

## Session 1:

**Q) The image above is of a child in prayer position, he is accompanied by adult males so it may be fair to presume they follow Islam and this is a Mosque. Please add your thoughts below on how you feel about this image**

**Student:** I respect the tradition, but feel that it is being imposed, without invitation, upon people of other religious practices.

**Mentor:** Yes, I understand what you are saying Billy, there is no easy solution to this unfortunately, it would seem.

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**Q) How would you describe the experience for this young child? Children often learn by example, is he developing an understanding of spirituality or the practicalities of following the rules? If the latter, what are the potential implications of this?**

**Student:** The child is experiencing conformity to rules established by those who came before him. These are man-made rules, not of divine origin. Therefore, not spiritual. However, a practitioner who believes this manner of prostrating comes by way of divine order is entitled to the respect to do so. The potential is two-fold. (Of course it is more complicated than that, but for this analysis, two-fold.)

One potential is indoctrination into a strict set of man-made rules, traditions, and beliefs that must be followed under the threat of consequences. These traditions may impede the advent of spiritual awareness. The other potential is that religious practices tend to create an environment where meditation and humbleness allow the human consciousness to slip past the veil into a place where humanity and divinity meet. Hence, spirituality.

For example, many of the great mystics could connect with the divine because of mass public acceptance of the Catholic Church. As Catholics, they were given the space to live strict ascetic lives of solitude, devoid of material pleasures. Outside of the church they would have been considered vagrants. So, the potential for the suppression of spirituality and the enhancement are both prevalent.

**Mentor:** That is a very valid evaluation and interesting perspective Billy. It reminded me a little of the Islamic states that have been assisted with independence. They seem to struggle with the independence to the degree of it creating anarchy almost.

The religion is intact still or should I say the practice of the religion and yet there is an extreme increase in crime and violence.

True spirituality evolves and develops and as you say, this can come from a society that removes all materialism and desire for personal gains. The structure in this respect, gives the opportunity for spiritual development.

Children sharing religious practise is no doubt seen as culturally necessary in some families/countries but I do wonder, what the role models in their life are teaching them. It is very unfortunate when fear is the instigator of ensuring blind following within such religions but as you mention, it can still create an environment for spirituality to exist.

Wonderful session Billy, I enjoyed reading your thoughts on this.

Blessings, Lara

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## Session 2: The Immortal Soul

**Q) What are your thoughts on Socrates theory that the Soul lives on and continues?**

**Student:** Socrates theory is consistent with philosophies of other cultures. His theory has sustained two-and-a-half thousand years of scrutiny. It has neither been proven right; or wrong. I believe continuous life of the soul. Socrates classification of justice, fortitude, and temperance as attributes to prudence provides a plausible mechanism for thought-processing about the personality of one's soul. I am sure it can be said in other ways. This subject does not easily lend itself to words. His theory explains how the continuation of our past lives enable us to naturally perceive justice and beauty and naturally know right from wrong. People of sound mind do not need the Ten Commandments to know that murder, envy, and lies are wrong. My ethics are the same now as they ever were. They are not changed by advanced by knowledge, only the means to attain and protect higher realms has become known.

**Mentor:** Great points Billy. I agree with what you say, I was brought up, not with religious instruction in any traditional sense but I knew the difference between right and wrong. I do feel that when studying such ancient philosophy, we are somewhat

disadvantaged unless we learn the context of the language that was commonly used at that time. I like things to be simple and explained simple, isn't life complicated enough!

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**Q)Do you see a possible association between the Fool Tarot card and the Soul journey?**

**Student:** The Fool stands apart from the 21 Majors, each of which illuminates life's mysteries at progressive or regressive stages along The Fool's path. The Fool has no beginning or ending. He or she is the common denominator to the 21 manifestations of the Major Arcana. Mathematically, it would be 21/1. With the 1 being the Fool. The Fool's Journey is symbolic of the soul's journey. They are one of the same. The Fool is an essence; an eternal power. Like ourselves, The Fool travels down many different paths at the same time. My soul develops simultaneously through its earthly experiences as a husband, a Tarot student, a lawyer, a father, a son, a craftsman, and so on. In each capacity my material being may be at many different stages. I may be influenced by The Hierophant in maintaining the culture of my profession and influenced by The Hierophant when straying from tradition in my role as a son. In this example there are two manifesting aspects known as The Hierophant, but only one Fool or soul. The Fool travels many paths, as does the soul, all of which contribute to one eternal being; The Fool, the soul.

