guided meditations online, make your own or just sit quietly within yourself. Meditation teaches us how to go from thinking to feeling
- Practice on friends and family. With their permission, practice tuning in to their energy to see what you pick up and then ask for feedback
- Be patient with yourself
- Be creative, use and explore your imagination in any way possible
- Journal, write down feelings or visions you might get and see if they unfold in the future
- Affirmations and Gratitude. These are great ways to gain more insight into who you are and enhance your positivity

It's also important to get to know ourselves, the more we can differentiate between what's our 'stuff' and what is the querents 'stuff' the more enhanced your readings will be.

There are also lots of exercises to help you explore and expand your

intuition, it's like a muscle, the more we use it the stronger it will get, practice makes perfect!



Feeling Blocked?

We all at times can feel blocked or stuck, there are many reasons for this and also many ways to avoid this feeling.

Self care and taking time out will help re-energise your intuition, sometimes we need space to grow.

Being grounded is a must, being in and working from the present keeps us in our centre, it's easier to hear our intuition if we are centred and speaking from within.

Logic, ego and self criticism can also impede on us, our mind as such has no place when we're working with our intuition, ask your logical mind to step aside!

What's going on in your life right now, maybe the time isn't right, are you tired, stressed or anxious? All these emotions can definitely give you the feeling you are blocked.

Fresh air, breathing, meditation, clearing our mind and re-centering all help balance, raise our vibration and clear our energy.

Try some simple intuition exercises like journaling or using your affirmations to regain your confidence and connection.

How To Use Intuition For Your Tarot Readings

Using your intuition during a Tarot reading covers all the same basic guidelines.

- Breathe
- Calm the mind
- Become centred, relaxed and grounded
- Set the intention to open up to your intuition
- Trust what you're hearing, seeing or feeling
- Listen for that sudden knowing, that immediate thought
- Speak. You may find once you speak the first word everything starts to flow easily

Your intuition may guide you to a particular symbol, number, colour, animal or person in a Tarot card, it's that 'something' that catches your eye. Speak about this, what feeling do you get from it, what words are you hearing or what do these things mean to you. Let your imagination take over and get that logical mind out of your way!

Trust & Believe

By Sheryl, Spirit Medium

AdvDip Nat., Dip. Nut., Dip. RM., Cert Aroma., Certified Angel Intuitive

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INSPIRING INTUITION: THE INFLUENCE OF COLOUR

By Sandra Geddes



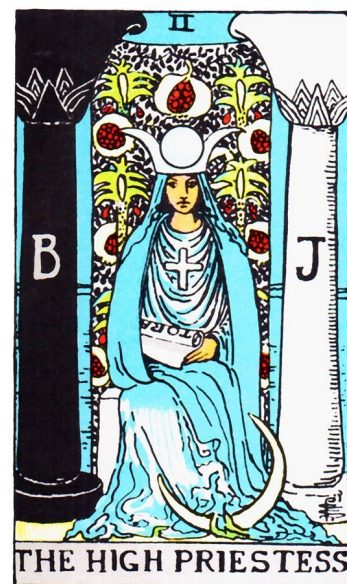
In our lives we are surrounded by colour. We decorate our homes, wear coloured clothes to suit our moods and even adorn our bodies with makeup and elaborate tattoos. Colour saturates all aspects of our days from advertising boards to the flowers in our gardens. What we may not always consider however, is how colour affects us.

Especially from an intuitive and psychological perspective.

From an early age the society and culture we are brought up in teaches us its ideas and beliefs. Colour and its associations are one of the many things we pick up on as children with references to it all around us.

Christianity, for instance teaches us that blue is a spiritual colour, associated with the virgin Mary and it is also linked to Isis, an Egyptian Goddess as well as the High Priestess Tarot card. We associate blue with peace and tranquility, but also 'play the blues' or 'feel blue' if we are sad. We link blue with our emotional depths. In Witchcraft and Paganism, blue is often linked to the West direction and the element of Water.

Other examples of colour reference in culture are being 'green with envy', 'seeing red' or 'tickled pink'.



We dress babies in blue for boys and pink for girls, though this is becoming an outdated practice. In Japan the colour purple is associated with death and spirits whilst in China red is considered lucky.

These associations are so intrinsic to the world we live in that we cannot help but be influenced by them. They almost have an archetypal energy of their own that conjures up images and ideas simply at their name.