**Mentor:** Ah yes, indeed, I like the way you describe the Soul, developing in different ways and via different roles and experiences. An excellent portrayal of how you view this and your own development.

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**Great Session Billy! Blessings, Lara**

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### **Session 3: THE CHALLENGE OF THE SOUL**

**Q) At the start of this part of the course, there is reference to the difficulty that is presented to the Charioteer. Considering the Charioteer as the rational and reasonable aspect of the Soul, In your opinion, what do you feel causes the challenge of driving forward with the horses.**

**Student:** The challenge of driving in the right direction with the horses pulling in different directions, describes the phenomenon of every force having an opposite but equal force. Sir Isaac Newton mathematically proved this to be true in the material world, famously concluding, "For every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction." Upon

this premise he establish that forces result from interactions. We recognize the same to be true in the spiritual word. The Chariot's horses represent the Appetite and Will as aspects of the soul. The Charioteer, with his right thinking and interaction, represents the Reason aspect of the Soul. Together, the interaction results in force. The value or detriment of the resulting force depends on the strength of the human will involved and its ability to resist the attraction of appetite.

According to Socrates, if two things are opposites, each of them comes into being from the other. Thus, it becomes incumbent upon the human will to control these opposing forces or the movement will be in the wrong direction. A common human struggle involves the appetite for sex or lust, but also includes conduct of lesser import, such as being petty or unduly rude.

This phenomenon is commonly understood as yin and yang energies or forces; dominant/subordinate energies; masculine/feminine; active/passive; internal/external, etc. They are positioned as opposites on the Tree of Life that tend to attract, resist, and yet complement one another. The opposing forces have a twofold purpose: to divide and to separate, in order to join and unite, with the desired result of harmony and progress. The end result enhances the character of the soul resulting in a better life; or sets it back, thus requiring a longer journey or another life. Thus, to answer the question of what causes the challenge of driving forward with the horses, the cause is a law of nature, a phenomenon known in both the material world, and in mind, the spiritual world. These forces cannot be stopped, only tempered. They are self-generating. With each temperance the human personality realizes a closer connectedness with the essence of his or her soul, but the challenge never ends.

**Mentor:** What can I say Billy, you sure know what you are talking about here! The conflicts never do end. I find that being Chariot birth card, I am on a challenged path permanently. As human beings we will always be challenged on our desire and wants, the 5's bring our learning after all.

Duality, opposing forces and temperance, such a fine line we tread sometimes.

**Q) Can you think of two Tarot cards that may suggest one aspect of this potential challenge in one's life.**

**Student:**2. The Devil (XV) and The Tower (XVI).

The Devil (XV): My rationale for The Devil being a card that suggests potential challenge in one's life is that The Devil card represents temptation, control, struggle, the desire to move against restraint, often illustrated by chains or The Devil's entrapment of

his victims. Most images of The Devil (XV) juxtapose animal bodies or heads with that of humans, be it male or female, illustrating the animal instinct in mankind needing to be restrained by Reason. Alcohol's impairment of the mind's higher functions is a common cause for error due to reliance on our innate animal instinct for fight or flight, or lust and sex. Satan (XV) in the Tarot of the Sevenfold Mystery deck is the opposite of The Chariot; Will and Appetite are present, but the Charioteer whose caption is "Reason" is countered by Satan, whose caption is "Unreason."

The Tower (XVI): When The Tower card appears there are decision to be made. One can take the high road or the low road, but either way you cannot stay in The Tower. Forces of selfishness, pride and ego have not be kept in check and there is going to be a collapse of a sort. Before reaching this point there was time to prevent its downfall, but Reason was ignored. At The Tower action must be taken. Right action at The Tower would be to begin the spiritual ascent up to The Star card, The Moon card, The Sun card, the Judgement card, and the World card. But it is much harder than that, because the opposing forces are also present. Many material or gratifying things are hard to let go of, even when one gets hit with a lightning bolt because of it. The epiphany does not happen by itself. It takes Will, Reason, and right thinking even to let go of something destructive! This is a common phenomenon in abusive relationships, sometimes referred to as battered person syndrome.

The 7 of Cups.

**Mentor:** Well, yes I can absolutely see that. It would explain why an intelligent person or any person could lose all sense of good judgement when this conflict is active. The appetite will surely be fed at some cost and at that point the Tower will come in to remove any false beliefs that the individual held and held their own needs and wants above their highest good.

I have often wondered why there is not Divine intervention at the point when someone is just about to murder another person.

Why was this person allowed to even get to this point..but then I forget that there is a much bigger picture within the infrastructure of the universe.

If our Souls truly develops and we become that tempered soul with absolute justice and reason...we would never even contemplate such an act on another.

Better that the universe deals with the development of the Soul rather than just removed the options for the appetite.

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Great session Billy, it was a pleasure to read!

Blessings, Lara

**Session 4:**

**Question:** We already know of the Magician's abilities but what is his motivation to put these abilities to good use?

**Student:** The Magician is motivated by an innate appetite of ego. His motivation is a natural calling to achieve the higher aspects of all essences of one's self. For people of sound mind the calling is for improvement; to ascend to greater levels of our spirituality. The Magician's abilities can be used to advance one's body, mind and soul. Such enhancements are made out of love, kindness, good Karma, universal cohesiveness, or selfless self-preservation in the material world.

**Mentor:** I agree Billy, the Magician is certainly driven by ego and can be very positive too. If we are looking at the Magician with certain other cards then we may see another perspective but at his best, his ego is motivated by using his resources that he has to hand.

So much is and has been achieved on many levels by such people, if in balance, it is positive, when there is imbalance then we have to further examine why the need for this imbalance and what is motivating it. I guess the imbalance would cause inner conflict and then go one way or another.

The Chariot could represent this situation actually and such inner conflicts.

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**Question:** If we see an overuse of these abilities, what do you think is motivating the Magician at this point?

**Student:** Ego is a driving force. Ego can motivate the betterment of oneself. But when ego arises out of depression or violence, it can block the path between the self and divinity. Thus, innate motivation can be influenced by external forces. When we see The Magician's overuse of his or her abilities, the appetite for ego is likely ill-defined. In a reading I would suspect The Magician's abilities are being applied for selfish reasons, pure conquering, lust, greed, envy, or harm. Unfortunately, we do see a lot of this in our world. Oddly, many people suffer for the ill-defined ego of a few.

**Mentor:** Very nicely expressed Billy and yes, unfortunately many people are at a loss and disadvantage from such experiences. Such is the ways of the world, it would seem.

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Great session again Billy, Blessings, Lara

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### Session 5: The Answer is Within



**Question:** The insight of the High Priestess is one of balance, we can achieve this by connecting to our Higher Self. Take a few minutes to close your eyes and ask your Higher Self what your aspirations are.

**Student:** I aspire to fulfill my soul's desires in a graceful way. For this I must learn the meaning of grace. I cannot define grace, but I recognize that it is lacking in my being. Not in a bad way, because grace was not of primary need as an attribute to occupation I am transitioning out of. Personal grace was not needed in the past, but I see a need for it now.

**Mentor:** Thankyou for sharing Billy.

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**Question:** Take your Tarot Deck and ask your Higher Self how you can achieve this, lay 3 cards for the guidance.

**Student:** I used the Thoth Tarot for this 3-card reading. I laid the center card to be the present, then right of center as the near future, and left of center to be the recent past. I asked, "How I can achieve more grace in my dealings with others?"

Present: Knight of Disks

Near Future: Ace of Wands

Near Past: Adjustment (VIII)

First impression: This is a positive reading. The colors of the images cover the full spectrum from blue/greens, orange/browns, reds/yellow/amber. A beautiful spread. The Knight is moving in the direction of the Ace of Wands. The Adjustment card is looking right at me.

These cards speak for themselves. By that I mean I do not feel the need to delve deep into them for secondary meanings. The Knight is the highest card in this deck. He is fully armored, with weapon in hand (A nunchaku type weapon is one that I have been a big part of my life. So, I immediately relate to this Knight.) His armored crown is pulled back, indicating he is at rest, either before or after battle. I believe it is after, because the morning sun is rising and there is serenity.