When it comes to using our intuition, colour can be an inspirational trigger to that part of our mind. When we look at an image, or indeed a Tarot card, we instantly begin to gather impressions about it whether consciously or not. One of the factors that affect whether we take a positive or negative view of an image, finding it attractive and comforting or harsh and uninviting will be the colours that have been used to illustrate it.

Colour can also be used as a clue to the meaning of a card or symbol. For example the white rose depicted in the Waite-Smith Fool card which represents his innocence and purity of spirit or the lush green foliage of many Empress cards representing her strong connection to nature and the creative life force. These colour cues can be found throughout the Tarot deck and help you to connect to your intuitive side.



Here are some brief colour associations for your reference. You may of course have your own to add from your personal experiences.

White - Purity, Innocence, Spirit, Peace.

The colour white, or rather lack of colour, tends to be associated with all things innocent and pure. White is a blank slate of potential where anything is possible, like our friend The Fool. In candle magic among other things, white can be used for all purposes and intents.

Blue - Peace, Tranquility, Spirituality, Sadness, Emotion.

Blue is considered a calming colour but can also be linked with sadness. In candle magic blue is often used for gentle healing and cleansing. Blue is linked to the element of Water and the suit of Cups.

Green - Growth, Finances, Fertility, Luck, Jealousy, Greed.

Green is associated with the element of Earth, The north direction and the suit of Pentacles. It is often associated with money and luck, things that grow and our physical foundations. Lighter greens can be linked to jealousy and sickness.

Red - Passion, Will, Action, Anger, Dynamic energy

It is difficult to think of the colour red without calling up images of passion and anger. Red is a vibrant and colour associated with the blood, our desires and our ambitions. It links to the south direction, the Fire element and suit of Wands.

Yellow - Confidence, Thought, Happiness

Yellow is a bright, sunny colour that inspires happiness and confidence. It is linked to thought and the mental realms, the suit of Swords and the element of Air.

Pink - Love, Kindness, Friendship.

Pink is generally considered a feminine and gentle colour. It is associated with friendship, romance, love and healing.

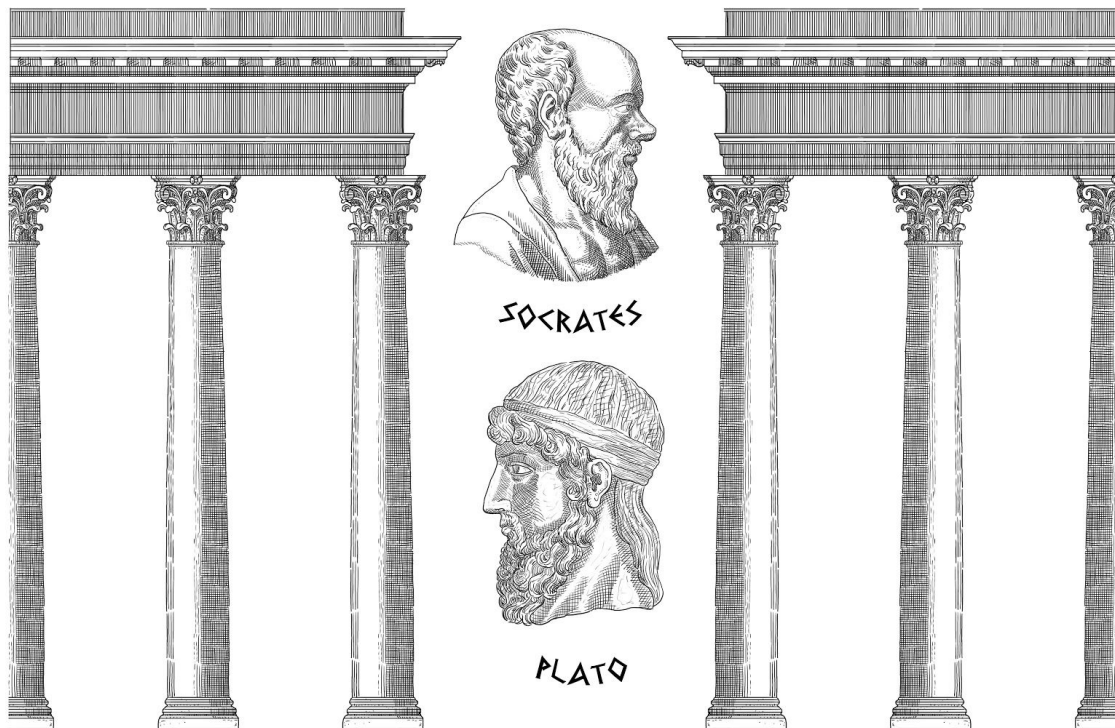
Black - Subconscious, Shadow, Protection.