The Ace of Wands is so on fire that lighting bolts emanate from it.

The Adjustment (VIII) card is the near past. It is subtle, yet intensely serious.

To achieve grace I need to come out of my current posture. I need to allow my new passions to take form. I need to keep my ego out of the way of what I feel and desire and be confident that gracefulness will follow. It will find its way, I cannot force it. That would be pretentious.

I am intentionally in a period of adjustment in a big way, as I am winding down my law practice to pursue ambitions that are not motivated by finance or the need to build and expand in the business world. A business cannot be stagnant. If a business is not growing it is dying, because its competition never rests. Adjustment requires will. At times I feel like I am trying to stop a freight train, because it flows against my nature to not be building even when opportunity is presented. The Adjustment reminds me that I



have the ability to make a smooth transition, but need to temper my desire for a quick result. This reading has been enlightening.

**Mentor:**How wonderful Billy, so very nicely interpreted. I love always how Tarot gives us this depth of guidance that resonates so clearly. I often find when we lay cards that require us to consider our Higher self and connect to our Higher level of consciousness, the cards speak to us in our own language.

The point that you make towards the end of your reading, 'but need to temper my desire for a quick result'. This observation that you made on the Ace of Wands, may seem to be subtle but the fact that you recognized this and took the guidance from it also is excellent. This has given you further insight into the energy of this potential.

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Great Session Billy! Blessings, Lara

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## Session 6

**Question:** Maintaining an aligned state of being is invaluable to spiritual harmony and growth. We need our mind, body and Soul to be in balance with each other to allow a unified state.

**Student:**The lessons provides that if we fail to nurture our soul by listening to our Higher Self or fulfilling our body's needs,we lose balance. This can affect us mentally and physically. Every aspect of being affects other parts of one's being, because body, mind and soul is a trinity. All things in balance are a trinity. We see balance in the number 3 cards, made possible by the presence of a third element. Dual forces attract because of their opposing duality, then they restrict, separate; then stimulate, complement and unite. The unity of the duality is the third element. The balancing force occurs in nature. It is self-existing.

For example, the aspect of selfishness pervades destruction, because it upsets the harmony of one's environment. I recall a moment while living together in an adult boyfriend/girlfriend relationship that was plagued by tension. When the conversation made the female uncomfortable, she petulantly began to remove from a stack of music CDs those which she considered to be "hers." This triggered a disruption in the oneness of the environment. Disruption like this would escalate, resulting in a toxic environment and eventually a total breakdown of the relationship. This what the aspect of selfishness can do.

**Mentor:** Yes, selfishness does not play any part in seeking or maintaining balance. It is sometimes difficult to maintain balance within a world that is motivated this way. I am fortunate in one aspect, that I am not materialistically motivated and never really have been.

The people around us make a significant difference to us being allowed to simply 'be'. I have felt the unity often, it is such a peaceful state and came after I had become a Hermit somewhat during a spiritual transformation.

I lost many friends, mostly they were toxic but more recently I have allowed an element to come back and I can feel that balance being tipped again.

**Question:** If the Empress lacks nurture herself, describe how her energy may be affected by this imbalance.

Student: The lesson provides that The Empress (II) is a wonderful creative Soul who loves to nurture all that she can but she too needs nurturing. She needs an environment that suits her natural need for expression. This brings to mind the concept explained by Jesus that you cannot be the son of God where you are perceived as being nothing more than a carpenter. When told, 'Physician heal yourself!' Jesus replied, 'Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in his hometown. (Luke 4:24) Likewise, if The Empress is among naysayers, people who deny the veil exists, people who criticize without actual knowledge. Such negative forces would create imbalance in her environment.

The imbalance could affect her energy by, for example, putting her in a defensive posture, causing her to take action she adverse to her original intent; unrest and sleeplessness, which results in health issues, which results in anxiety, which results in indulgence, and so on. So, simply being among the wrong crowd will impede rather than nurture her energy.

We have much disharmony like this in the USA right now, as people have become polarized. So much so that they abandon their higher self and engage in small talk to avoid the likelihood of unwarranted criticism or attack. Even physical attack. The result is intelligent people allowing themselves to interact at a mental capacity far below their true selves. Over time, such external imbalance force, which often remains unspoken of, like the proverbial elephant in the room, will stifle each individual's opportunity to strengthen one another and themselves. Likewise, if The Empress does not nurture herself, her gifts and power to create, her energy of fertility, harmony,

**Mentor:** Oh absolutely, it is such a shame when a nation becomes so divided, the problem is that people do become enthralled in the petty discussion by some way of community but not in a positive sense. Many people are followers and will follow, some will separate themselves and a few will rise above it all. This, unfortunately breeds contempt.

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**Question:** Would our Empress be less inclined to express her creativity?

**Student:** Yes. But not only would such imbalance cause The Empress to be less inclined to express her creativity, it would stifle her ability to do so even when she tries.

**Mentor:** Sadly yes, you are correct and this is a difficult state to get out of too.

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Wonderful Session again, Blessings, Lara

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Session 7

**Question:** We can see an eagle within the imagery of the Emperor. Eagles are described as the Master of the skies, how do you feel the association connects with the Emperor?

**Student:** As the eagle is the master of the skies, the Emperor of the master of his domain. The eagles represents a ruler in the air, the Emperor rules on the land. The eagle also symbolizes royalty and power. In the USA, the bald eagle is the image of the nation-state. It is the national symbol because of its long life, great strength and majestic look. These are also characteristics of The Emperor.

**Mentor:** This is a wonderful association Billy. As long back as the 1300's the Eagle was associated with the Roman Emperor and became a symbol of worldly power also.

**Question:** Do you think that the presence of the Eagle adds any spiritual insight to the Emperor?

**Student:** The eagle soars in the sky, thus air, thus intellect. When contemplating the trinity of humankind as mind, body and soul, the eagle represents air, thought, intellect, thus, The Emperor is the mind, The Empress grounded in feminine energy is the body, and the interaction of the two is the soul.

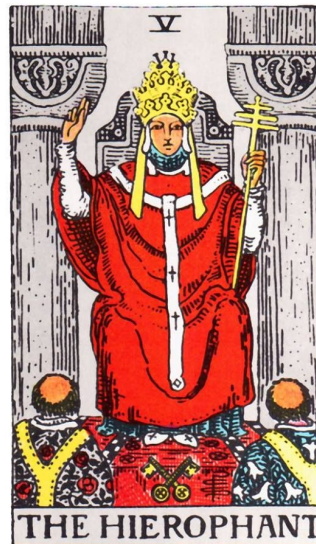
**Mentor:** Great association yes, plus the eagle soars higher than any other bird in the sky. Maybe It can be said that he the Eagle bridges the connection between ourselves and the Divine and as you rightly express, the intellect, the realm of thought..I love how you bring the energy of the Empress into the trinity aspect too.

Great session Billy-Blessings, Lara

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## Session 8: The Hierophant's Challenge

**Hierophant: Waite Smith 1971**



**Question:** In each country there will be different 'cultures', within each region and home there will be also. One family's way of life, is their culture and will have expected, unspoken, 'norms'. If one chooses to live outside those 'norms', what might they experience from family members?

**Student:** Maintaining an aligned state of being is invaluable to spiritual harmony and growth. We need our mind, body and Soul to be in balance with each other to allow a unified state.

**Mentor:** Indeed we do yes, when this is brought into conflict, here arises the potential for misalignment. Does one follow the path of least resistance? It would lead to more harmony? Or do we follow the path that is true to oneself. Unfortunately, there seems to be no happy medium sometimes-if we delve beyond our perimeters.

**Question:** Do you think that the reactions of family members may vary in accordance to the community influence also?

**Student:** The reaction by family members will vary based on the influence of the community in which intolerance is confronted. If the presence of organized religion is in the mix, the family may be influenced to some degree by their congregation. Or, they may opt for membership in the same religion, but one that is more tolerant of non-conformity, such as a Reform Synagogue, rather than an orthodox; or an "American Catholic" church that allows women priests and accepts homosexuality, rather than The Holy See Catechism of the Catholic Church. What I am saying is a family may change its that family members by change their community influencing factors as a coping device to mitigate the impact of community influence.