Black is associated with protection, the unconscious mind and working with the shadow self and through our fears.

Do you give much thought to the colours used when you are reading card?
Perhaps next time you are reading a card you will notice that you do so more than you realise.

THE SPIRITUAL JOURNEY THROUGH THE MAJOR ARCANA

By Lara Houston



Tarot Philosophy

I sighed with relief and satisfaction upon the completion of writing this course, finally this 3 part course is finished, in it's entirety!

By comparison to our other Tarot Foundation courses, this has been the largest course to date and one that has been a personal journey for me also.

It is one thing, having the motivation and the passion to want to write such a course but then by subject matter alone this course needed depth of thought and reflection of my experiences in life that I had previously journaled with Tarot readings.

The Spiritual Journey through the Major Arcana, is a deep and awakening course, which is designed to challenge and open up the mind, exploring potentials, spiritually.

The initial inspiration for this course was from my long lasting impression that developed from reading Robert Place's references to Plato and the 3 parts of the Soul. This motivated me to want to learn more of the link between Soul development and the associated energy of the Major Arcana cards.

Classical philosophy links to this theme that runs through the Majors and here our insight can develop to a higher understanding which in turns enables us to empower our clients even more so.

The aim is that the student results in being armed with a resource that can be put to good purpose in identifying a reading that will benefit from this deeper level of understanding and insight.

The course covers subjects such as Soul development, including developing virtues, discussion the Dark Night of the Soul and Karmic relationships.

Each Major is discussed individually with follow up lessons, that are one to one mentored.

We therefore decided to offer this wonderful course on a significant offer at \$45 for one week only because the feedback (which is a requirement of the offer) is valuable.

We would rather be able to show recommendations from others who have taken the course, rather than hear it from us!

Please click the link to find our offer page which is exclusive to newsletter holders

[Offer Page](#)

TAROTSCOPES

By Sandra Geddes



Aries - This looks to be a great month to start anything new you've been thinking about Aries! You have the skills and means to make a good go of anything you put your mind to this month, and you most definitely have the confidence, you just need to take that first step into the unknown and a new adventure! Best foot forward.

The Fool/The Magician

Taurus - What is it that's currently lighting your fire Taurus? If you have a burning ambition that you have decided to go after, now is a good time to do it. Start laying those foundations for what you want to achieve.

3 of Wands/ Ace of Pentacles

Gemini - Time to take a well deserved break Gemini. You've been working hard and made some big achievements lately. Get that spa day booked and phone the girls! (or guys!) and enjoy a lovely bit of time out.

4 of Swords/ 9 of Pentacles.

Cancer - You may have felt like you were doing a bit of a juggling act trying to keep all your balls in the air recently Cancer. The good news is this should start to ease now

with the gentle energy of the Star to give a bit of guidance . The bad news ? That next amazing thing for you to have your sights on is just around the corner!

The Star/2 of Pentacles

Leo - If you've been distancing yourself a little emotionally from a certain person or people Leo, it's time to get back out there again. How about a spot of speed dating for the single lions and a romantic date night for the attached ? This month is all about forming and strengthening bonds.

2 of Cups/8 of Cups

Virgo - Are you feeling the need to shy away and keep yourself to yourself more than usual at the moment Virgo? It's fine to enjoy your own company, but others may like to spend some time with you too, especially around your birthday.

4 of Pentacles/The Hermit

Libra - Hasty decisions and rash words aren't usually in your character Libra but this month could hold some exceptions! It may be tempting to just be spontaneous for once and tell your boss or spouse exactly what you think of them. Will it be wise though?

The Fool/Queen of Swords



Scorpio - Pay attention to your gut instincts this month Scorpio. Trust yourself and your skills. You are more capable than you realise. Whether it's going for a new job or fixing that flooding washing machine, you've got this!

The Magician/The High Priestess

Sagittarius - Sometimes doing the right thing isn't as straightforward as it seems Sagittarius. Stick by your decisions this month and keep going. Your strong sense of ethics will guide you despite what life and others may throw at you.