Some institutions and cultural influences have mechanisms in place to apply to situations where intolerance is high. Italians are known put a tear in the shirt of a family member they are "disowning." Two years ago a Sudanese court of law sentenced a Christian woman to death for refusal to recant her Christian faith. Here the husband was not in disagreement of the woman's faith, but his intent was trumped by the will of the court. Women who engage in consensual sex in some cultures are convicted of adultery and whipped. Within these extreme cultures I have no doubt the community influence bears on behavior; it restrains non-conformity through brute force. Last summer a Pakistani woman was set on fire for refusing a family arranged marriage. I suspect that the threat of such punishment did not influence the family from imposing their will on their daughter. This can be looked at from all both sides. Either way, adherence to community influence and custom is ultimately encourage. Unfortunately, such adherence tends to stifle growth.

**Mentor:** It seems that it is indeed this way Billy, yes. Cultural spoken and unspoken rules do hold a community together but it implements its boundaries with fear. This is the strength and power of the Hierophant. His pillars hold together firm.

**Question:** The Hierophant's influence may depend on family tradition, religion and community influence. An individual may choose to stay within the bosom of their family rather than put themselves in a difficult situation for the sake of love or otherwise. Please describe how the Lovers card may express this.

**Student:** The Lovers card is about moral choices and choosing the right path. In a relationship reading it may be about a couple's intimate relation, but not necessarily so. The Lovers card could signify not a decision not involving an intimate relation, such as whether to accept one occupation for the love of the work or a competing offer that pays much better, but compassion for that occupation is lacking.

Lovers follow their heart. There are no shortage of romance novel of the well-to-do man in love with the girl from the other side of the railroad tracks or vice-versa. Romeo and Juliet sooner take their own lives than appease their parents will. These aspects of The Lovers card show they fully understand there is a choice to be made of significant impact. It is all about the choice and the choice is being made together with the assistance of a higher power.

The male and female are naked to the world. The angel above is bigger life itself. The boy looks to the girl and the girl to the angel. The snake on the tree symbolizes the serpent's temptation of Eve, causing one to ponder if, how, or why Eve allowed herself to be influenced by the serpent? The burning branches on the tree behind the boy expresses his burning desire to make the right decision. It may also represent God speaking to Moses from a burning bush. The scenery is brilliant and outdoors. The influence of The Hierophant, his suit of armor, and his two pillars of institution-like wisdom are nowhere to be found in this card.

**Mentor:** What a wonderful insight Billy and so nicely expressed. The Lovers, do follow their heart, do they consider their highest good or do they always follow their heart? The Hierophant would ask his subjects to follow him no matter what. The Lovers do want to follow that part of that fulfills them, something that matches and fits with what they feel is missing. The Hierophant's energy still looms, maybe his influence is still reminiscent in the Lovers?

Great session again Billy! Blessings, Lara

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## Session 9: A Matter of Principle

Waite Smith 1971



**Question:** Your client is faced with a dilemma, she is torn between her husband and her lover. She is plagued by her internal desire to do what is right, more so because clarity and reason is setting in.

Please choose between 3 and 5 Tarot cards that you consider to best reflect this situation. You can give the cards spread positions too and an outcome that offers guidance for her. Alternatively add the guidance into an 'advice' position

**Student:**

3-card spread, with Key Major. Near Past-Present-Near Future.

The Associated Major influences the reading. (RWS 1971.)

Near Past: 5 of Wands

Present: The Chariot

Near Future: 6 of Wands

The Associating Major to the Chariot is The Tower (XVI)

**Mentor:** Very good choice of cards Billy. The Tower's shadow card is the Tower so it will have some influence but the associating Major for the reading is the Hermit because it reduced to the number 9 as the single digit.

I am happy to go over the Numerology course again on these aspects if you are keen to? I know that you did not find the course how you hoped to but maybe I can help you develop your insight more so in this area?

**Question:** Please write one or two sentences of your thoughts on each card and the outcome.



**Student:** The 5 of Wands is her strife. Her struggle between her husband and her lover, her current life and an unknown new start life. But more so, it reflects a personal struggle to get past indecision. She enjoys the excitement of this struggle, the secrecy, and the passion but knows it is temporary and must end.