The Hierophant/9 of Wands

Capricorn - It looks as the World really is at your feet this month Capricorn! You will be stepping out of your comfort zone and gaining some new experiences be it learning a new subject or even some travel. Planning to see the World? Off you go then!

Ace of Pentacles/The World

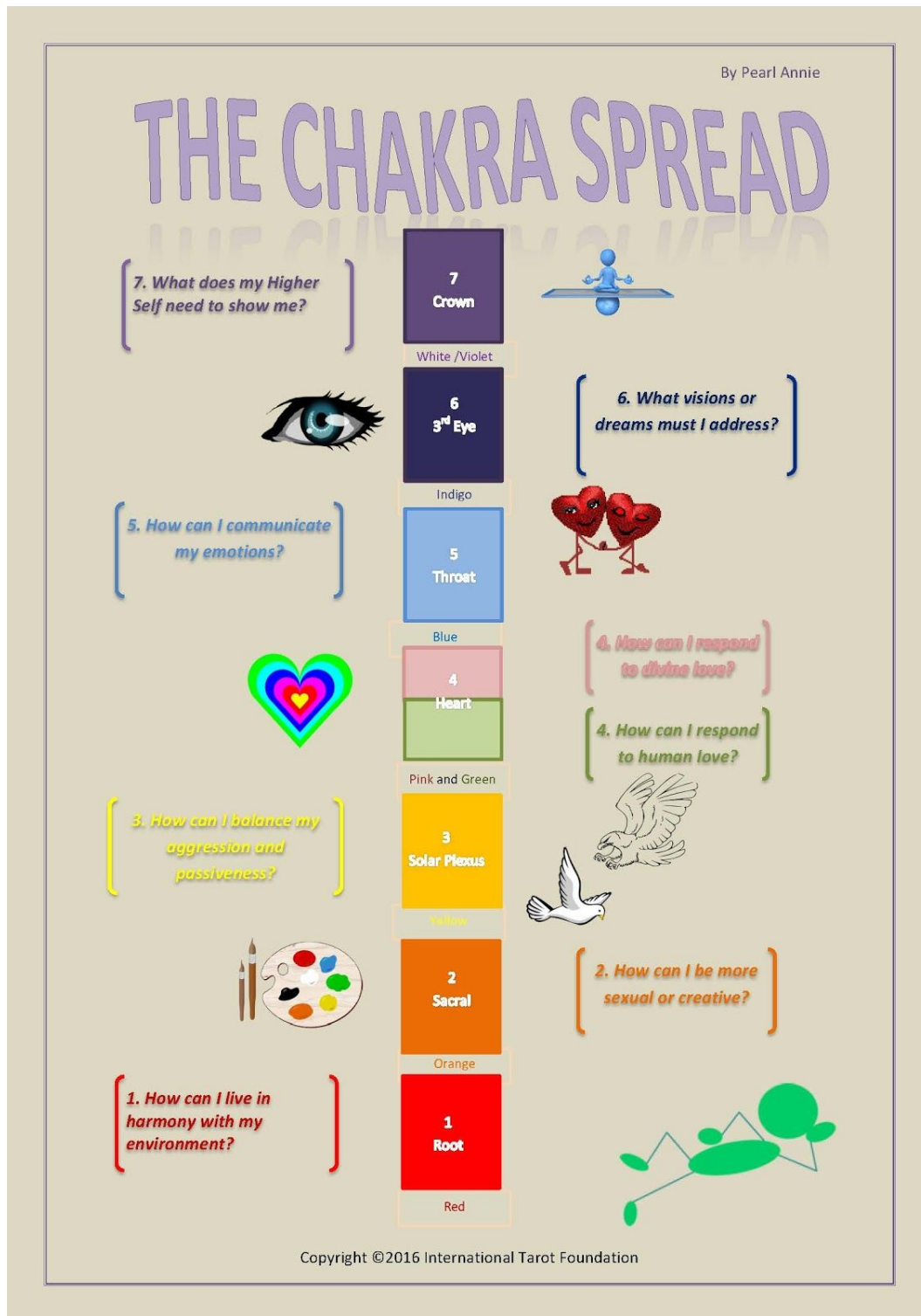
Aquarius - Something you've been patiently waiting for and working on looks set to finally happen this month Aquarius! Hard work and perseverance does pay off eventually as you are about to find out. Dreams can come true!

The Star/ 7 of Pentacles

Pisces - A happy home and family is important to you Pisces, but how much are you willing to take on to keep things that way? You could find yourself taking on too much responsibility here this month. Share the load a little, you'll feel better for it.

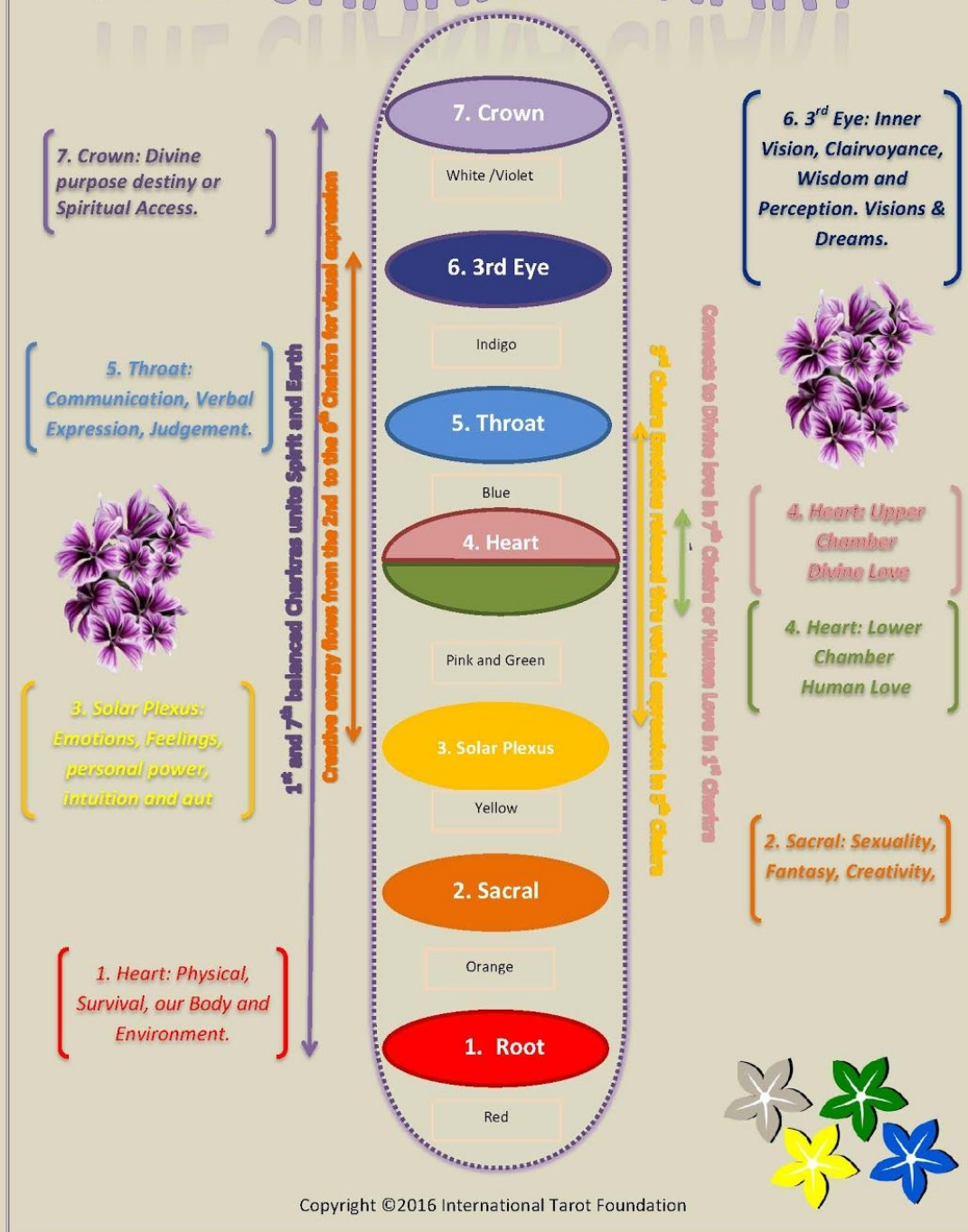
10 of Wands/10 of Cups

CHAKRA SPREAD & CHART by PEARL ANNIE



By Pearl Annie

THE CHAKRA CHART



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