The Chariot is the present struggle. We know she has control over her competing drives for appetite and will, because clarity and reason are setting in.

The 6 of Wands is where she will be if she acts on her desire to do what is right and exercises her vision of clarity and reason. The 6 of wands is respect and admiration. The man on the horse is her husband. He has prevailed because he is admired and for this he was respected (finally). The perfection of the 6 implies that her fire is under control now, her relationship has matured and grown beyond a point where it is unlikely that she allow her appetite and ego to put her marriage in such jeopardy again.

The Key Major: The Tower card influences the Chariot to drive with all deliberate speed, because there is little time left before this situation explodes. The client allowed her ego to create a bad situation and the Tower card reflects that her soul about to either descend or ascend. Swift action is needed.

**Mentor:** The 5 of Wands expresses the internal conflict perfectly and how right you are in saying that there will be pleasure in the secrecy. The 5's like change and this would be expressed here. The Chariot with the Tower in shadow is an excellent and the Tower is influencing, how I love how you described the Soul either ascending or descending! The 6 of Wands and her husband's standing and esteem being raised in his wife's eyes, how wonderful that is.

Really well done Billy! Blessings, Lara

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## Session 10: To Thy Self Be True



**Question:** Please describe in your own thoughts and understanding what this quote means to you?

**Student:** This quote calls on the me to consider if I am nurturing my soul or am I missing opportunities to progress, spiritually

**Mentor:** Good thoughts on this Billy, 'opportunities' is a great reference and reminds me to consider my own lessons too.

**Question:** You are reading for a client who has been considering meeting up with an old flame even though she is in a committed relationship, the Chariot is the outcome card. Please describe what the the Chariot's presence may suggest?

**Student:** The presence of the Chariot as the outcome card tells me to advise the client that she ought to think real hard before she makes that encounter with the old flame. By the tone of the question I assume she does not intend to bring her present-day partner with her to the encounter. That is problem #1. Problem #2 is that she has doubt about whether to keep this engagement. This doubt is why she seeks the reading. That doubt is probably coming from her instinct. Her intuition is telling her it is wrong, but her appetite for fun and whatever is saying, "Just do it." Of course, she should trust her intuition, but that can be hard.

I need to know more. I would look to the other cards for input as to whether her current committed relationship is a healthy relationship, what are the motives for her interest in the old flame, and what are his motives? It is possible that the encounter is for a good purpose that does not harm the committed relationship.

The Chariot as the outcome tells me all these consideration should be thought upon with due consideration, because conflicting appeals are present. That is the nature of a 7 card. There are decisions to be made. There is a present struggle worth fighting for. One is the high road, the road of will over ego. The other is the lust for fun at the risk of hurting someone else. The other cards need to be looked at closely to determine whether this intended encounter should be avoided, because we know there will be an outcome. The Chariot as the outcome card tells me there will be consequences for the decision at hand.

**Mentor:** Ah yes, you highlight many important considerations here and I love how you mention the present relationship and it's condition. The number 7 is a spiritual number as is the card also, does the Charioteer always succeed? If he does, then is it possible that he manages to bring the conflicts into some unison? Could he have learnt from the Hierophant and the Lovers that to serve his highest good may be the best way forward? It is so, so difficult, when the options appear to be of more appeal to the current one. This is one of the greatest challenges of the appetite, I feel

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My apologies Billy because I really should have mentored this session sooner than this. Truth is, we have had files everywhere, needing to be organized, copied and brought up to date.

Again, my apologies

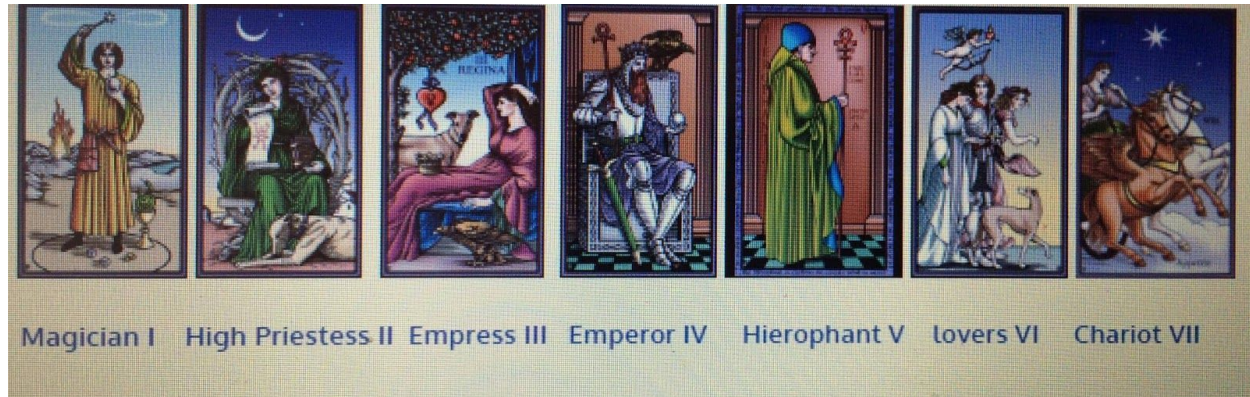
Blessings

Lara

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## Session 11: Discussing Temperance

### Tarot of the Sevenfold Mystery



**Question:** We have been challenged and learnt our lessons and the virtue of Temperance is ours. How will Temperance benefit us in our daily lives?

**Student:** Without temperance our reactions would lack reasoning. They would lack rational thought. There would be imbalance. Daily life speeds up, slows down, involves trivia, then matter of great significance, love, responsibility, career, sustenance for self and family, etc. These things do not flow in predictable manners. They are received, reasoned, and responded to in real-time. Temperance can be exercised in a split-second, or can continue through meditation, prayer and consultation. Sometimes we consider how a response or action will have immediate impact, other times we consider long-term effects. All require temperance, balance. The objective is to make things healthy and positive for all involved, while minimizing the collateral damage that tends to attach all responses and action. Temperance is taking part in the yin and yang.

Temperance is a virtue, but it is also a skill. It can be taught, to some extent. I am and have long been a Certified Mediator in several areas of law. The Mediator serves as a neutral third-party who uses his or her skills to facilitate a process of dispute resolution between other persons or businesses. Mediation includes discovery of selective relevant information from both sides, then the distillation of that information, with the goal of finding a mutual resolution. In so doing each party eventually postures his or her greatest grievances and desires and, to some extent, their lesser grievances and desires. With all this information each side is asked to process their positions against the positions of the opposing party. If it works, there is settlement of a lawsuit. Resolution brings things back to center, back into balance. This is healthy in many ways. This is using temperance in daily life.

Temperance in our daily lives essentially is the never-ending virtuous goal to make things as close to perfect as possible, while accepting all their imperfections.

**Mentor:** Billy what a wonderful example of Temperance, you carry out the work of Temperance within its very essence.

I am sure that we practise Temperance more times than we even realize, in varying degrees of course. Some people practise Temperance more than others and some seem to have none.

You bring up an interesting point that Temperance can be taught. It is something that I have thought on..would it be conceptual learning in that case? Something that we consider, explore and develop the concept of and on the other hand we develop the energy of Temperance from our experiences, our struggles and lessons.

As you say, it is reason that wins the day, in any case and I am sure in both situations too.

**Question:** Considering what is good for the Soul, how does the insight of the Lovers reflect Temperance?

**Student:** The insight of the Lovers reflects temperance, because the Lovers want what is best for each other, what is best for themselves, and what is best for the relationship. The two; plus insight;, become three, and the three become one. Double the harmony of the 3s and it is a 6 card. In this instance, The Lovers (VI). Things are harmonious and balanced at 6. It is the insight of the Lovers that create this balance. The insight is the soul, and the two parties to the relationship each carry the essence of will and appetite. They carry will and appetite as undivided parts of the whole. Their desire is to do what is best for the relationship. The desire fuels the insight and the insight invokes the virtue of Temperance

**Mentor:** How beautiful Billy and this is true harmony indeed.

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**Part One Completed.**

**Well done Billy, this is the first part of the course completed. I will send part 2 now.**

**Blessings, Lara**

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